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# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## Partner country

Republic of North Macedonia

## Contracting authority

Clinical hospital Bitola

## Country background

Republic of North Macedonia as a candidate country for membership in the European Union is erected before the challenges of the efficient implementation of serious reforms in the many sectors including health services to the citizens. Main cross-border challenges to be tackled by COMETECH project aims to address the problem of inadequate access to the health system services to people who live in isolated communities at Greece-Republic of North Macedonia cross-border areas, as well as the lack of cooperation between Greece and Republic of North Macedonia in the health sector.

Project **“** COntinuity of care in MEtabolic diseases through modern TECHhnology” with project acronym **“COMETECH”** with reference number CN1 – SO1.2 – SC027, is financed by “Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Greece- Republic of North Macedonia 2014-2020". The project is implemented jointly by the LB – International Helenic University , P2 – Florina Perfectural Gneral hospital, P3 – Medical chamber of Thessaloniki, P4 – PHI Clinical hospital Bitola, P5 - Public Health Institution - General Hospital Veles.

The project will establish 4 e-health units -2 in each country- at isolated and deprived communities, collaborated each other, aiming at introducing "Continuity of Care" in the border region between Republic of North Macedonia and Greece. It anticipates contributing to the improvement of health services of both countries in a commonly shared region that has been economically neglected to a substantial degree. The establishment of the e-health units into public service buildings will allow affordable access to medical services within Greece-Republic of North Macedonia cross-border area. These units (equipped by state-of-the-art medical devices, supported by an advanced software application and medical staff) will record data of local people, inform them about environmental and other risk factors, and offer valuable and high quality medical care services. The records of the citizens using the COMETECH services will be safely and easily accessible by their physicians. The involved public bodies will be encouraged to use COMETECH services as a tool for introducing high quality continuity of health care in their respective regions. COMETECH project offers a great opportunity to improve access and reduce inequalities in terms of health status.

## Current situation in the sector

Health systems in Europe are at the core of its high level of social protection and they are a cornerstone of the European social market economy. The problems caused by the economic crisis, coupled with more structural changes in demography and the types of diseases affecting populations in Europe, reinforce the necessity to reform and modernize those systems.

Diabetes Mellitus (DM) affects about 8% of the population in Greece and Republic of North Macedonia. The vast majority of patients with DM type 1 are adolescences and children while middle aged and elderly population are more vulnerable to DM type 2. Obesity is characterised today as a global epidemic. More than 16% of the adult population in Europe is obese and 1 in 3 children are obese. DM and Obesity are metabolic diseases with serious health impact and they both consist CardioVascular (CV) risk factors. Nevertheless there are a lot of isolated communities at the Greece-FYROM cross-border areas which have tremendous difficulties to access the public health services and "Continuity of Care".

COMETECH aims to be an innovative mean for introducing Continuity of Care aiming to: a) Support a collaboration between research teams from the two countries of scientists from different scientific fields to develop a common strategy for prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of Obesity, DM and CV Disease (CVD).b) Raise awareness of the local and national authorities regarding the above issues. c) Inform the regional population on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of DM, Obesity and CVD. By improving their knowledge, it will be easier to promote primary care throughout the target region and mount behavior modification campaigns that target key health issues (such as being active, healthy eating, cessation of smoking, etc.).d) Identify the environmental and other risk factors that are involved in the development of DM, Obesity and CVD in the population that will participate in the project.

## Related programmes and other donor activities

# OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE & EXPECTED RESULTS

## 2.1.Overall objective

The overall objective of the project of which this contract(s) will be a part is as follows:

The overall objective of the project of which this contract will be a part is the improvement of the health care system in the CB area within the framework of the project  **.** This contract(s) will be hiring 5 external experts (4 doctors and one engineer) who will work on evaluation of the pilot plan (e-health units and software platform).For each expert will be make separate contract but all of them have to work together as a team.

## 2.2.Purpose

The purposes of this contract are as follows:

* Having experts and use their professional experience for evaluating the results of the pilot plan (screening of target group), control devices and their connectivity with HW and SW platform.
* Maintaining contacts with the contracting authority ,(project staff), exchanging information and supporting documents needed .
* During the project implementation period, as well as the period after the completion of the procedure, for a period of 1 year, after the official closing of the Program, the External expert shall be available to the contracting authority in the event of necessary clarifications, provided that the control is envisaged by JS and other bodies set up for control
* To act in compliance with the provisions of the Treaty on the granting of subsidies, the Manual for implementation of projects of national and European legislation.

## 2.3.Results to be achieved by the contractor

#  Successfully evaluation of the pilot plan (e-health units and software platform).

# ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS

## 3.1.Assumptions underlying the project

* Clear and full understanding of the contract objectives and purposes on behalf of the Contractor.
* Continuous communication and provision of information between the Project Team and the Contractor;
* Continued commitment of the Contracting Authority – PHI Clinical Hospital Bitola
* Functional and effective co-operation between Contracting Authority and the selected Contractor;
* The Contractor possesses appropriate expertise, experience and capacity for delivering above listed services.

## 3.2.Risks

The main risk attached to the assignment is the critical time schedule. The Contractor shall therefore take all necessary actions to avoid delays, and any potential delays shall be brought to the immediate attention of the Contracting authority so that corrective actions may be implemented.

# SCOPE OF THE WORK

## 4.1.General

### 4.1.1.Description of the assignment

- Collecting data from the screening

- Know how to link the information from the different medical devices with the software platform

- Support of the screening equipment

- Control of the e-health units

- Statistical processing of the information gain from screening from the medical point of view

- Interpretation the results from the project

- To communicate and inform the screening group about the results ,to continue the support of the patients and give them suggestions for their future activities

- Support of the software platform

All 5 experts have to work each in his professional area and as well all together as a team.

### 4.1.2.Geographical area to be covered

CBC regions of Republic of North Macedonia and Greece

### 4.1.3.Target groups

The main target groups of the project were selected based on the overall scope and objectives of the action: elders and children,with potential risk for CVD especially diabetes and patients with diabetes.

## 4.2.Specific work

## 4.3.Project management

### 4.3.1.Responsible body

The Contracting Authority for the contract is:

Public Health Institution Clinical Hospital Bitola

### 4.3.2.Management structure

### 4.3.3.Facilities to be provided by the contracting authority and/or other parties

The Contracting Authority shall supply the Contractor promptly with any useful information and documentation which may be relevant to the performance of the contract.

# LOGISTICS AND TIMING

## 5.1.Location

The location of the project “COntinuity of care in MEtabolic diseases through modern TECHhnology” with project acronym **“COMETECH”** is in Republic of North Macedonia and in the Republic of Greece. The experts should be able to conduct activities in the territory of the Municipality of Bitola and by e-mail correspondation

## 5.2.Start date &period of implementation of tasks

The intended start date is 28.07.2020 and the period of implementation of the contract will be until 31.03.2021 or until end of the project.Please see Articles 19.1 and 19.2 of the special conditions for the actual start date and period of implementation.

# REQUIREMENTS

## Staff

Note that civil servants and other staff of the public administration of the partner country, or of international/regional organisations based in the country,shall only be approved to work as experts if well justified. The justification should be submitted with the tender and shall include information on the added value the expert will bring as well as proof that the expert is seconded or on personal leave.

Key experts are not required.

### Other experts, support staff & backstopping

CVs for experts other than the key experts should not be submitted in the tender but the tenderer will have to demonstrate in their offer that they have access to experts with the required profiles. The contractor shall select and hire other experts as required according to the needs. The selection procedures used by the contractor to select these other experts shall be transparent, and shall be based on pre-defined criteria, including professional qualifications, language skills and work experience.

The costs for backstopping and support staff, as needed, are considered to be included in the tenderer's financial offer.]

## Office accommodation

Office accommodation for each expert working on the contract is to be provided by the contractor.

## Facilities to be provided by the contractor

The contractor shall ensure that experts are adequately supported and equipped.In particular it must ensure that there is sufficient administrative, secretarial and interpreting provision to enable experts to concentrate on their primary responsibilities.It must also transfer funds as necessary to support their work under the contract and to ensure that its employees are paid regularly and in a timely fashion

## Equipment

**No** equipment is to be purchased on behalf of the contracting authority / partner country as part of this service contract or transferred to the contracting authority / partner country at the end of this contract.Any equipment related to this contract which is to be acquired by the partner country must be purchased by means of a separate supply tender procedure.

# REPORTS

## Reporting requirements

No reports needed.

# MONITORING AND EVALUATION

## Definition of indicators

## Special requirements