



**OPEN INVITATION TO TENDER**  
**AO/DLE/RCDC-LRUST/CrossNationalOverview/013/15**  
**Apprenticeships: A Cross-National Overview**  
**Request for Clarification (1) – Questions & Answers**

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**Question No 1**

*In relation to the call “Apprenticeships: A Cross-National Overview”, I would like to ask the following question:*

*Is it enough if the whole consortium fulfils the technical and professional capacity or each member of the consortium (and also the subcontractor) has to prove its technical and professional capacity having performed at least one contract in the field of international and comparative research on vocational education and training and/or apprenticeships?*

**Cedefop’s answer to question No 1**

*As stated in points 3.2.1, 4.1 and 4.2 of the tender dossier “In case of consortium or subcontracting, the consortium or the tenderer with all subcontractors **together** have to provide evidence of technical and professional capacity **as a whole**”.*

**Question No 2**

*We would like to ask for a clarification about the eligibility for participation of legal entities established in Switzerland.*

*As it is stated in the page 26 of the tender specifications:*

*“Cedefop can therefore accept offers from and sign contracts with tenderers from 35 countries, namely: the 28 EU Member States, 3 EEA Countries (Lichtenstein, Norway, Iceland) and 4 SAA Countries (FYROM, Albania, Montenegro and Serbia)”*

*and*

*“The procurement (tender) procedures of Cedefop are not open to tenderers from GPA countries”*

*but also (page 27):*

*“Tenderers are free to choose their subcontractors from both eligible and non-eligible countries. Thus, in principle all economic operators can act as subcontractors of eligible tenderers”*

*Should we interpret from the above statements that Swiss organizations can only participate as subcontractors or also as partners of a consortium?*

### **Cedefop’s answer to question No 2**

Swiss organizations can only participate as subcontractors. In the case of consortia, all consortium members together constitute “the tenderer”, i.e. “the contractor in case of contract award”, and therefore all of them must be from the 35 countries mentioned above.