

**Issue date: 16.04.2025**  
**Closing date: 16.05.2025**

## **Call for offers**

### **Donau Soja is searching for**

#### **Certification Body for inspection and certification services in Moldova**

Donau Soja Association (Donau Soja Vienna Branch in the Republic of Moldova) hereby invites Certification bodies approved by Donau Soja Association (hereinafter: the service provider) to send in their proposal for the provision of services described in this Call for offers. The selected service provider will be responsible for the inspection and certification of farmers and agriculture collectors in accordance with the Donau Soja Standard in Moldova.

#### **1. Background**

##### The Donau Soja Organisation

Donau Soja Organisation is an independent, international, non-profit, multi-stakeholder organisation aiming to effectively meet protein market demand and to provide a baseline for the development of high-quality soy cultivation along the Danube region. The Organisation's seat is in Vienna, Austria with regional offices in Novi Sad Serbia, Kyiv Ukraine and Chisinau Moldova.

The mission of the Association is to increase Europe's self-sufficiency in GM-free soybean production, to promote sustainable agricultural practices and to contribute to the development of rural areas. Its members are representatives from the entire value chain who combine efforts to change the way soya is produced and used in Europe.

More about Donau Soja here: <http://www.donausoja.org/en/home/>

##### Strategic Partnership Programme

Donau Soja has a long-lasting cooperation with Austrian Development Agency (ADA) within Strategic Partnership Programme. This service will be related to the implementation of this Programme.

#### **2. Context and objective of the assignment**

The Donau Soja quality programmes have been established to promote the cultivation, processing, and marketing of sustainable, non-GM and origin-controlled quality soya.

The aim is to develop and guarantee a sustainable non-GM protein supply.

*The selected service provider will fulfil tasks related to coordination, organisation and implementation of inspection and certification of legal entities in Moldova.*

The offer should be per value chain participant.

#### **3. The work of the service provider**

The general objective of this service request is the provision of services in the fields of conduction of audits and certification according to Donau Soja Standard. The Certification Body shall perform audits and certification of:



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- Soya bean producers (conventional and organic) (Donau Soja Requirement 01)
- Agricultural - and primary collectors (Donau Soja Requirement 02),
- Soya bean primary processors (Donau Soja Requirement 04).
- Food processors (Donau Soja Requirement 06b)

Each certified legal entity will receive a certificate according to Donau Soja Standard. The service provider will be fully supported by the local Donau Soja team in Moldova as well as the relevant team from Donau Soja HQ in Vienna.

The Service provider is expected to support and contribute to programme output related to facilitated QM/certification (output 1.3), as Certification Body, together with the Donau Soja Team.

Working package includes the following list of tasks:

- Regular communication with legal entities that will be the subject of certification.
- Scheduling an audit date in consultation with legal entities and Donau Soja and preparing and sending audit plan.
- Performing on-site audits and finalise all related documents and steps as required by the Donau Soja Standard for the applicable requirement.
- Sampling of soybeans for GM PCR analysis and pesticides residues analysis.
- Commissioning an ISO 17025 accredited laboratory for performing the GM PCR analysis and pesticides residues analysis via the commissioned laboratory.
- Issuing the certificate.

*General tasks:*

- Work in cooperation with the Donau Soja Quality Management team and outsourced technical experts/service providers.
- Close cooperation with Donau Soja, in particular with Regional Office in Moldova.
- Provision of information about Donau Soja requirements to interested and participating legal entities.
- Participating in the preparation and conducting of working meetings and online conferences related to project activities.
- The assignment and services will be provided based on an activity plan mutually agreed between Certification Body and Donau Soja Organisation (Quality Department).

#### **4. Expected outputs**

Until end of November the certification process is complete and Donau Soja certificates are issued for all involved legal entities who successfully passed the audit.

Target: Moldavian value chain participants are certified.

#### **5. Time schedule and organisation**

The intended start date of the engagement is 01.06.2025, subject to the signing of the contract.

The duration of the contract and the period of implementation are open-ended and will depend on Donau Soja and Strategic Partnership programme needs, the availability of funds, organisational needs, and the satisfactory performance of the service provider.

#### **6. Reporting**

Service providers will report directly to the responsible person in Moldova.



The service provider is expected to have regular correspondence with Donau Soja.

The defined expected outputs (issued certificates) will serve as reports and proof of service provider work (means of verification).

## **7. The requirements**

The following requirements need to be fulfilled by the service provider.

- Certification body is approved by Donau Soja Association.
- The certification body must have a valid accreditation as a certification body in accordance with standard ISO/IEC 17065:2012 in the agriculture and food sector.
- Has a minimum of two educated and experienced inspectors and two certifiers, who passed the training of Donau Soja requirements (minimum of four employees).

The service provider shall be able to fulfil the tasks mentioned in an excellent and professional way.

In addition, the service provider is required to support high standards of social and environmental performance in the programme and demonstrate gender and diversity competencies.

The service provider is expected to use his/her own office and technical equipment.

## **8. Remuneration**

The service provider will work under a framework agreement. Remuneration instalments will be based on offer and agreement between Donau Soja and the service provider. Payments will be done based on issued invoices.

## **9. Selection criteria**

The evaluation will be done based on the following criteria:

1. Financial offer
2. Fulfilment of requirements under point 7

## **10. Price Criteria**

We will consider only offers that contain prices and/or claim reimbursements that are not higher than those customary within the specific sector or local market. Rebates, cash discounts and the like should be clearly stated in the offer.

The most economically advantageous offer based on price-quality ratio will be selected.

## **11. Contacts for procurement-related questions**

Should you have questions please contact:

For content-related questions please contact: Ms Ela Malai E-mail: [malai@donausoja.org](mailto:malai@donausoja.org), with the following subject line: Tender- Certification Body

For administrative questions please contact: Mihai Oloi, E-mail: [moldova@donausoja.org](mailto:moldova@donausoja.org), with the following subject line: Tender- Certification Body

## **12. Documents to be prepared**



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Tenders are to be sent by email to [moldova@donausoja.org](mailto:moldova@donausoja.org) by **16.05.2025**, indicating "**Certification Body for inspection and certification services for Moldova**" in the subject, with the following documents (in English):

1. Valid accreditation as a certification body in accordance with standard ISO/IEC 17065:2012 in the agriculture and food sector.
2. Curriculum vitae of inspectors and certifiers expected to be engaged in the work.
3. Financial offer- as indicated in Annex 1
4. Signed Consent to the processing of personal data (Annex 2)

***Only offers sent directly to [moldova@donausoja.org](mailto:moldova@donausoja.org) by 16.05.2025 will be considered.***

***This Procurement allows selection of multiple service providers.***

### **Workforce diversity**

Donau Soja is committed to achieving diversity within its workforce, and encourages all qualified applicants, irrespective of gender, nationality, disabilities, sexual orientation, culture, religious and ethnic backgrounds to apply. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

### Annex 1\*

Please use the following table for financial offer, specify the **gross** prices in **EURO**,

\* Please list other related costs and estimate them, if applicable.

#### Financial offer

No.	Service	Per unit	Total EURO/Gross
<b>1.</b>	<b>Offer</b>		
1.1.	Preparation and administration for audit and certification for Donau Soja Standard	1 conventional farmer	
	Inspection		
	Travel price to Moldova		
	Price per km for local travel in Moldova		
	Certification incl. issuing certificate		
	GMO screening of soybeans (qualitative and quantitative)	1 analysis	
	Pesticides tests of soybeans (incl. Glyphosate)	1 analysis	
	<b>Total:</b>	1 conventional farmer	
1.2.	Preparation and administration for audit and certification for Donau Soja Standard	1 organic farmer	
	Inspection		
	Travel price to Moldova		
	Price per km for local travel in Moldova		
	Certification incl. issuing certificate		
	GMO screening of soybeans (qualitative and quantitative)	1 analysis	
	Pesticides tests of soybeans (incl. Glyphosate)	1 analysis	
	<b>Total:</b>	1 organic farmer	
1.3.	Preparation and administration for audit and certification for Donau Soja Standard	1 collector	
	Inspection		
	Travel price to Moldova		
	Price per km for local travel in Moldova		
	Certification incl. issuing certificate		
	GMO screening of soybeans (qualitative and quantitative)	1 analysis	
	Pesticides tests of soybeans (incl. Glyphosate)	1 analysis	
	<b>Total:</b>	1 collector	
1.4.	Preparation and administration for audit and certification for Donau Soja Standard	1 primary processor	



	Inspection		
	Travel price to Moldova		
	Price per km for local travel in Moldova		
	Certification incl. issuing certificate		
	GMO screening of soya meal (qualitative and quantitative)	1 analysis	
	<b>Total:</b>	1 primary processor	
1.5.	Preparation and administration for audit and certification for Donau Soja Standard		
	Inspection	1 food processor	
	Travel price to Moldova		
	Price per km for local travel in Moldova		
	Certification incl. issuing certificate		
	GMO screening of soya products (qualitative and quantitative)	1 analysis	
	<b>Total:</b>	1 food processor	

## Annex 2

### Consent to the processing of personal data

Providing personal data is voluntary. Failure to do so will result in the bidder being unable to participate in the evaluation process.

By participating in this call, the bidder acknowledges and consents to the processing of their personal data, as well as the personal data of all participating individuals, in accordance with GDPR-Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.

The personal data provided within this call will be stored by the procuring body until the bidder revokes their consent to the processing of data, but not for less than a period of 5 years from the closing date of the ADA Strategic Partnership Project. The bidder grants the procuring body permission to retain and store their personal data for the purpose of maintaining complete project documentation.

Furthermore, the bidder authorizes the procuring body to disclose their personal data, as well as the personal data of participating individuals, to auditors and/or donors if requested for further checks and audits.

For Bidder:

Name:

Company:

Place/Date:

Signature: