

**DIRP Stakeholder Day: Questions and Answers**

**Amendment 001**

**May 4, 2016**

**This document deletes and replaces DIRP Stakeholder Day: Questions and Answers dated January 13, 2016.**

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Q: Can you confirm that the current DIRP solicitation is a one-phase process (as the previous DIRP call for proposals was two-phased)?

A: The DIRP Call for Proposals will be a two stage process as indicated in Part 4 of the Call for proposals document.

Q: With regards to Academia's participation in the DIRP program, it is unclear how the cost-sharing aspect would work, where is their 50% coming from?

A: The 50% would have to come from somewhere other than another Canadian government source.

Q: Are sponsors required, as they were for the previous DIRP?

A: No, sponsors are not required.

Q: Proposals must demonstrate military relevance; what constitutes military relevance?

A: A proposal must correlate to one of the Strategic Objectives, and, in doing so successfully, it will be considered to have military relevance.

Q: How many Calls for Proposals will there be?

A: The number of Calls for Proposals at this time are unknown, however future DIRP calls with Strategic Objectives are anticipated.

Q: What if there are unfunded, compliant proposals?

A: Unfunded, compliant proposals could be funded at a later date, depending upon funding availability and the bid validity period. Refer to Part 4 of the Call for Proposals for more information.

Q: Is the Space-based Surveillance Requirements document available?

A: No, it is currently under development within DND. The final, approved version is not currently available and the timeline as to when it will be available is still unclear. DG Space is intending to give the document broad distribution once it is signed off.

Q: Is “stacking” (using funding from another Canadian government sources) allowed under this program?

A: Stacking is defined as using funding from another Canadian government source. For the purposes of this Call for Proposals, stacking is not permitted for the proposed Innovation.

Q: What is the expected Contract period duration?

A: The expected project duration is not specified and the expected proposed Innovation timeline should be specified by Bidders in their bids. We recommend delivery within 2 years if possible so that there is a better opportunity for technology injects to RCM follow-on mission design.

Q: Can a foreign company be the lead Bidder, as long as the Canadian content requirements are met?

A: Yes. Refer to Parts 2 and 5 of the Call for Proposals for further information on the Canadian Content requirements.

Q: Who owns the resulting IP?

A: The resulting IP rests with the Innovator.

Q: Is it possible to provide us with a more detailed definition of what an Innovation is? For example, do internal corporate tools, R&D projects and/or academic projects count as Innovations?

A: Yes, an Innovation involves research risk, generation of IP, or advancement of Technology Readiness Level (TRL). This is included on Page 1 of the Call for Proposals document.

Q: Can DIRP project overhead/employee benefits be used to leverage NSERC/Mitacs/OCE or similar graduate student-based programs and grants?

A: Yes, provided that the cost-share contributes to the deliverables of the proposal and there isn't stacking (i.e., using funding from another Canadian government source) involved.

Q: Are there specific details on the Innovation Manager's educational/technical/business background requirements? This was also related to the question of what the intent was behind asking for the Innovation Manager's business/financial educational background and experience?

A: This is left open for the Innovator to identify.

Q: Can you provide us with more details, scenarios and/or strategies regarding the joint ISR Program priorities, e.g. maintaining/improving MDA, maintaining/improving Arctic Intel, conducting IPB, executing DCPD, maintaining awareness of space-based sensors?

A: No more details will be provided, as we are trying not to unduly constrain the nature of the Innovations received.

Q: For points 2.1.2, 2.1.3 and 2.1.4, do the two evaluation scale tables indicate the same elements?

A: Please see Part 4 of the Call for Proposals document for revisions to the evaluation scale.

Q: In point 2.1.3.5, what is a sub-Innovator or collaborator and are they necessary within the proposal?

A: Sub-Innovators or collaborators may be sub-contractors and are not necessary, however, if they are to be used, details should be provided in the proposal.

Q: When do we expect the RFP to be released and for how long?

A: By mid-May 2016, for a period of approximately 40 calendar days.

Q: Is there an advantage to providing proposals to address multiple strategic objectives?

A: No.

Q: How does the estimated \$7 Million in funding work?

A: The maximum contribution from the government towards each Contract is \$1 million. The contribution amounts will depend on the proposed Innovations received and the Strategic Objectives addressed. See Part 4 of the Call for Proposals for more information on the Basis of Selection of proposals.

Q: Can the supplier investment be in-kind?

A: The supplier investment may not be in-kind. All investments must be cash (50/50 co-sharing).

Q: Please provide further details available concerning security clearances?

A: More information is available from the Canadian Industrial Security Directorate (CISD) of PWGSC.

Q: Is there any flexibility in the 50-50 cost sharing formula.

A: No, 50-50 cost sharing is an essential part for the delivery of this program. No other formulas will be entertained or implemented.

Q: Why a minimum of 50% Canadian content?

A: To increase the number of Innovations received to achieve the Strategic Objectives while showing benefits to Canada.

Q: Is there a limit on the number of projects proposed by a single Innovator?

A: No, there is no limit to the number of projects proposed by a single Innovator as long as are completed and submitted individually, on a per Strategic Objective basis.

Q: Could the experience requirements be revised to “within the last 5 years” (as opposed to 3 years)?

A: Yes. See Part 4 of the Call for Proposals document for revisions.

Q: Can proposals assume that data could be GFE?

A: Yes.

Q: If, after 6 months, objectives change direction, what would happen?

A: Activities within the Innovation could evolve provided they are within the original scope of work and budget, and are agreed-to by the appropriate authorities.