

ECDC Procurement

Questions and Answers

"European Reference Laboratory Network for Tuberculosis (ERLTB-Net) - to strengthen TB diagnosis in the European Union and European Economic Area" - GRANT/2017/OCS/8624

Nr	Question	Answer
1	Can you please provide a link to a current country-specific daily allowance rates? There is a reference in the call for proposals to Annex III (Model FPA) but actual rates are not listed in the document.	The current country-specific daily allowance rates are described in the 'COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2016/1611 of 7 July 2016 on reviewing the scale for missions by officials and other servants of the European Union in the Member States' and available at the following link: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32016R1611&from=EN . However, the country-specific daily allowance rates might be subject to change. Any change in the country-specific daily allowance rates will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union and will be made publicly available at the EUR-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu).
2	Is Partner supposed to plan activities for Year 1 (including Technical part and Budget) based on the existing Call for proposals, or (upon awarding the Grant) the partner will receive a separate request to submit both budget and Technical proposal under SGA1?	No plan for the activities of the Year 1 is requested. Upon signing the Framework Partnership Agreement, there will be a separate process when a request will be issued to submit the technical and budget proposal for the planned activities for Year 1.

3	Will the Partner receive requests to submit separate budgets and technical proposals for Years 2-4 (SGAs 2-4) subsequently? If so, then can annuals budgets for Years 2-4 be adjusted depending on the activities requested?	The maximum duration of the framework partnership agreement (FPA) is four years, but there is no limit on the number of Specific Grant Agreements (SGAs). The duration of SGAs can vary, but cannot exceed 12 months. There is no specific budget defined for Years 2-4 and the budget may vary year by year. Subsequent budget will be set based on the requested activities in each SGA.
4	With regards to Action A4.5 (Support for National TB networks) and specifically Results R4.5.4 - R4.5.6. It states that "when requested by SGA, the Partner will explore the interest of the Member states... and provide support". Are we right assuming that provision of actual support is NOT specifically requested for Year 1 activities and may be requested in future for years 2-4? Does it also mean that R4.5.4 - R4.5.6 relate to the entire project activities and not necessarily for Year 1 activities?	The R4.5.4 – R4.5.6 relates to the maximum duration of the project (4 years) and not necessarily to Year 1 activities, and the provision of support may be requested at any point during the framework partnership agreement.
5	The R4.5.4 – R4.5.6 relates to the maximum duration of the project (4 years) and not necessarily to Year 1 activities, and the provision of support may be requested at any point during the framework partnership agreement.	Yes, organisations based in the United Kingdom (UK) are allowed to submit a proposal, as well as to lead a consortium. Please note however, participation in grant procedures shall be open to all natural and legal persons in a third country which has a special agreement with the EU in the field of grants and under the conditions laid down in the agreement. Whether entities established in the UK will retain access to ECDC's grant procedures after the UK ceases to be a EU Member State will depend on whether any such agreements would be in place. Any impact on already signed grant agreements will need to be assessed in the light of the legislative framework at the time of the cessation of the UK membership. Please note that the General Conditions (Article II.162.2 (a)) of ECDC's framework partnership agreements entitle ECDC to terminate an agreement in case a change in the legal situation of the partner leads to a loss of eligibility for participation in EU grant procedures.
6	Are Natural Persons eligible to join the bidding Consortium? Natural persons are not listed in Eligibility Criteria (Section 6.1, Page 16 of the Call for Proposals) however the very same section on page 17 specifies the requirements for natural persons. Can you please clarify if natural persons are eligible to participate in the Consortium?	A bidding consortium can be set-up by applicants listed in section 6.1 and the private persons signing the consortium agreement. The bidding consortium must have a lead partner capable to cover all the administrative and financial needs for managing the Framework Partnership Agreement. Therefore, the lead partner should be an entity listed in the section 6.1. In addition, the section 6.1 states: "Legal entities having a legal or capital link with applicants, which is neither limited to

		the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation, may take part in the action as consortium members, and may declare eligible costs as specified in section 11.1". A legal entity could be an individual person too.
7	Annex 1 (Grant application form) contains space for five Actions (e.g. Section e) Describe the general and specific objectives that the action 5 of the call aims to achieve) however Call for proposals only specifies four Actions (Establishment of the Network, EQA, Training, and Support and Reference activities). Should the Action 5 then be omitted in the Grant application form?	In that case, the "Action 5" can be omitted.
8	In Section 1.1 of the Application form Operational capacity of the Applicant should be described. Does it refer to the Lead partner only (i.e. organization submitting an Application) and evidence of operational capacity of other Consortium members should be provided in separate documents or, in case of Consortium, operational capacity of all partners should be described in the Application form?	If a bidding consortium is submitting the application, then the bidding consortium itself is considered as the Applicant. Therefore, the operational capacity of all the partners should be described in the application form.