

Market orientation: The Netherlands Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NL-EITI) - the reconciliation of company payments and government revenues from the extractive industries in the Netherlands and advice on the reconciliation process

The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (in Dutch: Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland, RVO.nl) encourages entrepreneurs in sustainable, agrarian, innovative and international business. It helps with grants, finding business partners, know-how and compliance with laws and regulations.

The Netherlands Enterprise Agency is part of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy.

Background

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is a global standard for improving transparency and accountability in the oil, gas and mining sectors.

EITI implementation has two core components:

- **Transparency:** oil, gas and mining companies disclose information about their operations, including payments to the government, and the government discloses its receipts and other relevant information on the industry. The figures are reconciled by an Independent Administrator, and published annually alongside other information about the extractive industries in accordance with the EITI Standard.
- **Accountability:** a multi-stakeholder group (MSG) with representatives from government, companies and civil society is established to oversee the process and communicate the findings of the EITI reporting, and to promote the integration of EITI into broader transparency efforts in that country.

The EITI Standard encourages MSGs to explore innovative approaches to extending EITI implementation to increase the comprehensiveness of EITI reporting and public understanding of revenues and encourage high standards of transparency and accountability in public life, government operations and in business. The requirements for implementing countries are set out in the EITI Standard¹.

On 28 June 2018, the EITI Board approved the Netherlands candidature application. The NL-EITI MSG is responsible for delivering the first Dutch EITI Report, in accordance with the EITI standard, before the end of 2019.

The reconciliation of company payments and government revenues must be undertaken by an Independent Administrator applying international professional standards (EITI requirement 4.9). It is a requirement that the Independent Administrator is perceived by the MSG to be credible, trustworthy and technically competent (ibid). Bidders must follow (and show how they will apply) the appropriate professional standards for the reconciliation / agreed-upon-procedures work in preparing their report.

Purpose of this notification

¹ <http://eiti.org/document/standard>

The purpose of this notification is to determine which contractors are willing and able to carry out the reconciliation of company payments and government revenues from the extractive sector in the Netherlands and provide advice on how to manage and possibly improve the reconciliation process.

Extent and duration

The assignment will be for one year, starting in January 2019.

Description of the assignment

Purpose:

On behalf of the government of The Netherlands and the MSG of NL-EITI, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency seeks a competent and credible firm, free from conflicts of interest, to provide Independent Administrator services in accordance with the EITI Standard.

Main objectives

- Produce a scoping study (and inception report) to:
 - o Inform the MSGs decision on the scope of the reconciliation part of the 2017 NL-EITI report;
 - o Develop the process, procedures and reporting templates for data collection from both government and corporate reporting entities, including guidance to the reporting entities in completing the templates, in close cooperation with the NL-EITI National Secretariat and the NL-EITI MSG;
 - o Identify the existing systematic disclosures of government entities and companies in order to provide recommendations for how to improve such disclosures. This includes any recommendations toward publication of audited financial statements.
- Contribute to the 2017 NL-EITI report in accordance with the EITI Standard and the EITI Standard Terms of Reference for Independent Administrators that will be provided during the procurement process:
 1. Produce the 2017 NL-EITI reconciliation report;
 2. Provide recommendations for strengthening the reporting process in the future.

These (1. and 2.) will be chapters in the NL-EITI 2017 report. The National Secretariat will be coordinating the design and editing of the 2017 NL-EITI report. The NL-EITI report will be published in Dutch and English.

Deliverables

- o A scoping (and inception) report;
- o Two chapters of the 2017 NL-EITI reconciliation report:
 - The 2017 NL-EITI reconciliation report;
 - Recommendations for strengthening the reporting process in the future.

Minimum/suitability requirements

1. Supplier should have expertise and experience in the oil, gas and mining sectors in the Netherlands.
2. Supplier should have expertise in accounting, auditing and financial analysis;
3. Supplier should have a track record in similar work.

Application

Interested accounting firms, fitting the above mentioned requirements, are invited to respond to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency, to the attention of Liesbeth de Man of the Procurement Office by submitting a message through TenderNed or by e-mail iucezteam1@rvo.nl. Please state the name of the contact person of your company and his or her e-mail address.

You do not have to send documents; send only a response if you are interested.

Deadline

The deadline for responding to this Notification is set at **Friday November 9, 2018 12 hrs P.M. CET**. Companies who have responded in time will receive a Request for Proposal and the EITI Standard Terms of Reference for Independent Administrators in which detailed information on the assignment is included.