

**OPEN INVITATION TO TENDER****AO/DSI/SPEV/Qualifications_EQF_levels_3&4/011/16
'Initial VET qualifications at EQF levels 3 and 4'****Request for Clarification (1) – Questions & Answers**

Question No 1

*P. 17 of the Tender Specifications, on the research tools to be used, read as follows:
'The contractor is invited to propose the means for carrying out in-depth case studies,
including country visits and focus groups.'*

We would request clarification on the following two aspects:

- a) Is the implementation of country visits and/or focus groups specifically required or requested by Cedefop as research tool in the execution of this contract?*
- b) If yes (i.e. country visits and focus groups are indeed required or requested), does this statement imply that country visits and focus groups shall be carried out specifically in the framework of the case studies, or may they be carried out as part of any other research phase?*

Cedefop's answer to question No 1

- a) Yes, the implementation of country visits and focus groups is requested for carrying out 8 in-depth case studies (tender specifications, p. 17).
- b) Country visits and focus groups can be included as research tools in other research phases as part of the technical proposal by the contractor.