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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Partner country

Republic of Moldova

Contracting authority

Public Institution "Technical University of Moldova" (TUM)

Country background

Moldova is an active participant in the Cross Border and Transnational Programs for more than 20 years, having proven its high interest and responsibility for the entrusted funds of the European Union.

The on-going Joint Operational Program Romania–Republic of Moldova 2014–2020, approved by the European Commission Decision C (2015) 9155/ 17.12.2015-Ref.Ares (2015)5993060 - 22/12/2015, is the result of a joint effort of the relevant actors from Romania and Republic of Moldova. Conscious of the important role of universities in achieving the objectives of the Bologna Process, which caused significant changes on the priorities and mission of universities, Technical University of Moldova proposes raising the value of the national engineering education through: the quality of education as a determinant of the competitiveness of local human potential; development of scientific and technical research as an indispensable component in professional engineering training; encouraging mobility of students and teachers; promoting access and integration of graduates in the local labor market, etc. The Technical University of Moldova supports and contributes to regional development through research and educational projects implemented and in progress. In the Joint Operational Program Romania-Republic of Moldova 2014–2020 TUM has 6 ongoing projects, one of them being the Cross-Border Regional Hub of Competences for the Automotive Industry.

Current situation in the sector

The Project' work is organized in accordance with the activities assigned through the Work Packages:

GA 1. Project Management

GA 2. Information and Communication plan

GA 3. Increasing the quality of the academic educational programs

By implementing the above mentioned activities the Contractor will actively contribute to the:

- Planning and develop the joint educational and research strategy in the field of automotive engineering, based on a detailed SWOT analysis of the cross-border area sector;
- Developing a new high-quality interdisciplinary study programme at master level, in the field of automotive engineering – the “Hybrid and Electrical Vehicles” master programme;
- A joint process of improving the curricular content for new or existing disciplines with applicative component related to the automotive engineering sector, as identified in the joint educational and research strategy, using the input about the areas that are representative of automotive-specific subjects and that are perceived by the local private sector to be lacking in graduates from traditional engineering programs;
- Commonly developing the capacity of their academic staff to acquire applied knowledge in curriculum design, project based-learning, new forms of peer and group assessments, regional networking, and teaching using the new technologies;
- Organising a series of 5 webinars, involving students and academic staff from the cross-border area academic consortium members, and hosting invited speakers from regional automotive industry leaders and from the international sector;
- Organising the Automotive Engineering International Summer School (AEISS), involving students from all the three partners;
- Upgrading of 6 laboratories with modern didactic equipment, serving a number of 33 automotive engineering related disciplines, in all the three technical universities forming the partnership.

Related programmes and other donor activities

The Project has not been developed in isolation, but it is closely related to a wide range of strategies currently operating at EU, national, regional and local levels inside the Programme area. They were taken into account and complement the Project.

2. OBJECTIVES & EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Overall objective

The overall objective of the project of which this contract will be a part is as follows:

“To foster the improvement of the existing cooperation between three cross-border area universities and to transform it into coordinated collaboration, aiming to increase the partners’ institutional capacity to build a labor force linked to the latest requirements of the automotive engineering sector, leading to an increase in the degree of tertiary education students from both sides of the border, equipped with the labor market relevant skills, in order to ensure the improvement of the graduates’ employment rate and to meet regional companies increasing needs”.

2.2 Specific objective(s)

The specific objective of this contract is as follows:

Facilitate the development of the Exchange Program for students from Romania and Moldova in order to increase the degree of promoting the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among the students of the universities from both sides of the border, as well as enabling them to get acquainted with the latest automotive innovation topics, by the means of participation in a joint summer school programme, aiming to equip the students with appropriate, labour market relevant competences, allowing them to acquire the breadth and depth of skills they need.

2.3 Expected outputs to be achieved by the contractor

The Contractor is expected to support the Contracting Authority (TUM) in achieving the following output:

- Output 1: Accommodation and meals services for Romanian students participating in the summer school in Project 2SOFT/1.1/11 "Cross-Border Regional Hub of Competences for the Automotive Industry (CROSSCOMP)".

3. ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS

Assumptions underlying the project

- It is assumed that a positive perception of the communities living in the area exists in what concerns the Project and the benefits it brings.
- Confidence in institutions/ organizations managing the Project, and a good reputation as well, are expected to create a favourable environment for the Project developments in the target area.
- It is assumed that the Contractor will be fully supported in undertaking its activities by the regional / local actors / stakeholders.

Risks

- Major delays in Project’s implementation impact directly on the results foreseen to be achieved

4. SCOPE OF THE WORK

General

4.1.1. Project description

In order to accomplish the tasks assigned to the Contracting Authority within the Project *2SOFT/1.1/11 "Cross-Border Regional Hub of Competences for the Automotive Industry*

(**CROSSCOMP**)", the CA will contract a Service provider to ensure the logistics of the Exchange Program for 15 students from Gh. Asachi Technical University in Iași, Romania to the Technical University of Moldova, namely: accommodation and food 7 days. The procurement rules will be those foreseen by PRAG rules. The contract is Global Price type contract under PRAG 2021. The price: up to maximum of 10.500,00 EUR. The price represents the maximum budget.

4.1.2. Geographical area to be covered

Republic of Moldova

4.1.3. Target groups

Students from Technical University Gheorghe Asachi from Iasi, Romania.

Specific work

Nr.	Name of requested services	Unit of measurement	The quantity	Full technical specification required, Reference standards
1.	Accommodation services	Students	15	<p>Accommodation duration: 7 days Period: 18.07.2022 – 24.07.2022 (inclusive).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accommodation will be in the hotel, 2 students in the room, the rooms must be equipped with 2 separate beds. - The hotel must be located in the vicinity of the Faculty of Computers, Informatics and Microelectronics, Chisinau, Studentilor 9/7 str., block 3 of TUM. - The rating of the hotel should be not less than 3 stars.
1.	Meals services	Students	15	<p>Meals services for students will be provided 3 times a day: morning and evening - at the hotel restaurant where they will be accommodated, and lunch will be served in the TUM block.</p>

Project management

4.1.4. Responsible body

Contracting Authority: *Public Institution "Technical University of Moldova" (TUM)*

*168, Stefan cel Mare si Sfint Avenue
 Chisinau, MD-2004*

4.1.5. Management structure

The Contracting Authority will designate a representative of the institution in charge with the communication and approval of the services offered by the Consultant.

For the day-to-day activity within the Contract, the Contractor will assign an Expert. The daily activity will take place according to the provisions of the Contract and Action Plan agreed with the Contracting Authority and described in the Methodology & Organisation.

4.1.6. Facilities to be provided by the contracting authority and/or other parties

The Contractor has to ensure all the needed resources (endowment, logistic, HR, financial etc.) for completing the Service Contract.

5. LOGISTICS AND TIMING

Location

The activities undertaken by the Contractor will take place in Chisinau Municipality.

Start date & period of implementation

The intended start date is 18.07.2022 and the period of implementation of the contract will be 7 days from this date. Please see Articles 19.1 and 19.2 of the special conditions for the actual start date and period of implementation.

6. REQUIREMENTS

Personnel

Note that civil servants and other staff of the public administration, of the partner country or of international/regional organisations based in the country, shall only be approved to work as experts if well justified. The justification should be submitted with the tender and shall include information on the added value the expert will bring as well as proof that the expert is seconded or on personal leave.

6.1.1. Key experts

Key experts are not required.

6.1.2. Non-key experts

CVs for non-key experts should not be submitted in the tender but the tenderer will have to demonstrate in their offer that they have access to experts with the required profiles.

The contractor must select and hire other experts as required according to the profiles identified in the organisation & methodology. It must clearly indicate the experts' profile so that the applicable daily fee rate in the budget breakdown is clear. All experts must be independent and free from conflicts of interest in the responsibilities they take on.

The selection procedures used by the contractor to select these other experts must be transparent, and must be based on pre-defined criteria, including professional qualifications, absence of conflict of interests, language skills and work experience. The findings of the selection panel must be recorded. The selected experts must be subject to approval by the contracting authority before the start of their implementation of tasks.

6.1.3. Support staff & backstopping

Backstopping and support staff costs must be included in the fee rates.

Office accommodation

N/A

Facilities to be provided by the contractor

The contractor must ensure that experts are adequately supported and equipped. In particular it must ensure that there is sufficient administrative, secretarial and interpreting provision to enable experts to concentrate on their primary responsibilities. It must also transfer funds as necessary to support their work under the contract and to ensure that its employees are paid regularly and in a timely fashion.

Equipment

No equipment is to be purchased on behalf of the contracting authority / partner country as part of this service contract or transferred to the contracting authority / partner country at the end of this contract. Any equipment related to this contract that is to be acquired by the partner country must be purchased by means of a separate supply tender procedure.

Lump sums

No lump sums are foreseen in this contract.

7. REPORTS

Reporting requirements

There must be a final act/report of providing services, a final invoice at the end of the period of implementation of the tasks.

Submission & approval of reports

TWO copies of the report referred to above must be submitted to the project manager identified in the contract. The project manager is responsible for approving the act/report.

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