

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**  
FOR A SIMPLIFIED  
PROCEDURE FORSEEN BY SECTION 2.6.4 OF THE “PRACTICAL GUIDE  
FOR PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS FOR EUROPEAN UNION EXTERNAL  
ACTIONS” FOR  
**PARTICIPATORY VIDEO PRODUCTION  
WITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT SETTINGS,**

FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AND IMPLEMENTED BY THE  
ITALIAN AGENCYFOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (AICS) – MAPUTO  
REGIONAL OFFICE

Mozambique

<b><u>Reference:</u></b>	B0AF6D8982
<b><u>Programme:</u></b>	Sub-Programme for the Provinces of Manica and Tete of “DELPAZ - Local Development for the Consolidation of Peace in Mozambique” (FED/2020/419-614 and FED/2022/431-433)
<b><u>Contracting Authority:</u></b>	Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) – Maputo Regional Office
<b><u>Period:</u></b>	6 months
<b><u>Budget:</u></b>	The maximum price of the tender is EUR 55.000 (excluding VAT).

**1. Background**

- The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) – Maputo Regional Office (AICS Maputo) is currently implementing as executing agency (under indirect management modality) the **DELPAZ Manica and Tete Sub-Programme**, financed by the European Union. This sub-programme is part of the DELPAZ initiative, implemented in the provinces of Manica, Tete and Sofala, in collaboration with the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).
- The overall objective of DELPAZ is “to contribute towards the consolidation of peace at the subnational levels in Mozambique” with focus on the conflict-affected districts.
- AICS Maputo, through a Programme Management Unit (PMU) and its partners, is implementing a local economic development activity that will contribute to peace and reconciliation at local levels through socially inclusive livelihood improvements and community development in eight (8) conflict affected districts in Manica (*Gondola, Bárue, Macossa, Guro and Tambara*) and Tete Provinces (*Moatize, Tsangano and Doa*).
- The expected output of AICS action in Manica and Tete Province are: 2.1) Enhanced public investment and service provision in selected districts and rural municipalities; 2.3) Increased adoption of climate smart and productivity enhancing agriculture technologies and practices by conflict affected communities, 2.3) Enhanced market integration and off-farm economic activities of conflict affected communities.

- DELPAZ Manica and Tete Sub-programme refers to a common Communication and Visibility Plan for the Programme, a core element of the Programme approach insofar as it supports the active engagement of direct participants and beneficiaries, involved public and private sector institutions, and other relevant stakeholders at all levels.
- The overall communication objective of the DELPAZ Programme is to contribute to raising awareness about DELPAZ and its objectives amongst Programme stakeholders and beneficiaries at community, district, provincial and national levels as well as among the general public, development partners, and government authorities in Mozambique, Europe and globally.

## 2. Purpose

- AICS Maputo intends to set-up a list of eligible and qualified service providers to be invited based the applicable EU-PRAG procedures to submit their best offer for the “Participatory video production with community engagement in rural development setting”, financed by the EU and implemented by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) – Maputo Regional Office.

## 3. Services

- At local level, the Manica and Tete Sub-Programme aims to ensure that the beneficiaries are reached through harmonized, adequate, and effective communication means and messages, in parallel with wider public awareness of the DELPAZ Programme throughout its implementation.
- AICS has the responsibility, jointly with its implementing partner in the field, of the implementation of communication and visibility activities related to AICS Action: “To improve the livelihoods of rural communities in conflict-affected districts, with a special focus on women and disadvantaged groups” in relation to their respective Provinces/Districts of implementation.
- AICS is seeking technical assistance for ensuring the participatory video production with community engagement in rural development settings, with involvement of youths, also through local schools in selected Districts of Manica and Tete Provinces.
- The experts are bound by a declaration of impartiality and confidentiality to be signed before starting the contract. If any applicant believes there might be a situation of conflict of interests in relation to one or more applicants, the applicant must inform the contracting authority immediately. In addition, strict confidentiality is required from the expert involved in the implementation of the assignments.

## 4. Eligibility

- Participation to the expression of interests is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons (participating either individually or in a grouping – consortium – of candidates) which are established in one of the Member States of the European Union, ACP States or in a country or territory authorised by the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement under which the contract is financed. Participation is also open to international organisations.

For UK candidates: Please be aware that following the entry into force of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement\* on 1 February 2020 and in particular Articles 127(6), 137 and 138, the references to natural or legal persons residing or established in a Member State of the European Union and to goods originating from an eligible country, as defined under Regulation (EU) No 236/2014\*\* and Annex IV of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement\*\*\*, are to be understood as including natural or legal persons residing or established in, and to goods originating in, the United Kingdom \*\*\*\*. Those persons and goods are therefore

eligible under this call.

- \* Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.
- \*\* Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action.
- \*\*\* Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, as revised by Decision 1/2014 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers (OJ L196/40, 3.7.2014).
- \*\*\*\* Including the Overseas Countries and Territories having special relations with the United Kingdom, as laid down in Part Four and Annex II of the TFEU.

- Eligible service providers will be excluded from participation in procurement procedures if:
  - a) they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
  - b) they, or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them, have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment of a competent authority of an EU Member State or other countries covered by the European Development Fund (EDF) which has the force of res judicata (i.e. against which no appeal is possible);
  - c) they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the Contracting Authority can justify, including by decisions of the European Investment Bank and international organizations;
  - d) they are not in compliance with their obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the Contracting Authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;
  - e) they, or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them, have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering or any other illegal activity, where such an illegal activity is detrimental to the EU's financial interests.
- Interested service providers must submit a signed declaration, included in the forms, to the effect that they are not in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.6.10.1. of the practical guide.
- Service providers included in the lists of EU restrictive measures (see Section 2.4. of the PRAG) at the moment of the award decision cannot be awarded the contract.

## 5. Qualification requirements

### 1. **Economic and financial capacity**

In the last three financial years for which accounts have been closed, service providers must meet the following economic and financial criterion:

- The average annual turnover for the past 3 financial years preceding the date of publication of this notice for which accounts have been closed/audited must exceed 25,000 EUR.

### 2. **Professional capacity**

In the last three years preceding the date of publication of this notice, service providers must demonstrate of having:

- Staff with professional competencies and skills appropriate to this contract, such as media and communications or film or video and photo production or digital



storytelling.

### 3. **Technical capacity**

In the last three years preceding the date of publication of this notice, service providers must demonstrate of having:

- provided services under at least two contracts of similar nature, preferably in the framework of international projects carried out in synergy with international actors (i.e. EU, International Governmental Agencies, UN Agencies and Programmes, private multinationals, international foundations, international NGOs);
- proven experience in designing, developing, and supporting production of developing communication and visibility products, with a participatory approach;
- proven experience in working in rural context and with vulnerable groups in a developing country, preferably in Mozambique.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to invite to tendering for the simplified procedure, the candidates who meet the general, financial, professional, and technical capacity. Additional selection criteria might be added at the time of the invitation to tender.

### 6. **How to express interest**

- Interested service providers shall express their interest by submitting the following documents (no additional documents are requested at this stage):
  - I. Dated and signed Legally Binding Statement (Annex A)
  - II. Dated and signed Expression of interest (Annex B)
  - III. Personal Data Protection (Annex C)
  - IV. Scanned copy of a valid identification document (for natural persons) or registration document (for legal persons)
  - V. Presentations/brochures/material of similar services carried out (*optional*).
- Documents in English language must be submitted in PDF format (not editable) by email, to the following email address: [maputo@aics.gov.it](mailto:maputo@aics.gov.it)
- The deadline for the submission is 25/03/2024 (23h:59 Maputo time) as evidenced by the date and time of receipt of the email as recorded in the system of the recipient. The subject of the email must bear the following reference: “**CIG B0AF6D8982– DELPAZ Manica and Tete Sub- Programme – Participatory videos**”.
- It is encouraged to express the interest well before the deadline date, since heavy internet traffic or connection problems could lead to difficulties in submission. The Contracting Authority cannot be held responsible for any delay due to such difficulties.

### 7. **Additional information**

- The Contracting Authority will first evaluate the following:
  - a. Compliance with the submission deadline. If the deadline has not been met, the Expression of Interest will automatically be rejected;
  - b. Eligibility as per paragraph 4 of this document;
  - c. Qualification requirements as per paragraph 5 of this document.
- Eligible applicants meeting the relevant qualification requirements will then be inserted in a list following the order of submission. The list does not represent any classification and the related insertion does not imply any rights for the eligible service providers to be invited and/or contracted.
- Among eligible applicants meeting the relevant qualification requirements, the Contracting

Authority can shortlist a maximum of five (5) applicants, that can be invited to tender on the basis of the EU-PRAG (<https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/ExactExternalWiki/ePRAG>).

- If submitting your reply to the Expression of Interest involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as names, contact details and CVs), it will be processed solely for the purposes of the management and monitoring of the tender and of the contract by the data controller without prejudice to possible transmission to the bodies in charge of monitoring or inspection tasks in application of EU law. Details concerning processing of your personal data are available on the privacy statement attached (Annex C).
- The Contracting Authority reserves the right to revoke the call for expression of interest for any reasons, discretionally evaluated.
- This notice constitutes solely an invitation to express interest and does not entail the Contracting Authority assuming any obligation towards any candidate. The Contracting Authority reserves the right not to follow up on the procedure in question.
- The Procedure Supervisor is Ms. Maria Cristina Pescante.
- For any further information please contact AICS Maputo at the following email: [maputo@aics.gov.it](mailto:maputo@aics.gov.it).

Maputo, 11/03/2024