

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for applicants to 2019 EDIDP calls for proposals

Important information:

- Deadline for submitting proposals is postponed to 20 September 2019 17:00:00 Brussels local time.
- Applicants can still raise questions on EDIDP 2019 calls using the following email address EC-EDIDP-proposals@ec.europa.eu. However, questions received after 31 July 2019 may not be answered by the Commission before the deadline for submission of the proposals.

The following EDIDP Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is based on questions received from applicants and is organised in a thematic way.

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SMEs, cross-border SMEs and Mid-caps

Question:

Does the concept of cross-border SMEs have a link with the Member States that do not contribute to the funding of an action? If a consortium is composed by two non-SMEs and one SME, is it sufficient that the SME is established in a Member State different from the Member States in which the two non-SMEs of the consortium are established?

Answer:

According to the EDIDP Regulation, cross-border SMEs are SMEs established in different Member States than those where the non-SMEs (big companies, Mid-caps) in the consortium are established. The concept of cross-border SME in the meaning of the EDIDP Regulation does not establish a link with the funding coming from Member States. The SME in the example will indeed be considered as a cross-border SME.

Question:

Let's consider an action for which the consortium of beneficiaries includes SMEs established in a specific Member State and does not include non-SMEs established in this Member State. Let's now consider that a non-SME (*e.g.* public research organisation) established in the same Member State as these SMEs participates in the action as a subcontractor. Would these SMEs be considered as cross-border SMEs?

Answer:

SMEs will be considered as cross-border SMEs if they are established in Member States different from those in which the non-SMEs of the consortium are established. The participation of non-SMEs established in the same Member States as subcontractors is not relevant in this respect. The SMEs in the example will be considered as cross-border SMEs.

Question:

Is it correct that only SMEs can participate in the consortium under the call for proposals dedicated to SMEs and therefore this consortium need to include at least three SMEs established in at least three different Member States? Can non-SMEs participate only as associated partners (without receiving funding) or as subcontractors? In the latter case, the costs linked to their participation can be eligible but point 3.3 of the *Guide for applicants* states that "In the SME category, strict conditions apply to avoid large subcontracting to non SMEs". How should the reference in point 3.3 of the *Guide for applicants* be understood and what are the relevant rules that apply to subcontracting under the call for proposals dedicated to SMEs?

Answer:

Undertakings that are not SMEs cannot be part of a consortium under the call for proposals dedicated to SMEs (EDIDP-SME-2019). The consortium needs indeed to be composed only of SMEs with at least three SMEs established in three different Member States.

A non-SME (including a mid-cap) can only participate in this call as an associated partner or as a subcontractor. Participation as an associated partner indeed does not allow the undertaking to receive funding from the EDIDP.

The reference in Section 3.3 in the *Guide for applicants* (“In the SME category, strict conditions apply to avoid large subcontracting to non SMEs”) should be read in conjunction with the other texts relating to subcontracting in the *Guide for applicants*. The conditions listed in Section 9.5 for instance specify that subcontracting should concern only limited parts of the project and should not exceed more than 30%. While it is in general possible to derogate from the latter condition in justified cases, no derogation would be accepted under the call EDIDP-SME-2019 for subcontracting exceeding 30% of the value of the eligible costs.

Question:

The EDIDP Regulation defines mid-caps as an undertaking that is not a SME and that has up to 3 000 employees. Are there other criteria relevant for establishing if an undertaking would be considered as a mid-cap?

Answer:

For the purpose of the EDIDP a ‘Middle-capitalisation company’ (‘mid-cap’) means an enterprise that is not a SME and that has up to 3 000 employees, knowing that the staff headcount is calculated in accordance with Articles 3 to 6 of the Annex to Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC.

In this respect, it is recommended to carefully consult the [Annex to Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC](#) for the criteria relevant for the calculation of the relevant staff headcount which has in particular to take into account the possible existence of “linked” or “partner” organisations. Except in strictly defined exception cases listed in the Annex to Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC, publicly owned entities would not be considered as mid-caps or SMEs.

Costs, funding rates and bonuses

Question:

In relation to establishing the applicable bonuses, how should the “total eligible costs of an activity” be understood and what does the concept of “activity” refer to exactly?

Answer:

The different activities eligible for support under the EDIDP are listed in Article 6(1) of the EDIDP Regulation and include the following: studies, design, system prototyping, testing, qualification, certification, development of technologies and assets increasing efficiency across the life cycle of defence products and technologies. The targeted activities under a specific call are defined in the

text of this specific call for proposals¹: a proposal has to address these activities in order to be eligible.

The maximum EU baseline funding rates applicable to each activity are laid down in the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* on page 86. In line with Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1092 establishing the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP) the applicable maximum funding rates can be different for the different activities. As a consequence, the baseline funding rate and the applicable funding rate bonuses are indeed established separately for each activity within an action and in relation to the activity's total eligible costs. For the same reason, in the proposal the consortium need to identify the eligible costs corresponding to each activity separately.

Question:

What are the baseline funding rates and possible bonuses applied to different categories of participants? Is there a difference for private and public entities?

Answer:

The EU funding is granted to the consortium as a whole and there are no specific funding rates for different participating entities. Funding rate bonuses, increasing the maximum amount of funding that can be granted to a consortium, can be applied for the participation of SMEs and mid-caps when the specific conditions laid down in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1092 establishing the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP). However, public entities will in general not qualify as SMEs or mid-caps (see notably Article 3(4) of the [Annex to Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises](#) for the general rule and Article 3(2) for some limited exceptions). All undertakings participating in actions applying for funding under the EDIDP have to fulfil the eligibility conditions laid down in the EDIDP Regulation.

Question:

The applicable Baseline EU funding rates is always preceded by “up to”. What is the meaning of this formulation and on which basis could the funding rate be reduced?

Answer:

The maximum EU baseline funding rates applicable to each activity are laid down in the in the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* on page 86. Those can be increased when relevant bonuses are applicable. The effective EU funding rate can however be lower than the maximum rates allowed, for instance in situations where a consortium does not request the maximum amount of EDIDP funding possible or where the budget available is not sufficient to cover a grant corresponding to the maximum EU funding rate. For example, a funding rate of up to 55% (20% + 35% bonus) of EUR 100 million total eligible costs will be reduced if the maximum available

¹ For the call EDIDP-ACC-2019 / topic EDIDP-ACC-CJTP-2019 where the targeted activities may not be well understood, a project proposal shall cover all the following targeted activities: study, design, prototyping, testing, qualification and certification.

budget set out in the call is exceeded (if the maximum available budget is set to EUR 20 million, the funding rate will be reduced to 20%).

Question:

In case the eligible costs of an action proposed for funding exceed the budget of the relevant call, how will the amount of EU funding be calculated? Is it by applying the EU funding rate (*e.g.* 65%) to the eligible costs or to the budget of the call? For instance, if the eligible costs are of EUR 10 million, the budget of the call is EUR 5 million and the applicable funding rate is 65%, what would be the funding that a consortium can receive?

Answer:

The maximum funding rate applicable to an action is defined with relation to the eligible costs of the action.

If for instance an action whose eligible costs are of EUR 10 million is eligible for a maximum funding rate of 65% (*e.g.* 65% baseline funding rate and no bonuses are applicable), the maximum EU funding that it could receive in respect of the rules laid down in the EDIDP Regulation would be EUR 6.5 million. If however the budget of the specific call is EUR 5 million, the funding that the action can receive would be limited to this amount.

Question:

How many actions will be funded under each call?

Answer:

Each call for proposal indicates if more than one action may be funded under the call and the associated conditions (*e.g.* addressing different topics). However, the number of actions that will be awarded under a specific call is not known beforehand. All eligible proposals submitted in reply to a specific call will be evaluated by the Commission assisted by independent experts. A ranking list per call will then be prepared. The proposal passing the threshold with the highest rank will be invited to start the grant agreement preparation. Where the call indicates that several actions may be funded, the next proposals on the ranking list meeting the above-mentioned conditions may also be invited to start a grant preparation as long as there is budget remaining for this specific call.

Question:

Can consortia including undertakings established in Member States that are not part of a specific PESCO project (or in PESCO in general) still apply and claim the PESCO bonus under the EDIDP Regulation?

Answer:

The applicability of the PESCO bonus is dependent on whether the project is developed in the framework of a PESCO project included in the list adopted by the Council at the time of the submission and not on the place of establishment of the members of the consortium. There is no provision that would exclude the participation in an action applying for the PESCO bonus, at

consortium or at subcontracting level, of undertakings established in Member States, which are not part of the corresponding PESCO project.

Question:

The *Guide for applicants* indicates on page 10 in paragraph 2.1 that “The amounts of co-financing by source must be estimated in advance in the budget table annexed to the proposal” but I can’t find where to put this information in Annexe 2. What shall I do?

Answer:

We do not request to have the whole information in Annexe 2 of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals* where the total eligible costs of the action and the expected EU contribution is to be provided. The rest of the information may be provided in the separate supporting document requested to justify that the remaining cost of the action is covered by other means of financing.

Question:

Are costs related to Large Research Infrastructure (LRI) eligible as direct costs under EDIDP?

Answer:

The LRI scheme is not applicable to EDIDP.

Submission form

Question:

Can a consortium answer YES in sections 7.1.3, 7.2.3 and 7.3.3 “increasing efficiency across the life cycle” of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals* if the proposed action is not covering the type of activity “Development of technologies or assets increasing efficiency across the life-cycle of defence products and technologies”?

Answer:

Yes, it can. Even if the proposal is not addressing the activity (g) “Development of technologies or assets increasing efficiency across the life-cycle of defence products and technologies”, if you consider that “increasing efficiency across the life cycle” is a relevant point of your proposal and shall be taken into account in the context of the award criteria 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 you must answer YES and provide a justification.

Question:

The *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* states on page 73 (footnote) that the deadline for the submission of the proposals is 29 August 12:00:00 Brussels time, whereas the funding & tender portal indicates that the deadline for submission is 29 August 2019 17:00:00 Brussels time. Which deadline will apply?

Answer:

The deadline for submitting proposals is now postponed to 20 September 2019 17:00:00 Brussels time.

Question:

How shall the “proposal ID” mentioned in the header of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals* and its Annexes be obtained?

Answer:

You do not need to provide a proposal ID. You can leave this field empty.

Question:

What does the word “components” refer to in section 7.1.4.1 of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals*?

Answer:

“Components” in section 7.1.4.1 of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals* is referring to “tasks”.

Selection criteria (financial capacity and operational capacity)

Question:

Are there participation constraints for a newly created entity (*e.g.* spin offs)? Such an entity would not have yet balance sheet or loss sheet for the last year or an audit history. How should such a situation be approached?

Answer:

In case of newly created companies participating in the programme, two approaches exist. If a company is linked to another company (mother company), the Commission will verify the financial capacity of the mother company. In case this is not possible and the company is not in a position to provide supporting documents, the Commission will assess the company’s business plan. However, there is a significant chance that its financial capacity would be considered as weak and that additional guarantees (*e.g.* pre-financing guarantees) would be requested.

Question:

Section "3.4.5. Selection criteria" of the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* indicates on page 80 in its paragraph dealing with "Financial capacity" that this capacity will be verified in particular on the basis of a “balance sheet and profit & loss account for the last financial year for which the accounts were closed” and an “audit report produced by an approved external

auditor certifying the above-mentioned accounts [...]”. Do these documents need to cover the year 2018 or can data from 2017 be submitted instead if data from 2018 are not yet available? Also, do the administrative documents need to be apostilled?

Answer:

If reference documents covering year 2018 are no available at the time of submission of the proposal, those covering year 2017 will be accepted. They don't need to be apostilled.

Be aware that in any case, after award decision and during grant agreement preparation, complementary information may be requested (such as documents covering year 2018).

Question:

Section "3.4.5. Selection criteria" of the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* indicates on page 80 in its paragraph dealing with "Operational capacity" that applicants shall provide a list of previous projects and activities performed in the area as well as a description of the technical equipment, tools or facilities and patents at their disposal. On the other hand, the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals* requests in Part A, in paragraph 3.1.b on page 13 to "indicate the location and give a brief description of the infrastructure, facilities, assets and resources used to carry out the action". Is this paragraph 3.1.b the place where to provide the information requested as part of the operational capacity? If not, where and how shall this information provided? Is there a template and a page limit?

Answer:

The documents mentioned on page 80 of the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* shall be provided as separate supporting documents to assess the operational capacity and not as part of part-A of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals*, even though your proposal for section 3.1.b of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals* may refer to some of the above mentioned supporting documents if relevant.

The purpose of the supporting documents explicitly requested in section 3.1.b of the submission form is different from the above: they are requested to support compliance with article 7(2) of EDIDP Regulation.

We expect the supporting document to be as detailed as necessary. We haven't set up a page limit for the supporting documents.

Question:

Section "3.4.5. Selection criteria" of the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* indicates on page 80 in its paragraph dealing with "Operational capacity" that "the applicants shall demonstrate that they have the professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the proposed action" and that "they shall in particular provide a declaration on honour". The *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals* includes in its Annex 3 a template for a "Declaration on Honour" but this annex does not seem to address these points. Could you clarify which kind of declaration on honour is expected for the "Operational capacity"?

Answer:

Point 5 of *Annex 3 - Declaration on Honour* is indeed addressing the financial capacity but not the operational capacity. The operational capacity is addressed in the declarations that the coordinator has to provide (see section 1.2 of the *Submission form template for EDIDP proposals*).

Subcontracting

Question:

Should all subcontractors be determined before the proposal is submitted or can we leave some subcontractors undetermined? Must the agreements between beneficiaries and subcontractors be submitted? What is the best way to demonstrate the best-value-for-money principle for subcontracting?

Answer:

It is not obligatory to determine individually all subcontractors at the time of submission of your proposal. However, please note that this may affect the assessment of your proposal against award criteria 7.5. If a beneficiary wishes to add a new “subcontractor involved in the action” (as defined in article 7(8) of the EDIDP Regulation) during the implementation of the action, he will need to formally notify the Commission with this intention and provide a justification as well as supporting documents necessary for the Commission to assess its eligibility.

You are not obliged to submit agreements between beneficiaries and subcontractors.

The best-value-for-money principle only applies to beneficiaries and linked third-parties. In order to ensure the best value for money, the beneficiaries shall use their usual purchasing practices.

Work packages

Question:

What is the link between work packages and beneficiaries?

Answer:

Only a beneficiary (a member of the consortium) can be responsible for a work package. This does not prevent to further describe each work package into tasks, some being allocated to other beneficiaries, some being subcontracted.

Question:

Should each work package correspond to an activity or can the consortium decide upon the content of each work package?

Answer:

As stated in the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* indicates on pages 85 and 86 in paragraph 3.5.1 and as stated in the *Guide for applicants* on pages 35 and 36 in paragraph 5.2.2, one work package shall only address one clearly defined activity (feasibility study, design, prototype, etc.), unless it concerns horizontal tasks such as general management and coordination (work package 1). To help you classify between the different activities you can usefully refer to section 2.1 of the *Guide for applicants* (pages 11 to 14).

This implies that each work package (work packages 2 and above) should correspond only to one specific activity. However, one activity may be covered by several work packages in order to better reflect the parts of the project and differentiate the responsibilities of the beneficiaries within the consortium.

All “tasks” (including those subcontracted) inside a work package will be considered as dealing with the same activity as the one declared for the work package.

For work package 1 covering general management and coordination (horizontal tasks), please keep in mind that the allocation of the related costs to the different activities shall be provided in order to calculate a funding rate for the work package.

Liability

Question:

What is the general understanding behind the rule of “joint responsibility”? What are the consequences if a beneficiary fails to implement its part of the action and the other beneficiaries are not able to implement its part? Is there a limitation of liability to the condition of shared responsibility?

Answer:

Joint responsibility for the technical implementation puts an obligation on the beneficiaries to implement the action in a correct manner and deliver promised results. For example, in case one of beneficiaries drops of the consortium, all other members are responsible for replacing it or taking over (without additional remuneration) its tasks. If the action cannot be continued, the grant is terminated and the beneficiaries may be requested to repay the amount already provided and which has been unduly paid.

Retroactivity

Question:

If a consortium starts certain preliminary actions for, say, risk assessment for the applied project after the application has been submitted, but no Grant Agreement is yet in place, are those costs eligible for funding?

Answer:

Costs that have been incurred prior to the date indicated in the grant agreement (which cannot be earlier than the date of a signature itself) will not be considered as eligible.

Supporting documents

Question:

In case of a project encompassing several types of activities (*e.g.* studies, design and prototyping), should the supporting documents (co-financing, common technical specification, *etc.*) be provided for each activity (i.e. proof for the studies activity, proof for the design activity and proof for the prototyping activity, including horizontal work packages) and/or each applicant or can it be provided "globally", without distinguishing between the different activities/applicants?

Answer:

A global proof is sufficient. There is no need to provide a proof activity by activity or for each applicant, but it is accepted if easier to provide. Please keep in mind that some supporting documents are specific to the targeted activity.

Question:

For an action involving multiple activities (*e.g.* design, prototype and testing), what is the expected content of the supporting documents approved / agreed by Member States? Is it needed to include the exact text of the common military requirements / technical specifications or is it sufficient to include an agreement on the future use of common military requirements / technical specifications? What does "common" and "jointly agreed" mean? Is it sufficient, if each supporting Member State is individually stating that the project is based on common requirements / technical specifications?

Answer:

Common military requirements and common technical specifications are a major eligibility condition for EDIDP actions. In order to assure commonality, we request letter(s) by the relevant² Member States certifying that the action will be based on common requirements / technical specifications with a clear reference to the specific set of common requirements / technical specifications jointly agreed by the relevant Member States. These letters shall be provided at the time of submission of the proposal.

However, if a call requests the development of common military requirements / technical specifications, the letter(s) signed by the relevant Member States may only contain preliminary common requirements / technical specifications to ensure commonality of the further (detailed) work of the consortium.

The commonality of these requirements / technical specifications will be monitored in the course of the action.

² By at least two Member States for 'design' activity ; by the Member States that are to co-finance or that intend to jointly procure the final product or to jointly use the technology for 'system prototyping' or downstream activities.

Question:

Given that at the time of submission of proposal to the Commission, the consortium will not have completed the respective phases yet, could you clarify when the supporting documents needed to meet conditions of Articles 6(3), 6(4), 6(5) and Article 7(4) of the EDIDP Regulation, have to be provided? Please could you clarify if such kind of documentation has to be provided together with the submission?

Answer:

Regarding supporting documents requested to comply to Articles 6(3), 6(4), 6(5) and Article 7(4) of the EDIDP Regulation, they need to be provide at the time of the submission of the proposal.

However, if a call requests the development of common military requirements / technical specifications, the letter(s) signed by the relevant Member States may only contain preliminary common requirements / technical specifications to ensure commonality of the further (detailed) work of the consortium.

Consortium and Coordinator

Question:

Can a consortium submit several proposals in the same call?

Answer:

A consortium is allowed to submit more than one proposal in the same call, if these proposals address different topics. If a given consortium is submitting different proposals against a single topic, this consortium will be requested to choose which of the proposals to be evaluated.

An entity (not a consortium) can however be part of different consortia and therefore of different proposals in the same call and even be part of different proposals in the same topic of a given call.

Question:

Can universities and research centres receive EU funding under EDIDP?

Answer:

EDIDP does not introduce specific conditions applicable to research organisations, research institutes or universities; such entities remain eligible for funding under the same eligibility conditions applicable to other types of undertakings. An undertaking means an entity, regardless of its legal status or the way in which it is financed, which is engaged in an economic activity, and which is established in the Member State in which it is incorporated, in accordance with the national law of that Member State.

Question:

Where can I register in order to find partners to set up a consortium or to join existing projects as a beneficiary or a subcontractor?

Answer:

You can register as a partner under the call you are considering to participate to on the funding and tender portal. On each call page, on the left, you will find “Partner Search” where you can register as potential partner.

The screenshot displays the EDIDP website interface. At the top, the call title is "Development of a low-observable tactical RPAS with the capability to provide near real time information and with modern self-protection". Below this, key dates are listed: "Opening: 09 April 2019" and "Deadline: 29 August 2019 17:00:00 Brussels time". A sidebar on the left contains a "Partner Search" button, which is highlighted in yellow. The main content area shows the "Specific Challenge" and a detailed description of the project's goals and the need for interoperable unmanned surveillance systems.

However, please keep in mind that the Commission is not monitoring these pages, and that this registration on the “partner search” area should not prevent you from trying to find partners outside the portal.

Question:

In case of a project addressing two different activities for instance (*e.g.* "Design" and "Prototyping"), it may happen that a bonus is granted for instance to the "Design" activity and not to the "Prototyping" activity. In such a case, how the bonus obtained in the "Design" activity should be distributed among beneficiaries, knowing that the beneficiaries involved in the "Design" activity and in the "Prototyping" activity may not be exactly the same?

Answer:

Union funding will transit through the coordinator (funds transferred by the commission to the coordinator will not identify a part resulting from a bonus) who will then have to distribute it to the other beneficiaries in accordance with the provisions of the grant agreement.

Question:

Is it possible for the coordinator to distribute EU funding to other beneficiaries in a completely different way from the distribution resulting from the cost statements?

Answer:

The coordinator shall distribute EU funding in accordance with the costs statements and the grant agreement. If beneficiaries want to redistribute funding among them afterwards, it is up to them to settle such kind of agreement: this may be included in the consortium agreement to which the Commission is not part.

Question:

Shall the Member State in which an eligible entity is established be part of the project and contribute to the funding in order for that entity to apply to EDIDP calls?

Answer:

No. According to the EDIDP Regulation, nothing prevents an entity established in a given Member State to participate, even if this Member State does not co-fund the development. Co-funders may indeed be private stakeholders or Member States from other nations than the one where the applicant is established.

Question:

Can an entity which is not part of a given PESCO project, still apply to an EDIDP call which seems to address a similar topic as this PESCO project?

Answer:

Any eligible consortium can apply to EDIDP, whatever is its relation to or involvement in a given PESCO project. Consortia involved in PESCO projects will not be automatically awarded under EDIDP. They may be in competition with other consortia under a given call.

Security

Question:

How will it be ensured that no confidential information (e.g. supporting documents in the application form) are available to other companies or consortia after the submission of the application? What kind of information will be released or published for the applications after the award?

Answer:

Received proposals and supporting documents will be assessed by the Commission assisted by independent experts. Such experts will be selected taking into account absence of conflict of interest, will be bound by non-disclosure agreements and may only qualify if they have security clearance delivered by the Member State of their nationality.

After the award, the composition of the consortium, the names and the places of establishment of the beneficiaries, the Union budget legally committed and the purpose of the action will be published in accordance with Union rules for the implementation of Union programmes.

According to EDIDP regulation, the Commission shall report to the Parliament and to the Council on the progress towards the objectives of EDIDIP as well as the involvement of SME and Midcaps, the countries of origin of the beneficiaries and on the distribution of the generated IPR for the entire EDIDP programme meaning that statistics may be generated by the Commission based on certain deliverables related to the funded actions.

However, it should be stressed that – at any stage of the implementation of the Union programmes – information concerning the protection of the public interests as regards to public security, and defence and military matters as well as company proprietary data, and any information pertaining to commercial interests of a natural or legal person, including intellectual property may not be disclosed under the Union legislation on public access (Regulation EC No 1049/2001). Additionally EU classified information is protected by the EU security rules for protecting EU classified information (Commission Decision 2015/444).

Question:

In case the action involves classified data, *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex* indicates on pages 88-89, paragraph 3.8.a, that a “security framework” will be set up by the Member States where the beneficiaries are established or, if decided so by these Member States, by the granting authority. Does this security framework has to be used also for the treatment of the background classified information?

Answer:

No it hasn't. As indicated on page 88 of the same document, it will only concern “foreground information. Background information will be protected according to the security framework under which it was generated.

Question:

Regarding the addition conditions applicable to the call EDIDP-PNTSCC-2019 for the topic EDIDP-PNTSCC-PNT-2019 as mentioned on page 89 in paragraph 3.9 of the *2019 calls for proposals, conditions for the calls and annex*: does it apply to each applicant and when shall the associated supporting documents be provided?

Answer:

Paragraph 3.9 on page 89 applies to each entity willing to apply (as a beneficiary or a third-party such as a subcontractor) to the topic EDIDP-PNTSCC-PNT-2019 and that intends to manufacture PRS technology and components contained in receivers.

For the beneficiaries and any already identified subcontractor affected by paragraph 3.9, we expect to receive the requested supporting documents (confirmation of authorisation and compliance issued by their Competent PRS authority) with the proposal by the deadline for submission. However, if you can provide evidence that the process has started and is still ongoing, we are ready to consider the possibility to allow additional time (deadline is award decision) for you to provide these supporting documents (but your proposal will still need to be submitted by the submission deadline).

For any entity that intends to join the action afterwards and is affected by paragraph 3.9, the supporting documents will have to be provided according to the security framework set up by the Member States where the beneficiaries are established or to the Commission if no such specific security framework is set up by those Member States.

Question:

Are the costs related to the investment necessary to the set up the facilities in compliance with the EU security levels requested to execute the projects (including, but not limited to, secured area, acquisition of dedicated work stations and tools for encryption, secured network, etc.) eligible for EU funding under EDIDP?

Answer:

The depreciation costs related to such kind of investment are eligible as long as you can prove that these costs are specifically incurred for the purpose of the action. Otherwise they are usually considered as part of the indirect costs (25% of total direct eligible costs).