

GREEN ASSIST WEBINAR 5 APRIL 2022 - Frequently Asked Questions on SLIDO

Q & A on eTendering: <https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/cft/cft-display.html?cftId=9214>

No	Question	Answer
1	The criterion T1 for both Lot 1 and Lot 2 mentions 2 projects of at least EUR 1 mln each. Could incomplete projects be used as reference if the threshold is met?	Please refer to the answers to questions 3 and 4 on eTendering.
2	How will overlaps be dealt with between GreenAssist and EIB advisory initiatives?	The InvestEU Advisory Hub will provide technical support and assistance to help with the preparation, development, structuring and implementation of projects under the four policy windows and the cross sectoral window. In case of overlaps between the type of advisory services offered by GREEN ASSIST and by other advisory partners, the incoming requests will be allocated based on the preference expressed by the requestor. In case that a preference is not expressed, DG ECFIN will reserve the right to decide on the allocation in cases of overlaps.
3	How many contractors you expect to shortlist for Lot 2?	It is expected to shortlist up to 5 contractors under Lot 2.
4	Can you please explain what is the period during which the Contracting Authority can procure additional new services from the contractor on top of the services provided for under the framework contract?	The duration of the framework contract is four years. New additional services, if any, must be procured by the Contracting Authority within the first three years of the contract.
5	Would there be a conflict of interest for tenderers under Lot 1 if a tenderer were also to nominate experts for the roster?	The rules governing the issue of conflicts of interest (e.g. definition, identification and prevention of conflicts of interest) are part of the work that the contractor shall carry out under the design activities in Lot 1, and are therefore not yet known in detail at this stage.
6	Will the slides presented during the Webinar of 5 April be available online?	Yes, please refer to the answer to question 6 on eTendering.
7	Please specify which entities can apply for GREEN Assist support (Lot 1)?	All entities listed under section 2.2 of the tender specification can apply under Green Assist.

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8	How many experts do you expect to have in the roster?	There is no fixed number of experts for the roster. The number of experts will eventually depend on parameters such as the number and the nature of incoming requests, the experts' availability and the expertise actually needed. The Reference scenario for Lot one assumes 200 experts at the start of the contract and then onboarding of 75 experts on a six-monthly basis. Tenderers should note that the deviation from this reference scenario in terms of actual number of experts onboarded will affect the flat rate paid for the relevant subtask related to the on-boarding of experts as described on pages 34 and 35 of the tender specifications.
9	Is it allowed to participate in Green Assist while tendering in other LIFE-related and EIB tenders? Would that be considered as conflict of interest?	Simultaneous participation in tender procedures for Green Assist and other tenders (e.g. LIFE, EIB) is, in principle, possible. But it will be up to the tenderers to report any situations to the Contracting Authority which could potentially prejudice their independence or adversely affect the execution of their duties.
10	Will the contractor have the flexibility to re-negotiate their management resources, should the number of requests be significantly higher to manage?	Tasks related to the management of assignments are remunerated on the basis of unit costs that are multiplied by the actual number of assignments. Therefore, there will be neither a need nor a possibility for the contractor to re-negotiate the resources for these tasks.
11	Can stakeholders apply for the Green Assist separately from InvestEU?	Stakeholders can apply for Green Assist separately from InvestEU. However, such separate requests will always be encoded into the InvestEU Central Entry Points.
12	Is Green Assist addressed exclusively to stakeholders taking part in InvestEU or other EU funding?	No, Green Assist is not limited to stakeholders applying under InvestEU. It is open to a broad population, including entities that are not beneficiaries of EU grants or that are undergoing an evaluation process under InvestEU.
13	What is the reason for differing staff categories between the selection criteria for both Lot 1 and Lot 2 and the financial offer?	Indeed, the categories of staff differ, as the profiles required within the selection criteria are only the minimum set of professional experience that tenderers must demonstrate for selection. Whereas the profiles included in the Financial Offer illustrate a possible scenario for the reference price in the context of Request for Services. The contractor shall ensure that the staff members listed in the technical offer are effectively available when the specific contracts begin.

No	Question	Answer
14	Please clarify the word limit for Lot 2 in annex 8.2. The word limit for each scenario is 5,000 words, what makes 15,000 words for all 3 scenarios described in the items 5 to 7. In addition for the items 1 to 4 there is a word limit of 5,000. This sums up to 20,000 while the overall limit is 15,000 words.	Please refer to the answer to question 5 on eTendering.
15	Could you please elaborate on the IT management competence requirements?	IT competence requirements relate to activities such as the management of relational databases, Extract-Transform-Load ("ETL") processes, business intelligence (data warehouse, compiling data for reporting), as well as designing and maintaining a Help Desk for experts and beneficiaries. Tenderers are invited to look at the corresponding task descriptions for a more precise definition of the IT competences.
16	Does the acronym count as a single word or does it count with the number of words forming the acronym?	An acronym counts as a single word.
17	Which training certifications are considered to be equivalent certifications to PMI and IPMA?	Please refer to the answer to question 2 on eTendering.
18	With reference to Design Task 4 of Lot 1, what are the expectations concerning communication activities and outreach?	Communication and awareness-raising activities to be implemented under Implementation Task 7 of Lot 1 will be identified on the basis of the recommendations from the contractor under Design Task 4. It is therefore not possible to provide more detailed information on this aspect at this stage.
19	According to the tender spec for Lot 2, communication and awareness raising activities are mentioned. Where would you foresee these tasks and to what extent?	For Lot 2, communication and awareness-raising activities are listed in the scenarios in a generic manner. Communication and awareness-raising aspects will be addressed in the request for service (RFS) depending on specific needs, notably to ensure proper knowledge sharing, dissemination and publicity of results, in order to facilitate take up by stakeholders.
20	The annex 1 requires giving name to the file, i.e. "Declaration on Honour". Should we name the files: PARTNER1_DoH, PARTNER2_DoH, etc.?	The names of the files shall allow their identification and allocation. The suggestion provided is one appropriate way forward.

No	Question	Answer
21	A number of experts and requests are provided, but no information about provisional number of working days per request to build the financial offer. Any provision to that?	Due to the diversity of requests, it is not possible to evaluate the time required to handle a given request. However, Tenderers should make their own estimate of the time required to complete such tasks under Lot 1, maximizing synergies and cost savings associated with the repetition of such tasks over time, to propose an average unit cost that includes the time needed to handle requests for services and that they consider competitive and are comfortable with.
22	Could you further elaborate what you expect to see in the section ability/adaptability to provide the three types of advisory services?	For Lot 2, the section "ability/adaptability" within the award criteria shall reflect the capacity to flexibly adjust and allocate resources and competences for the various types of advisory services requested.