Offer for Laboratory support for seroepidemiology studies, additional tasks ID 23673

The State of the Netherlands, represented by the Dutch Minister of Public Health, Welfare and Sport, represented by the 5.1.2e of the Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu (the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment) (RIVM), 5.1.2e with registered offices at Antonie van Leeuwenhoeklaan 9 at 3721 MA Bilthoven, the Netherlands (P.O. Box 1, 3720 BA Bilthoven),

- hereinafter referred to as 'RIVM' or 'contractor' -

and,

Scientist of contractor: 5.1.2e 5.1.2e, 5.1.2e of the RIVM,

provides,

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control,

- hereinafter referred to as 'ECDC' or 'the contracting authority' -

the following offer for the Request for services for laboratory support for sero-epidemiology studies NP/2021/DPR/23673, received 24 February 2021 by email to 5.1.2e 5.1.2e.

1. Technical proposal

1.1 Expertise and organization to accomplish the requested services

The proposed lead expert for this project is 5.1.2e 5.1.2e. 5.1.2e 5.1.2e RIVM. The Dutch national serology taskforce advises the Dutch government and the National Outbreak Management Team during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on the role of serology in the clinical and public health response, and on the use of specific immuno-assays. In this context a coordinated validation of immuno-assays was organised involving >40 Dutch laboratories, resulting in weekly status reports, which were shared among the Dutch laboratories, ECDC and WHO.

5.1.2e and staff at RIVM have extensive experience with virus neutralisation tests (VNT), both for SARS-CoV-2 and a wide variety of other related and non-related viruses. This means that working laboratory protocol(s) for virus neutralisation testing services, as well as all necessary laboratory equipment and material and an electronic data management system are operational.

In addition, 5.1.2e and colleagues have established the Dutch weekly national surveillance into circulating SARS-CoV-2 variants in which RIVM collaborates with > 20 laboratories across the Netherlands that submit a random selection of SARS-CoV-2 PCR-positive clinical samples to RIVM for whole genome sequencing.

Furthermore, 5.1.2e 5.1.2e In this role 5.1.2e of several EQAs and diagnostic training courses and offered on-line diagnostic support to network members in the early

phase after the emergence of the SARS-CoV-2, even before it was known to have reached Europe at the end of January. Overall 5.1.2e and supporting staff have extensive expertise to enable an efficient implementation of the requested services.

1.2 Requested services

The services and deliverables as requested in the request for services for Laboratory support for seroepidemiology studies, additional tasks ID 23673 will all be delivered as proposed with the following specific remarks:

Additional task 6

DL6.1

- Please note that the protocols that are part of the project plan were not developed under this request for tender and remain intellectual property of RIVM. Currently protocols are optimized for (very) recent specific SARS-CoV-2 variants that have arisen and are circulating more profoundly in the European region. The final optimization for those variants, that have different growth characteristics, might run past 4 weeks after the start of the contract. However a basic general protocol can be provided. It will be agreed upon between RIVM and ECDC which variants will be included in the characterization panel. RIVM and ECDC will decide together on which type of correspondence ECDC needs to be copied in.

DL6.2

- The price proposed in the financial proposal form is a combination of the categories clinical specimens (max 250) and virus isolates (max 1000). At the end of the project the contractor will report how many samples of each category were processed during the contract.

DL6.3

- Reference to influenza characterization reports is with regard to the format and quality and not with regard to the extent and type of virus characterization described in those.

DL6.4

- see general text in the request for tender: "within maximum of one month of the establishment of a characterised virus isolate or receipt of virus isolate" under DL6.4 and in the table with deliverables should read: "within one month of received virus isolate or establishment of quantified virus isolate in the contract laboratory". If the virus isolate received from the sending laboratory has not been quantified yet an extra week is needed.

DL6.5

- No further remarks.

General.

The contractor agrees to the timeline and quality requirements described p. 7-8 of the request for offer with the above mentioned remarks.

2. Signature

For the RIVM:
Place and date 5.1.2e

5.1.2e

on behalf of the Dutch Minister of Public Health, Welfare and Sport

This offer is valid 3 months after the signature date.

Appendix

1. Financial Proposal Form

Annex II — Financial tender

Title: Amendment no 1 to Laboratory support for seroprevalence studies

Reference: Additional tasks ID 23673

Lot: N/A

Tenderer (name): [redacted] rof Hans Brug

Date:

Signature: 5.1.2e

The estimated ma [redacted] 5.1.2b

Prices should be q [redacted] CDC is exempt from such charges under Article 3 and 4 of the Protocol on the Pr [redacted] e Tender Specifications).

The total price must be fixed and **include all costs** (project management, quality control, training of the contractor's staff, support resources, etc.) and **all expenditure** (management of the firm, secretarial services, social security, salaries, etc.) incurred directly and indirectly by the contractor in performance of the tasks. In particular, unit prices for services provided on the contractor's premises and in the **Contracting Authorities' premises in Stockholm must also include travel and accommodation costs**.

Please provide all unit prices in the table below (fill in grey cells), print and sign the financial tender.

These prices will become part of the contract.

Deliverables	Unit price	Instances of Deliverable (E.g., Number of Countries, Number of Days)	Total
Virus neutralisation test protocol and draft invitation shared for agreement with ECDC. The invitation should explain how the EU/EEA countries can ship specimens for central virus neutralisation assay testing for antigenic characterisation purposes including safety instructions for shipment and with which quality criteria for the shipped materials. ECDC will send out the invitations and indicate the partnership with the SARS-CoV-2 reference lab at RIVM. ECDC shall be copied in all communications of the leader/partners with relevant stakeholders, including network members and participating laboratories.			
The contractor shall organise the shipment, the laboratory testing and analysis for SARS-CoV-2 characterisation (clinical specimens and/or virus isolates). The contractor shall construct a database with raw data and share the final database of the tests performed with ECDC in the end of the contract. The price will include clinical specimens (max 250) and virus isolates (max 1000); the price can be also a combination of these two categories.			
The contractor shall submit one interim report for ECDC review and approval summarising the viruses characterised by country of origin, virus lineage or clade, key features of possible genetic sequences submitted to publicly accessible sequence databases and as far as known based on literature and key antigenic characteristics of the viruses analysed in comparison to reference and circulating non-variant viruses. These reports should be of publishable quality similar to the influenza characterisation reports published on ECDC website and be provided in editable format to be published on ECDC website and for ECDC to share with the ECOVID-19 LabNet. ECDC agrees with senders that their data can be published in the reports.			
Contractor shall prepare all virus reports and submit those to the originating laboratories. These reports are to be submitted to the Member State laboratory as soon as available and within maximum of one month of the establishment of a characterised virus isolate or receipt of virus isolate. A copy of the reports should also be provided to ECDC.			
The contractor shall write a detailed final report on the results of the virus characteristics analysed within the contracted activity either as an ECDC technical report or as a scientific manuscript submitted to a relevant peer-reviewed scientific journal (to be discussed and agreed with ECDC project manager). The manuscript shall be of good scientific quality and ready for ECDC review and after revisions for ECDC approvals. The manuscript shall follow the ECDC authorship policy and be published as open access according to the guiding principles described in the ECDC authorship policy and the ECDC policy on open access publication of scientific content. The open access publication fee shall be paid by the contractor through the project budget included in this contract. In addition, the results should be made available and presented to the network at the ECDC organised relevant network meetings and consultations as well as international conferences.			
TOTAL PRICE OF THE TENDER			

5.1.2b