

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN RELATION TO THE CALL FOR COMPETITION (TED reference 2020/S 217-531264)

“Dissemination of ESPON results among the scientific community”

The present document, version 11/12/2020, includes the following additional information from the Contracting Authority for requests received on:

Info Request #	Reception date of information requests:	Subject of information requests:
		Extension of the deadline for the first cut-off date to apply
#1	04/11/2020	Clarifications on status of economic operators
#2	26/11/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying as natural person vs through employer • Thematic areas of research • Use of existing reports/policy briefs of the ESPON Programme2020? • Use of existing tools & map service from ESPON website
#3	29/11/2020 30/11/2020 03/12/2020	PhD requirement: further clarifications
#4	01/12/2020	ESPON 2020 programme thematic areas of research
#5	04/12/2020	Clarifications on the ‘outreach prospect’ award criterion

#6	05/12/2020	Post Doc requirement: further clarifications
----	------------	--

Questions and answers are detailed in sections below.

NB: the present information has been sent by email to all applicants having requested the Terms of Reference of the Call for Tender until the date of this document.

Additional information about each call for tenders are automatically sent to those economic operators having requested the Terms of Reference by e-mail or downloaded them from the *Portail des Marchés Publics* of Luxembourg and the ESPON EGTC e-Tendering Platform. Updated versions can also be found on the ESPON website under each relevant project: <https://www.espon.eu/participate/calls>.

Please find here below requests of information from tenderers by email (tenders@espon.eu) and the complementary information provided by the Contracting Authority:

Additional information from the Contracting Authority:

Please be informed that the first cut-off date to apply to this Call for Competition has been extended till 31 December 2020 (Art 1.3 of the Notice)

Information Request # 1

How should PhD students or persons not connected to any working business treat the filling of the ESPD, in particular Part II?

Additional information from the Contracting Authority *UPDATED*:

The notion of 'economic operator' is interpreted in a broad manner and includes any natural persons and/or entities which offer the execution of works, the supply of products or the provision of services on the market, irrespective of the legal form under which they have chosen to operate. Thus, firms, branches, subsidiaries, partnerships, cooperative societies, limited companies, universities, public or private, other forms of entities and natural persons fall within the notion of economic operator.

It therefore follows that any person or entity which, in light of the conditions laid down in the call for Expressions of Interest, believes that is capable of carrying the tasks therein described, is eligible to put

itself forward as a candidate, regardless of whether it is governed by public law or private law, whether it is active as a matter of course on the market or only on an occasional basis.

Information Request # 2

- 2.1. Can the contract be stipulated with a natural person or does it have to go through my employer?
- 2.2. From the call, it is not fully clear how the content of ESPON should be incorporated into the design of the study.
- 2.3. Where on ESPON website (which section) we can find details on your thematic areas of research?
- 2.4. Does the proposed study have to include data and/or concepts analysed in existing reports/policy briefs of the ESPON Programme 2020? Are they fully accessible to the applicants?
- 2.5. Can the research to be performed use data and methods from the existing tools & map service of your website?

Additional information from the Contracting Authority:

- 2.1. There is no obstacle in contracting with natural persons, see also #1.
- 2.2. It is up to the researchers to decide how to incorporate ESPON territorial evidence or methods and to explain it clearly in their proposal: (i) in the abstract presenting the foreseen scientific article and (ii) in flagging the links to the related thematic areas of research done within the framework of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme.
- 2.3. Areas of research done by the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme are publicly available on www.espon.eu and specifically in the following sections:
 - <https://www.espon.eu/applied-research>
 - <https://www.espon.eu/targeted-analyses>
 - <https://www.espon.eu/monitoring-and-tools>
 - <https://www.espon.eu/transnational>
 - <https://database.espon.eu/>
 - <https://www.espon.eu/news-events/events/workshops>
- 2.4. Data, concepts and more generally territorial evidence and methods delivered within the framework of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme should be included in the proposal. They can be found, not only in reports or policy briefs, but in any other document and database freely accessible on the ESPON website (see also #2.3).
- 2.5. Data and methods available via the ESPON toolbox (<https://www.espon.eu/tools-maps>) can be used to perform the research.

Information Request # 3

- 3.1. Having PhD is mandatory?
- 3.2. I am in the last year of my PhD: am I eligible?

3.3. I am employed as a researcher and in parallel I am enrolled in a PhD programme but will defend and finalise it any time soon: am I eligible?

3.4. As a PhD student, how do I fill in the ESPD?

Additional information from the Contracting Authority:

3.1. In order to be eligible, applicants must be enrolled as a student in a PhD or Postdoctoral research programme offered by a university or any other higher education institution located in the countries of the ESPON Programme (EU 27 Member States, United Kingdom, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) at the moment of submitting the application.

3.2. Yes.

3.3. Yes.

3.4. A PhD student, as natural person, should fill in the relevant information in section Part I, Part III, Part VI on the ESPD.

Information Request # 4

Where can I find details on the thematic areas of research done by ESPON 2020 programme?

Additional information from the Contracting Authority:

Please refer to #2

Information Request # 5

5.1. I have already submitted an abstract to a scientific journal and expect to submit the paper in January 2021. Would this fit with the call requirements?

5.2. Is it ok for the paper to have more than one author or should it be single authored?

Additional information from the Contracting Authority:

5.1. Yes, provided that the proposal fulfills the selection criteria set in the Call for Competition.

5.2. Yes.

Information Request # 6

6.1. I am a post-doc researcher but my contract expires by end of 2020: am I eligible?

6.2. Should I fill the ESPD as a natural person or with reference to my employer?

Additional information from the Contracting Authority:

6.1. Yes.

6.2. You can apply as a natural person. Please see also #1.