TWINNING CALL FOR PROPOSALS
issued by the European Commission

1. Publication reference

EuropeAid/166070/DD/ACT/EG

2. Programme and Financing source

Project title: Strengthening the Administrative and Operational Capacities of the Egyptian Customs Authority. Twinning reference: EG 16 ENI FI 01 19.


3. Nature of activities, geographical area and project duration

(a) Short description (5 lines) of planned objectives:

Overall Objective(s): To contribute to a gradual harmonisation of Egyptian customs legislation, regulation and practices with relevant EU standards, norms and best practice, and support the on-going institutional reform measures aimed at enhancing the trade facilitation environment and creating the framework for modern customs procedures for businesses, including Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

Specific Objective: To strengthen the administrative and operational capacities of the Egyptian Customs Authority (ECA) to perform more efficiently its core functions, by reducing bureaucracy and responding in an effective way to the needs of the trade community.

(b) Geographical area:

EGYPT

(c) Maximum project duration:

27 months (24 for implementation and 3 months for closure)
4. **Overall amount available for this Call for Proposals**

   EUR 1,900,000.00

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**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

5. **Eligibility: Who may apply?**

   Only Public Administrations and Mandated bodies as per Twinning Manual of European Union Member State may apply through European Union Member States’ National Contact Points.

   **For British applicants:** Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 12.2 of the General Conditions1 to the grant agreement.

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**PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

6. **Provisional notification date of results of the award process**

   Early November 2019

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**SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA**

7. **Selection and Award criteria**

   **Selection criteria** consider the operational capacity of the Member State Project Leader, Resident Twinning Adviser and Component Leaders mentioned in the proposal:; the assessment is expressed on a Yes/No basis and a single negative evaluation of one criterion disqualifies the proposal.

   **Award criteria** consider the merit of the main qualifying aspects of the proposal and are evaluated applying a scoring system (1 to 5): Selection and award of the Member State will be based on an evaluation of several qualitative aspects including but not limited to the proposed methodology, the experience of the proposed Project Leader and Resident Twinning Adviser, the institutional setting and the capacity of the administration and the Member State presentation, etc.

   See annex C6 of the Twinning Manual: Administrative compliance and Eligibility

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1 "The Contracting Authority communicates the choice of the selected Twinning partner at the latest within two weeks after the date of the selection meetings", as per section 2.4.3. of the Twinning Manual.

APPLICATION FORMALITIES

8. **Twinning proposal and details to be provided**

Twinning proposals must be submitted by the Lead Member State Administration to the EU Member States National Contact Points for Twinning following the instructions of the Twinning Manual which must be strictly observed (including the use of the template).

Only one Twinning proposal for Member State can be submitted by the Member State National Contact Points for Twinning to the Contracting Authority within the deadline for applications.

The MS application should be submitted to the Contracting Authority via the email address of Member State National Contact Points for Twinning

9. **Deadline for applications**

Deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the National Contact Points to the Contracting Authority: 07 October 2019.

The deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the EU Member State Public Administrations to the corresponding National Contact Point is decided by the latter.

Any application received by the Contracting Authority after this deadline will not be considered.

10. **Detailed information**

Detailed information on this Call for Proposals is contained in the Twinning Manual and in the specific project Twinning Fiche, which is available at the European Union Member States National Contact Points for Twinning.

The tentative date(s) envisaged for starting the evaluation committee meetings is: 15 October 2019.

For the selection meeting the Member State delegation should always include at least the proposed PL and RTA(s).