

## **AMENDMENT 008**

The purpose of this amendment is to respond to potential bidders' questions.

### **QUESTION 48:**

Our team is preparing a proposal for Research and Development project under the CSSP. We plan to include Public Opinion Research activities (focus groups sessions and survey) conducted by an academic partner, perhaps with data collection performed by a third-party company.

How should we proceed with this, considering the project structure and funding source? Are there specific measures that need to be put in place?

### **RESPONSE 48:**

Please refer to Annex E – Detailed Budget Table which indicates that Subcontracts are allowed. Also, please refer to Annex J - Funding flow chart for resulting Contract(s)/Memorandum of Agreement(s) for further information on the manner in which funding may flow, dependent on project partners.

Note that Subcontractors will need to meet any Security Requirements, if applicable, for the particular requirement.

### **QUESTION 49:**

- a ) Can we include overhead costs into the proposal budget? If yes, how much or how many percent?
- b ) Can we include Principal Investigator (PI) fees into the proposal budget? If yes, how can the PI fees be calculated.

### **RESPONSE 49:**

Bidders may include costs associated with their proposals if:

1. they are what the bidder would typically charge; and,
2. in accordance with 1031-2 Contract cost Principals: <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/standard-acquisition-clauses-and-conditions-manual/3/1031-2/6>.

As per Annex E – Detailed Budget Table, universities and colleges may apply overhead separately.

Note that all proposed labour rates must be firm and all-inclusive and Materiel and equipment rentals are at cost with no mark-up.

Please refer to section 3.5 Financial Proposal for more information.

### **QUESTION 50:**

The **S&T Challenge [#15]** states:

“... the proposed work will define

1. the main components of the system (spectrometer, telescope, computers, attitude sensors, communications, satellite bus, etc.)
2. and their basic performance (signal to noise ratio, spatial and spectral resolution, downlink capability, etc.)
3. and include a tentative schedule and broad cost projection for the proposed mission (including launch)."

Can a proposal only focus on (1) and (2) but not (3)? We will propose a breakthrough system that can exponentially improve (2), and we plan to prove it through the studies, concepts and/or R&D phases.

**RESPONSE 50:**

If by 1, 2, 3, you mean 1: components, 2: performance and 3: schedule and cost, then the answer is no.

The overall goal is "assist DND/CAF in shaping/defining/proposing future satellite demonstration".

Improvement in 2 (performance) is of interest if you demonstrate its impact on 1, 2, 3.

For example, if you have already done studies on 1, 2, 3 that you can share with DND, then you can focus on optimization of selected components to de-risk and improve the solution (cost and performance).

**QUESTION 51:**

The **S&T Challenge [#15]** states:

"Only proposals for studies, concepts and/or R&D centred on compact imaging spectrometers that can be carried aboard nanosatellites to medium-sized satellites will be considered."

Can we use the data from existing airborne and/or space hyperspectral systems to prove the concept of our new breakthrough, instead of buying COTS compact imaging spectrometers for proving the concept and for the R&D? The results proved using existing airborne and/or space hyperspectral systems are transferrable to compact imaging spectrometers because the principle is the same. In addition, buying COTS compact imaging spectrometers for the project are very costly.

**RESPONSE 51:**

If the proposed solution is based on existing systems instead of COTS spectrometers, it will be acceptable as long as this is technology that is proven and can be acquired by DND/CAF for building a demonstration at a reasonable cost and the proposal explains its advantage (cost, performance and risks) compared to COTS systems.

**QUESTION 52:**

The **S&T Challenge [#15]** states:

"... proposals are to only be based on existing sensors (commercial off the shelf (COTS) or previously built) that can best exploit the visible and near infrared (VNIR), the short-wave infrared (SWIR) or their combined ranges, in order to provide imagery with sufficient quality (signal-to-noise-ratio (SNR), ground sample distance (GSD), etc.) to support various DND/CAF applications."

Can we utilize the data collected by existing airborne and/or satellite hyperspectral sensors for the project, to prove a significant improvement in quality (signal-to-noise-ratio (SNR), ground sample distance (GSD), etc.), instead of buying existing sensors for the project?

**RESPONSE 52:**

Yes, you may use data from existing systems instead of buying sensors to measure it (refer to response 50).

**QUESTION 53:**

Our platform could be used in a number of the 16 theme areas but submitting a proposal for each individually would be too time consuming. Is there process available where we could submit a single platform proposal addressing multiple theme areas?

**RESPONSE 53:**

As per the CFP document, MC-1;

“The proposal must identify one primary S&T Challenge of Annex B that the proposal is addressing.

If the proposed project addresses more than one S&T Challenge of Annex B, the secondary S&T Challenge can be addressed in other sections, including in MC-4, at the bidder’s discretion.”

**QUESTION 54:**

Our project has 2 phases: Phase 1 Technology Demonstration and Phase 2 Technology Pilot. Our Phase 1 will start at SRL 4 and end at SRL 6. We’re wondering if Phase 2 should start at SRL 6 (where Phase 1 left off) or SLR 7?

**RESPONSE 54:**

Refer to Annex H for Solution Readiness Levels (SRL) explanations and choose the most appropriate level for each phase. The phase should start at the beginning of an SRL chosen and SRLs cannot be skipped.

Refer to Annex A – Project Types and Parameters specifically Project Parameters and the Table A, B and C depending on the challenge you are interested in.

**QUESTION 55:**

For the work plan / milestone breakdown, we are having some issues completing Annex D(1) as provided. Our proposal is a joint effort between several groups (as I am sure most are), and the tables provided in the annex do not allow for a clear identification of dependencies between tasks. More specifically, while the table in Annex D(1) has a column for “deliverable due date,” it does not have any space to identify Task Start Dates or dependencies (e.g. Task 5 cannot start until Task 3 is complete). This information can be captured at a higher level in the Milestones, but we also have connections between individual Tasks.

Would we be permitted to add additional columns to the Annex D (1) page, in order to better delineate the dependencies between our tasks? We believe this will assist the reviewers in understanding how the contributions of the separate parts of our project contribute to a coherent end-goal.

Furthermore, can we attach additional project planning documentation (e.g., a Gantt chart) under the Additional Information section of the application?

**RESPONSE 55:**

Additional columns are not to be added to Annex D(1).

If you would like to include further details in reference to Annex D(1), you can add/modify the table or create a table with additional information and attach it in the Additional Information section.

Any other additional documentation may also be added under the Additional Information section (up to a maximum of three pages).

**QUESTION 56:**

In writing the proposal for CSSP funds W7714-19DRDC/B, it is possible to include supporting documentation beyond the requested proposal items?

**RESPONSE 56:**

Please refer to section 3.4.1.1 of the CFP.

**QUESTION 57:**

Regarding <<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/tender-notice/PW-19-00882586>>, in examining en annexe e detailed budget table version2.xlsx we have observed that, in each of the Totals in the Program Funding Requested Summary portion of the form, the formula subtracts Travel from the total, even though Travel is in the column totalled. We would like to know if this was intended since the organization of the form suggests Travel would be included in the total and we can find nothing the Call for Proposals prohibiting the use of funds for travel, other than for Conferences. Indeed, the Call is rife with direction on how to describe and justify travel.

**RESPONSE 57:**

Annex E – Detailed Budget Table has been amended. Please refer to Amendment 007 and Annex E Version 3, on the tender notice, under “Attachments”.

**QUESTION 58:**

PR-9 Work Plan -Risks and Mitigations says, “To complete PR-9, download Annex D(2) and does not provide a box to put words in but does provide a word count of 1,000. Am I correct in assuming the 1,000 words must go into the Annex? Are the words used to compose the form included in the word count?”

**RESPONSE 58:**

Refer to Amendment 006, Question and Answer 44.

**QUESTION 59:**

PR-10 Work Plan – Cost Estimate is similar to PR-10, without a word count but with a Table in both the form and the Annex. The point structure for PR10 is very onerous with its requirements to get 8 points but there is no place in the Table in the Annex nor a box in the form to provide the justifications it seems to ask for. May we add words to Annex E to meet those requirements?

**RESPONSE 59:**

Refer to Amendment 006, Question and Answer 44.

**QUESTION 60:**

PR-11 Project Management (PM) Plan Project Team provides a box in the form for words and a 2,000 word limit. It uses different language than PR-9 & 10 leading me to believe both the Annex and the box in the Form should be completed. To what does the 2,000 word limit apply? Is it a total for the box on the form AND the Annex or just the box on the Form. If the 2,000 word limit applies only to the form, is there a word limit for the Annex?

**RESPONSE 60:**

Refer to Amendment 005, Question and Answer 43.

**QUESTION 61:**

The certification in Section 5.1.2.3 states:

**5.1.2.3 Canadian Content Percentage Declaration Certification**

In addition to the above minimum requirement for 50 percent Canadian content, the bidder is requested to certify the actual Canadian content percentage of the total bid price.

The bidder certifies that:

(\_\_\_) percent of the total bid price consists of Canadian goods and services as defined in paragraph 5 of clause A3050T, as amended herein.

So if we planned to exceed the 50 percent requirement we would put it here.

Is there a place to enter our actual percentage [in the online tool]?

**RESPONSE 61:**

The online tool will be updated accordingly.

**All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.**