

**OPEN INVITATION TO TENDER****AO/DSL/ABARA/GRUSSO/learning cultures in organizations/002/15****Learning cultures in organizations****Request for Clarification (7) – Questions & Answers****Question No 1**

Regarding the financial scenario of the above tender, is overhead cost accepted under the other administrative expenses and is there a limit for indirect costs (percentage of total costs)?

Cedefop's answer to question No 1

It is up to the tenderers to determine their costs under "other administrative expenses". Cedefop doesn't apply any limit but has announced an estimated budget as per point 1.5 of the Tender documents.

Tenderers should consider in that regard the competitive element of the total price offered when the award formula in point 5 of the tender documents is applied.

Question No 2

The ITT specifies that the organisations subject to the case studies should have been in operations for at least 30 years. As a number of Central Eastern European countries have limited number of private organisations that have operated for that length of time, would it be possible to either lower the length of operation criteria or indeed include public organisations as potential case studies in order to increase likely European country coverage?

Furthermore, the ITT proposes field work taking place for all case studies early 2016. What scope is there for proposing alternative timelines?

Cedefop's answer to question No 2

Given the relatively small number of case studies and in the interest of increasing the efficiency of the study in its capacity to describe how learning cultures support economic success over a sustained period of time, the length of the time organizations should have been in operation should not be shortened.

In principle there is nothing against the inclusion of public organizations, provided that they comply with the criteria for economic success as defined in the tender specifications (page 21).

As per point 1.4 of the Tender Specifications, *“The contract shall enter into force on the date of signature of the last contracting party and shall have a total duration of 24 months. It is foreseen to sign the second order form before the expiry of the first order form, due to concurrent tasks.”* There is therefore no scope for alternative deadlines.