



NZC CESF Procurement RFP

CESF Procurement Document template to be published internally or externally for the purposes of procuring expert support for cities

NZC-PCP1-006-Padova (OSS)

Date: 5 November 2024

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Table of contents

- 1.1 Executive Summary 3
- 1.2 Timelines 3
- 1.3 About Climate-KIC 4
- 1.4 About NetZeroCities 4
 - 1.4.1 NZC Climate City Contracts (CCC) 4
 - 1.4.2 NZC Pilot Cities Programme 4
- 2 Confidentiality 5
- 3 Specification 6
 - 3.1 Scope 6
 - 3.2 Required Experience and Capabilities 7
 - 3.3 Objectives and Methodology 7
 - 3.4 Deliverables 8
 - 3.5 Eligibility 9
 - 3.6 Sustainability 9
- 4 Contracting (third parties) 10
 - 4.1 Payment & Invoicing 10
 - 4.2 Contract Management 10
- 5 Award Criteria 11
 - 5.1 Evaluation across quality criteria 11
 - 5.2 Evaluation Criteria 11
 - 5.2.1 Expertise / Experience (30%) 11
 - 5.2.2 Capacity to Deliver (30%) 11
 - 5.2.3 Price Criteria (40%) 12
- 6 Instruction to Bidders 13
 - 6.1 Responding with your proposal 13
 - 6.2 Quotation requirements 13
 - 6.3 Terms of this RFP 14

Abbreviations and acronyms

Acronym	Description
NZC	NetZeroCities
CESF	City Expert Support Facility
RFP	Request for Proposal
GARAC	Grant and Resource Allocation Committee

Request for Proposal

For: One-Stop-Shop (OSS) for the Italian Mission Cities

Date: 5 November 2024

Update (13 November): A document with responses to questions from interested parties has been added as an annex to this RfP.

Update (19 November): Additional responses were added to the annex to this RfP. The submission deadline was postponed to 27 November, 23:59:59 CET and the work is expected to start with the beginning of January 2025 with the final study due no later than March 2025.

1.1 Executive Summary

This is a Request for Proposal (RFP) that details Climate-KIC's requirements for services to support cities in the NetZeroCities programme, through the NZC City Expert Support Facility. Please treat this document in accordance with the confidentiality obligations detailed further in this document.

Services and/or goods requested	Study exploring the creation of a multi-city One-Stop-Shop (OSS) for the Italian Mission Cities (Bologna, Bergamo, Florence, Milan, Padova, Parma, Prato, Rome, and Turin).
The legal entity requesting these goods and/or services	Climate-KIC Holding B.V.
Services and/or goods will be delivered to the following locations	Services will be delivered remotely to the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italian Mission Cities Some onsite services may be required at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bologna, Bergamo, Florence, Milan, Padova, Parma, Prato, Rome, and Turin
Climate-KIC Contract Manager for submitting proposals and inquiries	Radka Reil CESF Manager CESF@netzerocities.eu
Proposed contract term for successful candidates	As per Deliverables

Table 1: Procurement executive summary

1.2 Timelines

Climate-KIC has set the following indicative timelines for this RFP:

Planned Date*	Milestones
6 November 2024	RFP issued to bidders
27 November 2024	Bidders submit proposals / Submission Deadline
Planned 21-22 November 2024	NZC team to review and evaluate proposals
Expected 02 January 2025	Proposed contract start date

Climate-KIC reserves the right to amend this timetable during the RFP.

Table 2: Timeline table

If you have questions on the RFP, email the Contract Manager at least 3 business days before the submission deadline. We aim to respond in a timely manner wherever possible. To proceed, please submit a proposal following the requirements at Section 0 by the Submission Deadline stated at Section 1.2. Climate-KIC will assess bids and notify bidders following the timeline at Section 0.

1.3 About Climate-KIC

Climate-KIC is Europe's leading climate innovation agency and community, supporting cities, regions, countries and industries to meet their climate ambitions through systems innovation and place-based transformations.

Together with our partners, we generate, implement and integrate climate solutions by mobilising finance, testing business models, and opening pathways for institutional change and behavioural change. We orchestrate large-scale demonstrations that show what is possible when cycles of innovation and learning are deliberately designed to trigger exponential decarbonisation and build resilient communities. Climate-KIC is the project lead for NetZeroCities (NZC).

1.4 About NetZeroCities

NetZeroCities (NZC) is a project designed to help cities overcome the current structural, institutional, and cultural barriers they face to achieve climate neutrality by 2030. NZC recognises the need for cities to develop specific strategies that are tailored to suit local and regional contexts, and supports them by developing, promoting, and integrating new and existing tools, resources, and expertise into an online platform accessible to all cities (**Mission Platform**). The project – designed to **support cities that are part of the EU's Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe supported Mission "100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030"** – tailors advanced capabilities related to systemic change, citizen engagement and democratic, participatory governance, capital and financial structuring, and social innovation, to ensure cities have access to expertise needed to address their challenges in becoming climate neutral.

1.4.1 NZC Climate City Contracts (CCC)

The **NZC Mission Platform** provides support in the co-creation of Climate City Contracts with local stakeholders and citizens. Drawing up, signing, and implementing Climate City Contracts is a central feature of the [EU Mission on 100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities](#) by 2030. While not legally binding, these contracts represent a clear and highly visible political commitment. This commitment extends not only to the EC, national and regional authorities, but also to the citizens they serve. These contracts outline the city's path to achieve climate neutrality by 2030, accompanied by a comprehensive investment strategy.

1.4.2 NZC Pilot Cities Programme

The **NZC Pilot Cities Programme** supports large scale piloting activities to exploit, deploy, and scale R&I and systemic solutions combining social, cultural, technological, nature-based, regulatory, and financial innovation, and new business and governance models to underpin the climate transition. As such, the NZC Pilot Cities Programme and its subgrant-funded activities are an opportunity for Mission Cities to put into practise elements of their developing and/or finalised Climate City Contracts and the plans contained in them and learn by doing so in the process.

2 Confidentiality

All information provided in this Request for Proposal (hereinafter “RFP”) document and any information that may be subsequently disclosed during discussions, correspondence, and negotiations, is confidential and must not be disclosed to any other party or used for any other purpose whatsoever without the prior written permission of Climate-KIC Holding B.V. or relevant subsidiary (hereinafter “Climate-KIC”).

The Supplier must not disclose any such information, materials, specifications, or other documents to any third parties or to any other part of the Supplier’s group or use them for any purpose other than for the preparation and submission of a response to this RFP. The Supplier must not make any press announcements or publicise in any way Climate-KIC’s name, this document, the quotation process or any subsequent agreement without the prior written consent of Climate-KIC.

Climate-KIC may require the execution of Non-Disclosure Agreement as part of this RFP or for future commercial engagements. As part of preparation for the submission of the response and in any subsequent negotiations, the Supplier is allowed to disclose confidential information to others within the Supplier organisation, external advisors, or subcontractors, provided that the confidentiality conditions are adhered to.

Employees of either party who have access to confidential information must be notified of their obligations with regard to confidentiality and of the disciplinary proceedings which will result if confidentiality conditions are breached.

The scoring information (includes price) and the successful proposal will be shared with the City that is the beneficiary of the contract prior to contract execution. The unsuccessful proposals may also be shared with the city for feedback. Please make Climate-KIC aware if there are any potential issues with the dissemination of your proposal for the purposes of informing the city of the outcome.

3 Specification

3.1 Scope

NetZeroCities (NZC) and Climate-KIC invite quotations for a **feasibility study exploring the creation of a multi-city One-Stop-Shop (OSS) for the Italian Mission Cities under the [Let's GOv project consortium \(Bologna, Bergamo, Florence, Milan, Padova, Parma, Prato, Rome, and Turin\)](#)**. The OSS would serve as a platform for citizens, businesses, and key stakeholders to access information and resources on achieving climate neutrality and addressing climate adaptation in existing building stock from 2030 to 2050.

While this study focuses on the feasibility of a multi-city OSS, the proposed solution will form part of a broader National Platform aimed at collectively tackling the challenges Italian cities face in reaching climate neutrality.

Objectives: The feasibility study will evaluate the potential for a multi-city OSS to support large-scale urban renovation and decarbonization efforts. Key aspects include:

- Aggregating energy renovation interventions, bundling both civil and industrial buildings, and proposing investment packages to private economic operators (e.g., Energy Service Companies - ESCos), thereby creating economies of scale.
- Exploring various OSS business models, governance structures, and legal frameworks, considering national legal and policy conditions, market maturity, funding availability, and local government commitments.

The study will also analyze how the OSS can move beyond traditional roles to actively leverage partnerships between cities and attract private capital. Collaboration with the [NetZeroCities Capital Hub](#) will be crucial for this.

Study Scope: The feasibility study will address three core areas:

1. Technical Feasibility:
 - Assess the provision and integration of innovative services with existing market offerings.
 - Outline the technical procedures required to activate new investments in building renovations
 - Consider how the OSS can facilitate the mobilization of resources for renovation across multiple cities.
2. Organisational and Legal Feasibility:
 - Explore potential governance models for the OSS, including its legal form (e.g., companies, cooperatives, public-private partnerships, semi-public entities).
 - Build on previous studies (e.g., the PadovaFIT Expanded EU project) to define a governance model that works across all Let's GOv consortium cities and aligns with evolving Climate City Contracts.
 - Investigate how the OSS could coordinate with municipalities and other market actors to streamline services.
3. Economic Feasibility:
 - Analyze the financial sustainability of different OSS models, including expected costs, revenue flows, and the leverage effect on investment.
 - Propose a business model that ensures long-term financial sustainability while activating local actors (banks, ESCos, etc.) to finance building renovations.
 - Explore the feasibility of utilizing financial tools like Energy Performance Contracts, fiscal incentives, crowdfunding, and Energy as a Service to finance interventions.

Considerations: The supplier should also take into account that many of the Italian municipalities involved already have versions of an OSS (Energy Desk) at various stages of development. These

existing services, which provide consultation and information on energy topics, should be integrated into the analysis.

Deliverables: The final report should offer:

- A detailed feasibility study with recommendations on technical, legal, and economic aspects of a multi-city OSS.
- Clear insights into how the OSS could attract private capital and extend partnerships.
- A business model that outlines the financial sustainability of the OSS over the short and long term.

Timeline and Requirements:

- Estimated delivery: 70 days over a three-month period, with the final study due no later than **March 2025**.
- The actual establishment of the OSS is out of scope for this procurement and subject to further decision-making by the cities.

Conclusion: The feasibility study is an essential step in determining the potential for a multi-city OSS that will catalyze urban decarbonization efforts, extend the benefits of energy renovations, and create new opportunities for private capital investment across Italian Mission Cities.

Climate-KIC reserves the right to award the contract to more than one third party supplier to achieve suitable capabilities for the scope of work described. Bidders are encouraged to make it clear in their proposal what expertise and services they can provide in line with the scope of work described, if not the whole scope.

3.2 Required Experience and Capabilities

The supplier will ensure sufficient financial, economic, technical, and professional capacity to deliver the services in an efficient and effective manner.

The team or individuals delivering the services should be able to demonstrate the following experience and capabilities:

- Knowledge related to public and administrative Italian law, engaging Italian public authorities in direct or indirect ways, legal and regulatory constraints around public-private partnerships, and public-private joint ventures.
- Business and financial modelling for building retrofits, mobilisation of private funds, technical aspects of deep energy retrofits and climate adaptation in the built environment. Specific expertise on public-private partnerships and public-private joint ventures is required.
- Legal & tax competences, incl. assessment of the relationships among the various entities involved directly in the OSS or indirectly collaborating with the OSS (municipality, banks, ESCo, professionals, etc.).
- Knowledge and work experience with refurbishment of the building stock, the construction sector, and its stakeholders.
- In-depth knowledge of and experience in the local context is essential. The service provider staff must be fluent in both Italian and English to collaborate with the local ecosystem, with other Italian cities at municipal and regional levels, as well as with the NetZeroCities platform and project.

3.3 Objectives and Methodology

The feasibility study should support the Italian Mission Cities by:

- **Validating Market Opportunities:** Conduct an in-depth market analysis to confirm the demand and viability of launching the OSS before cities commit to activation, ensuring alignment with the needs of citizens, companies, and stakeholders.
- **Stakeholder Engagement and Information Gathering:** Design and execute a robust stakeholder engagement strategy to gather relevant information, insights, and input from key actors. This could include interviews, workshops, surveys, or focus groups aimed at validating assumptions and enriching the OSS scenarios.
- **Recommending the Optimal OSS Entity Structure:** Provide a clear recommendation for the most appropriate organizational and governance model that can effectively drive large-scale building refurbishment and climate-neutrality efforts.
- **Narrowing Down Viable Business Models:** Present a comprehensive evaluation of business model alternatives, offering a robust and financially viable option ("bulletproof" financial model) that guarantees long-term sustainability for the OSS.
- **Documenting the Benefits of the OSS:** Create detailed documentation outlining the specific benefits of the OSS for cities, stakeholders, and the wider community, showcasing the value of energy renovations and climate adaptation in urban building stock.
- **Providing a Foundation for Informed Financial Decision-Making:** Offer a solid evidence base to inform cities' decision-making processes and serve as a practical discussion tool with financial institutions, such as banks and ESCos, to secure investments and new financial channels for building stock renovation. This must be done in close alignment with the NZC Capital Hub.
- **Reporting and Final Deliverables:** Compile a detailed deliverables that outline the process, key findings, and recommendations as detailed in 1.5 Deliverables.

3.4 Deliverables

The following deliverables are requested:

Deliverable 1: Detailed Feasibility Study for the Italian Mission Cities Cohort One-Stop-Shop (OSS)

Scope of the study:

- **Key Partners and Stakeholders:** Identify the key partners (e.g., public authorities, private sector, ESCos, financial institutions) and stakeholders that must be involved for successful OSS operation.
- **Governance and Legal Model:** Propose the most effective governance structure, legal framework, and partnership arrangements (e.g., public-private partnerships, semi-public entities) based on Italian legal requirements and project objectives.
- **Target Beneficiaries:** Define the primary and secondary beneficiaries or users of the OSS, including citizens, companies, and other stakeholders engaged in energy efficiency and building renovation.
- **Value Proposition:** Develop a clear value proposition for the OSS that addresses climate neutrality, adaptation in building stock, and integrates innovative approaches to attract stakeholders.
- **Key Services and Activities:** Detail the core services the OSS will provide, ensuring compliance with the Italian regulatory framework, and identify how these services complement existing market offerings without overlapping
- **Operational Procedures:** Define the operating rules, processes, and service delivery mechanisms the OSS will follow, from service initiation to completion.
- **Resource Plan:** Provide a breakdown of human, financial, and technical resources required for short-term and long-term OSS operation.
- **Economic and Financial Plan:** Develop an economic-financial plan that ensures the OSS's financial sustainability, outlining revenue streams, cost structures, and projected return on investment in the short, medium, and long term; also incl. clear insights into how the OSS could attract private capital and extend partnerships.

Deliverable 2: CESF Delivery Report

- Upon completion of the assignment, the appointed provider must deliver a brief but comprehensive CESF Delivery Report, including:

- **Project Overview:** Summary of the support provided to the Italian Mission Cities in the OSS feasibility study.
- **Key Outcomes:** Detail the validated key results, insights, and conclusions from the feasibility study, highlighting the next steps for each city.
- **City-Specific Feedback:** Gather and include feedback from each city involved in the support process, ensuring the report reflects their validation and needs.
- **Recommendations:** Include practical recommendations for moving forward, covering further steps toward OSS implementation, critical opportunities, and potential challenges.
- This report should be validated by the city/ies in receipt of the support, as described in the Assignment contracted.

Reports will be requested to be written at a suitably professional standard using a recognised (or specified) referencing style upon request. The reports are to be provided for unrestricted use by Climate-KIC and free from all third-party copyright restrictions. Climate-KIC will receive ownership of such work products and may make them available to other parties, publish online, or other at our discretion.

3.5 Eligibility

Climate-KIC reserve the right to reject proposals where the proposed supplier:

- Has insufficient technical, professional or financial capacity to deliver the services.
- Has been bankrupt or insolvent (last 7 years)
- Is sanctioned by a relevant authority
- Does not comply or has previously not complied with our [Ethical Standards for Contractual Counterparties](#)
- Has been convicted of crime, links to terrorism, breach of tax or social security obligations
- Is an individual prior employee of Climate-KIC or group entity (discretionary basis)
- Will continue to be a full-time employee of an EIT grant recipient or Climate-KIC partner during the contract term (discretionary basis)

If any of these scenarios apply, please make Climate-KIC aware in your submission.

3.6 Sustainability

In order to uphold our commitment to sustainability, Climate-KIC aims to minimise any negative impact we may have on the natural and built environment by effectively managing our resources.

In the efforts to procure in a sustainable manner with minimal impact, the following requests are made of the bidder:

- Where practical, the services are to be delivered digitally following a paperless policy
- For events and workshops, please strictly minimise the generation of waste. We ask our service providers to consider the greenhouse gas emissions from transport to our/city/partner offices and events. Cycling, walking, public transport and rail are preferable over air travel wherever possible.
- We love to hear what suppliers are doing to minimise impact. Feel encouraged to share your approach and policies if applicable.

4 Contracting (third parties)

The below is applicable for External Parties only, i.e. not a NZC Partner.

4.1 Payment & Invoicing

- Payments will be made following provision of a correctly rendered undisputed digital (via email) invoice to Climate-KIC. Climate-KIC contract manager will inform the successful bidder where to submit invoices.
- Payment terms associated with delivery of the goods and/or services must be not less than net 30 days.
- Climate-KIC can provide a purchase order number to be referenced on invoices.
- Where Climate-KIC is requesting services over longer periods of time, bidders can invoice in a pay as we go model (e.g. a consolidated invoice based on work completed or completion of deliverables) - to be clarified during contracting).
- Requests for deposit payments are generally not accepted.
- If the bidder is requesting any form of payment prior to delivery of goods and/or services, this must be raised with Climate-KIC.
- If submitting invoices for subscription services, please ensure these fees are itemised and priced at line level.

4.2 Contract Management

A one-off agreement is proposed for award of work.

Climate-KIC can share their standard terms and conditions and will consider the bidder's own terms and conditions on the basis that the bidder can incorporate the following:

- Climate-KIC requires that that service providers provide an indemnity to Climate-KIC for breach of third-party intellectual property rights;
- In addition, Climate-KIC will ask that service providers comply with the Ethical Standards for Climate-KIC Contractual Counterparties available at <https://www.climate-kic.org/policies>
- Service providers are required to comply with Climate-KIC's standard data protection clauses (can be provided in advance on request) and provide an indemnity for any breach;
- The liability of the service provider to Climate-KIC (and affiliates) to be uncapped in respect of breach of data protection clauses. For all other heads, liability of the service provider to Climate-KIC (and affiliates) may be capped at a reasonable multiple of fees not less than 2X. If applicable, Climate-KIC liability to service provider also be similarly capped;
- No indemnities extended by Climate-KIC to service providers.

5 Award Criteria

5.1 Evaluation across quality criteria

To ensure consistency across quality criteria evaluation, each criterion shall be scored on a scale of 0-5 using the following methodology. This score is to then be adjusted to align with the % weighting of the specific area being evaluated.

For example, if the specific criterion has a weighting of 15% and the supplier scores a 4 out of 5, the supplier will receive a weighted score of 12% for that specific criterion.

Score Awarded	Definitions	Commentary
0	An unacceptable response	No response at all or insufficient information provided in the response such that the solution is totally un-assessable and/or incomprehensible.
1	A poor response	Substantially unacceptable submission which fails in several significant areas to set out a solution that addresses and meets the requirements: little or no detail may (and, where evidence is required or necessary, no evidence) have been provided to support and demonstrate that the Bidder will be able to provide the services and/or considerable reservations as to the Bidder's proposals in respect of relevant ability, understanding, expertise, skills and/or resources to deliver the requirements.
2	A below expectation response	Weak submission which does not set out a solution that fully addresses and meets the requirements: response may be basic/ minimal with little or no detail (and, where evidence is required or necessary, with insufficient evidence) provided to support the solution and demonstrate that the Bidder will be able to provide the services and/or some reservations as to the Bidder's solution in respect of relevant ability, understanding, expertise, skills and/or resources to deliver the requirements.
3	A satisfactory response that meets expectations	Submission sets out a solution that largely addresses and meets the requirements, with some detail (or, where evidence is required or necessary, some relevant evidence) provided to support the solution; minor reservations or weakness in a few areas of the solution in respect of relevant ability, understanding, expertise, skills and/or resources to deliver the requirements.
4	A good response	Submission sets out a robust solution that fully addresses and meets the requirements, with full details (and, where evidence is required or necessary, full and relevant evidence) provided to support the solution; provides full confidence as to the relevant ability, understanding, expertise, skills and/or resources to deliver the requirements.
5	A very good response	Submission sets out a robust solution (as for a 4 score – above) and, in addition, provides or proposes additional value and/or elements of the solution which exceed the requirements in substance and outcomes in a manner acceptable to Climate-KIC; provides full confidence as to the relevant ability, understanding, expertise, skills and/or resources not only to deliver the requirements, but also exceed it as described.

Table 3 - Quality Criteria scoring table

5.2 Evaluation Criteria

5.2.1 Expertise / Experience (30%)

Expertise and Experience as a criterion determines whether or not the proposed supplier is able to actually deliver the services. The questions to be asked and evaluated in this criterion are:

1. Relevant Experience – does the suppliers response show a history of delivering on projects like the package currently being evaluated? (20%).
2. Relevant Expertise – do the individuals proposed for the delivery of this work have the relevant qualifications required to deliver this work? (10%)

5.2.2 Capacity to Deliver (30%)

Once it has been established that the supplier has the relevant expertise and experience, the next criteria examines whether the supplier has the capacity to take on the work. This criterion is to be addressed via the following questions:

1. Current Workload – The suppliers shall provide the current list of projects being delivered by the individuals proposed for this package, this shall include the effort required for existing work as a % of their time (20%).

2. Management Measures – The supplier shall provide detail into how they manage capacity issues as well as provide any additional resources or measures they have in place in the event of capacity issues, or if there is a need for scope increases or acceleration (10%).

5.2.3 Price Criteria (40%)

Price will consist of 40% of the evaluation weightings. The evaluation method will ensure that the lowest price total of the Pricing Schedule achieves the maximum available marks, with other Bidders scores calculated proportionately. The scoring methodology will be applied per pricing schedule section and combined to identify the overall lowest price submission. The lowest price submission will achieve the maximum available score with the other Bidders prices scoring points inversely proportionate to the lowest.

1. Pricing evaluation will follow the universally accepted formula of (Lowest Price / Tendered Price x Price Criteria Points (40)).
2. An example of how this formula operates in practice can be found below:

Description	Formula	Tenderer		
		T1	T2	T3
Tendered Price	A	€500	€490	€510
Lowest Price	B	€490		
Calculation	$C = B/A$	0.98	1.00	0.96
Convert to Points	$D = C \times 40^*$	39.20	40.00	38.43

* The conversion to points will be based on the weighting attributed to price in the total evaluation.

Table 4 - Example scoring methodology for price lots

6 Instruction to Bidders

6.1 Responding with your proposal

Climate-KIC are requesting the following are submitted to bid on this contract:

1. **A Proposal** that sufficiently details the bidder's solution and responds to the prompts and requests contained in this RFP. The bidder is, amongst other items, also kindly asked to provide:
 - their trading name, VAT or tax identification number (if applicable) and registered trading address (*please note, address is not required for an individual*).
 - website links to examples of work previously performed by the bidder if applicable (e.g. portfolios, work products or other).
 - professional references that can be reached by Climate-KIC to verify previous services delivery.
2. **A Quotation** that meets the requirements described at Section 6.2
3. **Resumes** of individuals that will be assigned to conduct the services described in this document.

Climate-KIC reserves the right to reject RFP responses that do not confirm with these guidelines. All responses shall be made to the Contract Manager (refer Section 1.1) via electronic copy, at CESF@netzerocities.eu

6.2 Quotation requirements

Climate-KIC request that bidders quote in the following manner, as appropriate to delivery of the services:

- Please provide itemised quotations in Euros and specify if the quote includes / excludes VAT or any other taxes;
- 1.1 Provide a rate card for relevant grades of employment that will be conducting services (e.g. day rate) instead of averaged rates. These may be used for additional
- The quotation is requested to include a month by month resource plan with resolution on role title, days and day rates to reach a total proposed labour cost. Please refer Table 5 & 6 as an example.
- For External Suppliers (Non-NZC Consortium): Travel and subsistence for these services are strictly limited. Domestic travel and subsistence will not be reimbursed unless agreed in advance and in writing with Climate-KIC. If you require international transport and/or accommodation, please make this clear and estimate costs in your quotation. Time for travel will not be billable hours.
- Include all applicable costs or charges associated with providing the goods and/or services in your quotation.
- Please quote on a company letterhead or similar company form where possible with the resolution described in Table 5 at a minimum. Where a resource plan can be provided or explicitly requested, please refer the example in Table 6.

Table 5: Provided quotations to include the following details

Item and unit cost (in Euros excluding VAT)
Services ... as per Section X
Deliverable 1 of ... as per Section X
Deliverable 2 of ... as per Section X
Deliverable 3 of ... as per Section X
License fees (per user per month/annum, and in aggregate) if applicable
TOTAL (if applicable)
Rate card for services (per day/hour, in Euros excluding VAT):

Item and unit cost (in Euros excluding VAT)
Assistant – XX / day
Officer – XX / day
Specialist - XX / day
Project coordinator – XX / day
Consultant – XX/day
Principal consultant – XX/day
Partner – XX/day
...

Table 6: Example resource-based quotation for proposed labour

Section	Area	Resource	Task	Quantity (days)	Resource day rate (EUR excl. VAT)	Subtotal cost (EUR excl. VAT)
Service delivery	Workshop facilitation	e.g. Facilitator	e.g. Workshop preparation and delivery	e.g. 3	e.g. € XX.00	e.g. € XX.00
		e.g. Facilitator's assistant	e.g. Workshop delivery support	e.g. 1	e.g. € XX.00	e.g. € XX.00
...
Grand total						€ XX.00

6.3 Terms of this RFP

1. Your proposal should be submitted according to the instructions as detailed in this section and should be valid for a period of at least six (6) months from the bid due date. Any proposal submitted outside the scope defined may be rejected without provision for re-submission.
2. Any further information pertaining to this RFP, of whatever nature, must be directed to the Contract Manager detailed in Section 1.1. If a point of clarification materially affects the RFP, our response will be circulated to all bidders, otherwise the response will only be sent to the bidder seeking clarification.
3. If any doubt exists concerning any element of this RFP, a clear statement should be made on the assumptions taken to arrive at your quoted costs, or alternatively contact us prior to submitting your proposal to seek clarification.
4. Entering into contractual arrangements with Climate-KIC in connection with this RFP does not guarantee work will be awarded.
5. Climate-KIC/GARAC reserves the right to reject any proposal(s) received after the submission date/time.
6. Climate-KIC/GARAC reserves the right to undertake post-bid negotiations with none, all or a shortlist of bidders.
7. Climate-KIC/GARAC, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the proposals received and not to award any business and shall not be bound to give reasons for any decision. Only the execution of a written agreement between a Climate-KIC entity and a supplier(s) will obligate a Climate-KIC entity in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in such agreement.
8. Climate-KIC reserves the right to procure services from alternative suppliers(s) where the successful bidder is, or becomes, uncompetitive within the market. However, issues over pricing and specification will be resolved through discussion and mutual agreement between Climate-KIC and the supplier.
9. Bidders are required to email soft copies of their proposal to the Contract Manager detailed in Section 1.1 based on the timeline at Section 0.
10. As per above and where applicable, bidders must acknowledge receipt of this RFP by return email to the Contract Manager detailed in Section 1.1 confirming whether they intend to submit a proposal by the Submission Deadline.
11. This RFP does not commit or obligate any Climate-KIC company to pay any expenses incurred by you in the preparation of your Proposal. All such expenses are solely at the risk of the bidder and by submitting a proposal you automatically agree that proposal becomes the property of Climate-KIC.
12. Proposals are to be kept as clear and concise as possible and should be sequenced and numbered in accordance with the format of this RFP.
13. The formatting of this document and the attached response document should not be altered.

14. Whilst this RFP confers no legal rights on its addressees, it is not intended that any other persons acquire rights or obligations in respect of or arising under it.
15. Unsuccessful bidders agree, by the submission of their proposals, to return to Climate-KIC this RFP and any and all papers, records, data and materials supplied to them in connection with it, including all copies made by them.
16. This RFP is for consideration in whole and not in part or parts unless otherwise indicated.
17. All efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy and validity of information contained in this RFP. However, Climate-KIC does not warrant the information accurate or comprehensive.



**NET
ZERO
CITIES**

NZC CESF Procurement Clarification Questions and Responses

**One-Stop-Shop (OSS) for the Italian Mission Cities
(Padova)**

Introduction

This document is provided to prospective applications for the procurement for expert support entitled [One-Stop-Shop \(OSS\) for the Italian Mission Cities](#), for Padova under the aegis of the NetZeroCities Programme.

The following table contains a summary of questions received and the responses collated to support applicants should they proceed to submit.

Clarifications

Questions received	Response
Estimated Contract Value	
To help us shape our proposal, we were wondering if there is an estimated budget that we should consider for this process.	Rather than providing a budget estimate, we are offering an estimate of the expected workload (70 working days) as outlined in section 3.1 of the RfP. This approach is more universal, given that we are accepting proposals from various countries.
Delivery team	
We would like to know if there is a preferred number of team members that you recommend involving in the proposal.	No, there isn't.
We'd like to prepare a good proposal involving different competences in Italy (technical, legal, financial, social), that's why I'd like to know if a consortium or some kind of entities aggregation could be an eligible subject which can respond to the call or if the bidder shall be a unique legal entity.	You can formalise your participation as a group provided you establish and document a clear responsibility matrix and structure your collaboration according to the RFP requirements (you should outline each organisation's specific tasks, accountability, and deliverables, ensuring there is no overlap or ambiguity in responsibilities, e.g. through a collaborative agreement). Please note that we require a single entity or point of contact for streamlined communication and accountability – i.e. one of you as the lead bidder or prime contractor to serve as the formal point of contact and take on contractual responsibility. The other companies/organisations would then act as subcontractors under the prime contractor's lead.
Regarding references to be provided (§3.2) is it possible to show relevant experience in terms of projects carried at company level OR personal projects/experience in CVs of organisation's personnel?	Yes, it possible to show relevant experience in terms of projects carried at the company level AND/OR personal projects/experience in CVs of its personnel, including previous roles.
Regarding Evaluation Criteria no.2, it is mentioned to specify the workload of each resource that will implement the contract. "<i>Current Workload – The suppliers shall provide the current list of projects being delivered by the individuals proposed for this package, this shall include the effort required for existing work as a % of their time (20%)</i>". Do you mean we have to provide visibility on the projects people are currently working on or the projects they will work on during the potential contract implementation?	We require visibility about the workload of the suggested delivery team during the expected contract and assignment implementation.
Could the proposed team be changed after the assignment and with duly justifications and quality assurance provided?	Yes, the team can be adjusted as long as its level of experience and skills remains constant and guarantees a quality implementation.



Questions received	Response
Submission of proposals	
The deadline is set to 20th November, but the time is not specified. Is there any requirement related to this?	It is meant as end of the day 23:59:59 (CET). On the 19 th November the submission deadline was postponed to the November 27, 23:59:59 (CET).
Can you confirm the submission will be done by sending the proposal document to this email address?	Yes, as specified in the executive summary (Section 1.1) and Section 6 "Instructions to bidders": All responses shall be made to the Contract Manager via electronic copy, at CESF@netzerocities.eu

