

Answers to questions regarding call for tenders

Subject: Project's Final Evaluation

Project: Digitalise Youth

Q1: Would the Evaluation Commissioner consider a methodology based entirely on remote data collection (including online KIIs, digital focus groups, and self-administered surveys) as eligible and competitive under the selection criteria? Or does the Commissioner expect or require at least some in-country presence as part of the evaluation design?

We acknowledge that some degree of online data collection is unavoidable given the geographic scope. However, on-site interviews and focus groups are strongly advised. Connectivity remains unreliable in many project locations, and in-person engagement typically yields higher-quality responses – particularly from hard-to-reach interviewees.

We encourage a hybrid methodology that combines remote efficiency with meaningful in-country presence. Proposals reflecting this balance will be viewed favorably.

Q2: We understand that the final list of countries will be confirmed later in the process. However, in order to develop an accurate financial proposal, could you please indicate how many country visits we should plan for in the budget?

At this stage, we invite applicants to propose the number of country visits they consider feasible within their technical and financial capacity. We also encourage you to clearly present the rationale behind a proposed country selection strategy (for example, grouping countries by type of context or other relevant criteria). The coherence between the proposed approach, the number of visits, and the team's capacity to deliver will be assessed comparatively across proposals.

Q3: Would it be acceptable to conduct visits in the same countries for the three in-depth case studies, or should we plan for different countries depending on each thematic focus?

It is entirely acceptable to conduct visits in the same countries for the three in-depth case studies, provided that the proposed case and country selection strategy is relevant and well-justified in relation to the evaluation questions.

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Q4: Will the evaluation require any in-country research authorization or visa clearance? If yes, what will be the role of EPD in this process?

The evaluation is not expected to require specific research authorization. However, should visa applications be necessary, EPD can provide an official letter mandating the evaluators to conduct the evaluation, which may help facilitate the visa process.

Q5: Will the evaluation require any in-country research authorization or visa clearance? If yes, what will be the role of EPD in this process?

The evaluation is not expected to require specific research authorization. However, should visa applications be necessary, EPD can provide an official letter mandating the evaluators to conduct the evaluation, which may help facilitate the visa process.

Q6: To what extent is the project disability-inclusive?

The project aims to be disability-inclusive. However, we were not able to establish a fully transversal approach across all components. Instead, disability inclusion is addressed through the respective approaches of each consortium member and their partners.

Q7: What is the expected length of the case study and the required level of detail?

We invite applicants to propose their own estimation in the technical offer. The balance between the team's capacity to deliver and the proposed depth of the case study will be assessed comparatively across submissions.

Q8: What is the estimated number of target respondents for both quantitative and qualitative components (including KIIs and FGDs)?

Similarly, we encourage applicants to propose their own estimation in the technical offer, based on their methodological approach and available resources.

Q9: Could you please share the anticipated payment breakdown across the seven instalments?

While a detailed breakdown is not predefined, the most significant instalments are expected to be linked to the delivery of the 3 case studies, the final report, and the outcome harvesting database.