



Draft Framework Agreement (Arvodi 2018) relating to the procurement of experts for the execution of the CBI program 'Ethiopia tourism - Linking communities to markets'

Lot 1: An international Community Based Tourism ecosystem development expert.

Lot 2: An Ethiopia CBT network manager.

Lot 3: An expert responsible for organizing logistics of the project in Ethiopia.

IUC number: 202407135

The undersigned:

1. The State of the Netherlands, which has its seat in The Hague, represented by the Minister of Economic Affairs, legally represented in this matter by Ms. Judith Arends, Managing Director CBI of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Authority,

and

2. [Contractor's full name and legal form], which has its registered office in ..., legally represented in this matter by ... [and ...] [signatory's name], hereinafter referred to as the Contractor,

WHEREAS:

1. The Contracting Authority wishes, in relation to the performance of Services in the area of the procurement of experts for the execution of the CBI program 'Ethiopia tourism - Linking communities to markets', to agree fixed terms for a certain period with one (1) service provider for lot 1/2/3;
2. To this end, the Contracting Authority wishes to conclude a Framework Agreement having a term of four years, with an initial term of one (1) year with three (3) optional extensions of one (1) year (hereafter referred to as: 'the Framework Agreement'), laying down the conditions applicable to all contracts for the performance of Services to be awarded by the Contracting Authority during the said term;

3. An EU contract award procedure for the selection of Parties to this framework agreement has been conducted on the basis of the Tender Document and subject to the Public Procurement Act 2012;
4. The Contracting Authority has judged the Contractor's bid, to offer the best price-quality ratio;
5. This Framework Agreement lays down the conditions that apply to all Further Agreements for the performance of Services that the Contracting Authority intends to award during the term of this Framework Agreement;

AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

A number of terms in this Framework Agreement are written with initial capitals. These terms are defined in article 1 of the General Government Terms and Conditions for Public Service Contracts 2018 (ARVODI 2018). In derogation therefrom or in addition thereto, the following terms are defined as follows for the purposes of this Framework Agreement:

Tender Document: the Contracting Authority's document dated *4 November 2024*, ref. 202407135, which describes and explains participation in the Framework Agreement for the performance of Services during a certain period, the tender procedure to be followed and the selection and award criteria.

Services: the work that the Contractor is to perform for the Contracting Authority under the terms of a Further Agreement concluded on the basis of this Framework Agreement in the area of *lot 1/ lot 2/ lot 3 as defined in the tender documentation*.

Tender: the tender dated *xx December 2024*, submitted by the Contractor on the basis of the Tender Document in the context of the EU contract award procedure dated *4 November 2024*.

Further Agreement: the contract between the Contracting Authority and the Contractor in accordance with the request for offer of which the Contracting Authority may award the Contractor contracts for the performance of Services during the term of this Framework Agreement.

Quotation: an offer to perform Services submitted by the Contractor to the Contracting Authority in response to a Request for Quotations under this Framework Agreement.

Request for Quotations: an invitation by the Contracting Authority under this Framework Agreement to all Framework Contractors to submit a Quotation for a public service contract.

Framework Contractor: a tenderer selected to be Party to the Framework Agreement relating to the performance of Services in the area of *[lot 1/ lot 2/ lot 3 as defined in the tender documentation]*.

1. Object of the Framework Agreement

- 1.1 During the term of this Framework Agreement the Contracting Authority may issue Requests for Quotations for Further Agreements to perform Services. In response to the Request for Quotations, the Contractor must submit a Quotation that is not less favourable than the Tender submitted by the Contractor. If the Further Agreement referred to in the Request for Quotations is awarded by the Contracting Authority to the Contractor on the basis of the award criteria for the further award stipulated in the Tender Document, the Contractor must perform that Further Agreement in accordance with the conditions of this Framework Agreement. To this end, the Contractor must in that case conclude a Further Agreement with the Contracting Authority.

- 1.2 The following documents are an integral part of this Framework Agreement. In the event of inconsistencies, a higher ranked document takes precedence over a lower ranked document:
1. this document including schedules;
 2. the Memorandum of Information, 5 December 2024;
 3. the Tender Document;
 4. the ARVODI-2018;
 5. the Tender issued by the Contractor to the Contracting Authority on [date], ref ...
- 1.3 The Contracting Authority is entitled but not obliged to award contracts for the performance of Services during the term of this Framework Agreement. The Contractor cannot therefore claim any right whatsoever to be awarded contracts for the performance of Services during the term of this Framework Agreement.
- 1.4 The terms of this Framework Agreement apply in full to all Further Agreements concluded during the term of this Framework Agreement between the Contracting Authority and the Contractor concerning contracts for the performance of Services specified in a Request for Quotations, unless a Further Agreement expressly departs from this Framework Agreement.
- 1.5 A Further Agreement states the specific Services to which it relates and its duration.

2. Duration of the Framework Agreement

- 2.1 This Framework Agreement comes into effect on 25 February 2025 and has an initial contract period of two (2) years with two (2) times an option to extend this Framework Agreement, to be exercised unilaterally by the Contracting Authority, under the same conditions, each time with a maximum period of one (1) year. The total duration of the Framework Agreement is therefore maximum four (4), including extension options.

Extension of this Framework Agreement will take place if the Contracting authority is:

- satisfied about the delivery of the contracted experts in the team, and
- confident that the goals of each lot will be met during the remainder of the project, and
- no other unforeseen events have taken place on which grounds Contracting authority has to decide not to exercise its option to extend the Framework Agreement.

If the Contracting Authority does not wish to make use of an extension option, he will notify the Contractor in writing of this no later than one (1) month before the expiry of the initial or current contract period. In that case, the Framework Agreement will end by operation of law after the initial contract period or the contract period applicable at that time. In the absence of such a message from the Contracting Authority, an option to extend takes effect automatically, if and insofar as such an option is still open.

- 2.2 Termination of this Framework Agreement for whatever reason does not affect rights and obligations resulting from Further Agreements. The terms of this Framework Agreement continue to apply to any Further Agreements remaining in force after this Framework Agreement has ended.
- 2.3 The duration of any Further Agreements awarded to the Contractor under this Framework Agreement will be stipulated in the individual Further Agreements for each contract for the performance of Services.
- 2.4 Contracting authority is entitled to terminate this Framework Agreement prematurely as soon as the maximum value and/or amount of the contract for lot 1/lot 2/lot 3 is reached, or is threatened to be exceeded, without any further compensation. Contracting authority shall inform Contractor as soon as possible if and when he wants to invoke this right and he will observe a reasonable notice period.

- 2.5 If, for any reason, this assignment cannot be completed within the specified duration in article 2.1, Contracting Authority has the option to extend this Framework Agreement by the time necessary to complete the project. If this is the case, this extension has to be executed within the maximum budgets per lot as mentioned in section 2.7 of the Tender Document and article 4.1 of this Framework Agreement.
- 2.6 If the contractor foresees obstacles in the execution of the assignments within the Framework Agreement, he must inform the Contracting authority as soon as possible. If, in its opinion, the Services cannot be performed or cannot be performed to a sufficient extent, the Contracting Authority may proceed to immediate termination by means of termination of the Framework Agreement. The Contractor will then receive reimbursement of the costs in the event of cancellation by the Contracting authority in accordance with Article 22.6 of ARVODI 2018.

3. Awarding further agreements

- 3.1 The Contractor must submit a Quotation, having regard to the provisions of this Framework Agreement, within the number of working days as stated in the standard Request for Quotations. The Contracting Authority will not be required to pay to obtain a Quotation.
- 3.2 The Quotation, including the fee, must comply with and may not be less favourable than the Tender submitted.

4. Price and other financial provisions

- 4.1 The maximum value/amount of the Framework Agreement is as follows:
- lot 1: EUR 300.000,- excluding VAT;
- lot 2: EUR 225.000,- excluding VAT;
- lot 3: EUR 150.000,- excluding VAT.
- 4.2 The Contracting Authority is entitled to terminate the Contract per lot prematurely as soon as the maximum value of the Contract for that particular lot is reached, without any further compensation. Contracting Authority shall inform Contractor as soon as possible if and when he wants to invoke this right and he will observe a reasonable notice period.
- 4.3 The Contractor may invoice in accordance with the arrangements in the Further Agreement. The invoice amount is based on the number of days/hours per month actually worked and the daily/hourly rate stipulated in the Further Agreement. All Further Agreements will state that the Contractor guarantees that the maximum total price referred to in the Further Agreement for the performance of the Services will not be exceeded.
- 4.4 It is expressly agreed that if the Contractor does not charge VAT but some or all of the Services are not exempt from VAT, the Contracting Authority will not be liable to pay the VAT in question.
- 4.5 The price referred to in article 4.6 of this Framework Agreement relates to all Services to be performed by the Contractor under the Further Agreement in question. The rate is all inclusive, i.e. include all of the following: wage costs, overheads (e.g. accommodation and wage costs for support staff), costs relating to the usage of equipment and machinery during the assignment, insurance costs, any applicable costs for e-invoicing and local travel and local accommodation expenses. The rates are excluding Dutch VAT and including local VAT and other costs. "Local" is in this case the city where the consultant is based.

Accommodation and local travel expenses can be invoiced according to the applicable Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) rates published by the Dutch Government.

In case Contractor is not located in Ethiopia, Contractor may, when carrying out assignments in Ethiopia, invoice local expenses according the flat rates on the UN-DSA list. Accommodation and local travel expenses may be invoiced following at the applicable Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) flat rates published by the International Civil Service Commission of the UN (<https://icsc.un.org/>). This list is updated on a regular basis.

In case your company is located in Ethiopia, you can only invoice the abovementioned UN-DSA, when traveling to one of the cities of the programme your company is NOT located in, after approval of the CBI Programme Manager. The costs for traveling within your own city must be included in your daily rate.

- 4.6 The agreed maximum or other rates are fixed and invariable for the duration of this Framework Agreement and Further Agreements concluded on the basis of this Framework Agreement.

Lot 1: Daily rate for "An international Community Based Tourism ecosystem development expert" in euro excluding VAT
€
Lot 2: Daily rate for "An Ethiopia CBT network manager" in euro excluding VAT
€
Lot 3: Daily rate for "An expert responsible for organizing logistics of the project in Ethiopia" in euro excluding VAT
€

- 4.7 The Contractor must send the invoices electronically to:
CBI - RVO
Organisation identification number: <<OIN nummer>>
attn. <<financiële administratie>>, <<contactpersoon>>.

The general terms and conditions that apply to this contract prescribe/contain a provision that invoices must be sent electronically (not in pdf). This can be done in different ways:

- The invoicing portal of the Dutch government;
- E-invoicing with your own (accounting) software package through Peppol;
- E-invoicing through a service provider.

Would you like to know more about how you can send an e-invoice? More information can be found in the e-invoicing leaflet for the central government via the website of the e-invoicing Helpdesk: helpdesk-efactureren.nl.

- 4.8 Article 17.1 of the ARVODI 2018 concerning e-invoicing does not apply to companies located outside of the Netherlands.
You must state the order number on your invoice. You can send your invoice by e-mail in PDF format to the email which will be made clear in the Further Agreement.
- 4.9 Payment will be made once the Services performed in accordance with a Further Agreement have been received and accepted.

5. Contacts / Project managers

- 5.1 The contact person of the Contracting Authority is Jeanette Scherpenzeel.
The contact person of the Contractor is xxx
- 5.2 At least once per year, the contacts of the two Parties will hold consultations on the way in which this Framework Agreement is being implemented (interim evaluation(s)).
- 5.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of article 10.2 of the ARVODI 2018, the contacts cannot make legally binding agreements on the Parties' behalf.

6. Time and place

- 6.1 The work relating to the Services specified in a Further Agreement will be carried out at the place(s) stipulated in the Further Agreement.
- 6.2 Each Party undertakes to give the other Party's Staff access to the place where the work relating to the Services specified in the Further Agreement must be performed and also to enable such Staff to perform the work in working conditions that reflect that Party's usual practice and in normal office hours. The Parties undertake to instruct their Staff to abide by the house, security and confidentiality rules applicable at the place where the work is to be carried out.
- 6.3 The work is done continuously throughout the year/week and not arranged via fixed days per week or per month. In principle experts should be available all year round.

7. Other Terms and Conditions

- 7.1 This Framework Agreement and a contract for the performance of Services in accordance with a Further Agreement are governed exclusively by the ARVODI 2018 (*already in the Parties' possession*), in so far as this Framework Agreement does not depart therefrom. Any general and special terms and conditions drawn up by the Contractor do not apply.
- 7.2 In addition to article 21 of the ARVODI 2018, the Contractor indemnifies the Contracting Authority against any claims for damages brought by third parties as a result of its failure to discharge its obligations as referred to in article 21.3 of the ARVODI 2018. The liability amounts set out in article 21.3 of the ARVODI 2018 apply mutatis mutandis.
- 7.3 In addition to the provisions of article 22 of the ARVODI 2018, the Contracting Authority may cancel this Contract forthwith out of court by registered letter, without giving any warning or notice of default, in the following cases:
 - a. If the Contractor has been convicted, by final and unappealable judgment, of discrimination within the meaning of articles 137c to 137g and article 429 quater of the Criminal Code; or
 - b. If a member of the Contractor's Staff has been convicted, by final and unappealable judgment, of discrimination within the meaning of articles 137c to 137g and article 429 quater of the Criminal Code and that staff member is on the Contractor's executive, management or supervisory board or has representative, decision-making or audit powers. In the cases set out under (a) and (b) the right to cancellation expires three years after the judgment becomes unappealable.
- 7.4 The Parties agree, as the occasion arises, to exclude application of the deemed employment relationship of homeworkers or persons treated as such as referred to in articles 2b and 2c of the Salaries Tax Implementation Decree 1965 and articles 1 and 5 of the Working Relationship (Designation as Employment) Decree (Decree of 24 December 1986, Bulletin of Acts and Decrees 1986, no. 655).

9. Declaration of integrity

The Contractor affirms that it has not offered or given members of the Contracting Authority's Staff any benefit in order to be selected to be party to this Framework Agreement or in order to obtain Further Agreements for the performance of Services, nor arranged for them to be offered or given any such benefit, nor will it offer or give any such benefit or arrange for any such benefit to be offered or given. It undertakes not to do so in the future with a view to inducing any members of the Contracting Authority's Staff to perform or refrain from performing any act.

10. Final provisions

- 10.1 Any derogations from this Framework Agreement or a Further Agreement are binding only if they have been expressly agreed by the Parties in writing.
- 10.2 Any written or oral agreements previously made by the Parties about the award of contracts for the performance of Services, whether under a Further Agreement or not, are nullified by the signature of this Framework Agreement.

Done and signed in duplicate.

The Hague,
[date]:

[place],
[date]:

For the Minister of Economic Affairs and
commissioned by Ms. Judith Arends,
Managing Director CBI of
the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO),

[name Contractor]

Jan van Putten
Team Manager Procurement Office

[signatory's name]
[signatory's position]