



OPEN INVITATION TO TENDER
AO/DLE/EVGAR-PMD/Validation&Guidance/003/17
‘Validation of non-formal and informal learning and career guidance’
Request for Clarification (2) – Questions & Answers

Question No 1

According to the ToRs of the tender, tasks to be performed by the contractor include Task 2, namely 10-15 in-depth case studies.

I kindly ask you to clarify us the following:

- a) Should the 10-15 cases be one per Country (namely 10- 15 countries), or could they be more per country (i.e. 3 per country), reflecting of course different clusters of countries?*
- b) Should they pre-identified within the Technical proposal to be submitted, or selected and identified during the project, based on the outcomes of the literature review and subsequently the relevant categories developed by the contractor?*

Cedefop’s answer to question No 1

a) Case studies do not refer to ‘country studies’. This means that several case studies might be in the same country if this is deemed appropriate by the tenderer. However, note that the tender specifications clearly state (point 2.4 - page 18): *“The choice of case studies should maximize variability of the objects of study as to have a heterogeneous pool of case studies cutting across the different criteria. More than geographical coverage, it is desirable that the cases reflect distinctions across clusters of countries with systemic similarities”*.

b) The tenderer is free to pre-identify case studies, however, this is not a requirement in the tender specifications. The final list of case studies will necessarily be agreed with Cedefop during the course of the project with the selected contractor.

The selection of case studies is based on part of the outcome of the task 1 (“Literature review of guidance and validation” – point 2.4, page 18):

‘Identification of case studies

Based on the literature review and together with the theoretical framework the contractor will develop a series of categories to identify and classify existing guidance and validation processes. This will be the basis for the selection of the case studies, which should be representative of the categories identified.’

Question No 2

What is the scope of this study in terms of country coverage: EU Member States only or all countries covered by the Inventory update 2016?

Cedefop's answer to question No 2

The tender country coverage can include all countries dealt with in the European inventory for validation of non-formal and informal learning. As indicated in the call for tender (p. 18):

'The review and analysis of the literature will provide with enough existing practices to be selected in a variety of countries that will have different approaches to guidance and validation. The choice of case studies should maximize variability of the objects of study as to have a heterogeneous pool of case studies cutting across the different criteria. More than geographical coverage, it is desirable that the cases reflect distinctions across clusters of countries with systemic similarities.'