



[28/08/2026]

[CT2274/2026 - Services - Tender for the Implementation of a Fully Compliant European Digital Identity Wallet (EUDIW), Supporting Trust Ecosystem and use cases for the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA)]

Clarification Note # [12]

To all prospective bidders

Reference is made to the above-captioned tender for which the deadline for submission of offers was [24/09/2026] at [09:30am] and is now **being extended till [24/09/2026] at [09:30am]**.

Please find a set of clarifications which are construed to form an integral part of the tender document.

Extension:

The Contracting Authority would like to inform prospective bidders that the deadline for submission of offers is going to be extended as per below dates.

	DATE	TIME*
Deadline for request for any additional information from the Contracting Authority.	07/09/2026	09:30am
Clarifications by registered users to be sent online through www.etenders.gov.mt		
Last date on which additional information can be issued by the Contracting Authority	12/09/2026	09:30am
Deadline for Submission of Tenders (unless otherwise modified in terms of Clause 10.1 of the General Rules Governing Tendering)	15/10/2026	09:30am
Tender Opening Session (unless otherwise modified in terms of Clause 10.1 of the General Rules Governing Tendering)	15/10/2026	10:00am
* All times Central European Time (CET)/Central European Summer Time (CEST) as applicable		

Clarification:

With reference to Section 1, Article 5(B)(b), which states "The bidder must provide a signed declaration by a warranted Auditor appointed by the economic operator, which confirms the minimum average yearly turnover during the past three (3) financial years shall be not less than €2,500,000 - per year."

The Contracting Authority clarifies that the requirement relates to the average yearly turnover across the past three (3) financial years, which shall be not less than €2,500,000. Accordingly, it is not a requirement to achieve a turnover of at least €2,500,000 in each individual financial year, provided that the average yearly turnover over the three-year period is not less than €2,500,000.

Question No. [01]: *Financial standing*

Reference is being made to the ITT section 5) A) b) "the bidder must provide a signed declaration by a warranted auditor appointed by the economic operator which confirms the minimum average yearly turnover during the past 3 financial years shall not be less than €2,500,000 per year". Can you please confirm that the cumulative turnover of a joint venture / inclusive of sub-contractors can be relied upon for this?

Answer No. [01]: Reliance on the capacity of other entities - Kindly refer to the General Rules Governing Tenders v4.10 with particular emphasis on Article 2 of the said document.

Question No. [02]: *Deadline extension request.*

Given the complexity and importance of this FWC and the fact that the deadline of this RFP falls within the summer holiday season, we would like the Agency to consider extending the deadline by at least two weeks. This will allow us to have the right experts available and a complete operational capacity to come up with a qualitative offer.

Answer No. [02]: Prospective bidders are to refer to Clarification Note 02, published as part of this tender.

Question No. [03]: *Request for Extension*

We refer to the submission deadline for tender CT2274/2026 of 3 September 2026. Based on the strategic importance and complexity of this project for Malta's digital identity and trust ecosystem, we kindly ask whether the Contracting Authority would consider extending the submission deadline to the end of October 2026. We believe that such an extension would allow bidders

sufficient time to prepare comprehensive, high-quality and fully compliant proposals, ultimately realising better outcomes for the Contracting Authority.

Answer No. [03]: Prospective bidders are to refer to Clarification Note 02, published as part of this tender.

Question No. [04]: *Cumulative value of projects*

Reference is being made to the ITT section 5) A) c) b) “the cumulative value of all the projects mentioned in a) above, executed during the last three years must not be less than €5,000,000 ex VAT in aggregate. Can you please confirm that the cumulative turnover of a joint venture / inclusive of sub-contractors can be relied upon for this?”

Answer No. [04]: Reliance on the capacity of other entities - Kindly refer to the General Rules Governing Tenders v4.10 with particular emphasis on Article 2 of the said document.

Question No. [05]: *Estimated procurement value*

Section 1.3 within the ITT notes that the estimated procurement value is €15.6million. Can you please confirm that this EPV relates to the 90-month contract period, and is not inclusive of the two (2) periods of twenty-four (24) months from the date of contract as per Article 20.2 of the special conditions?

Answer No. [05]:

The Estimated Procurement Value (EPV) is stated in Section 1, Article 1.3 as “€15,659,714.03 excluding VAT”. The tender further specifies in Section 2 Article 18.2 that “the duration of the contract shall be ninety (90) months from commencement” and that “the period of execution of the contract shall be of ninety (90) months, after which the Contracting Authority with agreement of the Contractor reserves the right to extend the contract by an additional two (2) periods of twenty-four (24) months from the date of contract”.

Accordingly, the Estimated Procurement Value relates to the initial contract duration of ninety (90) months. Any extensions referred to in Section 2 Article 20 are subject to agreement between the Contracting Authority and the Contractor.

Question No. [06]: Auditor requirements

Dear Contracting Authority, we would like to ask you regarding the requirement (b) Economic and Financial Standing: ·The bidder must provide a signed declaration by a warranted Auditor appointed by the economic operator, which confirms the minimum average yearly turnover during the past three (3) financial years shall be not less than €2,500,000 - per year.· Can you please confirm that the Audited Balance Sheets with the corresponding auditor's report will be enough to fulfill this requirement?

In addition, for the requirement (c) Technical and Professional Ability, "The bidder must provide a signed declaration by a warranted Auditor appointed by the economic operator, which confirms the successful execution and the cumulative value mentioned above in (a) and (b).", please confirm that also the Audited Balance Sheets with the corresponding auditor's report will be enough to fulfill this requirement as well.

Answer No. [06]:

As per Section 1, Article 5(B)(b) "The bidder must provide a signed declaration by a warranted Auditor appointed by the economic operator, which confirms the minimum average yearly turnover during the past three (3) financial years shall be not less than €2,500,000".

Reference is being made to Section 1, Sub-article 5(B)(c) – “For service contracts: performance of services of the specified type”. Audited financial statements and the corresponding auditor’s report shall not suffice to meet the minimum requirements set in this clause.

The bidder must provide a signed declaration by a warranted auditor confirming the successful completion of at least two projects of the specified nature executed during 2023, 2024 and 2025 and confirming that the cumulative value of those projects was not less than €5,000,000 excluding VAT. Kindly note that a template was provided in the tender documents.

Question No. [07]: Certification body and timeline

The tender terms of reference (for example specific objectives 2.2) makes reference to the requirement that the economic operator would be required to support the contracting authority with the certification of the solution. Can you please elaborate on which 1) certification scheme or body does the MDIA expect for version 2? and 2) what is the expected timeline for the certification of version 2?

Answer No. [07]: Milestone 16 in Section 2, Article 18.2 states that the economic operator will “Support the Contracting Authority attain certification of the Solution according to national or EU scheme, whichever is applicable at the time” within “21 months from signing of the contract”.

Version 2 will be subject to certification under the applicable Maltese EUDI Wallet certification arrangements. The detailed national certification scheme and the relevant conformity assessment

arrangements are currently being finalised; accordingly, no specific certification body can be identified at this stage. The economic operator shall support the certification process by providing all necessary technical documentation, security and test evidence, access to the solution, cooperation with the Contracting Authority and the relevant conformity assessment body, and timely remediation of identified issues. Formal certification is expected to take place before Version 2 is placed into operational service. The detailed timetable will be agreed during implementation once the certification arrangements and the production deployment timetable are confirmed.

Question No. [08]: *Role of the economic operator during the certification process*

Can you please elaborate further on what is the expected role of the appointed bidder vs the certifier during the certification process?

Answer No. [08]: One of the 'Specific objectives' listed in Section 3, Article 2.1 is for the economic operator to “Support the contracting authority with the certification of the solution” and Milestone 16 in Section 2, Article 18.2 states that the economic operator will “Support the Contracting Authority attain certification of the Solution according to national or EU scheme, whichever is applicable at the time” within “21 months from signing of the contract”.

Furthermore Section 3, Article 4.2.3.11.1 specifically states that “The awarded bidder shall actively support the Contracting Authority in its efforts to achieve certification of the European Digital Wallet in accordance with applicable EU regulations, standards, and guidelines. The awarded bidder shall assist in the preparation and execution of conformance, interoperability, and security testing as required by the certification process, including collaboration with designated testing bodies or authorities. The awarded bidder shall also cooperate with external auditors, assessors, or certification bodies by providing access to systems, logs, and personnel as needed to facilitate the certification process. The Contracting Authority requires the awarded bidder to allocate up to two hundred (200) person days in support of the implementation of this initiative”.

Finally, as per Section 2, Article 26.1 “Payment 17 shall be released one (1) month after the successful Certification of the Wallet Solution”.

Question No. [09]: *Data controller authorisation*

Section 1 of the ITT point 5) notes that the contracting authority will require the prior written authorisation of the data controller to engage the bidder as data processor of the data controller's personal data prior to award and contract signing. Can you please elaborate on this process and timeline for such authorisation?

Answer No. [09]: No separate authorisation process is envisaged for this CfT at this point in time, without prejudice to any required data processing agreements in due course.

Question No. [10]: *Request for submission date extension*

Dear Contracting Authority due to complexity of the tender, coming summer holidays and preparing another tender with the deadline scheduled by the end of July, we kindly ask to grant a four weeks extension. Thanks and best regards

Answer No. [10]: Prospective bidders are to refer to Clarification Note 02, published as part of this tender.

Question No. [11]: *Pilot / grant-funded work toward the technical-ability test*

Re section 5)(B)(c)(i), requiring at least two similar projects (Trust Services / Identity / Digital Wallet) completed 2023–2025 with a cumulative value of $\geq$ €5,000,000 excl. VAT: (i) Can the Authority confirm whether participation in EU-funded large-scale pilots (e.g. EWC, WE BUILD) qualifies as a "project of a similar nature"? (ii) For grant-funded projects, how should the project "value" be evidenced for the €5M test and the auditor's declaration; for example, is the operator's share of the grant budget acceptable?

Answer No. [11]: Section 1, Article 5(B)(c)(i) stipulates that “economic operator must demonstrate the successful completion of projects of a similar nature, namely the development and deployment of large-scale, software projects, limited to Trust Services, Identity solutions, and Digital Wallet solutions, completed during the last three (3) years, specifically 2023, 2024, and 2025”.

Participation in an EU-funded large-scale pilot project may be considered, provided the economic operator demonstrates substantive involvement in the development and deployment of qualifying large-scale software solutions. Activities such as administrative management, consortium coordination, financial management, dissemination, communication, or similar support activities would not, in themselves, be considered sufficient; however, they may be taken into account where the economic operator demonstrates significant substantive and active involvement in the development and deployment of the relevant large-scale solutions.

For grant-funded consortium projects, only the economic operator's attributable share of the project value may be considered, subject to auditor certification through authenticated contractual or equivalent documentary supporting evidence.

Question No. [12]: *Boundary between Government-owned bespoke deliverables and licensed proprietary components*

Regarding special conditions article 1.3 and 14.5–14.7: (i) Where a bidder adapts a pre-existing proprietary product for the Solution, is it deemed a "Bespoke Deliverable" subject to full IP assignment, or may it be retained and licensed as a Third-Party / Vendor-Retained Component? (ii) For such retained components, does a perpetual, irrevocable, sub-licensable licence (without source-code assignment) satisfy Article 14.6?

Answer No. [12]:

(i) Section 2, Article 1.3 (13) defines 'Vendor-Retained Components' as “the Contractor's own internal tooling not forming part of the contractual deliverable”. The Ownership Matrix defined in Section 2, Article 14.7 stipulates which regime will apply to the different components in the Solution. The definition of 'Bespoke Deliverables' can be found in Section 2, Article 1.3 (1).

(ii) Section 2, Article 14.6 stipulates that “Third-Party Components shall be licensed under terms permitting the Contracting Authority to use, modify, deploy, and sublicense without restriction. The European Union Public Licence EUPL shall be used for open-source components developed partially under this Contract where full assignment is not required. Components licensed under strong copyleft licences including the GPL and AGPL shall not be incorporated without prior written approval and a written assessment of the copyleft infection risk.” This is without prejudice to Section 2, Article 14.7 and all relevant clauses.

Question No. [13]: *HSM provisioning and remote HSM/QSCD*

Re terms of reference clause 4.2.3.10.5 (bidder to provide HSMs and deploy them within the MITA data centres): (i) May the Remote HSM / RWSCD instead be delivered as a managed service by a named QTSP hosting the HSMs in its own certified environment, or must all HSMs physically reside in the MITA data centres? (ii) Re Clause 4.2.3.7.3, can the Authority confirm the eID Card is the sole QSCD for QES in version 2, with remote QSCD out of scope?

Answer No. [13]:

i) As stated in Section 3, Article 4.2.3.11.10 “The Solution shall be hosted in its entirety (including the PKI) in the GoM’s secure hosting environment, using Colocation within MITA data centres in accordance with the hosting and security schedules specified in Appendix III”.

ii) A remote QSCD is out of scope as stated in Section 3, Article 2.1 “In the future, the solution may be upgraded to include the migration to a remote QSCD for qualified electronic signatures created by the EUDIW, and the use of certified Secure Elements as they become generally available on mobile devices. This third phase is not in scope of this contract, but as far as possible the investments in this contract will be re-used in the future.”

All other tender documents, conditions and requirements, which are not superseded by this clarification remain in place.

Department of Contracts