



EFSA's outsourcing tools – new Grant opportunities


Dr. Stef Bronzwaer,
Head of Advisory Forum and Scientific
Cooperation Unit, EFSA


**How to cooperate with the
European Food Safety Authority**

7 November 2014, Ljubljana, Slovenia

 **efsa**
European Food Safety Authority

www.efsa.europa.eu



 **efsa**
European Food Safety Authority

OVERVIEW

Outline of Presentation

- Update on financial rules
- Planned calls – draft workplan 2015
- New Grant opportunities
 - Thematic Grants
 - Framework Partnership Agreements


2



1. Financial Rules – explanation different tools

 **efsa**
European Food Safety Authority

www.efsa.europa.eu



PROCUREMENT VS. GRANTS

Procurement		Grants
Buying things	Purpose	Giving money
EFSA	Ownership	Beneficiary
Agreed price	Payment	Share of costs
Profit	Principle	Non-profit
Call for tenders	Procedures	Call for proposals
Contract	Legal form	Agreement
Vade-mecum	Guides	Practical Guide
FR Title V	Rules	FR Title VI

4



PROCUREMENT: LEGAL BASIS

- Public procurement
- EU Financial Regulation No 966/2012: inspired by national procurement directives

EFSA **buys** the services it needs



5



PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

Negotiated procedure

- **≤ 15,000 €** : EFSA invites min. 1 candidate
- **≤ 60,000 €** : EFSA invites min 3 candidates + must invite those expressing interest via EFSA website

Negotiations possible: price and technical aspects



6




PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

Open call

- any entity based in EU can submit an offer/tender/bid
- **> 60,000 €**
- No negotiations of offers



7



PROCUREMENT CONTRACT TYPES


Direct contract

- one-off tasks
- subject, tasks, quantity, price/duration known at contract signature

Framework contract

- repetitive tasks
- max 4 years, max ceiling in €
- FWC defines subject but not the exact quantities and delivery times
- implemented via order forms/specific contracts once a need arises

8






GRANTS: LEGAL BASIS

- EFSA Establishing Regulation (178/2002)
 - + Article 36 implementing rules
- EU Financial Regulation No 966/2012

Article 36

9



GRANTS/PROCUREMENT: FREQUENT ISSUES


GRANTS

- Indirect costs max 10% of the total eligible direct costs
- EFSA grant – based on actually incurred costs
- Use of results: rules favourable for beneficiaries
- Subcontracting of non core tasks possible

PROCUREMENT

Dol policy **Simplified.**

10



GRANTS - CHANGE IN USE OF PROJECT RESULTS

- Template Grant agreement 2014 changed
- As so far, the ownership project results with beneficiary, but:
 - Default 3 yrs derogation '*exclusivity of use*' cancelled
 - EFSA may stipulate derogation '*exclusivity of use*' to 6 mths (exceptionally 12), only if needed
 - Beneficiary may always request ex-ante approval of use of project results


11



2. Planned calls – draft workplan 2015

efsa
European Food Safety Authority

www.efsa.europa.eu



DRAFT WORKPLAN 2015 - PROCUREMENT

Data collection and analysis

- **EU Menu project**
 - support MS to collect harmonised food consumption data for use in exposure assessments
- **Zoonoses data collection**
 - support electronic submission of zoonoses, AMR and FBO data
- **Standard Sample Description (SSD2)**
 - test SSD2 data model is suitable and effective tool for reporting occurrence data
- **Biological relevance of the magnitude of effects observed in studies with amphibians and reptiles**
 - in view of population level impacts on amphibians and reptiles
- **Data collection for updating the TTC approach**
- **FoodEx2 implementation**
 - chemical occurrence & food consumption (negotiated procedure)

13




DRAFT WORKPLAN 2015

Implementation of framework contracts

- **Re-opening competitions with existing contractors**
 - Perform (parts of) systematic reviews and/or extensive literature searches in areas of animal health / welfare and plant health
 - Perform statistical analyses supporting incoming mandates in areas of EFSA's remit and carry out statistical analyses on antimicrobial resistance (**new call in 2015 !**)
 - Perform data collection activities (to close data gaps and reduce uncertainties) in the areas of animal health / welfare and plant health
 - Develop an inventory of available guidances for appraising evidence
 - Collecting information on MS and EU activities in area of post-market monitoring

14




DRAFT WORKPLAN 2015

Implementation of framework contracts

- **Direct assignments with existing contractors**
- Preparatory work for evaluation of application dossiers
 - data synthesis on chemical, toxicological, statistical / bioinformatics data in the areas of feed additives, food enzymes, flavourings, food contact materials, GMOs
- Support preparation Annual report pesticide residues
- EFSA's Chemical hazard database
 - Further development and updating with chemical descriptors for recently accepted mandates and the full data for recently adopted opinions
- Support annual food and feed crisis preparedness training

15



DRAFT WORKPLAN 2015

Grants

- Review of farm management practises associated with cultivation of GM plants and conventional counterparts
- Perchlorate - data generation in order to refine risk assessment
- Citrinin - occurrence data generation in order to refine risk assessment
- Genotoxicity study on Beauvericin and Enniatins in order to refine risk assessment


16






3. New Grant opportunities

 **efsa**
European Food Safety Authority


www.efsa.europa.eu



EFSA GRANT TOOLS PANOPLY

- **SPECIFIC EFSA GRANTS**
 - EFSA fosters cooperation on EFSA projects
- **FOCAL POINT GRANT AGREEMENTS** 
 - EFSA co-finances tasks of national focal points
- **THEMATIC GRANTS** 
 - boosting innovative projects and networking between MS competent organizations
- **PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS** 
 - long-term projects with specialised partners

18



THEMATIC GRANTS - NATURE

Aim of thematic grants

1. **Networking**: international consortia
2. **Innovation**: proposals from large community
3. **Sustainability**: long-term cooperation
4. **Sharing**: project results owned by beneficiary

Current grants	vs	Thematic grants
Project ideated by EFSA		Project ideated by applicant

19



THEMATIC GRANTS – CHARACTERISTICS

- Eligibility: only Article 36 organizations
- Obligatory consortia, min 2 from 2 countries
- Long time for submission (6 months)
- Only proposals within the announced theme/area
- Each year different theme
- Maximum grant obtainable 500.000 €
- More grants after one call

- Classical grant principles apply: no profit, co-financing, no retroactivity, actually incurred costs
- Co-financing at 50%
- Indirect costs 10%
- Sub-contracting possible (Non-core tasks)

20




PLANNED CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2015

DRAFT - launch planned November 2014

New approaches in identifying and characterising microbiological and chemical hazards, with 2 specific areas for proposals:

- Making use of molecular approaches to identify and characterise microbial foodborne pathogens, specifically using whole genome sequence (WGS) analysis, to enhance the understanding, the traceability and spread of the disease in humans that these bacteria populations may cause
- Development and application of read across methodologies to the hazard assessment of chemicals in the food safety area

21



FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS (FPA)

Objectives FPA

Establishing **long term cooperation** with Art. 36 partners


When to use

1. Stimulate long term cooperation on a project of **mutual benefit to applicant/EFSA** - First case: RIVM – Acropolis

and

2. Not able to define the whole project packages with precision from the outset


22



FPA – CHARACTERISTICS

- Eligibility: only Article 36 organizations
- Set the framework for future specific grants
- Subject defined but not exact quantities & delivery times
- Possible without a call for proposals
- Max duration 4 years
- Maximum grant obtainable – no ceiling at this stage
- Classical grant principles apply: no profit, co-financing, no retroactivity, actually incurred costs
- Co-financing to be specified in each FPA
- Indirect costs 10%
- Sub-contracting possible (Non-core tasks)

23



Thanks for your attention

24