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**Germany-Frankfurt-on-Main: ECB - Surveys on the access to finance of enterprises (SAFE)
2017/S 210-435476**

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2014/24/EU

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

European Central Bank
Sonnemannstraße 22
Frankfurt am Main
60314
Germany
Telephone: +49 69/13440
E-mail: procurement@ecb.europa.eu
Fax: +49 69/13447110
NUTS code: DE712

Internet address(es):

Main address: <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>

I.1) Name and addresses

European Commission
rue de la Loi 170
Brussels
1040
Belgium
E-mail: grow-hr3@eu.europa.eu
NUTS code: BE100

Internet address(es):

Main address: <http://www.ec.europa.eu>

I.2) Joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement
The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at:
www.ecb.europa.eu/secure/procurement/

Additional information can be obtained from the abovementioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the abovementioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

European institution/agency or international organisation

I.5) Main activity

Economic and financial affairs

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title:

Surveys on the access to finance of enterprises (SAFE).
Reference number: PRO-003183.

II.1.2) Main CPV code

79310000

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description:

The European Central Bank (the 'ECB') is, through this open tender procedure, seeking a supplier for the performance of surveys on the access to finance of enterprises ('SAFE') and intends to award a framework agreement (the 'contract') to the supplier offering the best value for money. The ECB will award the contract for the benefit of the European Commission (the 'EC') which represents the European Union. The ECB and the EC may issue specific orders under the contract for the performance of SAFE and may also request additional services for each specific order in accordance with the provisions of the contract. It is envisaged that the contract will start in June 2018 and will be concluded for a period of 4 years. SAFE is a qualitative survey of firms with the purpose of providing regular information on the financing conditions of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as of some larger firms, in a certain number of countries.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title:

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

79311000
79311100
79311200
79311300

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS code: DE712

Main site or place of performance:

There is the possibility to perform the services mainly at the contractor's premises.

II.2.4) Description of the procurement:

The European Central Bank (the 'ECB') is, through this open tender procedure, seeking a supplier for the performance of surveys on the access to finance of enterprises ('SAFE') and intends to award a framework agreement (the 'contract') to the supplier offering the best value for money. The ECB will award the contract for the benefit of the European Commission (the 'EC') which represents the European Union. The ECB and the EC may issue specific orders under the contract for the performance of SAFE and may also request additional services for each specific contract in accordance with the provisions of the contract. It is envisaged that the contract will start in June 2018 and will be concluded for a period of 4 years.

SAFE is a qualitative survey of firms with the purpose of providing regular information on the financing conditions of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as of some larger firms, in a certain number of countries.

The survey shall be performed every 6 months in 2 different compositions as detailed below:

— once a year, usually in March, in the euro area excluding some countries (as of 1.1.2018, the 7 smallest countries of the euro area shall be excluded) as detailed in Annex 1 ('tender specifications') to the invitation to tender (ITT). The requesting institution will be the ECB,

— once a year, usually in September, in all countries of the European Union plus some additional countries in neighbouring regions detailed in Annex 1 ('tender specifications'). The requesting institutions will be both the ECB and the EC.

In both types of waves, all firms shall be asked a common set of questions with between 40 and 65 question-units. The questionnaire is largely fixed from wave to wave, and the sample in the European Union includes a panel component. The services to be performed under the contract are further detailed in Annex 1 ('tender specifications') to the invitation to tender (ITT).

II.2.5) **Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) **Estimated value**

II.2.7) **Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months: 48

This contract is subject to renewal: no

II.2.10) **Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2.11) **Information about options**

Options: no

II.2.12) **Information about electronic catalogues**

II.2.13) **Information about European Union funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: no

II.2.14) **Additional information**

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) **Conditions for participation**

III.1.1) **Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

III.1.2) **Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) **Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.5) **Information about reserved contracts**

III.2) **Conditions related to the contract**

III.2.1) **Information about a particular profession**

III.2.2) **Contract performance conditions:**

III.2.3) **Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract**

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

IV.1.4) Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue

IV.1.6) Information about electronic auction

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: no

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date: 28/11/2017

IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted:

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Duration in months: 9 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date: 29/11/2017

Local time: 10:00

Information about authorised persons and opening procedure:

The date indicated above in IV.2.7 is the first available date for the opening.

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: no

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

VI.3) Additional information:

The procurement document can be downloaded from an Internet platform. If you are interested in participating in the procurement procedure register via the Internet platform using the following Internet address, user ID and password:

<https://www.ecb.europa.eu/secure/procurement/>

User ID: 003183/DGS/MOE/2017

Password: EFC038

After you have registered, an e-mail will be sent to you with a new username and password. Use the new username and password to download the procurement documentation from the above Internet address.

However, your mere registration and downloading the procurement documents does not constitute an application/tender. You must submit your application/tender in hard copy version to the ECB, on time, in the format requested and including the content as further instructed in the application/tender documentation.

Should you experience any problems in accessing the Internet platform for registration and/or downloading the documentation, please do not hesitate to contact the ECB under the following e-mail address: procurement@ecb.europa.eu quoting the procurement number and the problem experienced. The ECB shall endeavour to answer all queries concerning access as quickly as possible but cannot guarantee a minimum response time. The ECB shall not be bound to reply to queries received less than 7 calendar days before the time limit for the submission of tenders.

The procurement procedure shall be open on equal terms to all natural or legal persons resident or located in the European Union and to all natural and legal persons resident or located in a country which has ratified the World Trade Organisation Agreement on Government Procurement or has concluded with the European Union a bilateral agreement on procurement under the conditions laid down in the said agreements.

The procurement procedure is conducted in accordance with Decision (EU) 2016/245 of the European Central Bank of 9.2.2016 laying down the rules on procurement (ECB/2016/2), OJ L 45, 20.2.2016, p. 15 as amended, available on the ECB website at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/tenders/html/index.en.html>

During the procurement procedure, tenderers shall not contact any ECB staff members or organisations/ persons working for the ECB with regard to this tender procedure other than the person indicated in Section I.1). Tenderers shall also not contact potential competitors unless they intend to form a temporary grouping with them or to involve them as subcontractors. Any violation of this communication rule may lead to the exclusion of the tenderer in question.

VI.4) **Procedures for review**

VI.4.1) **Review body**

Procurement Review Body of the European Central Bank, c/o Legal Advice Team
Sonnemannstraße 20
Frankfurt am Main
60314
Germany
Telephone: +49 6913440
Fax: +49 6913446886
Internet address: <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>

VI.4.2) **Body responsible for mediation procedures**

European Ombudsman
1 avenue du Président Robert Schuman
Strasbourg
67001
France

VI.4.3) **Review procedure**

VI.4.4) **Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

Central Procurement Office
Sonnemannstraße 20
Frankfurt am Main
60314
Germany
Telephone: +49 6913440
Internet address: <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>

VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**

23/10/2017