

**Clarifications during tendering
F-SE-16-T11
Fundamental Rights Survey
Questions and Answers I**

Vienna, the 24.08.16
Ref: 2016-outgoing- 001172

Reference: Open call for tender F-SE-16-T11 Fundamental Rights Survey
Subject: Clarifications during tendering

Dear Sir/Madam,

We received questions of general interest from the tenderers. Please find herewith the answer to these questions.

Yours sincerely,


Michael O'Flaherty
Director



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Question 1:

The pre-testing and feasibility assessment study also included cognitive testing of the questionnaire. The findings are likely to have important implications for the main survey, and we would expect this may also have resulted in revisions to the pre-test questionnaire so far provided to us. Would it be possible to have the report from this stage of the study and also a revised questionnaire if one is available?

Answer 1:

The final results of the cognitive testing were not available at the time when the present call for tender was published. FRA does not consider the results of cognitive testing essential for developing the technical offers since cognitive testing, as a part of the pre-testing and feasibility assessment, contributes to the development of the questionnaire of the full-scale survey. The survey questions in themselves do not have implications for tenderers' ability to carry out the interviews, nor do the questions used in the pre-test inform about the questions that will be asked in the full-scale survey (as indicated in the disclaimer on the front page of the pre-test questionnaire that was made available to interested tenderers per request). The technical specifications indicate the expected length of the survey interviews, which tenderers should consider for their technical offers.

FRA developed a questionnaire specifically for the purposes of cognitive testing, to explore the understanding and acceptability of selected survey questions and to assess potential mode effects. FRA is in the process of examining the inputs from the cognitive interviews, and therefore there is no revised questionnaire available.

Given that the final results of cognitive testing are now available, FRA will send the document to those tenderers who have requested or who will request the documents from the pre-test and feasibility assessment as indicated in section 1 of Annex A – Tender Specifications.

Question 2:

We have found that the professional experience requirements for the Sampling and Weighting Expert are very difficult to fill, specifically, the requirement for at least one scientific publication on sampling or weighting in mixedmode surveys. This may be because mixedmode surveys are relatively new in the field of survey methodology, or it may be that their considerations are more related to questionnaire design or general survey implementation issues, rather than having specific relevance to sampling or weighting. Would it therefore be possible that this requirement is reconsidered?

**Answer 2:**

The third bullet point concerning the qualifications and professional experience of the Senior Sampling and Weighting Expert will be interpreted as follows. Where the technical specifications read (on p. 42) ‘...out of which at least one (1) scientific publication on sampling or weighting in mixed mode surveys’, the proposed Senior Sampling and Weighting Expert will qualify if at least one of the total three required scientific publications is on sampling OR if at least one of the total three required scientific publications is on weighting in mixed mode surveys. That is, in order to qualify under this criterion, the scientific publication on sampling does not necessarily need to handle mixed mode surveys.