



European
Global Navigation
Satellite Systems
Agency

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GSA/GRANT/05/2019

Receiver for localisation in train signalling

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CONTEXT	4
1.1.	Overview	4
1.2.	Introduction.....	4
1.3.	Current situation and future developments in the Rail signalling in Europe regarding GNSS	4
1.4.	Legal basis of the call	6
2.	OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE CALL.....	6
2.1.	Objective of the call for proposals	6
2.2.	Scope and areas of activities of the call for proposals	8
2.3.	Core Activities	9
2.4.	Deliverables	10
2.5.	Project Workflow	11
2.6.	Outputs expected from the implementation of activities	12
3.	TIMETABLE	12
4.	EU FINANCING.....	13
5.	ROLES AND TASKS OF APPLICANT(S).....	13
5.1.	Entities involved in the activities subject to the proposal.....	13
5.2.	Single Applicant.....	13
5.3.	Coordinator	13
5.4.	Co-applicant(s).....	14
5.5.	Affiliated entities	14
5.6.	Subcontractors.....	14
6.	ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.....	15
7.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	15
7.1.	Eligible applicants	16
7.2.	Multi-beneficiary proposal - Structure of the consortium.....	16
7.3.	Supporting documents proving compliance with the eligibility criteria	16
8.	EXCLUSION CRITERIA	17
8.1.	Exclusion from participation	17
8.2.	Exclusion from award.....	17
8.3.	Supporting documents proving compliance with exclusion criteria	18
9.	SELECTION CRITERIA	18
9.1.	Financial capacity.....	18

9.2. Operational capacity (B2 Form)	19
10. AWARD CRITERIA	19
11. LEGAL COMMITMENTS	20
12. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS	21
12.1. General principles.....	21
12.2. Funding form	23
12.3. Payment arrangements	30
12.4. Pre-financing guarantee	31
13. PUBLICITY	31
13.1. By the Beneficiaries.....	31
13.2. By the GSA.....	31
14. OWNERSHIP	32
15. DATA PROTECTION	32
16. PREPARATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSAL.....	34
17. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS.....	35
18. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS, AWARD AND RESERVE LIST.....	37
18.1. Evaluation of Proposals	37
18.2. Award of the grant agreement	38
18.3. Reserve list.....	38
19. CONTACTS.....	39
20. ANNEXES.....	39
21. REFERENCE/APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS	40

1. CONTEXT

1.1. Overview

The present Call for Proposal with its annexes provides the Applicants with the terms and conditions to be respected in order to submit a proposal and participate to the grant procedure.

NOTA BENE: interested parties are invited to read carefully below in order to ensure that applications are complete and compliant with the call for proposals terms and conditions when submitted.

1.2. Introduction

The mission of the European GNSS Agency (GSA) is to support the European Union objectives and achieve the highest return on the European GNSS (E-GNSS) investment represented by the EGNOS and Galileo programmes, in terms of benefits to users and economic growth and competitiveness.

Galileo is the European global navigation system. It is a civil system under civil control, intended to provide navigation services to users, including reliable services for specific user communities. The Galileo constellation has already 26 satellites in orbit and is operational. With Galileo satellites working together with other constellations, there are more GNSS satellites available for positioning, navigation and timing (PNT). Already at this stage, the users are able to exploit a significant improvement in terms of signal availability, especially in harsh environments, as urban canyons, where chances to receive signals from GNSS satellites are limited due to the restricted visibility of the sky. Galileo provides a precise, reliable and robust open service, enabling other desirable properties such as better resistance against multipath. In addition, the Galileo will provide a High Accuracy Service and Authentication services (the latter in combination with the Open Service) as unique features of Galileo compared to other GNSS providers. These Authentication services will allow to validate and assess the data provided through the signal in space in order to detect attempts to spoof it. It will contribute to improve the robustness of GNSS for applications in which safety/security is concerned.

GNSS market and technology is rapidly evolving, following on one hand the pull of increasingly sophisticated technologies and employing of complementary techniques and, on the other hand, the push from the users that have growing demands in terms of positioning accuracy, continuity, availability and interoperability with other systems. Additionally, the prices of the GNSS user equipment is reportedly decreasing.

The Fundamental Elements scheme is funding the development of E-GNSS-enabled chipsets, receivers and antennas for dedicated user groups and the on-going projects cover the distinctive GNSS markets such as aviation, maritime, road, rail, LBS, agriculture, surveying and mapping, timing and synchronisation. One of the objectives of the Fundamental Elements is to strengthen the European manufacturers and integrators by enlarging the offer of European GNSS products.

In this context, the GSA launches a call for proposals to develop a railway GNSS receiver and antenna for use within a safe train positioning platform suitable for railway safety-related applications.

1.3. Current situation and future developments in the Rail signalling in Europe regarding GNSS

According to the GNSS Market Report issue 5, the key GNSS market trends in Rail segment are:

- Non-safety relevant applications in Rail are already widely based on GNSS.
- Safety relevant applications are emerging with different maturity levels depending on region, e.g. in India, China and the Middle East, GNSS is taking up an important position.
- GNSS based solutions can offer safety at a lower cost, e.g. as investigated in railway signalling.

As a general trend, shipments of GNSS devices have been constantly growing in the last years, with growth significantly intensifying since 2015. Europe is the leading region concerning GNSS Rail shipments, due to the developments within non-safety relevant applications related to passenger information and asset management. Especially freight wagon asset management applications are currently expected to continue to drive GNSS devices shipments.

With regards to safety relevant applications, in Europe, the common standard for signalling and train control – European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS), does not currently support the use of GNSS technology for positioning. The GSA developed together with the main stakeholders a roadmap¹ aiming towards inclusion of European GNSS into the future evolution of ERTMS.

In 2017, the GSA carried out within the H2020 project ERSAT EAV a first demonstration using E-GNSS based virtual balise concept aided by a local augmentation network in Cagliari. The technology is currently further evaluated with regards to certification possibilities in Italy, within the first operation pilot line in Pinerolo-Sangone. The EU signalling industry within the GSA funded H2020 project STARS delivered railway environment characterization concerning the GNSS signal penetration, including the EMC, multipath and local effects specification. The STARS project further delivered first requirements on GNSS performance. The project results are further explored by the currently running Shift2Rail IP2 project X2RAIL2, looking into the possibilities of common architecture for GNSS based fail-safe train positioning and defining the operational specifications. Currently, the GSA is working on a Cost-Benefit Analysis of the GNSS-based signalling to clarify the possible GNSS contribution to the railway undertakings, infrastructure managers and EU railway industry business case.

In the coming years, safety relevant applications (signalling and train control) based on GNSS will be increasingly developing. Based on the Memorandum of Understanding² between the European Commission, the European Union Agency for Railways and the European rail sector associations (CER, EIM, EPTTOLA, ERFA, EUG, GSM-R Industry Group, UIC, UNIFE and UNISIG) concerning the cooperation for the deployment of the ERTMS, satellite based positioning was included as one of the five key game changers important for the future European Railway Traffic Management System (ERTMS) evolution.

Railways, unlike any other segment are highly dependent on costly, distributed infrastructure and any innovations related to signalling technologies need to be carried out in a way that fully respects the need for interoperability, strictly avoiding any proprietary/closed-loop solutions. The interoperability requirement, together with the difficult environment, impacting the GNSS signal availability is making GNSS penetration in rail safety relevant applications clearly one of the most complicated objectives for the GSA. Given the long term GSA engagement in the topic and the coordination of the Research and Development (R&D) framework together with major rail and space stakeholders, there are already now interesting results as mentioned above, aiming towards deployment of signalling solutions in-line with the GSA GNSS in Rail signalling roadmap. Also, the railway undertakings and infrastructure managers are becoming more engaged in the R&D framework, showing interest in continuation of the developments started by the EU railway industry to finalize and demonstrate the GNSS technology feasibility and viability on operational-pilot lines with the aim to include the GNSS-based train positioning in the future evolution of ERTMS.

¹ <https://www.gsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/rail-roadmap2018.pdf>

² https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/rail/ertms-european-rail-traffic-management-system/state-play/ertms-memoranda-understanding_en

In order to ensure the availability of state-of-art GNSS receiver technology for EU-rail stakeholders planning to deploy GNSS-based fail-safe train positioning systems, reflecting the evolution of the European GNSS system capabilities, the objective of this call is to support development of a receiver and antenna, ready for EGNOS V3 services, respecting the railway safety assurance standards and suitable for utilization in the difficult railway environment.

1.4. Legal basis of the call

This call is based on the Delegation Agreement concluded between the European Union, represented by the European Commission, and the European GNSS Agency (GSA) on the Exploitation Phase of the Galileo Programme signed on 2 October 2014.

In this framework, and in accordance with the Galileo Grants Plan for 2019 published on the GSA website (<http://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/grants>), the GSA is launching a call for proposals to develop a railway GNSS receiver and antenna for use within a safe train positioning platform suitable for railway safety-related applications.

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE CALL

2.1. Objective of the call for proposals

This Call for Proposals aims to develop a railway GNSS receiver and antenna for use within a safe train positioning platform suitable for railway safety-related applications. It is foreseen that the activity will build on experience from recent projects realized and running within the scope of the GSA E-GNSS in Rail signalling roadmap, taking into consideration relevant outputs in consolidating and refining requirements for the GNSS receiver.

The call focuses on the development of the GNSS antenna and railway receiver elements that can either be used directly or integrated as part of a multi-sensor positioning platform, in order to fulfil requirements for a specific safety-related railway application (example is illustrated below with elements addressed by this call highlighted in red).

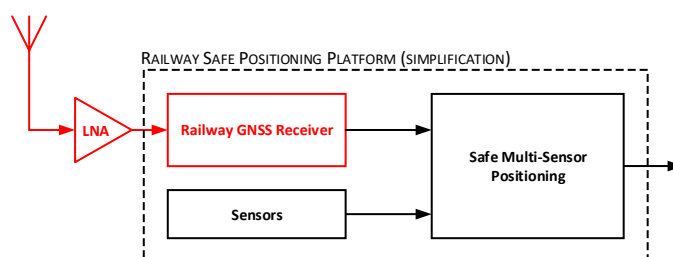


Figure 1: Simplified railway safe positioning platform integrating GNSS antenna and railway receiver. Elements addressed by this call are highlighted in red.

The applicants are requested to propose a solution for development of a railway GNSS receiver and antenna. The objectives of the call are:

- 1) To develop a receiver that shall support GPS L1/L5 and Galileo E1/E5a (dual-frequency, multi-constellation).
- 2) The receiver shall be developed according to applicable railway safety assurance standards (e.g. EN50126, EN50128, EN50129, EN50159), meeting relevant safety targets and receiver allocations.

- 3) The receiver shall meet essential requirements related to receiver design for EGNOS V3 DFMC to enable exploitation of possible future EGNOS services (e.g. pre-correlation bandwidth, correlator spacing, etc.).
- 4) The receiver shall provide measurement quality monitoring (MQM) (e.g. cycle slip detection, detection of measurement faults, etc.).
- 5) Applicants are encouraged to consider signal quality monitoring (SQM) techniques that may be useful for multipath and spoofing detection metrics (in line with the technical requirements defined in early phase of the project).
- 6) The receiver shall output raw measurements and navigation data (e.g. receiver TOW, C/N0, raw pseudorange, corrected smoothed pseudorange, carrier phase, Doppler, multipath indicator, jamming indicator, RF interference indicator, measurement quality indicator, variances of residual errors, tracking state, receiver state, etc.).
- 7) The receiver shall support reception of EGNOS messages both via the SIS and via an external comms interface (for alternative dissemination mechanisms for EGNOS messages).
- 8) The antenna shall support L1/E1 and L5/E5a frequencies.
- 9) The antenna shall be manufactured according to applicable railway standards (e.g. EN50155, EN50122, EN45545-2, EN50121-3-2, EN60068, EN61373, standards related to overvoltage protection (i.e. from overhead catenary - e.g. 27.5 kV AC, 40 kA during 100ms)).
- 10) GNSS receiver and antenna shall be cost effective (i.e. commensurate with requirements on cost to support business case for use of GNSS in safety-related railway signalling applications such as ERTMS).

For demonstration purposes, the applicants are requested to develop a PVT module (application of safety assurance standards not required for this component). This module shall:

- 1) Provide a fault-detection and exclusion capability to remove faulty ranges caused by local effects;
- 2) Compute an along-track position (ATP) and speed;
- 3) Compute an along-track protection level (ATPL), translating pseudorange error bounds into along-track position bounds (some of the error variances are expected to be provided as output by GNSS receiver). An appropriate multipath model is to be defined for use by the PVT module. The integrity performance that needs to be met for demonstration is not the application safety target, but rather GNSS receiver allocation (e.g. $P(ATPL < ATPE) < 7.5E-6$ / hour).

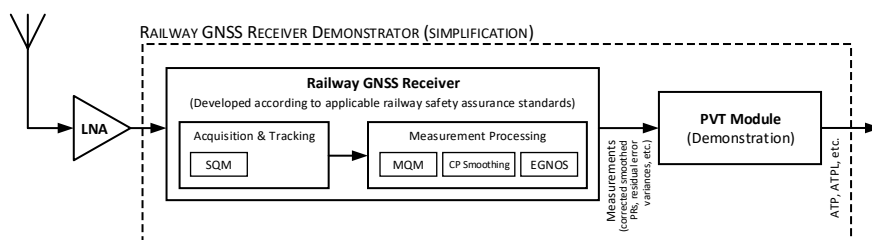


Figure 2: Simplified railway GNSS receiver demonstration

2.2. Scope and areas of activities of the call for proposals

This task implies the review, update and the technological analysis of all the current requirements and challenges related to the development of a safety-of-life multi-constellation receiver for localisation in railway signalling applications, identification of technology trends, analysis of future developments and identification of technology gaps and formulation recommendations based on the latest studies and technologies. Drawing on findings and conclusions from the analysis, considering the past and currently running projects such as Shift2Rail X2RAIL2 or the previously concluded project STARS that characterised the railway environment, concrete parameters of the next generation GNSS receivers for railway signalling applications should be derived. Based on these parameters, the rail receiver shall be developed, respecting the technical standards for manufacturing and operation of the railway components.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The GNSS receiver developed within this project is intended to be a non-specific element targeting integration within on-board equipment for any railway safety-related applications or GNSS-based signalling concepts (e.g. the virtual balise concept for ERTMS, multi-sensor positioning platform for train control, etc.)

The applicant(s) are requested, in their proposal, to:

- a. Identify and refine the specific user needs, in terms of challenges and gaps to be filled according to the existing solutions.
- b. Provide a preliminary version of the user requirements.
- c. Provide preliminary version of the work plan, that will define inter alia the project workflow, the main milestones, tasks and deliverables;
- d. Provide a preliminary version of the Business plan.
- e. Provide a preliminary assessment justifying the applicability of the railway GNSS receiver within signalling applications and the need for specific railway DFMC receiver for signalling as well as other safety relevant applications.

In order to reach the objectives of the call (see Section 2.1), the beneficiaries are expected to conduct the following activities:

1. The beneficiaries shall analyse of state of the art on receiver requirements, especially based on GSA, ESA, Shift2Rail running and past projects and interviews with relevant stakeholders.
2. The beneficiaries shall develop a complete railway GNSS receiver demonstrator comprised of a railway antenna, the railway GNSS receiver, and a PVT module, taking into consideration the operational environment and potential local feared events such as NLOS, extreme multipath, RF interference and spoofing.
3. The beneficiaries shall test and evaluate the performance of the GNSS demonstrator in a representative railway environment.

In addition, the beneficiary shall also carry out, as minimum, the following horizontal activities:

- **Standardisation and Dissemination:** the beneficiary shall take measures to disseminate the achievements of the project among relevant stakeholders in the appropriate phases of the project. The dissemination plan shall define the strategy to engage those stakeholders with the aim of fostering the innovation created in the frame of the action and creating market awareness of the

project's results. A special focus shall be dedicated to targeting the key influencer's active in research and development activities within the ERTMSEcosystem.

The dissemination task will also include a final demonstration execution of one or more representative use cases with the aim to effectively showcase the foreseen functionality in the different railway environments. The demonstration of the railway GNSS receiver performances shall be carried out in an operational environment and under realistic conditions (e.g. urban canyons, forests, deep cuttings) shall be a fundamental step of the dissemination path and the beneficiary is encouraged to involve the main relevant stakeholders in order to optimise the benefit resulting from its execution.

A promotional video(s) shall be provided to allow dissemination at sectorial conferences and events, introducing the benefits of the developed receiver and demonstrating the value added in terms of improved performance and suitability to integrate within on-board units.

Other expected dissemination means shall include, among others, specialised magazines and sector press, presentations, leaflets and brochures, public event(s), websites, social networks, etc.

Similarly, as in case of the GSA/GRANT/07/2017 - Aviation DFMC SBAS Receiver Prototype, the beneficiary shall identify and follow standardization activities and already existing standards and produce a roadmap, describing the timeline proposed for the introduction of the receiver/antenna on the market. The beneficiary shall also provide recommendations for amendments of the existing standards or eventually development of new standards if needed.

The progress of the actions taken during the implementation of the project shall be reported in the deliverable "Report about the status of implementation of the Standardisation and Dissemination plan". A preliminary version of the Dissemination Plan shall be also included in the proposal.

- **Commercialisation:** the beneficiary shall define a Business plan describing the strategy to exploit the results, including the market uptake strategy in the selected application's segment. It shall identify actions that the beneficiary will take both after the completion of the project and during the action itself (e.g. to get involved with potential business partners and engage them in the evolution of the project to be ready to move to the next commercialisation phase).

The progress of the actions taken during the implementation of the project shall be reported in the deliverable "Report about the status of implementation of the business plan".

2.3. Core Activities

For the purpose of this call the following activities (belonging to one or more of the areas described above in section 2.2) are considered **core** to the project:

- Management and coordination
- User performance requirements and Concept of operations definition
- Design and development of the navigation algorithms
- Pre-Testing and validation of the solution
- Completion of the receiver guidelines
- Standardization and Dissemination

2.4. Deliverables

During the implementation of the action the beneficiaries are expected to submit a number of deliverables including documents and hardware. In addition, a progress report shall be delivered every three months.

Proposals (in B1 Form) should define a minimum set of deliverables and the planning for their submission. The list of deliverables shall include at least the following:

- 1) Project Management Plan including:
 - a. Product tree;
 - b. Work Breakdown Structure;
 - c. Work Plan Description;
 - d. Schedule;
 - e. Configuration Management Plan.
- 2) Risk Management Document including:
 - a. Risk Management Plan;
 - b. Risk Assessment Report.
- 3) Concept of operations and PNT requirements for operational scenarios
- 4) Integrity algorithms
- 5) Detailed navigation solution architecture and design justification file, including specifications of the GNSS receiver
- 6) Software Requirements
- 7) Software Design
- 8) Operation Safety case
- 9) Verification and Validation Plan
- 10) Test Plan
- 11) Test Procedures
- 12) Tests Reports
- 13) Receiver guidelines
- 14) Business plan
- 15) IPR-related documentation
- 16) Standardization and Dissemination Plan

17) Dissemination Documents and Multimedia

In relation to the Business plan (point number 14 above) the applicants are requested to include in their proposals a preliminary business plan describing how the products will reach the market beyond the project's duration. The preliminary business plan shall be evaluated against the award criteria (see section 10).

The demonstration to be conducted by the beneficiary shall include the provision of a fully functional PVT-module demonstrator (as described in section 2.1) with prototype(s), additional hardware/software, IPRs licencing if necessary and, any related documentation to the GSA.

2.5. Project Workflow

During an indicative 24 months of activity, the project shall foresee intermediate milestones reflecting as far as possible the workflow described below.

The proposed workflow should in principle contain the following milestones:

1. Kick-Off Meeting (KOM): The primary objective of the meeting is to present the review procedure and organisation.
2. Requirement Review (RR): The primary objectives of this review are to release the updated technical requirements and specifications on the basis of the analysis of state of the art on receiver requirements, the assessment of the preliminary design definition and the assessment of the preliminary verification program;
3. Preliminary Design Review (PDR): The primary objective of this review is the performance of the preliminary design activity for GSA approval as input for the prototype detailed design process. Exit criteria for this review shall at least include the approval of the prototype's requirements and of the preliminary design. Potential risk items are highlighted and mitigation plans are evaluated;
4. Critical Design Review (CDR): The primary objective of this review is the completion of the prototypes (at least one for the mandatory area of activity) detailed design, architecture and to authorise the start of the prototype development. Exit criteria for this review shall at least include the approval of the detailed design in accordance with the requirements and suitable for the implementation phase, other than the closure of any open action resulting from the PDR stage;
5. Test Review (TR): The primary objective of this review is the assessment of the performance with simulated data. The milestone shall be held at the end of the prototype testing phase in the laboratory;
6. Acceptance Review (AR): The primary objectives of this review are the exploration of the achieved performance with real data and to demonstrate that the receiver and navigation solution meet the requirements;
7. Final Review (FR): The primary objective of this review is to verify that the functional and performance testing phase is completed in compliance with the requirements and the target performances. The milestone shall take place at the end of the project activities with the acceptance of the project.

The applicants shall provide in the proposal a methodology for requirements identification, design, development and testing of the system.

The applicant can propose a different project workflow, if considered relevant to better reach the project objectives and to be approved by the GSA at the KPO meeting

2.6. Outputs expected from the implementation of activities

The proposals shall aim to achieve the objectives of the action. All the deliverables (as listed in section 2.4), will be used by the EU and the GSA in accordance with Articles I.9 and II.9 of the grant agreement.

The beneficiaries may request an access to a dedicated business support via the GSA “Integration of Fundamental Elements” platform that will support the go-to-market strategy of the project results, at no additional costs.

The purpose of this support is to provide a business assistance and expertise to the Fundamental Elements projects during the project implementation phase and post-project support. The objective is to ensure the implementation of the go-to-market strategy, resulting in optimal adoption by the GNSS equipment market of the Galileo enabled devices developed by the Fundamental Elements projects.

In this frame the GSA offers, e.g. business coaching, consultation on supplementary ways to ensure market entry of the projects’ outcomes, performance of a fully-fledged impact assessment (including cost-benefit analysis).

In case a beneficiary shows the interest in exploiting this possibility, the request for support should be raised after the kick-off of the project.

3. TIMETABLE

Tentative starting date for the action is in Q4 2020, unless the applicants can demonstrate the need to start the action before the agreement is signed; in such cases, applicants must request and receive the GSA’s written authorisation prior to the start of the action.

Indicative duration of the action under (each) grant agreement: **2 (two) years**

This call for proposals shall be conducted according to the following indicative timetable:

	Stages	Date/time or indicative period
a)	Publication of the call	18/12/2019
b)	Deadline for request for clarifications	04/05/2020
c)	Publication of the clarifications	14/05/2020
d)	Deadline for submitting applications	01/06/2020
e)	Evaluation period	June – August 2020
f)	Information to applicants on the outcome of the evaluation	September – October 2020
g)	Signature of the grant agreement	November - December 2020

4. EU FINANCING

Maximum budget allocated for EU financing under this action: **EUR 3,500,000.00**

Indicative number of projects: **up to 2 projects**

Maximum EU co-financing rate of eligible costs: **70%**

Publication of the call does not guarantee the availability of funds for the above action and it places no obligation on the GSA to award grants to any applicant.

The GSA reserves the right to award a grant of less than the amount requested by the applicant. In such a case, the applicant(s) will be asked either to increase their co-financing, propose other co-financing means or to decrease the total costs without altering the substance of the proposal. Grants will not be awarded for more than the amount requested.

5. ROLES AND TASKS OF APPLICANT(S)

5.1. Entities involved in the activities subject to the proposal

The proposal shall clearly identify the entities (legal and/or natural persons) to be involved in the activities subject to the proposal, being the applicant (s) (including **coordinator and co-applicants**) as well as any third parties, such as **affiliated entities and subcontractors** and their contributions to the implementation of the proposal under the grant agreement. Parties' participation in the project will be subject to the requirements as laid down in this Call for Proposals.

5.2. Single Applicant

In case the proposal is submitted by a single applicant, it will be considered as mono-beneficiary grant if the proposal is selected for award.

5.3. Coordinator

If the proposal is submitted by a group of several co-applicants they will form a consortium and will become consortium members. The consortium members (multi-beneficiaries) should choose amongst them a lead organisation, referred to as the "Coordinator".

The coordinator submits the application on behalf of the consortium and will be the intermediary for all communication between the co-beneficiaries and the GSA as well as responsible for supplying all documents and information to the GSA in due time upon request.

The grant agreement shall be signed by the coordinator of the successful consortium, provided that a mandate (Annex IV of the grant agreement) has been provided to it by each co-applicant. Such mandates shall be annexed to the grant agreement.

The coordinator will also be responsible for distribution of payments received from GSA to the co-beneficiaries.

5.4. Co-applicant(s)

Each co-applicant will be considered as co-beneficiary if the proposal is selected for award. Before signature of the grant agreement, all applicants within the consortium shall agree upon appropriate arrangements between themselves for the proper performance of the specific actions.

Co-applicants shall immediately inform the coordinator of any event which can substantially affect or delay the implementation of the action. The coordinator will inform the GSA in accordance with the grant agreement and will ensure compliance with all the terms and conditions provided in the draft grant agreement.

The coordinator and all co-applicants forming the consortium must satisfy the eligibility criteria.

5.5. Affiliated entities

Legal persons having a legal or capital link with the applicant(s), which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation, may take part in the action as affiliated entities, and may declare eligible costs. For that purpose, the applicant(s) shall identify such affiliated entities in the application forms and in the proposal.

Each affiliated entity shall have to comply with the same eligibility and non-exclusion criteria as those applying to the applicant(s) and submit the same forms, including the forms proving the financial and operational capacity (see section 9.1 and 9.2 below).

5.6. Subcontractors

Subcontracting³ refers to contracts concluded for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action.

The beneficiaries remain solely responsible for the implementation of the action. Subcontracting is not allowed among the beneficiaries in the project.

Please note that the applicants must have the necessary operational capacity to perform the project themselves. The operational capacity will be assessed at the time of the evaluation of the proposal (please refer to section 9.2 below).

Subcontracting of specific tasks or activities (i.e. the externalisation) which form part of the action as described in the proposal must satisfy the conditions applicable to any implementation contract (as specified above) and in addition to them the following conditions:

- a. it may only cover the implementation of a limited part of the action and **shall in no case cover core activities as described in Section 2.3;**
- b. it must be justified having regard to the nature of the action and what is **necessary for its implementation;**
- c. it must be clearly **stated in the proposal.**

³ Article 205 of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (Financial Regulation)

The beneficiaries must award the subcontract to the bid offering best value for money or the lowest price (as appropriate), avoiding conflicts of interests and retain the relevant documentation for the event of an audit. The sub-contract shall be awarded in accordance with the conditions set in the grant agreement. Entities acting in their capacity of contracting authorities in the meaning of Directive 2014/24/EC⁴ or contracting entities in the meaning of Directive 2014/25/EC⁵ shall abide by the applicable national public procurement rules.

The subcontracted tasks must be set out in the description of the action (i.e. form B1 and Annex I to the grant agreement) and the estimated costs of subcontracting must be stated in the estimated budget (Form C1 and Annex III to the Grant Agreement). However, approval of subcontracting by GSA (whether at the time of the evaluation of proposal or later during the implementation of the action) does not automatically mean that the related costs will be considered eligible and reimbursed. The costs will need to comply with the eligibility criteria indicated in the grant agreement (see also point 2.8 in section 12.2 below) in order for them to be reimbursed.

Any recourse to subcontracting if not provided *ex ante* in the Description of the Action (Annex I to the Grant Agreement) shall be communicated to the GSA for approval in accordance with the provisions of the signed Grant Agreement.

It is not necessary to have already selected subcontractors at the time the proposal is submitted.

6. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Applications must comply with all of the following conditions in order to be admissible:

- Applications must be sent no later than the deadline for submitting applications referred to in section 17,
- Applications must be submitted in writing, using the submission set described in section 16,
- Applications must be drafted in one of the EU official languages with a preference to English. For further information please refer to Section 17 below,
- Applications must respect the maximum rate for EU co-financing⁶.

In this context, any project directly or indirectly contrary to EU policy or against public health, human rights or against citizen's security will be rejected.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

⁴ Directive 2014/24/EC on public procurement and repealing Directive 2014/18/EC.

⁵ Directive 2014/25/EC on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC.

⁶ Proposals exceeding the applicable maximum EU co-financing rate for this call (see section 4) shall not be considered further and will be rejected.

7.1. Eligible applicants

- Legal persons established⁷ in and/or natural person(s) who is national of one of the following countries are eligible:
 - EU Member States
 - Switzerland, Norway
- Applicants must correspond to the definition of any of the following target organisations: **active in the development, integration and/or manufacturing of GNSS receivers, components, receivers and/or expert in the field of GNSS Research and development (R&D)**

Corporate bodies must be properly constituted and registered under their applicable law. When an applicant does not have a legal personality, a physical person must be designated to provide the legal responsibility.

The single applicant (see ref. to section 5.2), the coordinator (see ref. to section 5.3) and all co-applicants (see ref. to section 5.4) forming the applicant consortium, as well as the affiliated entities (see ref. to section 5.5) shall satisfy the same eligibility criteria.

For UK applicants: Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the purposes of the evaluation and for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the evaluation period, without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that UK applicants continue to be eligible, you will not meet the eligibility criteria as defined above. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that UK applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article II.17.3.1 (a) of the multi-beneficiary grant agreement or Article II.17.2.1 (a) of the mono-beneficiary grant agreement.

7.2. Multi-beneficiary proposal - Structure of the consortium

In the case of multiple co-applicants, the coordinator will submit the proposal on behalf of the consortium.

The proposal must be submitted by a consortium composed of at least two (2) entities out of which:

- **the coordinator shall be a legal person;**
- **the co-applicant(s) can be either a legal and/or a natural person(s).**

The grant agreement shall be signed by the coordinator of the successful consortium, provided that a mandate (Annex IV of the grant agreement) has been provided to it by each co-applicant. Such mandates shall be annexed to the grant agreement.

7.3. Supporting documents proving compliance with the eligibility criteria

- The **single applicant** and the **coordinator**, who will be receiving payments on behalf of the consortium of beneficiaries and shall be **responsible for distributing payments to the co-beneficiaries**, shall provide:
 - **A duly filled Financial Identification Form (FIF),**
Which can be downloaded from the following website:

⁷ Established should be understood as having a registered office, central administration or principal place of business in one of these countries.

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/financial_id/financial_id_en.cfm

It must be duly filled in and signed, and either include the bank's stamp and signature or be accompanied by the relevant bank statement.

- **All the applicants and any affiliated entities** shall provide the following supporting documents to establish their eligibility:
- **A duly filled and signed Legal Entity Form (LEF) accompanied by the relevant evidence (see below) of the applicant's legal status.**
A specific form in all official languages of the EU can be downloaded from the following website (use of the English form is preferred):
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm
 - In addition to the above:
 - **private legal person(s)**: extract from the official journal, copy of articles of association, extract of trade or association register and a copy of the certificate of liability to VAT (if, as in certain countries, the trade register number and VAT number are identical, only one of these documents is required);
 - **public legal person(s)**: a copy of the resolution, law, decree or decision establishing the public body, or as an alternative, any other official document establishing the public legal person by the national authorities may be submitted;
 - **a natural person(s)**: legible photocopy of identity card and/or passport OR an official VAT document (if applicable).

Applicant(s) may participate in multiple applicant consortia if the actions covered in the respective Technical Proposals (B1 form) are different from each other in order to comply with the principle of non-cumulative financing and award.

8. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE EXCLUSION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Article 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142 of the Financial Regulation shall apply to applicants.

8.1. Exclusion from participation

Exclusion criteria are specified in the standard **Declaration of Honour (A4 Form)** of this call and apply to all applicants **and all affiliated entities** (see ref. to section 5.5).

8.2. Exclusion from award

Applicants will not be granted EU funds if, in the course of the grant award procedure, they:

- are in exclusion situation established in the A4 form;
- have misrepresented the information required by the GSA as a condition of participation in the grant award procedure or fail to supply this information upon request by the GSA;
- were previously involved in the preparation of the call for proposal documents where this entails a distortion of competition that cannot be remedied otherwise.

Administrative and financial penalties may be imposed on applicants that are guilty of misrepresentation.

8.3. Supporting documents proving compliance with exclusion criteria

All applicants and any affiliated entities must sign and submit a Declaration of Honour (A4 Form).

Please note that according to this A4 Form, the successful applicants may be required to send a number of supporting documents related to aspects of the Declaration of Honour before the respective grant agreement can be signed. Collecting these supporting documents may take some time and applicants shall ensure their timely availability for performing this requirement accordingly.

Applicants shall not make any modifications/deletions to the Declaration of Honour (A4 Forms). If a part of the Declaration of Honour is considered not applicable (e.g. due to the legal structure of the applicant), the applicant shall inform and request a confirmation from the GSA in this regard.

9. SELECTION CRITERIA

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

9.1. Financial capacity

Applicants must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is carried out. The applicants' financial capacity will be assessed on the basis of the following supporting documents to be submitted with the application by each applicant and affiliated entity (thresholds shall apply to each applicant):

- a) grant amount < EUR 750 000:
 - a Declaration of Honour (A5 Form) and,
 - a table provided for in the application form (A5 Form), filled in with the relevant statutory accounting figures, in order to calculate the ratios as detailed in the form. For newly created legal persons, a business plan might replace the above documents.
- b) grant amount ≥ EUR 750 000:
 - in addition to the above, an audit report produced by an approved external auditor, where it is available, and always in cases where a statutory audit is required by Union or national law, certifying the accounts for up to the last three available financial years. In all other cases, the applicant shall provide a self-declaration signed by its authorised representative certifying the validity of its accounts for up to the last three available financial year.

On the basis of the documents submitted, if the GSA considers that financial capacity is not satisfactory and in any other case the GSA may deem it appropriate, it may:

- request further information;
- propose a grant agreement without pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a lower percentage of a pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a pre-financing covered by a bank guarantee (see section 12.4 below);
- reject the application.

The verification of the financial capacity **shall not apply to:**

- natural persons in receipt of education support;
- natural persons most in need, such as unemployed persons and refugees, and in receipt of direct support;
- public bodies, including Member State organisations;

- international organisations;
- persons or entities applying for interest rate rebates and guarantee fee subsidies where the objective of those rebates and subsidies is to reinforce the financial capacity of a beneficiary or to generate an income.
- Low value grants.

9.2. Operational capacity (B2 Form)

The applicant(s) shall demonstrate a balanced expertise in the areas needed to carry out the activities defined in section 2.

Applicants must show they have the **operational (technical and management) capacity** to complete the activities to be supported by this Call for Proposal and must **demonstrate their capacity to manage the activities** corresponding to the size of the project for which the grant is requested.

In particular:

- The team responsible for the activities must have a relevant technical competence,
- Applicant(s) must have a high degree of specialisation in the areas pertaining to the activities subject to the proposal,
- Applicant(s) must have relevant experience in design, development, integration, demonstration and/or manufacturing of GNSS-based products and/or solutions, including but not limited to knowledge in signal processing, cryptography techniques and/or assessment of anti-spoofing capability, and/or providing expertise in the field of GNSS R&D,
- Applicant(s) must prove that they have at their disposal technical infrastructures (relevant design and/or development and/or testing tools) necessary to perform the implementation.

In this respect, applicants have to submit in B2 Form the following elements:

- description of the profile of the individuals⁸ primarily responsible for managing and implementing the activities;
- description of the technical equipment, tools or facilities at the disposal of the applicant;
- description of the role of each applicant (coordinator, co-applicants and affiliated entities) in the organisational structure in general and regarding the performance of activities subject to grant agreement.

The above requirements apply also to every affiliated entity.

10. AWARD CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria. When assessing the below award criteria, the evaluation committee shall use the elements indicated below for each criterion.

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria. When assessing the award criteria, the evaluation committee shall use the elements indicated below for each criterion.

⁸ To highlight the relevant competencies for this Call for Proposal please use the europass CV template which can be accessed here: <https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/de/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions>

AWARD CRITERIA AND KEY ELEMENTS LIKELY TO BE ASSESSED BY THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE	MAX. SCORE
1. The relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the call, credibility of the proposed approach, and innovation of the solutions proposed:	50
<i>Relevance and quality of the proposed technologies and services to be implemented in the receiver, antenna and PVT-module (as described in Section 2.1)</i>	
<i>Relevance and quality of the methodology for requirements identification, design, development and testing of the receiver and antenna (as requested in Section 2.1)</i>	
<i>Overall quality of the proposal in terms of completeness, level of detail and innovation.</i>	
2. Impact in terms of economic and public benefits derived from the proposal including but not limited to a coherent business plan for the exploitation of the results of the grant:	10
<i>Maximisation of the benefits understood as usage of the developed technology for more than one operation/application.</i>	
<i>Coherency of the business plan for the exploitation of the results of the grant (preliminary version of deliverable)</i>	
3. Credibility and effectiveness of the standardization and dissemination plan for the results of the grant in the best interest of the European Union:	10
<i>Appropriateness of the methodology of the standardization and dissemination plan</i>	
<i>Impact of standardization and dissemination plan to attract visibility of results towards stakeholders</i>	
4. Quality of the implementation – coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources:	30
<i>The coherence and effectiveness of the work plan in terms of activities' definition, schedule, tasks, effort and cost, including justification of the resources to be used</i>	
<i>Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management</i>	
Maximum total score	100

If a total score lower than **60** points or a score lower than **60%** for any of the above four criteria is obtained, the proposal will not be evaluated further and will be rejected.

11. LEGAL COMMITMENTS⁹

Applicants are reminded:

The successful applicants shall be bound by the Special and General Conditions of the draft grant agreement. Submission of a grant application (proposal) implies the acceptance of these Special and the General Conditions (see Annex 2 of the Grant Agreement). This also includes the obligation of the provision of accurate, sincere and complete information within the context of this grant procedure including but not limited to filling out the provided forms with true, correct and complete data representing the real status of the applicant.

In the event of a grant awarded by the GSA following this call, a grant agreement drawn up in Euro and detailing the conditions and level of funding will be sent to the mono-beneficiary or coordinator of the

⁹ Articles 180 and 201 of the Financial Regulation

consortium (as the case may be), alongside a description of the procedure in view to formalise the obligations of the parties.

In case of consortium, the coordinator, representing the awarded consortium, on the basis of duly provided powers of attorney (Mandate – Annex IV of the grant agreement) shall sign 2 (two) copies of the original agreement.

In case the GSA requests the below documents¹⁰ the applicant shall make them available to the GSA within the relevant deadlines. The GSA reserves the right to cancel the award and/or the grant agreement signature process and re-allocate the budget in case of untimely submission. In particular:

- (1) All supporting documents pertaining to the Declaration of Honour (A4 form) for each co-applicant (and affiliated entity if the case may be) in due time upon request by GSA after the receipt of such request;**
- (2) Signed grant agreement by the coordinator accompanied by the mandate -- Annex IV of the grant agreement) for each co-applicant at the latest 1 (one) month after the coordinator's receipt of the grant agreement for signature.**

Applicants are reminded to start immediately the collection of the supporting documents for the relevant points in the Declaration of Honour upon GSA's request, bearing in mind that particularly for large consortia, the collection of documents may be very time-consuming.

12. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

When preparing their proposal, applicants shall observe the elements described in the following sub-sections for calculating the required budget for the implementation of their project.

12.1. General principles

Non-cumulative award

Each action may give rise to the award of only one grant from the budget to any applicant.

In no circumstances shall the same costs be financed twice by the European Union budget.

Applicants have to inform the GSA immediately of any multiple applications and multiple grants relating to the same action. The applicants shall inform about sources and amounts of EU funding received or applied for the same action or for part of the action. Applicants shall indicate if they receive EU funding for their functioning during the financial year in which the action takes place.

Non-retroactivity¹¹

No grant may be awarded retroactively for actions already completed.

¹⁰ Please refer to Section 8.3

¹¹ Article 193 of the Financial Regulation

A grant may be awarded for an action which has already begun, provided the applicant can demonstrate the need to start the action before the grant agreement is signed. In such cases, costs eligible for financing may not have been incurred prior to the date of submission of the grant application.

Co-financing¹²

Grants shall involve co-financing, which implies that the resources necessary to carry out the action shall not be provided entirely by EU contribution. EU financing may not cover 100% of the total costs of the action.

Co-financing of the action may take the form of:

- the awarded beneficiary's own resources,
- income generated by the action,
- financial contributions from third parties.

Co-financing may also take the form of in-kind contributions from third parties, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties to the awarded consortium as the corresponding costs are not eligible.

No-profit rule¹³

EU grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit within the framework of the action or the work programme of the beneficiary¹⁴.

For this purpose, **profit is defined as a surplus of the receipts over the eligible costs incurred by the beneficiaries**, when the request is made for payment of the balance. Where such a surplus occurs, the GSA is entitled to recover the percentage of the profit corresponding to the EU contribution to the eligible costs actually incurred by the beneficiaries to carry out the action.

Balanced budget¹⁵

The estimated budget of the action is to be attached in excel format to the application form following the model provided in the Form C1.

It must have revenue and expenditure in balance. The amounts must be expressed in **Euro** with maximum two decimals.

Applicants (and affiliated entities) with general accounts in a currency other than the euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into euro at the average of the daily exchange rates published in the C series of *Official Journal of the European Union*, determined over the corresponding reporting period (available at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/index.en.html>).

If no daily Euro exchange rate is published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* for the currency in question, conversion must be made at the average of the monthly accounting rates established by the Commission and published on its website determined over the corresponding reporting period.

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro_en.cfm

¹² Article 190 of the Financial Regulation

¹³ Article 192 of the Financial Regulation

¹⁴ The no-profit principle shall not apply to actions indicated in Article 192 (3) of the Financial Regulation.

¹⁵ Article 196 (1) e) of the Financial Regulation

Applicants and affiliated entities with general accounts in Euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into Euro according to their usual accounting practices

For awarded projects, the final payment will be based on the final financial report at the end of the project and supporting documents, taking into account any previous pre-financing and interim payment(s).

Financial support to third parties

The applications for this action may not envisage provision of financial support to third parties.

12.2. Funding form

GSA grants are calculated on the basis of a detailed estimated budget indicating clearly the costs that are eligible for EU funding. The grant amount may neither exceed the eligible costs nor the amount requested. Amounts are indicated in euro.

➤ **Maximum amount requested**

The EU grant is limited to a maximum co-funding rate of 70% of eligible costs incurred in the implementation of the specific actions taking into account the maximum grant amount referred to in section 4.

Consequently, part of the total eligible expenses entered in the estimated budget must be financed from sources other than the EU grant.

➤ **Eligible costs of the grant**

- A) Costs actually incurred by the beneficiary of a grant which meets all the following criteria:
- they are incurred during the duration of the action, as indicated in the grant agreement, with the exception of costs relating to the preparation of the final reports and audit certificates;
 - they are indicated in the estimated budget of the action;
 - they are necessary for the implementation of the action, in accordance with the description of the action, attached to the grant agreement;
 - they are identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the beneficiary and determined according to the applicable accounting standards of the country where the beneficiary is established and according to the usual cost accounting practices of the beneficiary;
 - they comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation;
 - they are reasonable, justified, and comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency.

The same criteria apply to the affiliated entities.

- B) Costs declared on the basis of an amount of EUR per unit as specified in Annex IX of this Call for Proposals for the beneficiaries which satisfy any of the following two criteria:
- personnel costs of owners of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) who do not receive a salary;
 - personnel costs for natural persons who do not receive a salary

The beneficiary's internal accounting and auditing procedures must permit direct reconciliation of the costs and revenue declared in respect of the action/project with the corresponding accounting statements and supporting documents.

Please note that the exact scope of the eligibility of costs is defined in the grant agreement, which will be signed by the successful applicant(s).

➤ **Eligible *direct costs***

The eligible direct costs for the action are those costs which, **with due regard for the conditions of eligibility set out above**, are identifiable as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action.

When preparing the proposal, applicants shall observe the elements described in the following sub-sections for calculating the necessary budget for the implementation of their project. The following categories of costs can be considered as **eligible direct costs**:

1. **Personnel costs** are:

- 1.1 cost of personnel working under an employment contract
- 1.2 costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract
- 1.3 unit costs of owners of SMEs who do not receive a salary or natural persons who do not receive a salary

2 **Other direct costs** are:

- 2.1 cost of travel and related subsistence allowances
- 2.2 costs for equipment and other assets specifically procured for the action
- 2.3 costs for equipment or other assets not procured specifically but directly used for the action – depreciation costs
- 2.4 the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets
- 2.5 the cost of using technical facilities or laboratories
- 2.6 costs of consumables and supplies
- 2.7 costs arising directly from requirements imposed by the grant agreement
- 2.8 costs entailed by subcontracts
- 2.9 costs of financial support to third parties [not-applicable]
- 2.10 duties, taxes and charges

1. Personnel costs

- 1.1 the **costs of personnel** working under an employment contract with the beneficiaries or an equivalent appointing act and assigned to the action (including civil servants and other personnel of national administrations to the extent that they relate to the cost of activities which the relevant public authority would not carry out if the project concerned were not undertaken), comprising actual salaries plus social security contributions and other statutory costs included in the remuneration, provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual policy on remuneration. Those costs may also include additional remunerations, including payments on the basis of supplementary contracts regardless of the nature of those contracts, provided that they are paid in a consistent manner whenever the same kind of work or expertise is required, independently from the source of funding used;

Personnel costs must be calculated by the applicants/beneficiaries as follows:

{{(Hourly rate multiplied by a number of actual hours worked on the action), plus for non-profit legal entities: additional remunerations to personnel assigned to the action}}.

The total number of hours declared in EU or Euratom grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than the annual productive hours used for the calculations of the hourly rate. Therefore, the maximum number of hours that can be declared for the grant are:

{Number of annual productive hours for the year minus the total number of hours declared by the beneficiaries, for that person for that year, for other EU or Euratom grants}

The 'hourly rate' is calculated as follows:

{actual annual personnel costs for the person divided by the number of annual productive hours}

The beneficiaries must use the annual personnel costs and the number of annual productive hours for each financial year covered by the reporting period concerned. If a financial year is not closed at the end of the reporting period, the beneficiaries must use the hourly rate of the last closed financial year available.

For the 'number of annual productive hours', the beneficiaries may choose one of the following:

- (i) 'fixed number of hours': 1720 hours for persons working full time (or corresponding pro-rata for persons not working full time);
- (ii) 'individual annual productive hours': the total number of hours worked by the person in the year for the beneficiaries *{annual workable hours of the person plus overtime worked minus absences}*. If the contract (or applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation) does not allow to determine the annual workable hours, this option cannot be used;
- (iii) 'standard annual productive hours': the standard number of annual hours generally applied by the beneficiaries for its personnel in accordance with its usual cost accounting practices. This number must be at least 90% of the 'standard annual workable hours'. If there is no applicable reference for the standard annual workable hours, this option cannot be used.

'Annual workable hours' - means the period during which the person must be working, at the employer's disposal and carrying out his/her activity or duties under the employment contract, applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation.

For all options, the actual time spent on parental leave by a person assigned to the action may be deducted from the number of annual productive hours.

Important:

Activities that **cannot** be deducted for the calculation of the annual productive hours and that cannot be charged to the project are Sales and marketing; Preparation of proposals; Administrative time (often means "unsold" time).

1.2 The **costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract** (e.g. in-house consultants) may be assimilated to such costs of personnel, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:

- there must be a **direct contract** between the natural person (individual) and the beneficiaries;
- the natural person works under the instructions of the beneficiaries and unless otherwise agreed with the beneficiaries through a teleworking agreement, in the premises of the beneficiary;
- the result of the work belongs to the beneficiaries;

- the costs are not significantly different from the costs of personnel performing similar tasks under an employment contract with the beneficiaries; and
- The remuneration must be based on working hours, rather than on delivering specific outputs/products. (This implies that the beneficiaries must keep records of the hours worked for the action.) Costs of natural persons working under a direct contract for a beneficiary must be calculated according to the formula: hourly rate multiplied by the number of actual hours worked on the action where hourly rate:
 - a. if the contract specifies an hourly rate: this hourly rate must be used;
 - b. if the contract states a fixed amount for the services of the natural person and the number of hours to be worked: this global amount must be divided by the number of hours to be worked for the beneficiary under that contract.

1.3 unit costs of **owners of SMEs who do not receive a salary** or **natural persons who do not receive a salary**

The eligible direct personnel costs declared by beneficiaries that are SMEs for their owners not receiving a salary and by beneficiaries that are natural persons not receiving a salary shall be based on a unit cost per hour worked on the *action* to be calculated as follows:

{Unit rate multiplied by a number of actual hours worked on the action}.

Each country has its own unique unit rate. These rates are specified in Annex IX to this Call for proposals.

The standard number of annual productive hours per SME owner and natural person is equal to 1 720 hours for persons working full time or corresponding pro-rata for persons not working full time. The total number of actual hours worked on the *action* and declared, in a year, for one SME owner or natural person not receiving a salary may not be higher than the standard number of annual productive hours (1 720 hours).

Important:

Timesheets have to be kept from the very beginning of the project to justify the declared actual hours worked on the *action*. The GSA may require them to verify the request for payment validity.

2. Other direct costs

Other costs in general: **only costs of those items which are directly linked to the performance of the operation, identifiable and assigned to the action shall be considered under this heading.**

Those costs should include the costs of implementation contracts for ancillary services, goods etc. needed to carry out the project (e.g. dissemination of information, specific evaluation, translations, reproduction...), including the purchase of consumables and supplies. They do not cover contract that implies any externalisation of activities included in the action described in the proposal, which should be included instead as subcontracting in the relevant form.

Please note that the fact that the costs are specific to the action is the key factor that makes these costs eligible for European Union funding. More general office supplies, stamps or other stationary is comprised of the indirect costs and cannot be considered under this heading.

All documents supporting the above costs (e.g. invoices) have to be kept from the very beginning of the project. The GSA will require them to verify the request for payment validity.

2.1 costs of travel and related subsistence allowances for employees provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual practices on travel;

Only the costs for the employee's travel and subsistence allowances can be introduced in the budget form. Travel costs of external service providers, if applicable, are to be included in their contracts.

Subscription fees to conferences or events, where relevant, should be included in C1 form (section 2.1) Travel costs.

Reimbursement of travel costs can be requested for meetings, European conferences, etc. provided that they are in line with the usual practices of the beneficiaries and pre-approved by the GSA. The travel policy of the beneficiaries must be made in writing and apply to all business trips of the organisation. Alternatively, in the case when a beneficiary has not formalised an internal travel policy or established travel practice, they should not exceed the scales approved annually by the European Commission. These European Commission rates can be consulted on this address:
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/per_diems/index_en.htm_en

In all cases, the costs reported should comply with the principle of economy and efficiency, meaning that travelling should be performed by the most direct and most economical route;

The costs reported should comply with the following:

- travel by the most direct and most economical route;
- travel by rail: first class;
- travel by air: economy class, unless a cheaper fare can be used (e.g. Apex);
- travel by car: reimbursed on the basis of the equivalent first class rail fare.

Flat-rate subsistence allowances cover all subsistence expenses during travel, including hotels, restaurants and local transport (taxis and/or public transport). They apply for each day of a mission at a minimum distance of 100 km from the normal place of work in the context of the project forming the subject of the grant agreement.

Please note that tips will not be considered as eligible costs.

Beneficiaries who want to declare travel costs as eligible costs of the project will have to provide the following information for each travel:

- Names or functions of the people involved;
- Journey and dates (even tentative);
- Purpose of the travel (this must refer clearly to one activity of the project);
- Subsistence costs: the total number of days of the travel x flat rate subsistence allowance (per diem) or an estimate of the real costs per day (per person);

- Cost of travel (estimation).

All necessary supporting documents, in accordance with the beneficiaries' travel policy, have to be kept from the very beginning of the project (e.g. travel tickets, boarding passes, invoices from the travel agency, etc.) The GSA will require them to verify the validity of the request for payment. For the per diem allowances, no supporting documents are required; only a declaration of the applicant on the applicable per diem in its organisation is needed.

2.2 **for equipment and other assets** (new or second-hand) **procured** specifically for the action and in accordance with Article II.10 of the grant agreement:

a) **the full purchase costs** provided that they are treated as capital expenditure in accordance with the tax and accounting rules applicable to the beneficiaries and are recorded in the fixed assets account of its balance sheet OR the purchase in itself is the purpose of the action [**not-applicable to this call**]

or

b) **the respective depreciation costs** provided that the asset has been purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to implementation contracts and that it is written off in accordance with the international accounting standards and international financial reporting standards, IAS/IFRS, regardless whether the beneficiary has to apply them or otherwise has diverging accounting practices.

2.3 **costs for equipment or other assets** (new or second-hand) not procured specifically but **directly used** for the action in **proportion to the usage for the action and only during its duration** as **depreciation costs** recorded in the accounting statements of the beneficiaries over the period of implementation of the action, provided that the asset is written off in accordance with the international accounting standards and the usual accounting practices of the beneficiaries.

Only depreciation for equipment which is strictly necessary for the purposes of carrying out the action can be charged as direct costs. This thus excludes any computer equipment, office material, furniture, etc. that the applicant needs for his daily activities and that will be normally covered by indirect costs.

Only the portion of the equipment's depreciation corresponding to the duration of the project and the rate of actual use for the purposes of the project can be taken into account by the GSA.

2.4 **the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets only to the portion of use and limited to the duration of the action**, provided that these costs do not exceed the depreciation costs of similar equipment or assets and are exclusive of any finance fee;

2.5 when **using technical facilities or laboratories the above rules (2.2) to (2.4) for eligibility of costs apply accordingly;**

2.6 costs **of consumables and supplies**, provided that they are purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action and are directly assigned to the action;

2.7 costs **arising directly from requirements imposed by the grant agreement** (dissemination of information, specific evaluation of the action, audits, translations, reproduction), including the costs of requested financial guarantees, provided that the corresponding services are purchased in

accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action;

- 2.8 **costs entailed by subcontracts**, concluded for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action **as described in the proposal**, provided that the conditions applicable to implementation contracts are met;

Please refer to Section 5.6 for further details.

- 2.9 **costs of financial support to third parties** within the meaning of Article II.12 of the grant agreement provided that the conditions laid down in that article are met [**not-applicable to this call**];

- 2.10 **duties, taxes and charges** paid by the beneficiaries, notably non-deductible value added tax (VAT), provided that they are included in eligible direct costs, and unless specified otherwise in the Grant Agreement. In particular, only non-deductible VAT is eligible, except for the activities which the beneficiaries that are public bodies engage in as public authorities (prerogatives of public powers under national law).

➤ **Eligible indirect costs**

A flat-rate amount of 7% of the total eligible direct costs of the action excluding subcontracting costs¹⁶ is eligible under indirect costs, representing the beneficiary's general administrative costs which can be regarded as chargeable to the action/project.

Indirect costs may not include costs entered under another budget heading.

Indirect costs are not eligible for beneficiaries that receive an operating grant.

➤ **Non-eligible costs**

In addition to any other costs which do not fulfil the conditions set out above, the following costs shall not be considered eligible:

- a. return on capital or return generated by an investment;
- b. debt and debt service charges;
- c. provisions for future losses or debts;
- d. interest owed;
- e. doubtful debts;
- f. currency exchange losses;
- g. bank costs charged by the beneficiary's bank for transfers from the Agency;
- h. costs declared by the beneficiaries in the framework of another action receiving a grant financed from the EU budget (including grants awarded by a Member State and financed from the EU budget and grants awarded by the European Commission or other EU bodies than the GSA for the purpose of implementing the EU budget); in particular, indirect costs shall not be eligible under a grant for an action awarded to a beneficiary which already receives an operating grant financed from the EU budget during the period in question;
- i. contributions in kind from third parties;
- j. excessive or reckless expenditure;
- k. deductible VAT;
- l. participation by any staff of the European Union institutions in the action
- m. costs incurred during the suspension of the implementation of the action;

¹⁶ Indirect costs = 7% * (total eligible direct costs - subcontracting)

n. cost categories explicitly excluded in the work programme/call.

Calculation of the final amount of the grant

The draft grant agreement annexed to this Call for proposals specifies the calculation of the final grant and the payment arrangements. Applicants' attention should particularly focus on the General Conditions of the draft agreement, where the eligibility conditions of costs are described. The EU grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit¹⁷ within the framework of the action.

The final amount of the grant to be awarded to the consortium is established after completion of the action and upon approval of the request for payment containing the following documents¹⁸ *[including relevant supporting documents where appropriate]*:

- a final report providing details of the implementation and results of the action;
- the final financial statement of costs actually incurred,
- *[where applicable, a certificate on the financial statements of the action and underlying accounts¹⁹].*

The authorising officer may also waive the obligation to provide a certificate of the financial statements and underlying accounts where an audit has been or will be directly done by the GSA's own staff or by a body authorised to do so on its behalf, which provides equivalent assurances about the costs declared.

12.3. Payment arrangements

Arrangements for pre-financing payment corresponding to 30% of the grant amount will be further detailed in the grant agreement (see ref. to Article I.5.2).

An interim payment shall be paid to the applicant or to the coordinator (in case there is a consortium the coordinator receives the interim payment on behalf of the consortium) and is intended to cover the expenditure on the basis of a request for payment when the action has been partly carried out.

The interim payment must clear 50% of the amount of the pre-financing payment previously made. The interim payment shall not exceed 40% of the maximum grant amount. The cumulative amount of pre-financing and of the interim payment altogether must not exceed 70 % of the *maximum amount of the grant*.

Payment	Amount	Reporting period	Note
Pre-financing payment	30%	N/A	
Interim payment	max 40%	Interim Review	Based on the actual requested contribution (i.e. actual expenditure).
Final payment	min 30%	Final Review (FR)	Based on the actual requested contribution (i.e. actual expenditure).

GSA will establish the amount of the final payment to be made to the mono-beneficiary OR the coordinator (who receives it on behalf of the consortium) on the basis of the calculation of the final grant amount (see section 12.2 above). If the total of earlier payments is higher than the final grant amount, the applicant or the coordinator (in case of consortium) will be required to reimburse the amount paid in excess by the GSA through a recovery order²⁰.

¹⁷ See section 12.1 of this Call for Proposal.

¹⁸ Art. 202 and 203 of the Financial Regulation

¹⁹ Art. 203 (4) of the Financial Regulation

²⁰ Art. 101, 115, 203 of the Financial Regulation

Please refer to the grant agreement for the terms and conditions of the payment arrangements (see ref. to Article I.5).

12.4. Pre-financing guarantee

A pre-financing guarantee for up to the same amount as the pre-financing may be requested, on a case by case basis, in order to limit the financial risks linked to the pre-financing payment. The financial guarantee, in euro, shall be provided by an approved bank or financial institution established in one of the Member State of the European Union. When the beneficiary is established in a third country, the authorising officer responsible may agree that a bank or financial institution established in that third country may provide the guarantee if he considers that the bank or financial institution offers equivalent security and characteristics as those offered by a bank or financial institution established in a Member State. Amounts blocked in bank accounts shall not be accepted as financial guarantees.

The guarantee may be replaced by a joint and several guarantee by a third party or by an irrevocable and unconditional joint guarantee of the beneficiaries of an action who are parties to the same grant agreement.

The guarantee shall be released as the pre-financing is gradually cleared against interim payments or payments of balances to the beneficiary, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the grant agreement.

13. PUBLICITY

13.1. By the Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries must clearly acknowledge the European Union's contribution in all publications or in conjunction with activities for which the allocated grants are used.

In this respect, beneficiaries are required to give prominence to the name and emblem of the GSA and of the European Union on all their publications, posters, programmes and other products realised under the grant agreement.

If this requirement is not fully complied with, the grant may be reduced in accordance with the provisions of the grant agreement.

13.2. By the GSA

The GSA will publish the following information:

- a. name of the awarded applicant (in case of multi-beneficiaries- name of the consortium) and its beneficiary/beneficiaries;
- b. address of the beneficiary (legal persons) or reference to the region (natural persons);
- c. the subject of the grant agreement;
- d. amount awarded.

Upon a reasoned and duly substantiated request by the applicants (or coordinator representing the consortium in case of multi-beneficiary project), the publication shall be waived if such disclosure risks threatening the rights and freedoms of individuals concerned as protected by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union or harm the commercial interests of the beneficiary.

14. OWNERSHIP

The attention of the applicants is drawn to the draft grant agreements, which stipulates the ownership regime of the results generated by the action.

15. DATA PROTECTION

Any personal data that may be included in the proposals received during the present procedure will be processed in accordance with (1) the applicable rules on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies (currently Regulation (EU) 2018/1725) and (2) the modalities of the following privacy statement:

Identity of the controller and Data Protection Officer:

- **Controller:** European GNSS Agency (GSA), Head of Market and Development Department, Janovskeho 438/2 170 00 Prague 7, Czech Republic, market@gsa.europa.eu
- **Data Protection Officer:** GSA Data Protection Officer, Janovskeho 438/2 170 00 Prague 7, Czech Republic, dpo@gsa.europa.eu

Purpose of the processing:

- the management and administration of the grant procedure
- additionally and only with regard to the personal data of the awarded applicant(s), the preparation of the grant agreement

Data concerned:

- Contact information of applicants, e.g. name and last name of authorised representatives, email address, postal address, telephone numbers, company/agency/body and department, country of establishment, position
- Financial information of applicants, e.g. bank account number, IBAN and BIC codes, address of respective bank branch
- Information that may be included in CVs of experts proposed by applicants: name and last name of proposed experts, educational background, professional experience including details on current and past employment, technical skills and languages etc.
- Data related to criminal convictions and offences of: (1) members of the administrative, management or supervisory body of applicants, (2) natural persons who have powers of representation, decision or control of the applicant, (3) owners of the applicants as defined in Article 3(6) of Directive (EU) 2015/849, (4) natural persons assuming unlimited liability for the debts of the applicants, (5) natural persons who are essential for the award or the implementation of the grant agreement; such data are collected through the submission of the declaration of honour (A5 Form)

It is specifically noted that:

- the abovementioned processing operations will not entail the processing of any special categories of personal data. If, however, an applicant submits such data at its own volition and without any specific request, it is implied that the data subject has given its consent to the processing of such data.
- the provision of personal data by the applicants is a requirement necessary to enter into the grant agreement

Legal bases: Article 5(1)(a), 5(1)(c), 10(2)(a) and 11 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725

Lawfulness of the processing:

- Article 5(1)(a): the processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest, specifically the management and functioning of the GSA through the launching of grant procedures.
- Article 5(1)(l): the processing is necessary for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is party or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract; the GSA processes the personal data of the applicants at their request (through the submission of their proposals) in order to take the necessary steps prior to enter into the grant agreement with the awarded applicant(s).
- Article 11: the processing of personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences shall be carried out only when authorised by Union law; such processing, in the form of an extract from the judicial record or declaration of honour, is explicitly foreseen in the Financial Regulation²¹ (Articles 136-140)
- Article 10(2)(a): as explained above, in case any applicant submits special categories of data at its own volition and without any specific request, it is implied that the data subject has given its consent to their processing

Recipients of the data processed:

- a limited number of staff of the GSA managing this grant procedure
- data processors:
 - a limited number of staff of GSA contractors assisting GSA staff in the management of this grant procedure
 - a limited number of staff of GSA contractors in charge of the provision of hosting services for the GSA's servers
- bodies charged with a monitoring or inspection task in application of Union law (e.g. internal audits, Financial Irregularities Panel, European Anti-fraud Office – OLAF)
- members of the public: the winning entities will be announced to the public, which may also entail the announcement of the personal data of the representatives of such entities (e.g. name, last name)

Information on the retention period and storage locations of personal data:

- any information pertaining to this grant procedure shall be kept for up to 7 years following the end of the year when the grant agreement(s) has been awarded as a result of the grant procedure; files may also have to be retained until the end of a possible audit if one started before the end of the above period;
- all collected data may be stored:
 - electronically on GSA servers with access control measures (i.e. one or two factor authentication) hosted by GSA contractors which are located in the EU and abiding by the necessary security provisions
 - physically in secure storage cupboards in the GSA HQ in Prague

²¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046

- electronically and physically on the servers/cupboards of the processors identified above (all of which are established in an EU Member State)

The data subjects' rights:

- Data subjects have the right of access, rectification and erasure of their personal data or restriction of processing at any time, provided that there are grounds for the exercise of this right, as per the applicable rules
- Data subjects have the right to object, on grounds relating to his or her particular situation, at any time to the processing of personal data concerning him or her. Requests shall be addressed to the GSA Market Development Department at market@gsa.europa.eu by describing the request explicitly. It is noted that pursuant to such a request, the Controller shall no longer process the personal data unless the Controller demonstrates compelling legitimate grounds for the processing which override the interests, rights and freedoms of the data subject or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims
- Data subjects may obtain their personal data, submitted to the GSA, in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format and transmit them to another controller, provided that there are grounds for the exercise of this right, as per the applicable rules
- Data subjects are entitled to lodge a complaint at any time with the European Data Protection Supervisor (<http://www.edps.europa.eu>; EDPS@edps.europa.eu) if they consider that their rights under the applicable rules on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data have been infringed as a result of the processing of their personal data by the GSA
- Only in cases where the data subjects' consent is used as the legal basis for the processing of personal data (i.e. in case they have submitted special categories of data at their own volition and without any specific request), they can withdraw their consent at any time, without affecting the lawfulness of the processing before the withdrawal

Any request for the exercise of any of the abovementioned rights shall be addressed to the GSA Market Development Department at market@gsa.europa.eu; data subjects are kindly requested to describe their requests explicitly.

16. PREPARATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSAL

Proposals shall be prepared in accordance with the scope of the Call (section 2.2), with a clear definition of the roles (Form A1), demonstrating that the consortium is composed of all the necessary competencies needed to achieve the objectives of the Call (section 2.1).

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set out under section 17.

Applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the selection process.

Proposals shall be prepared along the following structure:

Administrative Proposal (A1-A5):

A1 – Consortium Composition

A2 – Coordinator profile including:

- a) Legal Entity Form (LEF) together with supporting documents as described in Section 7.3
- b) Financial Identification Form (FIF) signed by the coordinator and signed and stamped by the bank OR a bank statement relating to the bank account

A3 – Co-Applicant profile (+ LEF) together with supporting documents as described in Section 7.3

A4 – Declaration of honour

A5 – Financial capacity ratios

Technical Proposal (B1-B2):

B1 – Technical proposal (additional documents can be annexed to this form to complement the information)

B2 – Operational capacity

Financial Proposal:

C1 – Preliminary Budget

The technical proposal (B1-B2 Forms) constitutes the core of your proposal. These forms shall be submitted using the various duly completed templates provided with this call, consisting of a list of headings. It is recommended to follow this structure when presenting the technical content. The templates are designed to highlight those aspects that will be assessed against the evaluation criteria. They cover, among other things, the nature of the proposed work, the participants and their roles in the proposed project, and the impact that might be expected to arise from the proposed work. Additional information or descriptive document may be provided by applicants as an annex.

The C1 form shall be submitted in excel (.xls) format.

Please note that figures shall be indicated in C1 form. In case figures are indicated in other forms, please include a cross reference only. If inconsistencies will be present between C1 and other forms the figures in C1 form will prevail.

Overview of Forms (as presented below in the table) shall be submitted by the applicant (single applicant of coordinator on behalf of the consortium) and every related actor specified below is responsible to fill them **duly in** (coordinator and/or co-applicants and/or an affiliated entity). The table below reflects on who has to fill out what kind of forms. This information shall be reflected in the cover page of the A forms prepared by the single applicant/coordinator.

Responsibility / Forms	Single applicant/Coordinator	Co-applicant	Affiliated entity
A1 – A2 –B1	X		
A3		X	
A4 – A5 – B2 – C1	X	X	X
FIF and supporting documents	X		
LEF and supporting documents	X	X	X

17. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set in this section.

The applicants are not allowed - in any respect - to change the scope and the content of the proposal(s), till the signature of the grant agreement. However, if there is a need to clarify certain aspects or for the correction of clerical mistakes, the GSA may contact the applicant for this purpose during the evaluation process.

The proposal may be submitted in any of the official languages of the European Union with a preference to **English version**.

The proposal ~~shall always~~ may be submitted in a paper version (please see the note below).

NOTE: The proposals **submitted in paper** shall always also contain 2 (two) copies of USB storage devices containing the full set of proposal documents in machine-readable format (standard Office 2003 and Adobe PDF 2008 or later). In case of doubt or outright divergence between the physically submitted proposal and the content provided in electronic format (on the USB-storage devices), the physical documents shall always take precedent.

Possibility to submit the proposal electronically

The applicant may submit its proposal only electronically on 3 (three) CD-ROM, DVD or USB sticks with the full set of documents. The documents on these media must be identical and they shall be in machine readable format (MS Office 2003 or later, or Adobe Reader Version 8.0 or later). These medias must be inserted in a sealed envelope as described below.

The electronic version of the proposal is considered as original.

Applicants must ensure that the electronic medias and files are readable. In particular, they must take all the necessary measures to protect them during the transport to avoid any damage to them.

Applicants are advised to:

- use, and include into the sealed envelope, different types of media (e.g. DVD and different types of USB sticks) in order to eliminate the risk of non-readable media and files.
- create hashes of submitted files (in the form of algorithm MD5, SHA-256 or higher) and insert them, preferably as a paper printout, into the sealed envelope, together with the media.
- ensure that the data on these media cannot be altered.

If the submitted media and files are not readable, the applicant will have the possibility to resubmit the media upon condition that:

- hashes of the original files have been created;
- hashes of the re-submitted files are created and such hashes are strictly identical to the hashes of the original files inserted into the sealed envelope.

If the submitted media and files are not readable and the applicant does not resubmit media and files which are strictly identical to the original ones and related hashes, within a reasonable delay upon notification by the Contracting Authority that the files submitted cannot be read, the proposal will be rejected.

Possibility to sign the documents electronically

The documents which must be signed according to the call for proposals may be signed electronically with a qualified electronic signature (QES) of the applicant. This electronic signature must be provided by a provider which has a qualified status granted by a national competent authority of an EU Member State and which is

listed in the national eIDAS Trusted Lists and the EU List of eIDAS Trusted Lists (LOTL) (available at <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tl-browser/#/>).

NOTA BENE

The deadline for the submission of the proposals will be considered met when the proposal is sent by post mail, express mail or commercial courier not later than 23:59 of the date indicated in section 3 of page 11 as well as below. This deadline is therefore respected even if it is received by the GSA after this deadline under the condition that it was sent before.

~~Unless notified otherwise by the GSA~~, The proposals ~~(including USBs)~~ shall be submitted ~~by letter~~ as indicated above:

- a. either by post or by courier not later than **01/06/2020**, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip, to the address indicated below)
- b. or delivered by hand not later than **01/06/2020 at 17:00** Prague local time to the address indicated below. In this case, a receipt must be obtained as proof of submission, signed and dated by the GSA official who took delivery.

The GSA is open from 09.00 to 17.00 Monday to Thursday, and from 9.00 to 16.00 on Fridays. It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays.

Proposals must be placed inside a sealed envelope. The envelope, addressed as indicated below, should be marked as follow“: "**CALL FOR PROPOSALS GSA/GRANT/05/2019 – NOT TO BE OPENED**". If the self-adhesive envelope is used, it must be sealed with adhesive tape and the sender must sign across this tape.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GSA/GRANT/05/2019

Receiver for localisation in train signalling

GSA – Legal and Procurement Department

Janovského 438/2, 170 00 Prague 7- Czech Republic

18. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS, AWARD AND RESERVE LIST

18.1. Evaluation of Proposals

All applications will be examined and assessed by an Evaluation Committee. The assessment of each proposal will be based on the information provided by the applicants in the proposal submitted in reply to the call for proposals. The information will be assessed in light of the admissibility, eligibility, exclusion, selection and award criteria set out in the Call for Proposals.

The Evaluation Committee may ask an applicant to provide additional information or to clarify the supporting documents submitted in connection with the application, in particular in the case of evident material errors.

At the end of the evaluation:

- the best proposal(s) will be proposed for the award,
- placed on the reserve list in case of not available funding,
- rejected, stating the reasons for rejection.

After the completion of the evaluation, applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the evaluation.

18.2. Award of the grant agreement

The GSA may invite the applicant(s), whose proposal has been recommended for the award by the Evaluation Committee, to introduce minor adjustment to the proposal. In that case, the applicant would receive a letter setting out the proposed modifications. The modified proposal shall address the modification proposed by the GSA **only**. This phase will not lead to a re-evaluation of the proposal.

A decision to reject an application can be based on the following grounds:

- the application does not comply with the admissibility criteria as set out in section 6 above;
- the application does not comply with the eligibility criteria as set out in section 7 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the exclusion criteria as set out in section 8 above;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the technical capacity;
- the applicant(s) does(do) not comply with the financial capacity;
- the proposal has not reached the minimum scores as indicated in the award criteria detailed in the call for proposals;
- the score obtained by the proposal is not ranked amongst the best proposals considered for the award.

'If the applicant believes that there was maladministration he can lodge a complaint to the European Ombudsman for alleged maladministration within two years of the date when he became aware of the facts on which the complaint is based (see <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu>).

The court responsible for hearing annulment procedures is the General Court of the European Union:

General Court
Rue du Fort Niedergrünwald
L-2925 Luxembourg
tel.: (+352) 4303 1 fax: (+352) 4303 2100
e-mail: GeneralCourt.Registry@curia.europa.eu
URL: <http://curia.europa.eu>

18.3. Reserve list

The GSA may place proposals – which were not considered for award of the grant due to inferior score or lack of budget – on a reserve list. Should additional budgetary appropriations become available, the applicants will be informed according to their ranking on the reserve list for the potential award of the grant.

19. CONTACTS

Contacts between the GSA and potential applicants can only take place in certain circumstances and under the following conditions:

Before the final date for submission of proposals:

- At the request of the applicant, the GSA may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the nature of the call. The request cannot be made after **4 May 2020**.
- Any requests for additional information must be made in writing only to the contact details stated below.
- The GSA may, on its own initiative, publish corrigenda in case of inaccuracy, omission or other clerical error in the text of the call for proposals.
- Any additional information including that referred to above will be published on the GSA internet page (<http://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/grants>) on which the call for proposals is published.

After the deadline for submission of proposals:

- If clarification is requested or if obvious clerical errors in the proposal need to be corrected, the GSA will contact the applicant provided the terms of the proposal are not modified as a result.
- If the GSA finds that the proposal, chosen for the award, could be improved by minor adaptations (see Section 18.2 above).

Contact details for the call:

GSA: Legal and Procurement Department

E-mail address: GNSS-Grants@gsa.europa.eu

Office address: GSA, Janovského 438/2, 170 00, Prague 7, Czech Republic

REMINDER: when sending any correspondence to the GSA, please refer to the subject (of the email or of the letter) to the relevant reference number of the Call: **GSA/GRANT/05/2019** – the failure of doing so might delay the timely response of the GSA.

20. ANNEXES

ID	Document Title
Annex I	A1-A4 forms
Annex II	A5 form
Annex III	B1-B2 forms
Annex IV	C1 form
Annex V	Mono-beneficiary draft Grant Agreement
Annex VI	Multi-beneficiaries draft Grant Agreement
Annex VII	Model financial statement (Annex V to Mono GA and Annex VI to Multi GA)

Annex VIII	Model ToR for Certificate on the financial statements (Annex VI to Mono GA)
Annex IX	Model ToR for Certificate on the financial statements (Annex VII to Multi GA)
Annex X	Unit costs rates (Annex X to Mono GA and Annex XI to Multi GA)

21. REFERENCE/APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

1. GSA H2020 STARS: D5.3 EGNSS Target Performances to meet railway safety requirements. Available here: <http://www.stars-rail.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/STR-WP5-D-ANS-034-07 - D5.3 - EGNSS Target Performances to meet railway safety requirements .pdf>
2. GSA H2020 STARS: D5.1 State of the art of EGNSS projects for the rail application. Available here: <http://www.stars-rail.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/D5.1-State-of-the-art-of-EGNSS-system-for-the-rail-application-updated....pdf>
3. GSA H2020 STARS: D4.3 Railway environment characterization. Available here: <http://www.stars-rail.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/D4.3 Railway environment characterization.pdf>
4. GSA H2020 STARS: Final book. Available here: <http://www.stars-rail.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/D7.5 Final-Book.pdf>