

CLARIFICATION N°8

Call reference: GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2017/04

Call title: Smart monitoring of airborne plant pathogens: advances in aerobiology, and molecular diagnostics and remote sensing to support risk based plant health surveillance in the EU

Question 1:

Can you please confirm that there is no template for the partnership agreement to be signed by all the partners but that the partnership should prepare their own document?

Answer:

We confirm that no template for the partnership statement is provided by EFSA. It is up to the consortium to provide, in their offer, as required in section 2.2 of the call for proposals, a statement indicating the technical and financial involvement of all partners. The applicant and partner/s must sign this partnership statement.

However, in case of award of the grant agreement to a consortium, the grant agreement is signed only by the coordinator. The consortium partners need to sign a Mandate in order to mandate the coordinator to sign, on their behalf, the grant agreement and its possible subsequent amendments with EFSA.

Please refer to Annex IV of the draft grant agreement to see all the provisions regarding the mandate.

Question 2:

Regarding the matching contributions from organisations we have several questions regarding eligibility:

- A. **Staff time:** Is staff time given to the project and associated overheads funded from an institution's own resources during the duration of the proposed grant with EFSA an eligible contribution?

Answer:

Staff time and overheads are among eligible costs. All eligible direct and indirect costs should be declared in the estimated budget (Annex 3 of the call for proposals). For further information please see Annex I. Rules of eligibility of costs.

Please also refer to the previous clarifications.

- B. **Instrument time:** If used for MS analyses during the lifetime of the project, would the instrumental costs per sample for analysis funded from an institution's own resources, again undertaken during the proposed duration of the grant with EFSA considered an eligible matching contribution?

Answer:

Samples should be declared under "sheet A4. Consumables and supplies" of the "Estimated budget" and the same rules apply as for the staff costs.

- C. **Materials and reagents:** Specialist reagents including antibodies and incurred materials have a value and may have been costly to prepare from past investment; can these also be considered an eligible contribution? They could cost a great deal if they had to be purchased commercially.

Answer:

In accordance with the grant principle of non-retroactivity, costs can only be eligible from the date of signature of the grant agreement. In case these materials and reagents have been acquired as a past investment, they will not be eligible.

(Signed)
Kerstin GROSS-HELMERT

Date: 10/10/2017