



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRIË

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF FINANCE AND CONTRACTING OF EU
FUNDS, WORLD BANK AND OTHER DONORS FUNDS
DIRECTORATE FOR IPA CONTRACTING

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CONTRACT TITLE: EC-ENEST/TIA/2026/EA-RP/0113

“Strengthening the capacities of the IPA Bodies for the effective implementation of the Operational Programme EU for Youth Employment 2024-2027”

Question 01	With reference to Section 16.3 "Technical capacity" of the Additional Information to the Contract Notice, we kindly request clarification on the definition of "contract" for the purposes of this eligibility criterion. Specifically, would services delivered by a public entity (e.g. a local authority) to itself, funded and implemented through its own budget — i.e. without a formal contract awarded by an external contracting entity — be considered an eligible reference under this criterion?
Answer 01	The term “contract” should be understood in relation to the relevant services carried out by the applicant, as applicable under the eligibility criterion. It is not intended to be limited to a particular type of contractual arrangement, but covers services concerning the provision and/or implementation of the relevant activities or projects, within the requested criterion.
Question 02	Dear Sir/Madam, We seek clarification regarding the technical capacity criterion: Our understanding is that each reference can cover either of the two areas specified under the technical capacity criterion. Each reference does not need to cover both areas, as long as the references submitted include at least one for each area. In the case of re-examination, we understand that all references meeting the value requirements and covering either area will be counted, regardless of whether they cover the first area, the second area, or both. Could you please confirm whether our interpretation is correct? Thank you. Kind regards,
Answer 02	Tenderers are required to demonstrate experience in both domains specified under the Technical Capacity criterion. A single reference provided could cover one domain or both, but overall tenderers should provide references covering both domains, provided that the minimum requirement of two contract references is met. Your interpretation regarding re-examination is correct.

Question 03	Section 16(3) of the Additional Information states that the completed services must be in the domain of "policy development or programming or implementation or monitoring of implementation of EU funded actions, in at least one reference." Could the Contracting Authority please confirm how this domain should be interpreted: (a) Is it sufficient that the reference contract was itself an EU-funded project implemented by the candidate (i.e., the candidate delivered services under an EU-funded contract), provided the value of services completed is not less than EUR 1,200,000? or (b) Must the services themselves relate to the programming, management, implementation or monitoring of EU funds or programmes on behalf of, or in support of, the institutions responsible for them (for example, technical assistance to IPA bodies or operating structures)?
Answer 03	The domains are separate, meaning the first one is related to services such as policy development, programming, implementation or monitoring of implementation of EU-funded actions while the other one is related to institutional strengthening or capacity building in/to national, regional or local institutions, in the context of EU-funded programmes. The completed services could cover one domain or both, but overall tenderers should provide references covering both domains, within the requested criterion.