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***Invitation for Submission of Expressions of Interest***

***For the supply of laboratory instrument, tools, chemicals and consumables for diagnosis of TB and Multi Drug Resistant TB***

The Global Drug Facility (GDF), the procurement arm of the Stop TB Partnership, housed at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland, intends to issue, via its appointed procurement agent, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, a restricted Invitation to Bid (ITB) for the supply of laboratory instruments, tools, chemicals, reagents and consumables for laboratories in countries serviced by GDF. It is planned to issue the ITB in Q2/Q3 2013.

GDF's mission is to ensure timely access to quality assured, affordable anti-tuberculosis (TB) medicines and diagnostics.

GDF supports implementation of the Stop TB Strategy in accordance with the Global Plan to Stop TB (2006 - 2015), supplemented by the Global MDR / XDR-TB Response Plan (2007 - 2008, as updated 2010). GDF facilitates global DOTS expansion or maintenance in support of the Stop TB Strategy. For a general background on GDF's services and operations, please refer to <http://www.stoptb.org/gdf/>.

Lack of diagnostic capacity is a critical barrier to the scale-up of diagnosis, treatment and care needed for an effective response to the dramatic increase in MDR-TB which has been further complicated by the convergence of the TB and HIV epidemics.

In addressing this challenge, GDF is engaged in a five year project until 2014 (“EXPAND-TB Project”) to procure and implement new TB diagnostic tools in 27 countries. Further Project partners include the WHO Global Laboratory Initiative (GLI), FIND (Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics) and UNITAID as the Project's funding agency.

GDF has been entrusted under the EXPAND TB Project with establishing a pooled procurement mechanism for advanced diagnostic instruments and supplies in collaboration with FIND. GDF together with FIND works with GIZ as Procurement Agent and selected suppliers in instituting this mechanism.

Procurement by EXPAND-TB recipient countries with their own funds or using other funding sources is expected to continue in 2015 and beyond, sustaining gains of the EXPAND-TB Project. Other countries may wish to similarly procure the laboratory items provided under the EXPAND-TB Project. GDF is planning to offer procurement services for these laboratory items for all countries from 2014.

GDF is now issuing this Invitation for Submission of Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the supply and, where necessary the installation, of laboratory instruments, tools, chemicals, reagents and consumables for laboratories in countries to be serviced by GDF. The purpose of this EOI is to short-list potential providers of laboratory instruments for an ITB to be conducted by GIZ, based on a general technical assessment of the provider and its specific delivery capacity for these products.

The ITB shall be divided into seven lots:

Lot1 Instruments and tools

Lot 2 Chemicals and consumables

Lot 3 Instruments and tools – India Local Procurement

Lot 4 Chemicals and Consumables – India Local Procurement

Lot 5 Standardization items[[1]](#footnote-1)

Lot 6 Autoclave with installation and training

Lot 7 Bio Safety Cabinet with installation, certification and training

A description of the required items and specifications for each lot can be found as Annexes 4 and 5 in the same folder where this Invitation has been published: "Expression of Interest – Supplies of TB laboratory instruments, tools, chemicals and consumables” on GDF's website at the following link:

<http://www.stoptb.org/gdf/drugsupply/procurement_notice.asp>

The aim of this EOI is to select providers that can supply all lots. However, where deemed in the interest of GDF/GIZ, contract awards may be made to selected suppliers for specific lots. For such case, providers are free to limit their submissions under this EOI to specific Lot(s).

Products will need to be registered in a highly regulated environment, such as in the US (US FDA), an EU Member State, Japan or bear the CE marking or equivalent. This is to be indicated in the respective column in Annex 4.

Evaluation

The purpose of this Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) is to short-list potential providers of the above products for an ITB to be conducted by GIZ, based on a technical assessment. The ITB will then be focussed on a commercial evaluation. The successful bidder(s) will be awarded a one year long-term agreement, extendable up to four further periods of one year each.

Technical evaluation is divided into three parts:

1. Review of Company questionnaire and related documents
2. Screening of product technical data based on technical specifications
3. Additional review of technical specifications based on sample testing and additional documentation (e.g. service manual of an instruments)

Instructions for product information to be supplied by providers responding to this EOI

Three documents form part of the product information

1. **Annex 4 - Detailed Product List for EOI - March 2013**

All different products from each lot are listed in this file.

Respondent must fill in the information in the columns with blue colour headers

Column information:

* *GDF Specification*: Generic specification to be fulfilled
* *Detailed Specification*: Detailed specification are contained in Annex 5
* *Request for sample*: Sample will be requested for technical evaluation as described in the Excel worksheet “Evaluation Method for sample”
* *Link to*: Item number with which products must be compatible (e.g. tips with 1-channel pipette)
* *Importance*: There are 3 categories:

1. Always needed are regularly ordered products
2. Regular products are sometimes ordered
3. Optional products are exceptionally ordered.

* *Unit / package GDF*: Unit per pack on which the commercial evaluation will be done. Respondent can provide a lower package unit but not higher one.
* *Historical and forecasted quantiti*es are provided only in regard to the EXPANDx-TB project. Data for other potential procurement is not available.

A list of laboratories to which GDF has provided items under this EOI, to date, is given in Annex 2.

1. **Annex 5 - Detailed Specifications for EOI - March 2013**

These are detailed specifications for some important items. Respondent must fill in the column on the far right and add a photo of the product. For lots 6 and 7, please provide brochure of products offered.

1. **Annex 6 – Supplier Specifications**

These documents are linked to the Excel spread sheets in Annex 4 via the merge/mailing function in Word.

1. Please check if the links are working between Word and Excel documents
2. If the links are not working, please re-create them when opening the word documents
3. When the Excel document is filled in, please merge both documents
4. Add photos of each item into the respective Word document
5. Save document created in step 3 as a PDF file.

If there is any question concerning this process, please contact GDF.

Submissions

Interested companies are encouraged to indicate by 8th April 2013 by email to [vergest@who.int](mailto:vergest@who.int) cc [loeberj@who.int](mailto:loeberj@who.int) their intention to submit a dossier in response to the EOI.

GDF will respond in writing to any request for clarification of the EOI that it receives at least seven calendar days prior to the closing date of the EOI. A consolidated document of GDF's response to all questions (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of enquiry) will be posted weekly on the GDF website (on the webpage where the EOI is posted) and sent to all companies who have indicated to GDF their intention to submit a dossier in response to the EOI.

All submissions will be assessed for acceptability to the GDF and providers will be notified in advance of the ITB.

All providers interested in participating in the planned GIZ ITB are requested to submit company information along with supporting documentation, as listed in the GDF Company Questionnaire in Annex 1 and financial information in Annex 3. Furthermore, respondents shall complete the detailed specifications sheet filled with the respondent's specifications, Annexes 4, 5 and 6, all also available in the folder “Expression of Interest - Supplies of TB laboratory instruments, chemicals and consumables" at:

<http://www.stoptb.org/gdf/drugsupply/procurement_notice.asp> .

Submissions are to be sent to the address listed hereunder no later than Monday, 6 May 2013, 13h00 CET. Data should be submitted in hard copy (paper) form in four (4) originals by registered courier and in electronic copy (CD or USB key).

Providers found compliant after steps 1 and 2 of the evaluation (tentative week for GDF response: week 22 or 23) will be requested to send samples to a GDF designated TB laboratory in India. Providers should hold samples ready from 1st July 2013 for dispatch to India. The shipping procedure for sending samples will be communicated at a later stage of the process.

Subject: Expression of Interest - Supplies of TB laboratory instruments, tools, chemicals and consumables

Attention: Mr. John Loeber - Procurement Coordinator, Global Drug Facility

Stop TB Department

World Health Organization

20Avenue Appia

1211 Geneva 27 - Switzerland

Enquiries / correspondence are kindly also directed by email only:

To : Mr Thomas Vergès, Global Drug Facility, email: [vergest@who.int](mailto:vergest@who.int)

Cc : Mr. John Loeber, Global Drug Facility, email: [loeberj@who.int](mailto:loeberj@who.int)

Subject of email should mention : EOI-GDF Diagnostics



Global TB Drug Facility / Stop TB Partnership



c/o World Health Organization, 20 avenue Appia, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

Fax: + 41-22-791 4486 or + 41-22-791 4886

Email: [gdf@stoptb.org](mailto:gdf@stoptb.org), Website: [www.stoptb.org/gdf](http://www.stoptb.org/gdf)

The Stop TB Partnership Secretariat is housed by the World Health Organization

**Documents attached to this EOI**

Annex 1 - GDF Company Questionnaire

Annex 2- Laboratory List for EOI - March 2013

Annex 3 - Financial Information

Annex 4 - Detailed Product List for EOI - March 2013

Annex 5 - Detailed Specifications for EOI - March 2013

Annex 6-1 to 6-5 - Supplier Specifications Lot 1 to 5

1. For these items the exact brand and model as mentioned in Annex 4 are needed. Trainers are already aware how to set up and train staff on these instruments. A majority of laboratories are equipped with these brands and models and therefore maintenance is possible from one source. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)