



Questions/Answers

« Call for tenders for the supply of a 4 TPH cocoa mass factory »

(Tender Ref. 07/2025/VF/Usine Mass Cacao)

1. Processing Capacity

Question:

What is the expected annual cacao bean processing capacity based on your current farmer base or market availability in Eastern Congo? This will help us assess whether the specified capacity of 4 Tph is aligned with your actual needs.

Response (Virunga):

Please refer to section 1.1 (Instructions to the tenderers). The purpose of this contract is the supply of a cocoa mass factory with a capacity of 4 tons per hour (4 tph), including delivery to the port of Mombasa (Kenya), construction of the building, on-site assembly of equipment, commissioning, and on-site training of Virunga Foundation staff.

2. Origin of Machinery

Question:

Is it mandatory that the proposed machinery be of European origin, or are reputable Chinese brands also acceptable for this project?

Response (Virunga):

Please refer to section 4.1 (Instructions to the tenderers). There are no restrictions on the country of origin of supplies.

3. Delivery Timeline

Question:

The requested delivery timeline of six months appears extremely tight when considering factory production and shipment. European-brand machinery typically requires 12 to 18 months (EXW) for manufacturing and delivery. Could you confirm whether an extended delivery schedule would be acceptable?

Response (Virunga):

Tenderers are invited to specify the delivery schedule they consider acceptable.

4. Tender Submission Deadline

Question:

As we are assessing the most efficient supply options and preparing a comprehensive turnkey proposal, we find that the current submission deadline of 01/02/2026 is insufficient. We kindly request a one-month extension to ensure proper preparation.

Response (Virunga):

In accordance with EU procedures (our main funder), the submission deadline cannot be extended. We apologize for any inconvenience.



5. Project Budget

Question:

Could you please confirm the estimated or allocated budget for this project to allow us to propose a technically and financially aligned solution?

Response (Virunga):

In accordance with EU procedures, we are unable to disclose the estimated or allocated budget for this project.

6. Factory and Hangar Dimensions

Question:

Please provide the allocated dimensions for the factory building and hangar areas, and confirm that sufficient space has been planned for the installation of all proposed equipment and auxiliary systems.

Response (Virunga):

We confirm that sufficient space has been planned to accommodate the full installation of the factory.

7. Project Duration and Execution

Question:

Given that this is a 24-month project from contract signing, we consider that a project of this scale may require an extension of the execution phase, subject to mutual agreement. Is this acceptable?

Response (Virunga):

We are open to a potential extension of the project execution phase if necessary.

8. Machine Specifications

Question:

The tender documents do not provide detailed machine specifications. Please advise whether additional technical requirements apply, or whether optimized technical solutions may be proposed based on the tenderer's expertise.

Response (Virunga):

We are open to receiving optimized technical options. As indicated in the Instructions to the tenderers, tenderers are authorized to submit a variant in addition to their basic offer.