

Call for tenders' details

Title: Legal, Socio-economic and Technical Assistance in the Fields of Energy and Mobility and Transport

Start date: 30/12/2020

Time limit for receipt of tenders: 22/02/2021

Contracting authority: European Commission, DG Mobility and Transport (MOVE)

Status: Closed

Call for tenders question list

#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
1	05/01/2021 13:12	12/01/2021 17:00	Request for Deadline Extension	Due to COVID restrictions and complexity of the bid requirements would it be possible to request a two week extension to the deadline.	12/01/2021 Please be aware that a corrigendum to the contract notice will be published shortly. The new deadline for submission of tenders will be 22.02.2021.
2	06/01/2021 16:51	12/01/2021 17:14	Deadline extension	Dear sir, madam, We would like to request an extension of the deadline, as with the current lockdowns in place in several countries, the time period to prepare all documentation for international consortia is too small. Thank you for your consideration.	12/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 1. Question1

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
3	11/01/2021 22:57	12/01/2021 17:17	Deadline for submission	The set deadline for submission of 5 February is extremely short moreover when a tenderer is trying to bid in several lots. Considering that: 1) most of the companies activities only really resumed this week; 2) the COVID-19 situation and the strict lockdown in the different Members states considerably complicates coordination and mobilisation of team work that is necessary to prepare such framework proposals and to reach the high level of quality expected by the DGs ; 3) in comparison the deadline for the ENER/2020/OP/0021 - ENER/C3/2020-724 FWC EE & RES (1 lot) published the same day is due on the 25 February; we are therefore requesting DG MOVE SRD to consider extending the submission by at least 4 weeks.	12/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 1. Question1
4	13/01/2021 09:27	13/01/2021 09:54	Legal, socio-economic and technical assistance in the fields of Energy and Mobility and Transport	Would it be possible to extend the deadline?	13/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 1. Question1

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
5	05/01/2021 14:29	13/01/2021 18:26	Template Declaration on Honour	Dear Sir, Madam, The Tender specifications, is referring to a template for a Declaration of Honour in Annex 2 of the Tender specs. Unfortunately the attached template can not be downloaded from the Tender specifications. Could you share the (link to) the appropriate template?	13/01/2021 Please be aware that a separate document containing the Declaration on Honour will be published on eTendering shortly.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
6	05/01/2021 14:37	13/01/2021 18:56	Sending original signed Declarations on Honour	<p>Dear Sir, Madam, We will submit PDF-ed versions of Declaration of Honour via e-submission, but in addition you request original signed Declaration of Honour within 1 day after electronic submission. Because of COVID-19 situation accross Europe, employees work from from home. This means that in some cases getting physical signatures can take longer, same as receiving hard copy / normal post at the office. Can we postpone sending originals till COVID-19 impact on work and postal situation has been reduced?</p>	<p>13/01/2021</p> <p>Considering the exceptional circumstances related to COVID restrictions, the contracting authority agrees to temporarily accept scanned copies of declarations on Honour. This exception applies only for as long as governmental restrictions linked to the COVID-19 are in place, meaning that as soon as these are lifted, the blue-ink signed Declarations on Honour must be provided. Let us remind you that: [1] as stated in the invitation to tender "The Declaration(s) on Honour on exclusion and selection criteria (template available in the tender specifications) shall be dated and signed, either by hand or by applying a qualified electronic signature, by an authorised representative of the signatory". Should all the signatories opt to use QES (preferred option), there will be no need to submit any paper versions of the Declarations on Honour. Please note that only a qualified electronic signature or an advanced electronic signature based on a qualified certificate as defined in Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 (eIDAS Regulation) will be accepted (see section 4.3 of the Tender Specifications). [2] as indicated in Annex 1, the Declarations on Honour are only requested from: - (a) the sole</p>

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					are only requested from: - (a) the sole tenderer or the group leader and all the members of the group (in case of a joint tender); - (b) subcontractors, whose individual share of the contract, known at the time of submission, is above 20% (of the framework contract ceiling/ per lot); - (c) entities on whose capacities the tenderer relies upon to fulfil the selection criteria (as described under Section 3.2).
7	07/01/2021 17:06	13/01/2021 19:03	Clarification Criterion B3 for Lot 6	The TOR indicates that "At least two members of the team must have a university degree in science or technology and ten years' professional experience in the fields of energy or any related issue (Category I: Senior expert)." Could you please clarify that "fields of energy" is correct or whether it should be "mobility and transport".	13/01/2021 This is a clerical error. We confirm that for Criterion B3 for Lot 6, Category I, the experience is required in the fields of mobility and transport.
8	08/01/2021 18:05	13/01/2021 19:10	Request for Word version of Declaration on Honour template	Kindly note that there is no Declaration of Honour template provided. Currently p. 51 of the tender specifications is blank and does not contain the correct template; please provide the Word version of ease of completion.	13/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 5. Question5

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
9	11/01/2021 09:37	13/01/2021 19:14	Deadline for submission of clarification questions	Kindly confirm the deadline for the submission of clarification questions.	13/01/2021 During the current phase of submission of tenders, the Commission will as soon as possible answer any request for additional information that is submitted more than six working days before the deadline to submit tenders. Please be aware that the Commission is not bound to reply to requests for additional information made less than six working days before said deadline, but will do so if at all possible.
10	11/01/2021 22:35	13/01/2021 19:20	Participation of UK companies in the tendering process	The TORs does not prevent explicitly UK companies to participate in the tender as join partner or subcontractor. Could you confirm this understanding?	13/01/2021 Subcontracting is not limited to EU entities. In addition, please note that the UK has become party on its own right to the WTO's Government Procurement Agreement (GPA) as of 1 January 2021, therefore UK companies can participate in the tender as join partner.
11	13/01/2021 10:40	13/01/2021 19:31	Annex 4	Wrt to Annex 4, you are referring to subcontractors. Should partners be included in the list as well?	13/01/2021 Only subcontractors are to be included in Annex 4. However, please be aware that the partners need to be indicated in the tender and that the partners must submit the power(s) of attorney attached in Annex 3.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
12	13/01/2021 17:52	13/01/2021 19:37	Request for clarification	<p>Page 28 in the Technical Specification indicates for criterion B3 the necessity of providing a "Pool of minimum experts per lot, each having the following qualifications": .. and for Lot 6 specifies "At least two members of the team must have a university degree in science or technology and ten years' professional experience in the fields of energy or any related issue (Category I: Senior expert)". Can you please kindly clarify why it is specified "energy" in the context of this lot which is referring to mobility and transport? Thank you in advance.</p>	<p>13/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 7. Question7</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
13	08/01/2021 18:23	18/01/2021 13:21	Location of delivery	Dear, It is our understanding, the contractors may be asked to deliver projects outside of EFTA countries. (e.g. South America, Africa, CIS...). Could you please confirm our understanding is correct? If so, can you please elaborate on the regions that are envisaged for the delivery of the contract? Thank you	18/01/2021 We confirm that contractors, as a rule, should be able to provide the requested services in all EU Member States, in the EFTA/EEA countries, in the Candidate Countries and any other country where energy/mobility and transport issues are likely to be of European Union's interest. The tenderers do not need to have a representation in the countries. It is sufficient that the tenderers are able to demonstrate in their tenders how the necessary coverage and/or contacts can be achieved, i.e. a methodology for ensuring coverage. The Commission cannot provide a list of such countries in advance, since the exact nature of the future requests for services is not yet known.
14	11/01/2021 22:38	18/01/2021 13:34	B criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to Criterion B3 for Lot 5, experts in Category I and II need a university degree in economics. Are university degrees in other fields accepted if the professional experience criteria are fulfilled? • According to Criterion B3 for Lot 6, Senior experts are expected to have "ten years' professional experience in the field of energy or any related issue". Is our assumption correct that this should be "mobility and transport" instead of "energy"? 	18/01/2021 Under Criterion B3 for Lot 5, Category I and II, a university degree in economics is required. Equivalent to such a degree is a university degree in economic sciences, such as business administration, management, accounting, business strategy, finance and statistics. With regard to the second part of your question, please see the answer to question 7. Question7

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
15	12/01/2021 09:13	18/01/2021 13:40	Place of Performance - covered countries	1.5 Place of Performance of the tender specifications notes that as a rule the contractors should be able to provide the requested services in all EU Member States, in the EFTA/EEA countries (Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway), in the Candidate Countries and any other country where energy/mobility and transport issues are likely to be of European Union's interest. A representation in the countries mentioned is not necessary; however, the tenderers must be able to demonstrate, in their tenders, how the necessary coverage and/or contacts can be achieved. Since the list of countries is indefinite and depending on the subject of the specific request for services the countries may vary, a definitive list of countries may not be included in the tender. Is a commitment letter (e.g. Annex 5.1) required to demonstrate that the tenderer has the necessary coverage and/or contacts or are other means to demonstrate how the necessary coverage and or contacts can be achieved sufficient?	18/01/2021 A commitment letter/letter of intent should not be provided, since it is not possible to identify countries of performance in advance. Tenderers should instead describe their methodology of ensuring the coverage. Please also see the answer to question 13. Question13

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
16	12/01/2021 11:58	18/01/2021 13:46	Qualified electronic signature	Please confirm how best to arrange for a qualified electronic signature, and exactly which sorts of electronic signatures are acceptable for use with the European Commission. The link on p.42 (electronic signatures) leads to a portal requesting verification which we do not have.	18/01/2021 For documents that can be signed via a Qualified Electronic Signature (QES), economic operators can check if his/her tool is compliant with the eIDAS Regulation (Regulation 910/2014), by accessing the following website: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tl-browser/#/ . For more information on electronic trust-services in the EU, please see: https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/trust-services-and-eid . Please also see the answer to question 6. Question6

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
17	12/01/2021 17:35	18/01/2021 13:52	Lot 5: Criterion B3 (pool of experts)	In relation to Criterion B3 of the minimum pool of experts, Lot 5 requires that (i) at least two members of the the team must have a university degree in economics and ten years of experience (i.e., Senior Expert) and (ii) at least seven members must have a university degree in economics and five years of experience (i.e., Expert). In this respect, we ask to clarify whether the requirement of having a university degree in economics is strict and mandatory, or whether an equivalent degree in science and technology allows to fit the requirement set.	18/01/2021 Categories I and II under Criterion B3 for Lot 5 require a university degree in economics. Equivalent to such a degree is a university degree in economic sciences, such as business administration, management, accounting, business strategy, finance and statistics. Please also refer to the answer to question 14. Question14

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
18	13/01/2021 16:48	18/01/2021 14:05	Section 3.2.1 Legal & Regulatory Capacity	Please confirm whether consortium members need to provide any evidence for Legal & Regulatory capacity, as the statement on p. 24 of tender specifications is a little vague. It notes that tenderers do not need to prove their specific legal & regulatory capacity, and then below states that capacity shall be proven by the list below, however, there is no list noted. Elsewhere in Annex 1 (List of Documents) it notes that this evidence will be requested at any time during the procedure. Kindly confirm exact documents to be provided at point of submission and/or at award stage.	18/01/2021 This is a clerical error. We confirm that tenderers do not need to provide any evidence for legal and regulatory capacity. The sentence "The legal and regulatory capacity shall be proven by the evidence listed below:" under Section 3.2.1 of the Tender Specifications is to be disregarded.
19	15/01/2021 10:45	18/01/2021 14:08	Project references	Are we correct in understanding that the 2 project references need to add up to a total exceeding EUR 200,000, rather than 2 separate projects of greater than 200,000 being required?	18/01/2021 We confirm that as evidence for Criterion A1, the two projects/assignments you refer to shall together represent a total budget of at least EUR 200,000.

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20	13/01/2021 17:27	18/01/2021 14:12	3.2.2. Economic and Financial Capacity	It is not clear whether this evidence needs to be provided at point of submission. On pages 24-26, it mentions it is required as evidence, however, on p.26 it states "...the evidence .. does need not to be provided..." Please confirm exactly whether financials for the past 2 years do or do not need to be provided at point of submission.	18/01/2021 As set out under Section 3.2.2 of the Tender Specifications, the evidence of economic and financial capacity does not need to be provided with the tender (i.e. at the point of submission). However, such evidence may be requested by the Contracting authority or the EU Validation Services at any time during the procedure. Please be aware that evidence of technical and professional capacity (Section 3.2.3) must be submitted along with the tender in eSubmission.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
21	06/01/2021 11:30	19/01/2021 17:49	Selection criteria relating to the team for Lot 2	<p>The B3 criteria relating to the team for Lot 2 require legal experts on labour law/employment/consumer law. We understand the experts will support studies on socio-economic impacts and consumer protection. This could be conducted also by an expert with expertise in these areas with economics rather than the legal background. 1 – Can you detail the rationale for requiring legal expertise? 2 – Could an expert with proven professional experience in the area satisfy the requirement, without the law university degree?</p>	<p>19/01/2021 Legal expertise in labour, employment and consumer law under Criterion B3 for Lot 2, Category V, is requested to complement and support studies of socio-economic nature in the domain of energy. As described in point 1.4.2 of the Tender Specifications, specific requests for services may be launched under the future framework contract regarding, among others, analysis and recommendations concerning social aspects. This may include questions relating to the social impact of digitalisation and automation in energy, actions against any forms of discrimination and the promotion of diversity and inclusion in employment in the sector (e.g. female employment). Due to the nature of those services, the legal angle of these questions will need to be addressed, why a degree in law is necessary to fulfil the requirements for experts in Category V. A university degree in economics is not sufficient to comply with the selection criteria.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
22	07/01/2021 13:03	19/01/2021 17:51	Submitting different lots	Dear Sir, Madam, If we submit for multiple lots, should we provide these documents per lot: Declaration on Honour, Commitment Letter, PoA, List of identified subs, evidence F1. Or once per party for the whole tender?	19/01/2021 The requested documents must be provided for each lot separately. A complete separate tender must be submitted per lot including the technical and financial part, along with the documents stated in Annex I to the Tender Specifications: Declaration on Honour; Evidence that the person signing the documents is an authorised representative of the entity; Power of Attorney; List of identified subcontractors; Commitment letter; Evidence of technical and professional capacity T1.
23	11/01/2021 22:37	19/01/2021 18:06	Criterion A3	In criterion A3, the tenderer is asked to prove its capacity to work and handle documentation in the languages of at least six EU countries in a combination of two projects. How is this proven? Is it enough if the tenderer used sources and other input in the languages of at least six EU countries or does it refer solely to deliveries?	19/01/2021 This requirement refers solely to deliveries. The use of source materials in the requested languages is therefore not sufficient to fulfil the requirement.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
24	12/01/2021 17:38	19/01/2021 18:28	Lot 6: Category 1: Senior expert - required experience and education	It is noted that 'at least two members of the team must have ... 10 years' professional experience in the field of energy or any related issue'. As the field of energy is not relevant to this Lot, we assume you are referring to the field of 'mobility and transport'. It also states that a university degree is required in science or technology. We would like to know if a social science, e.g. economics would be allowed as well. Are you able to clarify this further?	19/01/2021 With regard to the professional experience required under Criterion B3 for Lot 6, Category I, please see the answer to question 7. With regard to the education of this category of experts, a university degree in science or technology is required. Question7
25	13/01/2021 16:49	19/01/2021 18:32	Request for Word versions for templates	Please provide Word templates for all documents (including Declaration on Honour) requiring completion and signature.	19/01/2021 Please be aware that all documents requested will be published on eTendering in editable versions.
26	13/01/2021 17:53	19/01/2021 18:34	Word versions of administrative documents	Would it be possible to provide word versions of the administrative documents (declaration on honour, letters of commitment etc) on this portal?	19/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 25. Question25

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
27	15/01/2021 16:22	19/01/2021 18:44	Identified subcontractors taking lead in a specific RfS	Kindly confirm whether identified subcontractors (whose individual share of the contract is above 20%) are allowed to take the lead for a specific Request for Services under this FWC, or whether this may only be done by the Lead Firm or a Consortium Partner.	19/01/2021 During the implementation of the contract through procedures of reopening of competition, only the tenderer (or the group leader in case of a joint tender) can submit a tender for a specific request for services. The project manager and deputy project manager designated for the implementation of the framework contract will need to ensure their functions. The team providing the services in the specific requests will be the team proposed in the technical offer. This team can be composed of staff of all the participating entities in the consortium (such as joint partners or subcontractors). Please bear in mind that according to Section 2.4.2 of the Tender Specifications and Article II.10 of the draft contract related to Subcontracting, the contractor retains full liability towards the Contracting authority for performance of the contract as a whole.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
28	18/01/2021 10:31	19/01/2021 19:06	Declaration on Honour (still) missing	Dear Madam/Sir, as a follow up of question/answer N°5, could you kindly make sure that the missing declaration on honour is made available as soon as possible? The admin burden of this procedure is likely to be heavy and lengthy to complete, and a prompt availability of the declaration is crucial in order to be able to activate the process properly. Many thanks in advance for confirming once the document will be available.	19/01/2021 Please be aware that the Declaration on Honour has now been published on eTendering in the Document Library.
29	18/01/2021 11:36	19/01/2021 19:08	Annex 2 Declaration of Honour	Please can you confirm when the declaration of honour will be uploaded to the etendering?	19/01/2021 Please be aware that the Declaration on Honour has now been published on eTendering in the Document Library.
30	18/01/2021 17:12	19/01/2021 19:08	Declaration on Honour	Please note that the template for the declaration on honour has not been published yet. We would like to ask you to please upload the template as we need to start collecting the administrative documents as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding.	19/01/2021 Please be aware that the Declaration on Honour has now been published on eTendering in the Document Library.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
31	19/01/2021 15:26	19/01/2021 19:12	The answer to question 5 states that a template declaration on honour will be published shortly.	We cannot find the published template. Has it already been published? If no, does the Commission have a concrete timeline for publishing it?	19/01/2021 Please be aware that the Declaration on Honour has now been published on eTendering in the Document Library.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
32	15/01/2021 12:22	21/01/2021 15:00	Clarification	<p>1. For the criteria relating to the team delivering the service, can you please clarify if an individual that meets the respective criteria can be presented both as project manager (or deputy project manager) and as an expert as part of the pool of experts related to a specific lot? 2. During implementation of the Framework contract, would it be possible for named experts that meet the respective criteria be used either as project managers and (or) as relevant experts in the context of individual contracts?</p>	<p>21/01/2021</p> <p>Firstly, we confirm that the Project Manager/Deputy Project Manager can also function as one of the required experts. Secondly, during the implementation of the framework contract, the Project Manager and Deputy Project Manager of the framework contract must remain the same for all specific contracts in order to ensure that all services under this framework contract are properly carried out. In the context of a specific request for services, a relevant expert can be identified as the leading expert for the project from the contractor's team. Nevertheless, the Project Manager will still need to ensure the corresponding functions as stated in the Tender Specifications (i.e. oversee project delivery, quality management of the contract and control, client orientation and conflict resolution. The contractor will also ensure that the presentation of the reports, deliverables, invoices and any supporting documents allows their easy assessment by the Contracting authority).</p>

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33	15/01/2021 12:22	21/01/2021 15:03	Clarification	In relation to the award process (section 3.5 in the terms of reference (text box)), the ranking of contractors will determine who will be invited to compete for specific contracts during the implementation of the framework contract. However, in section the following section (3.6) it is indicated that according to Article 1.4.3 of the Framework Contract, the Contracting authority orders services by sending a request for services by e-mail or via e-PRIOR to all contractors of the concerned lot. Please can you clarify how the process concerning the specific tenders will work. Does this sentence imply a cascade approach (e.g. only the 1st tenderer will be invited to participate) when it comes to the competition for specific contracts among the 4 selected contractors? Or does the text in section 3.5 only refer to the use if the ranking to select the 4 tenderers.	21/01/2021 We confirm that Section 3.5 of the Tender Specifications only refers to the use of ranking for selecting the tenderers with whom the framework contracts will be concluded. As follows from Sections 1.6 and 3.6 of the Tender Specifications, the current procedure will result in the conclusion of multiple framework contracts with reopening of competition (the cascade approach will thus not be used). This means that, after concluding framework contracts with maximum four contractors per lot, the Contracting authority will order services by sending a request for services by e-mail or via e-PRIOR to all contractors of the concerned lot. The request for services implies a reopening of the competition among the four selected contractors per lot. In this context, there is no ranking between the contractors. The most economically advantageous tender will be chosen on the basis of the award criteria for specific contracts set out under Sections 3.7 and 3.8 of the Tender Specifications.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
34	11/01/2021 14:48	21/01/2021 15:13	Staff declaration on participation in the implementation of the fwc	<p>Dear Sir / Madam, Tender specs p.32 mention 'Note for Criterion B1 to</p> <p>B4: All staff not employed by the tenderer (or, in the case of a joint tender, by any of the member of the consortia) will provide a declaration that he/she is willing to participate in the implementation of this framework contract in the team of the tenderer' Do you require a declaration per staff member? Or per subcontractor as declared in the Commitment Letter? If per staff member: do you have a template for that available?</p>	<p>21/01/2021</p> <p>Under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications it is stated: "All staff not employed by the tenderer (or, in the case of a joint tender, by any of the member of the consortia) will provide a declaration that he/she is willing to participate in the implementation of this framework contract in the team of the tenderer". This statement concerns self-employed experts, i.e. staff not employed by the tenderer (or, in the case of a joint tender, by any of the member of the consortia) or by any subcontractor that helps to fulfil the selection criteria. In this case, the commitment letter in Annex 5.1 to the Tender Specifications will need to be provided by each such staff member. In case the staff helping to fulfil the selection criteria are not employed by the tenderer but by a subcontractor participating in the tender, it is sufficient that the subcontractor provides the commitment letter in Annex 5.1 to the Tender Specifications.</p>

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35	19/01/2021 11:35	21/01/2021 15:17	P.32 of tender specs: declaration by staff that they are willing to participate in the implementation of this framework contract in the team of the tenderer.	The Tender specs state that staff not employed by the tenderer (or, in the case of a joint tender, by any of the member of the consortia) will provide a declaration that he/she is willing to participate in the implementation of this framework contract in the team of the tenderer. Does this mean that staff of subcontractors need to provide such a declaration?	21/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 34. Question34

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
36	11/01/2021 19:08	21/01/2021 16:34	Project manager / deputy project manager for different lots	<p>Dear Sir / Madam, you specify that 'in the case the tenderer will submit an offer for more than one lot, the tenderer must designate a different project manager and a deputy project manager, each person compliant with the Criterion B1 and B2 above, for each lot'. Can project manager of Lot X be deputy PM in Lot Y or should it anyhow be different persons? So for 2 lots, 4 different persons?</p>	<p>21/01/2021</p> <p>Since the tasks to be ensured by the Project Manager for a specific lot require a great number of working days, he/she would not be able to ensure the same tasks for another lot. Thus, a person can only be appointed as Project Manager for one lot. However, the Project Manager of one lot could ensure other tasks in a different lot, as Deputy Project Manager or expert. Please note that this statement implies a corrigendum to the Tender Specifications. On page 28, the following paragraph: "Note for B1 to B2: In the case the tenderer will submit an offer for more than one lot, the tenderer must designate a different project manager and a deputy project manager, each person compliant with the Criterion B1 and B2 above, for each lot" should be read as follows: "Note for B1 to B2: In the case the tenderer will submit an offer for more than one lot, the tenderer must designate a different project manager, each person compliant with the Criterion B1 and B2 above, for each lot. Therefore, the Project Manager can only be appointed as Project Manager for one lot. However, the Project Manager of one lot could ensure other tasks in a different lot, as Deputy Project Manager or expert." Please also see the answer to</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
					Please also see the answer to question 32. Question32
37	20/01/2021 13:38	21/01/2021 16:39	Clarification	In relation to the definition of services to be provided under Lot 5, could you please clarify the difference between the following two services? - Economic analysis on policies and actions – including lack of these – in the field of (energy and) transport; - Economic analysis on policies and actions – including lack of these – in the field of transport and mobility, including multimodality, urban mobility, and transport digitalisation; Is it possible a term/word missing from the first service? We note that in the current Framework contract there was a service defined as “Economic analysis on policies and actions – including lack of these – in the field of transport security” . That is not included in the list of services. Could it be that the term “security” is missing?	21/01/2021 Regarding the first service you mention that is listed under Section 1.4 of the Tender Specifications (i.e. “Economic analysis on policies and actions – including lack of these – in the field of (energy and) transport”), the word “security” was removed to expand the scope of the services so as to not only cover security aspects, but to cover the entire energy sector and mobility and transport sector. The second service you mention (i.e. “Economic analysis on policies and actions – including lack of these – in the field of transport and mobility, including multimodality, urban mobility, and transport digitalization”) aims at providing more clarity on which aspects of the mobility and transport sector that future requests for services under this FWC may relate to. Please bear in mind that the list of services under Section 1.4 of the Tender Specifications is not exhaustive and that the Contracting Authority is not obligated to make requests for all the listed services.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
38	20/01/2021 17:30	21/01/2021 16:41	Documentation required for Technical offer	Dear Sir/Madam Per section 4.2 tenders are required to "provide all the information needed to assess the compliance with Section 1.4 of these specifications and the award criteria." Regarding the requirements of Section 1.4, 2. Socio-economic assistance in the field of energy (Lot 2) or mobility and transport (Lot 5), please may you confirm what level of documentation is expected to fulfil this requirement, for both Lot 2 and Lot 5. Furthermore, please specify whether each point must be addressed separately, or if they may be aggregated by methodology and/or subject area? Thank you	21/01/2021 The content of the technical offer will be assessed against the award criteria set out under Section 3.7 of the Tender Specifications. It is recommended to follow the structure of those criteria. The level of documentation to be provided is to be decided by the tenderer. A page limit has only been set for the case study that is to be provided with the tender for each lot, but not for the tender as a whole. Please bear in mind that the Contracting Authority needs to assess all the elements required under the award criteria.
39	21/01/2021 09:58	21/01/2021 16:46	Project manager	Dear Sir/Madam, could you please confirm our understanding that a single project manager is expected to manage all projects won under a given lot of the Framework contract (even if the timing of the projects and any other tenders under the same lot overlaps)? Thank you in advance!	21/01/2021 We confirm that a single Project Manager (with the help of the Deputy Project Manager, when required) is expected to manage all projects won under a given lot of the framework contract. In this regard, please also refer to the answers to questions 32 and 36. Question36 Question32

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
40	21/01/2021 16:09	25/01/2021 22:18	Identified subs who involve resources from another company owned by the same economic group	Could you clarify: in case identified subcontractors are involving resources from another company owned by the same economic group, are these other companies than seen as different subcontractors? I.e. do we need to provide separate Annex 5.2 and Declaration of Honour for these other companies? Or are they covered by the Commitment Letter and Declaration of the identified subcontractor?	25/01/2021 In this scenario, where the subcontractor intends to rely on the resources of another company that is a part of the same economic group as the subcontractor, we confirm that if this "other company" is a different legal entity than the subcontractor, the two legal entities will be considered as two separate subcontractors. The commitment letter in Annex 5.1 and the Declaration on Honour in Annex 2 to the Tender Specifications must be submitted by each subcontractor. Please also be aware that the tenderer must give an indication of the proportion of the contract that it intends to subcontract and identify and briefly describe the envisaged contractual roles/tasks of the subcontractors in accordance with Section 2.4.2 of the Tender Specifications.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
41	21/01/2021 17:29	25/01/2021 22:21	Criterion A3	Could you please consider accepting evidence coming from more than 2 projects to "prove our capacity to work and handle documentation in the languages of at least six EU countries" (p. 27 of the Tender specifications)? If not, could you please explain your decision to limit the number of the projects to two and in what way this reflects the ability of contractors to work in the languages of several EU countries?	25/01/2021 References to two projects are required as evidence for Criterion A3 under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications. The reasoning behind this requirement is that the implementation of the framework contract will require the expertise of economic operators that have previously carried out projects of a certain scale relating to different languages of at least six EU countries. Tenderers must comply with this criterion.
42	21/01/2021 17:47	25/01/2021 22:23	3.1 Exclusion Criteria (evidence for Declaration on Honour)	Kindly confirm whether evidence for exclusion criteria as noted in the Declaration on Honour is required at the point of submission, or whether it should only be provided upon notification of award stage.	25/01/2021 We confirm that the evidence for the exclusion criteria shall not be provided at the point of submission of the tender. However, such evidence may be requested at any time by the Contracting Authority, and in any case it will be required before the signature of the contract (please refer to Section 3.1 and Annex 1 of the Tender Specifications).
43	21/01/2021 17:31	29/01/2021 15:10	Deliverables	Dear Sir/Madam, could you please indicate if you accept survey questionnaires as deliverables (as per Question 23)? Thank you very much in advance!	29/01/2021 We confirm that we accept survey questionnaires as deliverables for the purposes of Criterion A3 under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
44	22/01/2021 15:50	29/01/2021 16:25	Clarification	In relation to the selection criteria for experts under Lot 5, we would like to clarify how experts that have relevant and extensive technical expertise on specific topics (e.g. safety, digitalisation, freight transport, environmental aspects) but not an economic or relevant degree are to be included in the Framework contract. It appears that such experts that can bring important knowledge to specific studies will not be possible to be used for the delivery of services under specific contracts since they will not fit into any of the expert categories identified. Could you please clarify how such are experts are to be presented in the proposal so that that are able to provide their expertise if needed?	29/01/2021 Criterion B3 for Lot 5 of the Tender Specifications sets out the minimum requirements regarding staff profiles, which must be fulfilled. As stated under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications, “[i]n order to carry out the services, in reply to each request for services the contractor will submit a list of experts to the Contracting Authority which will give its approval to the list proposed by the contractor”. The proposed experts shall fulfil the minimum requirements for the relevant lot under Criterion B3. The fees are set out by category of expert in the Price Schedules in Annex 6. When additional expertise (different from the minimum requirements indicated in the selection criteria for the call for tenders) is required in a specific request for services, the contractor will propose the relevant profile, which will need to fit into the following categories: Expert or Senior Expert. The maximum price indicated for these two categories in the financial form will apply. This applies to all the lots.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
45	22/01/2021 15:49	29/01/2021 16:29	Clarifications	<p>In relation to your response to questions 32, 36 and 39 we would like to comment on the practical implications of requiring a single PM for all specific contract won: - A single individual will need to be the responsible for all contract, potentially running in parallel. This poses a possible risk for the availability of the specific individual over the 4 year period. Would it not be more preferable for the Commission to have a small pool of Project managers and Deputy Project managers that will have the requested experience and familiarity with the processes and procedures? - In a case of joint tenders, a single individual (PM or DPM) from a single organisation from with the partners will always need to assume the project management role even if the actual technical expertise/experience is provided by other partner organisations. This would mean that even if the partner organisation have expert PMs that meet the criteria and have the relevance experience, the specific contract will need to be delivered with an</p>	<p>29/01/2021 We retract the answer to question 39 and make the following correction: as set out in Section 1.4 of the Tender Specifications, different project managers can be appointed for the specific contracts. The Contracting Authority requires, in order to ensure that services under this framework contract are properly carried out, that the contractor assigns a Project Manager (and a Deputy Project Manager) for each lot who will liaise with the contracting authority for all aspects related to the overall management of the framework contract. In addition, the Project Manager will be in charge of ensuring that the services are delivered within the deadlines and respecting the highest quality standards. The Project Manager will be responsible for the project management of the study on a day-to-day basis, monitoring and controlling progresses and target achievements. When a contractor will be in the situation of implementing different specific contracts at the same time, additional Project Managers (complying with the same selection criteria) can be appointed. Also, a relevant expert can be identified as the leading expert for the project from the contractor's team. Please consider award criterion 3:</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
				need to be delivered with an individual from one organisation managing a team of experts from other organisations. Given the technical nature of the projects we consider that this does not provide for an effective and efficient management of the specific contracts. On the basis of the above, could the Commission reconsider the specific requirement to allow for more than one PM/DPM to identified for each lot.	Please consider award criterion 3: "Appropriateness of the organization of the work and resources", which will be evaluated for each request for services.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
46	25/01/2021 10:11	29/01/2021 16:32	Clarification	In relation to award criteria 1 and 2 could you please clarify what is difference between award criterion 1 as “appropriateness and quality of the approach proposed for the services to be requested” and award criterion 2 as “appropriateness and quality of the proposed methodologies and tools proposed”? Does award criterion 1 require the elaboration of: - the understanding of the background, trends and future challenges? - the approach for ensuring the availability of skills and competences of the tenderer vis a vis the background understanding, challenges and trends? - the approach used for the choice of methodologies to deliver the different types of services requested (whereas the methodologies themselves are elaborated for award criterion 2)? - the approach to managing the FWC contract to ensure the requested services are delivered? - something else?	29/01/2021 Award criterion 1 under Section 3.7 of the Tender Specification assesses the approach for the services to be requested with regard to the tenderer’s understanding of the background, trends and future challenges regarding energy policies or mobility and transport policies, with a focus on the developments in the European Union. Award criterion 2 on the other hand assesses the proposed methodologies and tools for answering the specific request for services, which are to explain the rationale behind the choices proposed by the tenderer and demonstrating a state-of-the-art knowledge of the fields. The description should include for each methodology and tool the identification of adequate sources of information, data collection and analysis methods, the presentation of sampling methodologies, approaches to consultation activities and use of the information to achieve the results set out in the future requests for services. The approach to managing the FWC contract to ensure that the requested services are delivered will be evaluated under criteria 3 and 4 (please, see the relevant explanation of the criterion’s scope in Section 3.4 of the Tender Specifications).

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
47	26/01/2021 09:13	29/01/2021 16:33	Regarding criterion A3 and the answer to question 23.	Does this mean that studies where country reports were drafted on the basis of research conducted by a national expert in the language of their member state, but where the deliverables were drafted in English will not be taken into account in satisfying the criterion?	29/01/2021 To fulfil Criterion A3 under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications, it is sufficient to refer to delivered projects, within which national experts have concluded country specific reports in different EU languages, even when the final reports/deliverables are in English (together representing at least six EU languages).
48	27/01/2021 10:09	29/01/2021 16:39	Annex 5.2	Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Annex 5.2 is worded for companies only. Is it possible to change the wording so that it also fits an individual, if it is not an entity on whose capacities the tenderer relies to fulfil the selection criteria, but a natural person. Thank you!	29/01/2021 Please be aware that Annex 5.2 is to be submitted by entities on which the tenderer relies for the fulfilment of the financial and economic capacity required under the selection criteria (i.e. criterion F1 "minimum average yearly turnover"). If a natural person assists the tenderer in fulfilling the selection criteria for the technical and professional capacity (i.e. criteria B.1-B.4), by for example committing to be one of the experts required for a given lot, Annex 5.1 must be submitted (and adapted if necessary).

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
49	27/01/2021 13:22	29/01/2021 16:41	Annex 5.2. Commitment letter by an entity on whose capacities is being relied	Could you please let us know if Annex 5.2. Commitment letter by an entity on whose capacities is being relied should be provided by partners and subcontractors which are already part of the consortium or is it only meant to be used by third parties which support the consortium to meet the financial selection criterion?	29/01/2021 If a joint tender is submitted, all members of the consortium (the group of entities participating in this call for tenders as the tenderer) will be responsible for the signature and implementation of the resulting contract. Each member of the group must submit the power of attorney in Annex 3. Please note that even if the Contracting Authority authorizes subcontracting, the contractor (the tenderer, i.e. the group of entities stated above) remains bound by its contractual obligations and is solely responsible for the implementation of the FWC. Subcontractors (other natural or legal persons that will participate in the implementation of the contract) will need to provide Annex 5.1. If such entities also help the tenderer to fulfil the financial capacity, Annex 5.2 should also be provided. We understand that in your question, the terminology "consortium" relates to different entities from the same economic group. If the tenderer relies on the capacity of another entity that is in the same economic group as the tenderer, Annex 5.1 and/or 5.2 should be provided by this second entity.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
50	27/01/2021 14:04	29/01/2021 16:44	Reliance on sister companies/subsidiaries to fulfil the technical and professional capacity	<p>We would like to request additional clarifications on your answer to question 40, where you state that if a subcontractor relies on the resources of another company that is a part of the same economic group, this other company should also be identified as a subcontractor. 1) However, according to exceptions a) to c) listed in Section “2.4.2. Subcontracting” of the Tender Specifications, relying on the personnel/CVs of our sister companies/subsidiaries to fulfil the professional capacity is not considered subcontracting. Could you please confirm our understanding that if we rely on the capacity of our sister companies to fulfil the professional selection criteria (CVs), we don’t need to identify these sister companies as “subcontractors” nor as “supporting entities”, and thus that we don’t need to provide any admin documents? 2) We also understand that our sister companies contributing references to this tender and helping us fulfil the technical capacity don’t need to be identified as “subcontractors”, nor as “supporting entities”. This is the usual approach</p>	<p>29/01/2021 Firstly, as stated in Section 2.4.2 point a) of the Tender Specifications, the “[u]se of workers posted to the contractor by another company owned by the same group and established in a Member State” is not considered subcontracting. This point refers to when a tenderer (or member of the group in a joint tender) uses workers from another company owned by the same economic group. In your question, you refer to a “subcontractor” who relies on the resources of another company that is a part of the same economic group as the subcontractor. Please note that Section 2.4.2 points a) to c) refer to the tenderer itself and not to a subcontractor. Thus, a tenderer may present CV’s of persons employed by a sister company/subsidiary as evidence for fulfilling the professional selection criteria (Criteria B1 to B4). These persons will be considered as “personnel” of the contractor as defined in the contract. In this case, the tenderer does not need to identify the other company as a “subcontractor” or “supporting entity”. With regard to the second part of your question, please be aware that according to Section 2.4.3, a tenderer may only rely on the capacities of other entities to fulfil the technical</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
				entities". This is the usual approach that we have been advised to follow in other EU tenders. Could you please confirm our understanding or clarify how our sister companies/subsidiaries contributing credentials should be identified?"	other entities to fulfil the technical selection criteria (i.e. Criteria A1 to A3) where the latter company will perform the services for which these capacities are required (i.e. the latter will assume the role of a subcontractor). Therefore, Annex 5.1 must be provided by such entities.
51	28/01/2021 12:19	29/01/2021 16:46	Categorizing project manager specific project	With reference to Tender specs, page 11: It is to be noted that different project managers can be appointed for the specific contracts. In the frame work bid, should we label these intended PMs as (senior) expert or as project manager?	29/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 45. Question45

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
52	29/01/2021 09:18	29/01/2021 16:48	PM for specific service requests	<p>Dear Sir, Madam, We would like to come back on the answer on question 32 for the ongoing request. The Q&A indicates that, for each lot, the Project Manager must remain the same for all specific contracts, and will remain responsible for project delivery, conflict resolution and other tasks. This is not the approach for the specific requests of the past MOVE/ENER FWCs on technical and economic assistance. It will compromise the quality of the project delivery as the PM will be involved in a high number of projects (especially with only 4 contractors selected for each lot). The possibility to select a PM and deputy PM for each specific request allows to present the best CV for the needs of each request. A PM tailored to the requirements of each specific requests will have more past experience from relevant projects and may be more involved with day-to-day project work and challenges – including by working also as a senior expert. It also allows to select the best CV for the project among all consortium partners/sub-contractors, and to ensure availability of the PM</p>	<p>29/01/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 45. Question45</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
				ensure availability of the PM considering other on-going projects. For these reasons, we request the requirement that the PM be the same for each specific request to be reconsidered. Being able to provide additional names as PM and deputy PM (with the same level of experience) will increase the quality of the projects.	
53	01/02/2021 16:55	02/02/2021 16:18	Clarification on answer q.45	Dear Sir / Madam, You indicate in your answer in Q.45: When a contractor will be in the situation of implementing different specific contracts at the same time, additional Project Managers (complying with the same selection criteria) can be appointed. Also, a relevant expert can be identified as the leading expert for the project from the contractor's team. Should we label these addition Project Managers in our current bid as senior expert or as project manager? le do we propose more than 1 PM or include these aimed additional PMs as senior expert?	02/02/2021 Tenderers shall not propose potential additional Project Managers in their tenders for the current procedure. In case additional Project Managers would be appointed during the implementation of the contract, the compliance with the selection criteria of these additional profiles will be checked during the evaluation of the specific offer.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
54	02/02/2021 08:54	02/02/2021 16:20	Deadline extension request	Dear Sirs, In light of the challenges imposed by the current situation generated by the corona lockdown across European countries and the fears and stress of the spreading the new variants, we would like to kindly ask whether you would consider an extension of the 22/2 deadline of about two weeks for this call for tender?	02/02/2021 The deadline to submit tenders has already been extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, from 5 February 2021 to 22 of February 2021. The deadline will not be extended further.
55	02/02/2021 09:27	02/02/2021 16:22	Extension of the deadline	Currently, the challenges imposed by the current situation due to the lockdown in EU countries, we are facing more difficulties to gather all documents needed for such a Framework Contract. We would like to kindly request an extension of the deadline of 2 weeks, which we believe would enable us to prepare everything properly.	02/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 54. Question54

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
56	02/02/2021 09:38	02/02/2021 16:23	Submission deadline	Dear sir, madam, Together with our partners we are preparing a proposal for the framework contract. However, due to the lockdown measures implemented in our home countries, we are running a bit behind schedule. Some of us for instance need to combine our regular work with home teaching of our children. I would therefore kindly ask you for another moderate extension of the submission deadline of - say - two to three weeks. Would that be possible? I look forward to your response. Best regards, Rogier Lieshout	02/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 54. Question54
57	02/02/2021 15:26	02/02/2021 16:25	Extension submission deadline	Given the large scope of work of this multi-lot Framework contract, we would like to ask the Contracting Authority to grant a new extension of two additional weeks of the deadline for submission of tenders	02/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 54. Question54
58	02/02/2021 12:28	08/02/2021 09:41	Deadline of the call	Dear Sir, Madam, We would like to ask you to extend the delay for the submission of the tender. Indeed due to sanitary constraints we have difficulties to cope with this very tight deadline. 3 more weeks would be appreciated. Best regards, Matthieu Bogaert from Stratec	08/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 54. Question54

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
59	02/02/2021 16:54	08/02/2021 09:47	Extension of deadline for submission	<p>We are involved in preparing bids for several lots and are striving to prepare bids of high quality. The challenges imposed by the current situation generated by the corona lockdown across European countries and the fears and stress of the spreading the new variants is impeding the smooth preparation of the bids. We are grateful your already granted an extension of 2 weeks but this prove too short for the amount of information to be gathered and preparation work requested. We note that parallel bid for another DG ENER FWC (ENER/2020/OP/0021) published at the same date and scheduled for 25 February was just granted and extension of 2 weeks (8 march). It will be highly appreciated and improve the quality of prepared bids if the deadline for MOVE/2020/OP/0008 could be somehow aligned to this new date. Thank you for your consideration and understanding.</p>	<p>08/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 54. Question54</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
60	03/02/2021 11:38	08/02/2021 09:49	Deadline extension	We would kindly like to ask you to consider an extension of the deadline for submitting proposals for this call for tenders by 2 weeks taking into account the challenges imposed by the current situation of COVID-19 in European countries.	08/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 54. Question54
61	03/02/2021 16:49	08/02/2021 09:51	Possible two week deadline extension	Dear Sir or Madam, In view of other requests, appreciative of an already granted extension, we also kindly ask for a moderate extension of the deadline, possible two weeks, due to the lockdown measures implemented in our home countries that interfere with the original schedules or production of documentation, but specially to ensure optimum quality of all tenderers' proposals.	08/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 54. Question54

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
62	01/02/2021 16:06	08/02/2021 13:30	Staff categories and financial offer forms of Lots 1 and 4.	<p>This request for clarifications is related to the staff categories and financial offer forms of Lots 1 and 4. The financial offer forms for Lots 1 and 4 foresee only four categories: Project Manager, Deputy Project Manager, Senior legal expert – Category I, and Legal expert – Category II. They do not include category B4 (Editor proof-reader/ Quality assurance) despite the fact that this profile must be included in the proposal and is part of the selection criteria. It does not include a junior category either, whereas the other lots include one (such as the “Data analyst” category). It could make the implementation of the framework quite difficult if all experts must have a minimum of 5 years of experience in the field of energy or transport law. Furthermore, the tender specifications (p.40) state that during the reopening of competition “Each offer will be assessed in terms of the total price offered for the proposal, calculated on the basis of the unit prices broken down by staff category as fixed in the Framework Contract”. In these conditions, it seems junior experts or proofreaders cannot be budgeted in answers to</p>	<p>08/02/2021 Criterion B4 under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications sets out that the pool of experts and the Project Manager must fulfill certain language requirements. A fee specific to the task of proof-reading/quality assurance shall not be provided in the financial forms in Annex 6. Such tasks fall within the scope of the experts’ and/or the Project Manager’ tasks in accordance with the maximum daily rates of the respective staff category. Please note that if the tenderer relies on an external service provider for editing and proofreading services in English, the tenderer must declare this in its tender. However, an additional staff category should not be included in the financial forms. The daily rates per profile must cover this cost. With regard to the second part of your question, please be aware that the proposed experts must fulfil the minimum requirements for the relevant lot under Criterion B3. The services that will be requested under Lots 1 and 4 will require the expertise of staff with at least five years of professional experience in Union law related to energy or mobility and transport.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
				cannot be budgeted in answers to requests for services. Is it the intention of DG ENER/DG MOVE? Alternatively, would it be possible to 1) add the category B4 to the financial offer templates for Lot1 and 4, and 2) to adjust the selection criteria and financial offer templates to include a junior category under Lots 1 and 4?	

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
63	02/02/2021 16:30	08/02/2021 13:38	Completion certificates	According to ToR, references provided as proof of Evidence A1 need to be accompanied by “written statements issued by the clients, public or private, which confirm the information provided by the tenderer and which certify that the contract was performed according to the contractual terms”. These statements are not always easy to obtain rapidly even from services of the Commission. Please clarify if such statements could be replaced by other ways of showing the completion of an assignment e.g. proof of publication of the final report, information on client’s website or other public space, final invoice and proof of payment, email from the client stating that a specific assignment was finalised/final report accepted, etc.?	08/02/2021 As stated in Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications, references to a previously delivered study/assignment must be accompanied by a statement issued by the client, which confirms the information provided by the tenderer and which certifies that the contract was performed according to the contractual terms. Nevertheless, considering the current circumstances, the contracting authority will accept the elements of proof stated in the question. The Commission reserves the right, in case of doubt, to request additional information to the tenderer and/or written statements signed by the clients.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
64	05/02/2021 12:32	09/02/2021 12:02	Annex 7 a) Case study Lot 1. Ambiguous subject matter	The case study for lot 1 is Regulation (EU) 2019/942 on the internal market for electricity. However, Regulation (EU) 2019/942 is the regulation establishing ACER. Regulation 2019/943 is on the internal market for electricity. Please clarify if the case study should address the Regulation on the internal market for electricity or the regulation establishing ACER.	09/02/2021 This is a clerical error. We confirm that the case study for Lot 1 in Annex 7 a) refers to Regulation (EU) 2019/943 on the internal market for electricity.
65	03/02/2021 12:49	09/02/2021 12:04	Criterion B3 pool of experts Lot 6	Can the Contracting Authority please clarify what type of university degrees in 'science and technology' would be acceptable for the experts proposed as Category I and II in the Lot 6? We would like to understand if degrees in economic sciences, business engineering, corporate finance and business administration would be acceptable for experts to be proposed alongside others with degrees in, for example, engineering, physics, etc.	09/02/2021 A university degree in science and technology is required for staff categories "Senior Expert" and "Expert" under Lot 6, which is equivalent to, for example, a degree in transport engineering, physics, IT, or other applied technology degrees. Thus, it is not sufficient to have a university degree in economic sciences, business engineering, corporate finance or business administration.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
66	26/01/2021 11:28	09/02/2021 15:28	Case study lot 3 (Annex 7 c) Case study Lot 3.docx)	Please note that the links provide in the Annex7 points to: 1) The JRC GECO Publication 2020; should we refer to the 2020 study or rge 2018 study for the case study? 2) the BNEF Energy outlook 2020 but only the summary and not the full report. Can you provide a copy of the full report 2019 if this is the one we should consider in the case study; or the full report of the 2020 one?	09/02/2021 We confirm that the case study for Lot 3 in Annex 7 c) contains two incorrect links. The correct link to the “JRC GECO publication 2018” is the following: https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/global-energy-and-climate-outlook-2018-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-energy-balances . Furthermore, please base the case study on the summary of the “BNEF Energy outlook 2019”, using the following link: https://bnef.turtl.co/story/neo2019/ .

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
67	09/02/2021 15:24	09/02/2021 18:20	Criterion B3: Pool of minimum experts – Lot 2 and Lot 5	In relation to Lot 2 and Lot 5, "Criterion B3: Pool of minimum experts per lot", we would kindly ask you to confirm that a degree in management / business engineering is equivalent to a degree in economics, as stated in your answer to question #65 (published on 09/02/2021), thus being equivalent to other degrees such as business administration, management, accounting, business strategy, finance and statistics	09/02/2021 In the answer to question 65, there is no statement related to a degree in management/business engineering as equivalent to a degree in economics. Question 65 concerns Criterion B3 for Lot 6 and is thus not relevant for Lots 2 and 5. Nevertheless, please be aware that Categories I and II under Criterion B3 for Lot 2 and Lot 5 require a university degree in economics. Equivalent to such a degree is a university degree in economic sciences, such as business administration, management, accounting, business strategy, finance and statistics. Please also refer to the answers to questions 14 and 17. Question14 Question17
68	09/02/2021 15:28	09/02/2021 18:22	Lot 2 case study annexes	Can we add annexes to the case study beyond the 10-page limit?	09/02/2021 No. Case studies must respect the editing limitations, i.e. no more than ten pages (Times New Roman 12, single spaced). As stated in Annex 7, tenderers are not required to submit a full and complete study; it should however allow the Commission to assess the related quality award criterion 5.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
69	09/02/2021 14:39	11/02/2021 10:40	Lot 2 case study	In Lot 2, Annex 7, Task 1 (Identification of relevant hydrogen production methods, which best help abate greenhouse gas emissions from industry, heating and cooling and transport in the most cost-effective way, whilst taking into account energy security and rural employment), we would like to receive a more elaborate explanation on the definition of "rural employment". In our experience, Hydrogen production does not necessarily affect primarily rural areas, at least compared to its impacts on urban areas. Thank you.	11/02/2021 The production of hydrogen can be significantly scaled up in Europe, based either on renewable energy sources or via utilization of fossil sources and carbon capture and storage. Hydrogen can be potentially transported, stored and distributed in existing gas infrastructure while facilitating coupling between the electricity and gas sectors. With regard to this, the use of hydrogen could not only help abate greenhouse gas emissions, but also potentially increase employment in rural areas. Thus, whilst the aim of Task 1 is to identify the most cost-effective hydrogen production methods which best help abate greenhouse gas emissions, any increase in rural employment should also be considered, if possible.
70	11/02/2021 15:07	12/02/2021 09:50	Submission per lot	As I understood, we to submit separate bids for each lot, including admin. I did check e-submission, and is it correct that only for upload of technical and financial offer there is a separate environment per lot? Ie should we in case of bidding more lots, upload other docs for all lots in one go?	12/02/2021 Please find in the following link the e-Submission guide for the economic operators: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/esubmission/quickguidepp_en.pdf . On page 8, you will find instructions for the submission of tenders for several lots.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
71	12/02/2021 14:34	15/02/2021 16:30	Evidence for Selection Criterion A3	The answer to question 23 looks contradictory with the specifications. Could you please clarify whether to prove the capacity to work with 6 European languages, we need to provide evidence on: 1) capacity to work and handle documentation in 6 languages OR 2) reports delivered (deliveries) in six languages? Can either be evidenced by the list of the countries covered in the references that comply with the requirements of Criterion A1, or do you expect a different type of evidence? Thank you.	15/02/2021 As stated under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications, the tenderer must fulfil Criterion A3, which reads as follows: “[t]he tenderer must prove its capacity to work and handle documentation in the languages of at least six EU countries”. Below this, the evidence required to fulfil Criterion A3 is set out, i.e. “the tenderer must provide references for two projects delivered in the last three years. The combination of the two projects must cover the required geographical coverage”. In the answer to question 23, it was clarified that the tenderer must refer to the deliverables/results of a project, not to the source materials used during the project. Please also refer to the answers to questions 41, 43 and 47. With regard to the second part of your question, please see the Note for Criteria A1 to A3, which states that “[t]he tenderers may refer to the same studies and/or projects to cover Criteria A1-A3 above”. Question41 Question43 Question47

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
72	12/02/2021 10:22	15/02/2021 16:42	Submission on e-tendering	We are submitting for different lots through e-tendering. Considering that next week is a school holiday week in Belgium, can you guarantee that if we face or face problems when uploading the files we will quick get access and reply without long delays from the help desk every day next week. Thank you for your understanding	15/02/2021 Please be aware that, as stated in the eSubmission Quick Guide (link provided in the Invitation to tender), if you face any technical issues and need assistance, you can contact the Grants Procurement Systems Support team, from 08:00 until 20:00 CET.
73	16/02/2021 16:13	16/02/2021 19:14	Update to the procedure	Today (16/02) we have received a number of messages from Ted and Funding&Tenders Portal that the procedure for MOVE/2020/OP/008 has been updated, but there is no apparent change to the call site on Ted. Could you clarify what were the changes introduced?	16/02/2021 The update concerns the following announcement: "As announced in the contract notice IV.2.7, as a physical opening session cannot be organised, due to Covid-19 restrictions, opening of the tenders will be organised virtually. Tenderers wishing to participate in the opening, should send their details as explained in point 3.2 of the Invitation to tender and will receive further instructions via email". The announcement will be visible on eTendering as of tomorrow (17 February).

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
74	16/02/2021 17:11	16/02/2021 19:16	Message re: Call for Tenders has been modified	We received a notification that this Call for Tenders has been modified, however, upon following the link to the tender, it is not at all clear what exactly has been modified. Kindly specify the respective document / section which has been modified, so that we can review further.	16/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 73. Question73

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
75	03/02/2021 16:40	17/02/2021 16:57	Question on Lot 5 -illustrative case study on identifying gender data gaps in all modes of transport	<p>The illustrative case study of lot 5 asks, among others, in task 3 to carry out a "cost-benefit analysis of the possible solutions".</p> <p>The semantics of the TORS on that point are a bit confusing and seem to indicate that the CBA must be carried out for the solutions to address data gaps. We think that from either a quantitative or qualitative CBA point of view, does not make sense other than assessing the potential benefits of eventual actions on safety, security, affordability, availability, reliability and accessibility that improving the gender data gap could bring. Therefore, evaluating potential measures that the proposed data methods could help implement and not evaluating the methods for collecting data themselves. Could you clarify this point?</p> <p>Best regards</p>	<p>17/02/2021</p> <p>The case study for Lot 5 in Annex 7 e) should be interpreted as follows: after carrying out Task 2, i.e. identifying how gender data gaps affect safety, security, affordability etc. of transport for women, the tenderer should indeed, under Task 3, assess potential measures to address the problems produced by the data gaps, i.e. measures that the proposed data methods could help implement to improve safety, security, affordability etc. Please bear in mind that the evaluation of case studies will be done following the elements included in award criterion 5 (i.e. feasibility, credibility and appropriateness of the replies; the quality of the proposed methodology and approach to carry out the various activities taking into account the range of risk factors covered, the range of methods to be used, the range of sources of information consulted as well as the way to influence policy-making; the organisation of the work and resources).</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
76	16/02/2021 11:03	17/02/2021 16:58	criterion B4	Is the understanding correct that criterion B4 editor proof-reader/quality assurance (page 31) refers to existing team members or it could alternatively be separate team of editors?	17/02/2021 We confirm that both options are acceptable. Please refer to the first part of the answer to question 62. Question62
77	16/02/2021 16:44	17/02/2021 17:56	Request for clarification: Declaration on honour (DoH)	We would like to kindly ask for the following clarification: in the standard DoH under part VII Selection criteria, it is indicated: "...declares that the above-mentioned person complies with the selection criteria applicable to it individually as provided in the tender specifications". Is it ok if in the case of a sole tenderer relying on subcontractors to fulfill all/the entire the selection criteria, we indicate for instance NO under the part "(b) It fulfills the applicable technical and professional criteria indicated in section 3.2.3. of the tender specifications." We understand the question is asked under this paragraph individually though the evaluation is done consolidated for the entire set-up of the consortium. Thank you in advance for your reply.	17/02/2021 The basis for the assessment of the selection criteria, as described under Section 3.2 of the Tender Specifications, is a consolidated assessment of the combined capacities of all entities involved in the tender. Thus, each involved entity must submit the Declaration on Honour in accordance with Annex 1 to the Tender Specifications. In case a sole tenderer relies on subcontractors or in case of a joint tender, the sole tenderer/leader of the consortium shall indicate "N/A" under section VII(1)(a)-(b) and "YES" under section VII(2)(c), whilst all other involved entities shall indicate "N/A" in sections VII(1)(a)-(b) and VII(2)(c). In case only one entity is participating in the tender, it shall indicate "YES" under section VII(1)(a)-(b) and "N/A" under section VII(2)(c).

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
78	16/02/2021 18:52	17/02/2021 18:02	Criterion A3	On 29/01/2021 you stated that survey questionnaires as deliverables for the purposes of Criterion A3 under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications are acceptable. Should the survey questionnaires in respective languages be attached with the offer?	17/02/2021 To prove that it fulfils Criterion A3 the tenderer must, as stated under Section 3.2.3 of the Tender Specifications, "provide references for two projects delivered in the last three years". Thus, only the references to the projects must be submitted with the tender, not the projects themselves. However, in case of doubt, the Commission reserves the right to request additional information of the tenderer. Please also see the answer to question 63. Nevertheless, should you find it is necessary to submit the survey questionnaire with the tender as proof for fulfilling Criteria A3, you may do so. Question63

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
79	17/02/2021 18:25	17/02/2021 20:46	Clarification on reply to question 77.	We have collected all DoH from the consortium partners based on a different understating of section VII. As some of the partners are fulfilling the criteria as stand alone companies they filled YES/NO to 1(a)(b) and N/A to 2(c). Is such approach to filling the declaration acceptable, or do we have to collect new declarations? In such case the remaining time before submission might not be sufficient to get all the DoH signed by th legal representatives of the partners.	17/02/2021 Section VII of the Declaration on Honour should be filled in by each involved entity in accordance with the answer to question 77, i.e. consortium partners other than the leader of the consortium should reply "N/A" under section VII(1)-(2). In case a consortium partner that is not the leader has answered "YES" or "NO" to section VII(1)(a)-(b), the Contracting Authority will disregard this, provided that the leader of the consortium has filled in "YES" to section VII(2)(c). In this case, new versions of the Declarations on Honour do not need to be obtained from the consortium partners. If the Declarations on Honour are not correctly filled in, the Contracting Authority will request that the tenderers provide new declarations after the deadline to submit tenders. Question77

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
80	18/02/2021 10:52	18/02/2021 16:28	Case Study Lot 1	Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Annex 7a, Case study Lot 1 refers to the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 on the internal market for electricity. However, in the text of the case study, the following sentence is found: "The contractor is under an obligation to provide the Commission with the translation into English of the relevant parts of those national provisions fully or partially transposing the "Directive"". Could you please clarify which Directive is meant, since it cannot be Regulation (EU) 2019/643 and if a translation is also required with regard to the Regulation? Thank you!	18/02/2021 This is a clerical error. The reference to "transposing the Directive" should be read as "implementing the Regulation".

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
81	18/02/2021 16:48	19/02/2021 10:01	Annex 7f. Case study for lot 6. Section 6	Good afternoon, Section 6 of the Lot 6 case study asks for a “detailed budget established according to the unit prices in annex 6”. We believe our proposed set of rates is not to be included in this technical document, please clarify what kind of price information is expected in this section. Thanks	19/02/2021 As stated in the case study for Lot 6, the tenderer’s response to the case study must include a “[p]roposal of a detailed budget established according to the unit prices in Annex 6. To be noted that this budget will not be part of the financial evaluation”. This means that, in the maximum 10-page response, the tenderer needs to propose a price for the requested services. The breakdown of costs must correspond to the prices you have included in the Financial Form for Lot 6.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
82	18/02/2021 18:56	19/02/2021 10:03	Annex II Declaration on honour - Selection Criteria	Further to your answer in clarification 77 : "in case of a joint tender, the sole tenderer/leader of the consortium shall indicate "N/A" under section VII(1)(a)-(b) and "YES" under section VII(2)(c), whilst all other involved entities shall indicate "N/A" in sections VII(1)(a)-(b) and VII(2)(c)". We never answered this way for previous DG Move tenders. Usually, when a criteria is assessed for the whole tenderer, and that each partner contributes to the compliance of the criteria, we mention "YES", not N/A. Moreover In the present situation as consortium leader, we comply for the financial and economic criteria, therefore no evidences for the other members are given, so what should they answer ? The clarification n° 77 having been issued very late, if some "Declaration of honour" need to be modified, we cannot guarantee that the originals can be sent to the Contracting Authority one working day after submission. Do you confirm more delay is allowed to send the originals?	19/02/2021 Please refer to the answer to question 79. The Contracting Authority will verify the submitted Declarations on Honour on a case-by-case basis and re-contact the tenderers if any clarifications are deemed to be appropriate. Question79

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