

## **H2020 Call ICT-34-2016 – Pre-commercial Procurement open to all areas of public interest requiring ICT based solutions**

Questions that are specific for topic ICT-34-2016 are answered below. More general questions about the PCP actions instrument in Horizon 2020 are answered in the general FAQ list for PCP actions that can be found here: [http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/newsroom/image/document/2015-48/qanda\\_pcp\\_actions-23nov2015\\_12288.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/newsroom/image/document/2015-48/qanda_pcp_actions-23nov2015_12288.pdf)

### **1. What is the deadline for submitting proposals?**

The deadline for ICT34-2016 call is 12 April 2016 at 17h00 CET.

### **2. Where can I find the documentation for this call?**

Specific info about the ICT-34-2016 topic can be found here on the Horizon 2020 participant portal: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/5095-ict-34-2016.html>

You find there all the conditions to apply for the call, links to the relevant documents and to the online proposal submission system.

See FAQ 2 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions for information on where to find the H2020 Online Manual page about innovation procurement, the list of funding conditions for the PCP actions, info about how to submit a proposal/how to find partners and how your proposal will be evaluated, all other official reference documents including the annotated model grant agreement for PCP/PPI actions etc.

### **3. Is it true that the funding rate for PCP actions has increased to 90% for work programme 2016-17? Are there other changes to the PCP instruments?**

Yes, it's true. See FAQ 3 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions for more information on this point.

### **4. What is the funding rate and the type of activities that can be funded for ICT-34?**

ICT-34 is open to PCP actions. In PCP actions the funding rate for all participants is 90 % of the eligible costs, which include direct and indirect costs. See FAQ 4 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions for more information about direct and indirect costs and the types of activities that can be funded by PCP actions, the link to the budget table in the proposal template and a concrete example of how to fill in the budget table for a concrete PCP proposal.

Note that VAT that cannot be deducted is also an eligible direct cost as well as in-kind contributions by third parties linked to beneficiaries that are to be used on the premises of the beneficiaries are also an eligible cost (see FAQ 23 and 25 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions).

### **5. How long does it take after the call deadline until I know whether my proposal was selected for funding or not? When can projects really start?**

See FAQ 5 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

### **6. Is there an Info Day for ICT-34? Where can I find partners?**

There is no separate info day specifically for topic ICT-34. Networking of potential proposers for topic ICT-34 took place at the early EU innovation procurement event on 27-28 October 2015 in Paris <http://eafip.eu/events/major-events/eafip-major-event-paris/>. For more info about other events and how to find partners, see FAQ 6 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

### **7. Is there any pre-proposal check foreseen for this call?**

Pre-proposal checks or advice on scope and eligibility of consortia from NCPs is possible. This should be done by the form which can be downloaded at the following link: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/call-ict-34-2016-innovation-procurement-pre-proposal-check-and-qas>

You can find the National Contact Point (NCPs) for Horizon 2020 in your country here:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national\\_contact\\_points.html](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national_contact_points.html)

Pre-proposal check does not constitute in any respect a pre-evaluation of the proposal in terms of scientific and technical quality. The advice given is strictly informal.

### **8. Is there a possibility to adapt the proposal after the evaluation?**

Proposals will be evaluated "as they are". Evaluators can only recommend minor adaptations, which the consortium can implement straightforward.

### **9. Is there a minimum or maximum project duration or project budget?**

There are no formal limits on project duration under the ICT-34-2016 topic. Proposers should choose a project duration in the proposal that it enables them to address their PCP appropriately. For more info (example of typical duration ongoing projects) see FAQ 9 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

There is no pre-specified minimum or maximum budget for projects under ICT-34-2016 topic. Proposers should choose the proposed budget for their project in the proposal so that it enables them to address their challenge appropriately. For more info see FAQ 9 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

Overview of on-going PCP/PPI projects: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/eu-funded-projects>

### **10. Is previous experience in European projects required?**

No previous experience in European projects is required for ICT-34. The consortium and the partners need to have the competence and operational capacity to fulfil the tasks.

### **11. What is the available funding for ICT-34?**

The indicative funding for ICT-34 is 4 MEUR. Judging from the size of on-going projects in previous calls, the Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of about EUR 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

### **12. Is there a maximum or minimum number of projects defined for ICT-34?**

ICT-34 is part of a large call for which the evaluation will be carried out by independent experts that score all proposals based on pre-defined evaluation criteria. There is no pre-defined number of projects defined that will be funded from ICT-34. It is possible that more than one proposal is funded from ICT-34 if proposals requesting lower budget than 4 MEUR are received and selected, or if several high quality proposals requesting more funding than 4 MEUR are received whereas other parts of the call receive less than expected or lower quality than expected proposals.

More info on the evaluation procedure in General Annex H of the H2020 work program:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/funding/reference\\_docs.html#h2020-work-programmes-2016-17](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/funding/reference_docs.html#h2020-work-programmes-2016-17)

### **13. Is it possible to be involved in more than one project as coordinator or as partner?**

See FAQ 13 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**14. How many partners from how many countries are needed in a consortium? Are there requirements on who can be lead procurer and who can be in the buyers group?**

See FAQ 14 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**15. Is my organisation a public procurer?**

See FAQ 15 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**16. Can other types of procurers also participate and for what costs are they eligible?**

See FAQ 16 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**17. Can procurers that are already in on-going PCP, PPI or CSA projects (CSAs that fund networks of procurers to prepare the ground for starting future PCPs or PPIs) participate in ICT-34 projects?**

Yes, as long as there is no double funding of the same activity in different projects. For more info see FAQ 17 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**18. Can there be only procurers in PCP actions or can other types of entities also participate as beneficiaries in PCP actions? Can suppliers or supply side associations participate in PCP actions? Can universities participate in PCP actions? Can consultants participate in PCP actions?**

See FAQ 18 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**19. Who can act as project coordinator? Does it have to be the lead procurer?**

See FAQ 19 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**20. Can a PCP project focus on more than 1 challenge? Can the different procurers in a PCP project focus on different challenges?**

See FAQ 20 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**21. Can there be several separate PCPs or only one PCP procurement in a project?**

See FAQ 21 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**22. Which procurer(s) has/have to request the EC contribution for the PCP subcontracting costs in the budget of the proposal, and which procurer(s) has/have to claim the subcontracting costs ultimately to the EC via the form C? How is the consortium's choice for centralised or decentralised payment of suppliers recorded in the grant agreement?**

See FAQ 22 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**23. Should VAT be included in the requested budget in my proposal?**

See FAQ 23 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**24. If I start a PCP action with 5 procurers can I later only submit a proposal for a PPI action with those same 5 procurers?**

See FAQ 24 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**25. Can I provide part of my contribution to the project in-kind?**

See FAQ 25 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**26. Can I chose to get the coordination/networking activities funded at 100% and the PCP procurement cost at a lower funding rate than 90%? Or can I chose to get the PCP procurement cost funded at 100% funding rate and get a below 90% funding rate for some of the coordination/networking activities?**

See FAQ 26 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**27. The initial research / market scanning phase, must this be included as part of the procured PCP R&D services or might this be performed by beneficiaries within the consortium?**

See FAQ 27 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**28. What type of regional funding can be combined with a H2020 funded PCP project?**

See FAQ 28 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**29. What type of activities can be subcontracted in a PCP? Can the project management be subcontracted? Can the lead procurer subcontract purchasing/legal experience or does he need to have that in-house?**

See FAQ 29 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**30. What happens with the reimbursement of coordination/networking activities if a project finally spends a smaller budget than initially foreseen on the procurement (what happens then with the limit that maximum 30% of the total requested EU contribution can be for coordination/networking activities)? Is every partner in the project bound individually by this 30% limit or does that limit apply only on the total amount of coordination/networking activities performed by all partners in the project?**

See FAQ 30 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.

**31. What if I already did an open market consultation before starting the PCP project? Can that count? Or do I have to do another one during the PCP project?**

See FAQ 31 in the general FAQ list for PCP actions.