

Section 1. Instructions to Consultants

DATA SHEET

Paragraph Reference	
1.1	Name of the Client: Association for the Development of Rural Capacities (ADR) Method of selection: <u>Least Cost Selection</u>
1.2	Financial Proposal to be submitted together with Technical Proposal: Yes Name of the assignment is: Auditing Services for the MERAVIGLIA Project.
1.3	A pre-proposal conference will be held: No The Client's representative is: Ashraf Al Roz General Manager Association for the Development of Rural Capacities (ADR) Email: ashraf.alroz@hotmail.com
1.4	The Client will provide the following inputs and facilities: - Access to the Books and accounting records - Office space for the auditors while conducting the audit
1.5	Proposals must remain valid <u>60</u> days after the submission closure date.
1.6	Clarifications may be requested not later than <u>10</u> days before the submission date from: Association for the Development of Rural Capacities - ADR Att: Ms. Hiba Fawaz – Agriculture Program Manager Piccadilly Center, 6 th floor, office 601 – Hamra street Beirut, Lebanon Tel/Fax: +961-1-742046 - +961 3 542170 email: hiba.fawaz@adr.org.lb
1.7	Proposals shall be submitted in the following language: <u>English</u>

1.8	<p>In his financial offer, the Consultant should price, among other activities deemed necessary for the assignment, the following Six (6) activities of the six reporting period, quoting each activity separately, as follows:</p> <p>Activity 1: the expenditure and revenue verification reports to the beneficiary, with its annexes for the Fiscal period 1 in accordance with Interreg NEXT MED audit guidelines and national eligibility rules, using the mandatory financial reporting and expenditure verification templates provided by the programme.</p> <p>Activity 2: the expenditures and revenue verification reports to the Beneficiary, with its annexes for the Fiscal period 2 (annexes listed above in activity 1)</p> <p>Activity 3: the expenditures and revenue verification reports to the Beneficiary, with its annexes for the Fiscal period 3 (annexes listed in activity 1)</p> <p>Activity 4: the expenditures and revenue verification reports to the Beneficiary, with its annexes for the Fiscal period 4 (annexes listed in activity 1)</p> <p>Activity 5: the expenditures and revenue verification reports to the Beneficiary, with its annexes for the Fiscal period 5 (annexes listed in activity 1)</p> <p>Activity 6: the expenditures and revenue verification reports to the Beneficiary, with its annexes for the Fiscal period 6 (annexes listed in activity 1)</p>
2.0	<p>Amounts payable by the Client to the Consultant under the contract to be subject to local taxation: Yes</p> <p>The Client will:</p> <p>(a) reimburse the Consultant for any such taxes paid by the Consultant: No</p> <p>(b) pay such taxes on behalf of the Consultant: No</p>
2.1	<p>Consultant must submit the original and <u>2</u> copies of the Technical Proposal, and the original of the Financial Proposal.</p>
2.2	<p>The Proposal submission address is: Association for the Development of Rural Capacities - ADR Att: Ms. Hiba Fawaz – Agriculture Program Manager Piccadilly Center, 6th floor, office 601 – Hamra street. Beirut, Lebanon Tel/Fax: +961-1-742046 _ +961-3 -542170 e-mail: hiba.fawaz@adr.org.lb</p> <p>Proposals must be submitted in writing no later than the following date and time: <u>January 27th, 2025 14:00 Hrs Beirut time.</u></p>
2.3	<p>Criteria, sub-criteria, and point system for the evaluation of Simplified Technical Proposals are:</p>

	<div>Points</div> <div> <div>(i) Adequacy of the proposed technical approach, methodology and work plan in responding to the Terms of Reference:30</div> <div> <div>(ii) Key professional staff qualifications and competence for the assignment:</div> <div>Total points for criterion (ii):70</div> </div> <div> <div>The number of points to be assigned to each of the above positions or disciplines shall be determined considering the following three sub-criteria and relevant percentage weights:</div> <div> <div>1) General qualifications30</div> <div>2) Adequacy for the assignment60</div> <div>3) Experience in region and language10</div> <div>Total weight:100%</div> <div>Total points for the two criteria:100</div> </div> <div>The minimum technical score required to pass is: 75 Points</div> </div></div>
2.4	The single currency for price conversions is: Euro
2.5	<div>Expected date for commencement of consulting services:</div> <div>February 2026,</div> <div>at:</div> <div>ADR offices</div>

Section 2. Technical Proposal - Standard Forms

- TECH-1 Technical Proposal Submission Form
- TECH-2 Consultant's Organization and Experience
- TECH-3 Description of the Approach, Methodology and Work Plan for Performing the Assignment
- TECH-4 Team Composition and Task Assignments
- TECH-5 Curriculum Vitae (CV) for Proposed Professional Staff
- TECH-6 Staffing Schedule
- TECH-7 Work Schedule

FORM TECH-1 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

[Location, Date]

To: Association for the Development of Rural Capacities (ADR)
Piccadilly Center, 6th floor, office 601
Hamra street, Beirut
Lebanon

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services: "Auditing Services for the MERA VIGLIA Project" in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated January 13th, 2026 and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal, and a Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

We are submitting our Proposal in association with: *[Insert a list with full name and address of each associated Consultant.]*¹

We hereby declare that all the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and accept that any misinterpretation contained in it may lead to our disqualification.

If negotiations are held during the period of validity of the Proposal, i.e., before the date indicated in Paragraph Reference 1.5 of the Data Sheet, we undertake to negotiate based on the proposed staff. Our Proposal is binding upon us and subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations only.

We undertake, if our Proposal is accepted, to initiate the consulting services related to the assignment not later than the date indicated in Paragraph Reference 2.5 of the Data Sheet.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

We remain at your disposal,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature *[In full and initials]*: _____

Name and Title of Signatory: _____

Name of Firm: _____

Address: _____

¹ *[Delete in case no association is foreseen.]*

**FORM TECH-3 DESCRIPTION OF APPROACH, METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN
FOR PERFORMING THE ASSIGNMENT**

[illegible]

FORM TECH-5 CURRICULUM VITAE (CV) FOR PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL STAFF

1. Proposed Position *[only one candidate shall be nominated for each position]:* _____

2. Name of Firm *[Insert name of firm proposing the staff]:* _____

3. Name of Staff *[Insert full name]:* _____

4. Date of Birth: _____ **Nationality:** _____

5. Education *[Indicate college/university and other specialized education of staff member, giving names of institutions, degrees obtained, and dates of obtainment]:* _____

6. Membership of Professional Associations: _____

7. Other Training *[Indicate significant training since degrees under 5 - Education were obtained]:* _____

8. Countries of Work Experience: *[List countries where staff has worked in the last ten years]:* _____

9. Languages *[For each language indicate proficiency: good, fair, or poor in speaking, reading, and writing]:* _____

10. Employment Record *[Starting with present position, list in reverse order every employment held by staff member since graduation, giving for each employment (see format here below): dates of employment, name of employing organization, positions held.]:*

From [Year]: _____ To [Year]: _____

Employer: _____

Positions held: _____

11. Detailed Tasks Assigned <i>[List all tasks to be performed under this assignment]</i>	12. Work Undertaken that Best Illustrates Capability to Handle the Tasks Assigned <i>[Among the assignments in which the staff has been involved, indicate the following information for those assignments that best illustrate staff capability to handle the tasks listed under point 11.]</i> Name of assignment or project: _____ Year: _____ Location: _____ Client: _____ Main project features: _____ Positions held: _____ Activities performed: _____
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13. Certification:

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this CV correctly describes myself, my qualifications, and my experience. I understand that any wilful misstatement described herein may lead to my disqualification or dismissal, if engaged.

[Signature of staff member or authorized representative of the staff]

Date: _____
Day/Month/Year

Full name of authorized representative: _____

FORM TECH-6 STAFFING SCHEDULE¹

N°	Name of Staff	Staff input (in the form of a bar chart) ²																Total staff-day input	
		Mission 1																	
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Home	Field ³	Total
Local																			
1	XXX	Home															8		8
		Field																	
2	YYY	Home															2		2
		Field																	12
3		Home																	
		Field																	
4		Home																	
		Field																	
n		Home																	
		Field																	
										Subtotal							10	14	24
Foreign																			
1	ZZZ	Home																	
		Field																	5
2		Home																	
		Field																	
3		Home																	
		Field																	
n		Home																	
		Field																	
										Subtotal							5	5	
										Total							10	19	29

- 1 For Professional Staff the input should be indicated individually; for Support Staff it should be indicated by category (e.g.: draftsmen, clerical staff, etc.).
 - 2 Days are counted from the start of the assignment. For each staff indicate separately staff input for home and field work.
 - 3 Field work means work carried out at a place other than the Consultant's home office.
- Full time input
 Part time input

FORM TECH-7 WORK SCHEDULE

Mission 1														
N°	Activity	2020												
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	n
1	Preparatory Work and Mobilization													
2	Reviewing Legal and contractual Basis and understanding the activities													
3	Studying the control systems													
4	Assessing Risk and setting audit strategy													
5	Preparing audit programs													
6	Conducting field work and analyzing, assessing, and discussing findings													
7	Issuing deliverables													

1 Duration of activities shall be indicated in the form of a bar chart.

Section 3. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

[Comments in brackets [] provide guidance to the shortlisted Consultants for the preparation of their Financial Proposals; they should not appear on the Financial Proposals to be submitted.]

Financial Proposal Standard Forms shall be used for the preparation of the Financial Proposal according to the instructions provided under para. 3.6 of Section 2. Such Forms are to be used whichever is the selection method indicated in para. 4 of the Letter of Invitation.

FIN-1	Financial Proposal Submission Form
FIN-2	Summary of Costs
FIN-3	Breakdown of Costs by Activity
FIN-4	Breakdown of Remuneration
FIN-5	Reimbursable expenses

FORM FIN-1 FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

[Location, Date]

To: [Name and address of Client]

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for MERAVIGLIA Project Financial Audit in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated 13th January 2026 and our Technical Proposal. Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [Insert amount(s) in words and figures¹]. This amount is exclusive of the local taxes, which shall be identified during negotiations and shall be added to the above amount.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations, up to expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e. before the date indicated in Paragraph Reference 1.5 of the Data Sheet.

Commissions and gratuities paid or to be paid by us to agents relating to this Proposal and Contract execution, if we are awarded the Contract, are listed below²:

Name and Address of Agents	Amount and Currency	Purpose of Commission or Gratuity
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature [*In full and initials*]: _____

Name and Title of Signatory: _____

Name of Firm: _____

Address: _____

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- 1 Amounts must coincide with the ones indicated under Total Cost of Financial proposal in Form FIN-2.
2 If applicable, replace this paragraph with: "No commissions or gratuities have been or are to be paid by us to agents relating to this Proposal and Contract execution."

FORM FIN-2 SUMMARY OF COSTS

Item	Costs	
	EURO	<i>[Indicate Local Currency]</i>
Total Costs of Financial Proposal ²		

2 Indicate the total costs, net of local taxes, to be paid by the Client in each currency.

FORM FIN-3 BREAKDOWN OF COSTS BY ACTIVITY¹

Activity Name (from TECH 8) ² <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/>	Description: ³ <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/>	
Cost component	Costs	
	EURO	<i>[Indicate Local Currency]</i>
Remuneration ⁵		
Reimbursable Expenses ⁵		
Subtotals		

- 1 Consultant shall fill a separate Form FIN-3 for each activity listed in TECH-8(i.e.: 4 separate forms should be filled). The sum of the relevant Subtotals of all Forms FIN-3 provided must coincide with the Total Costs of Financial Proposal indicated in Form FIN-2.
- 2 Names of activities should be the same as/or correspond to the ones indicated in the second column of Form TECH-8.
- 3 Short description of the activities whose cost breakdown is provided in this Form.
- 4 Indicate between brackets the name of the foreign currency. Use the same columns and currencies of Form FIN-2.
- 5 Remuneration and Reimbursable Expenses must be calculated based on the unit rate \ cost indicated in Forms FIN-4, and FIN-5.

FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION¹

[illegible]

- 1 Form FIN-4 shall be filled in for the same Professional and Support Staff listed in Form TECH-7.
2 Professional Staff should be indicated individually; Support Staff should be indicated per category (e.g.:
draftsmen, clerical staff).
3 Positions of the Professional Staff shall coincide with the ones indicated in Form TECH-5.
4 Indicate separately staff-month rate and currency for home and field work.

FORM FIN-5 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

(This Form FIN-5 shall only be used when the Lump-Sum Form of Contract has been included in the RFP. Information to be provided in this Form shall only be used to establish payments to the Consultant for possible additional services requested by the Client)

N°	Description ¹	Unit	Unit Cost ²
	Miscellaneous travel expenses	Trip	
	Communication costs between [<i>Insert place</i>] and [<i>Insert place</i>]		
	Drafting, reproduction of reports		
	Equipment, instruments, materials, supplies, etc.		
	Use of computers, software		
	Local transportation costs		
	Office rent, clerical assistance		

- 1 Delete items that are not applicable or add other items according to Paragraph Reference 3.6 of the Data Sheet.
- 2 Indicate unit cost and currency.

Section 4. Terms of Reference

1. BACKGROUND

The Project MERAVIGLIA by funded by the European Union under the Interreg Next Med Programme under the **Priority 3- A more social and inclusive Mediterranean** and *the specific objective 3.1 (RSO4.2) Improving equal access to inclusive and quality services in education, training and lifelong learning through developing accessible infrastructure, including by fostering resilience for distance and on-line education and training.*

MERAVIGLIA project is implemented in 6 Mediterranean countries through a partnership of 8 partners from Italy, France, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia and Turkey. MERAVIGLIA project aims to strengthen the professional integration of people far removed from employment by acquiring environmental and entrepreneurial skills and make from micro-enterprises a viable solution to meet the challenges of professional integration and the environmental needs of communities. The total project budget is 2.494.000 EURO. The total contribution of the ENI CBC MED Programme amounts to 2.219.660 Euro (a maximum of 90% of the total project cost) . The 8 project's partners are in charge of implementing the project.

The Budget of the Association for the Development of Rural capacities (ADR) from the overall budget is 250.000 EURO.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the audit is to ensure compliance of expenditures under the MERAVIGLIA project with the domestic bypassing law as well as their compliance with the Program requirements and provisions of the grant contract, including the valid version of the application form.

The audit is an expenditure and revenue verification procedure regarding the Individual Financial Report for the Grant Contract between ADR, CDEPP and the Managing Authority of the program.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1. The Beneficiary is responsible for providing the Financial Report, as well as giving access to its accounting, supporting documents and project documentation and physical investments to the Auditor, so that the procedures described in Annex I can take place in due time and without restrictions.

3.2. The Auditor is responsible for performing the agreed-upon procedures described in Annex I with due care and full respect of the Code of Ethics therein indicated, as well as submitting the reports to the Beneficiary. Additionally, the Auditor shall submit the ad hoc report directly to the Managing Authority in case of fraud. The Auditor will attend the specific trainings and meetings for Auditors organized by the competent Program bodies. The Managing Authority may request the termination of the auditors not attending to these events.

4. THE SCOPE OF VERIFICATION BY THE AUDITOR, INCLUDES IN PARTICULAR:

- 1) verifying whether the progress report/final report has been filled correctly with respect to formal and accounting aspects.

- 2) verifying whether the expenditure declared complies with the grant application form, grant contract, partnership agreement, i.e. whether it has been planned in the project and is settled in accordance with the eligibility rules and within the correct expenditure category.
- 3) verifying whether the lead beneficiary has transferred funds to the project partner(s) in accordance with the grant application form, grant contract and partnership agreement.
- 4) verifying whether the substantive scope of the project is being implemented in accordance with the schedule of the grant contract, including whether the required indicators have been achieved.
- 5) verifying whether the costs, expenditure and revenue of the project as well as the equipment, intangible assets purchased, and the construction completed works have been delivered and correctly recorded in the financial/accounting system of the project beneficiary.
- 6) verifying whether the contractors of services, deliverables and works under the project have been selected through the appropriate tender procedures, including compliance with the national public procurement procedures.
- 7) verifying the compliance of the expenditure incurred with the national regulations and Program requirements (regulations on state aid, visibility, publicity, environment protection and equitable opportunities, if applicable).
- 8) verifying documentation confirming the delivery of co-financed goods, services and construction works.
- 9) verifying whether the expenditure has been actually incurred and paid, except for simplified methods of expenditure settlement.
- 10) verifying whether a separate accounting system is kept or whether the appropriate accounting code is used for all transactions related to the project, except for simplified methods of expenditure settlement.
- 11) verifying whether the project implementation progress has been clearly and fully reflected in the reports and whether there is immediate access to the record of activities that have been completed, verifying the appropriate documentation of goods deliveries, service provision and construction works both in progress and finished.
- 12) verifying the complete tender documentation for contracts awarded under the project in accordance with the national bypassing law.
- 13) verifying the documentation of the selection of the subcontractor for contracts awarded under the project whose values are below the national thresholds for the application of public procurement procedures (considering the Program requirements for contracts).
- 14) verifying whether the award of contracts has complied with competition rules specified in Program documents.
- 15) verifying the method of archiving of project documentation.

- 16) verifying whether the project beneficiary has implemented recommendations following the controls and audits carried out and whether it has remedied the irregularities if any have been found.

The auditor shall verify expenditure based on audit procedures they are bound to observe, specified in the Program and in accordance with:

- 1) the International Standard on Related Services 4400, Engagements to Perform Agreed-upon Procedures Regarding Financial Information, in the version issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).
- 2) the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants developed and issued by the IFAC's International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants.

5. LANGUAGE

The language of the contract and of all written communications, including reports, between the Auditor and the Beneficiary shall be in English.

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TASKS AND DELAYS

- 6.1 The starting date for implementation will be the date of signature of the contract between the auditor and the contracting project partner.
- 6.2 The period for delivery of the reports to the Beneficiary is <30> calendar days from submission of each financial report by the Beneficiary.
- 6.3. Six Audit Missions are requested during the project lifetime. A Financial Audit is requested each 6 months of the project period
 - 1st Audit Period: August 9, 2025 - February 8, 2026
 - 2nd Audit Period: February 9, 2026 - August 8, 2026
 - 3rd Audit Period: August 9, 2026 - February 8, 2027
 - 4th Audit Period: February 9, 2027 - August 8, 2027
 - 5th Audit Period: August 9, 2027 - February 8, 2028
 - 6th Audit Period: February 9, 2028 - August 8, 2028

7. DELIVERABLES

AUDIT REPORT

7.1 The Auditor shall submit the expenditure and revenue verification reports to the Beneficiary, with its annexes, following the templates and procedures established in the annexes:

- annex I: description of the procedure,
- annex II: control checklist,
- annex II: template of individual report,
- annex III: template of list of findings,
- annex IV: template of report on suspected and/or established fraud.

- 7.2. In case of identification of suspected and/or established fraud, the Auditor shall submit the report in annex IV without delay directly to the Managing Authority indicated in the grant contract. This report shall not be submitted to the Beneficiary.

8. AUDITOR QUALIFICATION

8.1. Auditor Independence

It is required that the auditors fulfil the independence requirements of the IFAC Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants. In addition, the auditor's independence is defined as their organizational independence from the institutional structures and the operations of the beneficiary, including activities carried out as part of the project. The objectivity and independence shall be infringed in case of provision of assurance, advisory or consulting services concerning the activities of the beneficiary within two years preceding the start of providing the project verification service, with the exception of providing services concerning the verification of projects financed by the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument and the European Neighborhood Instrument. The independence shall be breached by holding shares or other titles of ownership of the auditee. The objectivity shall be infringed by the occurrence of a conflict of interest, when the impartial and objective fulfilment of the function by the auditor is compromised due to family or emotional reasons, political sympathies or belonging to a state, an economic interest or any other common interest with the beneficiary being audited, providers of services to the verified project or entities involved in implementing the Program. Such situations shall include actions or relationships, which may be contrary to the beneficiary's interest. The auditor's independence and objectivity are seen as the need to avoid any situation that could lead to a conflict of interest, including the avoidance of situations in which even only a theoretical possibility exists that the personal interest may outweigh the result of the verification being conducted.

8.2. Auditors' qualifications

1) The auditor must fulfil at least one of the following requirements:

- a) be a member of the national authority or body for accounting and audit, which is the member of the IFAC,
- b) be a member of a national accounting or audit authority or entity. If this organization is not an IFAC member, the auditor must undertake to execute work in accordance with IFAC standards and codes of ethics and must hold at least one of the following certificates: CIA, CGAP, ACCA, CIMA.,
- c) be registered as an auditor in the register of auditors maintained by the National Council of Statutory Auditors.

2) When verifying public procurement, the auditor must, in addition, fulfil at least one of the following requirements:

- a) have carried out controls of the correctness of at least 10 public procurement procedures covered by the public procurement law,
- b) have provided at least 10 legal advisory services concerning the application of the public procurement law, including, among others, issuing written legal opinions, representing before the National Appeals Chamber.
- c) has a knowledge of English at least at the B2 level according to the classification of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

The qualifications listed in points 1 and 2 may be proven by two auditors (e.g., cooperating under the civil law with another auditor, a cooperation agreement, a firm with several auditors etc.), whereas each point must be fulfilled entirely by one auditor (i.e. situations in which e.g. one auditor confirms completing 5 controls and the other also confirms completing 5 controls will not be considered as the fulfilment of the above conditions).