

1. The RFP refers to a “reliability” security requirement for project team members in English on page 15 and a “Secret” security requirement for project team members in French on page 37. Can the Crown please confirm that the minimum required security clearance for the project team is “Reliability”?
2. We understand that the Crown requires a contractor to develop and apply a methodology to measure the economic impact of clusters. Developing such a methodology can be data intensive. Can the Crown provide more detail on the type of data it intends to make available to the contractor? In addition, can the Crown specify any data related to clusters and recipients that it plans not to share with the contractor?
3. We would like to confirm that the maximum fee set out on page 21 of the RFP (section 13.0 Financial Proposal) is intended to cover both the initial development of Deliverable A and B (as set out on page 15) in 2021 **and** the completion of the follow up reports for Deliverable B in 2022-2024.
4. We note that there is considerable uncertainty over the scope and cost of Deliverable B prior to the completion of an agreed methodology which would be done as part of Deliverable A. Given this, are you open to bid that contains a fixed price for Deliverable A but not for Deliverable B? Under this model the price and scope of Deliverable B would be agreed once Deliverable A is complete.
5. Can you provide any information on data already held by either ISED or the Superclusters which could be made use of in this study (e.g. financial data on partner firms)?
6. Can you confirm whether primary data collection activities would be consolidated by the Superclusters (i.e. they would contact partner organisations to gather data based on surveys provided by the consultant, consolidate the data and provide to the consultant) or whether the consultant would be expected to lead on data collection efforts with individual supercluster partners (i.e the Supercluster may send an introductory email only to connect the consultant with their partners) ?
7. On page 15, in Section 6.0 Deliverables, the RFP notes that the timeline for Deliverable A is 16 weeks following contract signature. Under Deliverable B, the RFP indicates that a report on impact for each supercluster is due one month after the methodology is finalized and also annual reports on the 5 superclusters starting in April 2021. Is the report due one month after the methodology is finalized an annual report due in April 2021?
8. 12.2 and 12.3 in Section 12.0 Point Rated Requirements, on page 20, both include:

“The Bidder is to provide a minimum of five (5) projects in the last five (5) years, they were involved in to demonstrate this experience.

Up to **5** points per project up to a maximum of **30** points.”

Does this mean that in order to score maximum points a bidder must include 6 projects? Or are 25 points awarded on a per project basis and 5 points awarded on another basis?

9. On page 20, the requirement for 12.4 reads:

The Bidder should demonstrate that they are able to access multiple resources and expertise in technological, business, and economic research to produce timely analysis, advice, and quality strategic reports regarding advanced manufacturing insight and circumstance-specific analysis on a global scale. Specifically, the Bidder must demonstrate that it meets the requirements by submitting three (3) samples of work related to the following:"

Is there additional text that should come after "the following:"?