

Q&A concerning the Open Market Consultation (OMC) and Call for Tender

Q: Who can participate in the OMC?

A: Any person from academia or industry who is developing solutions for, has expertise or interest in NGS in medical diagnostics; clinicians, patients and other stakeholders.

Q: How to participate in the OMC?

A: Information on the OMC is provided on the INSTAND-NGS4P website; registration can be done via the link provided on the project website; participation is free.

Q: What will be the format of the OMC?

A: The OMC consist of two parts – a virtual meeting and a questionnaire. The virtual meeting will be held on March 22nd and 23rd 2021, with presentations by Consortium members on clinical and patient needs, and the 4 Lots, followed by open discussion and collection of stakeholders' feedback. There will be no company presentations.

Q: Who can complete the questionnaire and when?

The questionnaire will be widely distributed and made available on the website before the end of April and can be completed by any stakeholder, whether or not they attended the OMC. The deadline for completion will be around the third week of May.

Q: Do issues discussed in the OMC impact specification of NGS workflows as defined later in the call for tenders?

A: A major goal of the OMC is to collect input from a large stakeholder group in order to fine tune specifications of the Lots of the integrated NGS workflow.

Q: Does participation in the OMC exclude from responding to the call for tenders?

A: No.

Q: How can solution providers obtain additional information on the call for tender?

A: There will be Webinars organized after the OMC with the opportunity to ask questions.

Q: Can solution providers from academia and industry respond to the call for tender?

A: Yes.

Q: Can solution providers provide confidential information?

A: Yes. Confidential information can be provided in the questionnaire.

Q: Does one solution provider have to address all Lots of a workflow?

A: No; one solution provider can contribute to a maximum 3 Lots of the complete workflow (e.g., Lots 1, 2 & 3 or Lots 2, 3 & 4 or only two Lots or a single Lot).

Q: Can a group (e.g., a consortium) of solution providers respond to the call for tender?

A: Yes; joint response to call for tender of large companies together with SMEs and academic institutions is encouraged.

Q: How will the winning solution provider be selected?

A: According to pre-defined criteria, as specified in the call for tender. The selection will be performed by experts from the INSTAND-NGS4P consortium.

Q: Must solution providers be EU-based?

A: No, but 75% of the R&D funding has to be spent in the EU.

Q: Is the participation of UK-based entities affected by the withdrawal of the UK from the EU (Brexit)?

A: No – under this H2020 PCP project, UK entities are considered to be one of the EU Member States, and can apply for the PCP procurement in any form they wish: main bidder, consortium member, subcontractor etc. R&D may be performed for the PCP in the UK.