

The purpose of this amendment is to answer questions posed by suppliers

1. We have a municipal government agency acting as a Project Champion and participating in multiple tasks in the project. Can their labour be covered by the DRDC Innovation funds? If yes, are there any funding limits with respect to the labour, overhead, material and supplies costs going to the government partner?
  - a. Incremental costs associated with delivering a project such as labour for casual or permanent employees (with the exception of federal government indeterminate employees), or resources such as *material and supplies* necessary to the delivery of the project are eligible to DRDC funding. Any organization's regular operations and labour costs are not eligible to DRDC funding.
2. The Work Plan table in Annex-D is split up due to a large number of columns. What is the preferred or recommended way to use this template? For instance, due to the column width constraints (on Task Description, Deliverables etc.), we may not be able to have more than two tasks per page. Could you kindly confirm if it is okay to have one task per page for approximately 35-40 tasks?
  - a. A clear and concise description of the work plan is sought and there is no restriction in length for annex D. For ease of formatting, we have added an excel template, and bidders can fill the work plan table using either word or excel based on their own preference."
3. Can you please confirm if the use of PSPC negotiated rates is mandatory, or is it permissible to use our current published forward pricing rates in developing the cost proposal?
  - a. The use of negotiated rates with PSPC is not mandatory, it is however the maximum rate allowed.
4. A number of our subcontractors do not currently have PSPC negotiated rates, can they therefore bid their standard commercial rates?
  - a. Of course, if there is no published negotiated rate than any rate can be used. This rate may be negotiated during the contract negotiation phase.
5. Can you please confirm that the Ceiling Price and Limitation of Expenditure payment options are strictly reimbursement of cost only, with no fee given?
  - a. Profit can fall under both a ceiling price and a limitation of expenditure.
6. On the website, workshops and S&T transition are listed of types of S&T projects that could be funded. <http://www.science.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=D9163BB5-1#1>. Would either 'workshops' or 'S&T transition' fit in this CFP?
  - a. No, we are not looking to fund either workshops or S&T transitions with this CFP.
7. May it be assumed that within the proposal Industry can request support from DRDC in specific areas and that that support does not need to be included in our costs?
  - a. For Stream A, Industry can request support from DRDC that is not included in the proposal's costs, however any request for support from DRDC (including, but not limited to, support from subject matter experts, need for DRDC equipment, access to testing or research facilities and access to military exercises or scientific trials) needs to be explicitly detailed so that DRDC can evaluate its ability to provide the requested support.
  - b. For Stream B, both costs and partnerships must be detailed in the proposal.
8. Can you please elaborate on C.2.1.a.i), *Adequately developed, well-reasoned, and appropriate approach for the proposal*; We interpreted it as the overall strategy for solving the challenge, in

other words, listing the problems that currently exist and listing the train of thought to address the challenge and solve it. Is this correct?

- a. For this element of C.2.1. a) Bidders must provide the necessary information for evaluators to understand the planned approach, including the technical concept, and how this approach is appropriate to develop and deliver a solution that address a primary S&T Challenge. The type of approach will vary for every S&T challenges and each project type.
9. Can you please specify what is meant in C.2.1.b).i) *the scientific and/or technical elements are completed in a logical sequence?* We are interpreting it as a list of all the major components that need to be developed and the order and time they will be developed in, Is this correct?
- a. Bidders must provide the necessary information for evaluators to understand the planned approach, including the technical concept, and how this approach is appropriate to develop and deliver a solution that addresses a primary S&T Challenge (as per C.2.1.a.i) ). The type of approach will vary for every S&T challenges and each project type. In addition, bidders must explain how the methodology, analytical approach, and relationships adopted for developing the solution are aligned with state-of-the art practices (as per C.2.1.b).ii) ).”
10. Can you please explain, What is meant by C.2.1.b).ii) *State of the art thinking and practice in the relevant methodological area, analytical approach, and relationships being tested or explored and;* Can you please give an example and how is this different from C.2.1.a).i) ?
- a. Bidders must demonstrate the Scientific and/or Technical Value of the proposal by explaining the order in which the scientific or technical elements of the projects will be completed, and its logic (as per C.2.1.a.i) ), and by explaining the methodology, analytical approach, and relationships adopted for developing the solution aligned with state-of-the art practices (as per C.2.1.b).i) ).
11. In Annex C, part C.2, Point-Rated Evaluation Criteria, paragraph 2. Scientific and/or Technical Merit, b) Scientific and/or Technical Value, iii. Consideration of Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+):
- i. The relevant GBA+ factors are not clearly defined on the Treasury Board website. Could the following aspects be regarded as relevant GBA+ factors with respect to CSSP subjects?:
    - The bidder has established a pay equity program in his company.
    - The bidder has statistics to track its M/F hiring rate and has signed a Diversity Charter.
    - The technical solution that will be studied will take into account an ergonomic study to promote tailoring the system to all types of operators (male or female).
  - a. Taking into account aspects of the Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) will make it possible to understand the impact of the scientific and technical approach and the solution proposed on the population covered by the project. From this perspective, the factors that you have suggested are good examples among a variety of possibilities.

The Treasury Board website provides some areas for research that could shed light on factors to be considered: GBA+ Research Guide: <http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/gba-acsguide-en.html>

Online training is provided at the following site: <http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/gba-ac/index-en.html>