

Clarification No 5.

Related to Call for Proposals GSA/EEX.0030/2015 “EGNOS adoption in Aviation”

1. **Question:** Concerning B1 form, is the limit of pages imposed compulsory or there is a tolerance?

Answer: The intention of limiting the pages in the B1 form was to request the applicants to prepare well organised and structured proposals. However if due to the nature of the activities it is not practical to respect these limits then GSA will try to tolerate the excess.

2. **Question:** Concerning B4 form, after company description and competences, are CVs of proposed project team enough?

Answer: Description of the technical equipment, tools or facilities at the disposal of the applicant are requested as well, it should be demonstrated that the project has operational capacity for implementation of the project (feasibility).

3. **Question:** Retrofitted aircraft of two partners in the project consortium are used mainly (but not only) for pilot training and EGNOS operational implementation objective of this call is fulfilled by satisfaction of aviation community and pilots for LPV approach procedures knowledge and experience – gained in Air Training Organisations (that has, in fact, SBAS capable aircrafts). Is update of the flight school’s operational procedure documents eligible cost, when retrofitted aircraft is primarily (but not only) used for the pilot training and without updated documentation such training can not be performed?

Answer: Yes. The proposal must describe how this activity will contribute to the impact of the project and justify why it is an essential part of the project. As a general rule: only costs directly linked to the project work are eligible direct costs.

4. **Question:** Is training of a flight instructor eligible cost, when retrofitted aircraft is primarily used for the pilot training?

Answer: No. It is not eligible.

5. **Question:** Is it possible to retrofit aircraft simulator (a FNTF) in this call, while there is non SBAS capable in the [country] and it is integral part of the pilot training. (a retrofit of a FNTF II Mechtronic simulator with Garmin1000 will cost approx. 90k €)

Answer: Yes it is possible.

6. **Question:** Is cost related to renting aircraft from another operator during the retrofit maintenance period eligible cost?

Answer: The cost related to replace the aircraft in maintenance period while performing the retrofit is not eligible.

7. **Question:** Is there any limitation how long after project finalisation a property concerned cannot be sold – e.g. retrofitted aircraft, while it is common that operators and ATOs are selling and buying aircrafts and adapting their fleets to actual needs.

Answer: The proposal must show the impact on the funding to increase the operational use of EGNOS approaches. If the aircraft is expected to be sold, the proposal must describe how the funding will be leveraged to foster EGNOS operation and how it would be calculated when depreciated.

Referring to point 2.3 of the Eligible costs on page 19: *“Please note that if the full purchase value of equipment or assets is eligible, the beneficiary cannot declare depreciation costs of the same equipment or assets under the grant agreement and under any other grant funded from the EU budget. Please note that each applicant shall choose between the “full purchase value of equipment or assets” and the “depreciation costs” charging methodologies and apply ONLY one of the two in respect to all related costs within an activity/grant.”*

8. **Question:** What happens (what is a risk) when one of the beneficiary terminates his participation in the project (e.g. because it turns out that his deliverable is not feasible e.g. because of administrative / legislative burdens in spite of all risk mitigation effort). Naturally it will return its portion of pre-financing. Anything else?

Answer: Article II.16 of the draft grant agreement deals with the termination and its consequences. According to Article II.25 the GSA has the right to recovery thus the beneficiary shall repay the unduly paid amount (and if applicable the interests).

9. **Question:** Can a consortium partner be subcontracted (in our case an ANSP – is partner for one activity and for another activity must be subcontracted) – while at one airport [city], ANSP is owner of all procedures – it will develop PinS procedures there, but at another international public but privately owned airport [name of airport] procedures are owned (and charged) by airport and thus any LPV procedure must be developed for them in a commercial way (by ANSP – because it is the only one approved for procedure design, flight validation and safety study in [country]). It is not possible that ANSP is partner in this activity while it will have to co-finance 40% of cost of a private property – that is not acceptable.

Answer: Under no circumstances can a partner in the same project be a subcontractor at the same time.

10. **Question:** An important note is written on page 26 of the call: “Activities that cannot be deducted for the calculation of the working time and that cannot be charged to the project are: Sales and marketing; Preparation of proposals; General administrative time (often means “unsold” time).” – We are not sure what is considered: “General administrative Time”?

Answer: “General administrative time” is the time when the person is not working on the core tasks of the proposal directly however it is complementary to it – for example photocopying, scanning, accounting and reporting, communication to auditor, general meetings, management meetings, etc. Usually this time is counted as overheads. For companies charging billable hours this time is not part of billable hours.

In this Call for Proposals the ‘General administrative time’ cannot be charged as direct costs but falls under eligible indirect costs which is a flat rate of 7% of the total eligible costs of the action minus subcontracting costs and costs of third parties not working in the premises of the beneficiaries, representing the beneficiary's general administrative costs which can be regarded as chargeable to the action/project.

11. Question: With reference to document GSA/EEX.0030/2015 Section 8.1 para C it states an audit report produced by an approved external auditor certifying the accounts for the last financial year available.

Would it be acceptable to submit the Company Annual Report for the last year in which there is an external audit by [name]. I have attached the annual report for your reference.

We will submit the annual report for the last 3 years with the actual application.

Answer: GSA would prefer the submission of the audit report produced by an approved external auditor certifying the accounts for the last financial year available. However, it would also be accepted to send along with your proposal the audited company annual report which includes the audited Financial statements consisting of at least Balance sheet and Economic performance accounts.

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