

Ref.: EDAC202601024

Brussels, 23/01/2026

Subject: Ex-ante publicity notice for the negotiated procedure CF SEDSS IV 25.RTI.NP3.333

To whom it may concern

The European Defence Agency (EDA) will shortly launch a call for tenders for the award of the above-mentioned middle value contract.

Economic operators who are interested in being invited to participate in this procedure are invited to express their interest by following the instructions set out below.

To facilitate your assessment of whether the envisaged contract aligns with your interests and capabilities, the following preliminary information is provided.

Outline description of the envisaged contract	
Type of contract	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service contract• Direct contract
Lots	N/A
Maximum estimated budget available for the contract	EUR 69.000
Duration of the contract	The foreseen duration is from June 2026 to September 2027, with a possible extension. The exercise should most probably take place in April 2027.
Subject matter of the contract	The Consultation Forum for Sustainable Energy in the Defence and Security Sector (CF SEDSS IV) is a European Commission-funded initiative managed by the European Defence Agency. It supports EU defence ministries and armed forces in transitioning to greener, more resilient, and efficient energy models. The Forum promotes energy efficiency and energy performance of buildings, the use of renewable energy and strengthening

the protection of critical energy infrastructure by fostering collaboration and research, supporting the implementation of the EU energy legislation and policy in defence and integrating and promoting innovative energy technology solutions within the European defence sector. More information here: [Consultation Forum Sustainable Energy \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu/consultationforum)

The future contract will cover the design, preparation, execution and the follow-up of a comprehensive two-day table-top exercise (TTX) – a discussion-based training where participants respond to hypothetical emergencies or scenarios to practice coordination, decision-making and problem solving in a controlled environment. Faced with scenarios such as cyberattacks or natural disasters, participants will test their readiness and preparedness for real-life emergencies and challenges.

The exercise will bring together up to 100 participants from EU ministries of defence (MoDs) and armed forces, EU institutions, strategic partners, research organisations, think tanks, industry experts, transmission system operators (TSOs) and distribution system operators (DSOs). The exercise will be organised in the first half of 2027. The contractor will be requested to develop an event-tailored concept, exercise scenario and agenda, injects (i.e. pre-planned scenario updates or events introduced during the exercise to test participants' reactions), supporting material and the recommendations report. The exercise will test the following key dimensions: awareness-raising, ministries of defence (MoDs) response capabilities and planning, resilience and preparedness as well as adaptation capabilities in the context of climate change. It will focus on how to preserve mission continuity under both peacetime stress (e.g., energy shortages, storms) and crisis conditions (e.g., grid disruption, cyber incidents, or blockade scenarios).

The TTX will comprise several interconnected components, for example:

- **A scenario-driven module** focusing on multi-vector hybrid threats targeting defence-related critical energy infrastructure (CEI), including cyber and physical attacks, disinformation, energy disruptions, supply-chain fragility and climate-induced stresses.
- **A forward-looking module** covering the other core priorities of the Forum—*energy efficiency and buildings performance, renewable energy sources, innovative technologies, policy and energy management*—examining how military installations can reduce fossil-fuel dependence, increase energy efficiency, and maximise the use of renewable and storage solutions to become more self-sufficient, flexible and secure.

Throughout the exercise, participants will respond to realistic and challenging injects, discuss technical and policy decisions, and explore operational, economic and organisational implications. The outcome will include lessons learned, recommendations to enhance national processes and procedures, and insights on how EU-level action can complement

	Member States’ efforts to strengthen defence energy resilience and sustainability.												
Participation in the negotiated procedure	<p>Participation in EDA’s public procurement procedures is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons coming within the scope of the EU Treaties. When applying the rules of access to the market, it is the country where the tenderer is established which is to be considered. As regards a natural person, it is the State in which the person has his domicile.</p> <p>EDA procurement procedures are not covered by the WTO Multilatera Government Procurement Agreement (GPA). Tenderers established in third countries (non-EU countries) do not have the right to participate in procurement procedures unless international agreements in the field of public procurement grant them the right to do so. In case there is no such agreement, or the agreement does not apply to the kind of contracts put out to tender, tenderers of third countries are not entitled to participate.</p> <p>The relevant international agreements in the field of public procurement are the Stabilization and Association Agreements (SAA) and the European Economic Area Agreement (EEA). Currently, the following countries have signed and ratified the above Agreements and therefore economic operators established in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, North Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina also have the right to participate in EDA’s public procurement procedures.</p>												
Selection criteria: necessary capacity to implement the contract	<p>Potentially interested economic operators are hereby informed that the following selection criteria will be assessed in the scope of the envisaged negotiated procedure:</p> <table><tr><th colspan="3">Economic and financial criteria</th></tr><tr><th>Criterion</th><th>Minimum capacity</th><th>Evidence/supporting documents</th></tr><tr><td>Economic and financial capacity</td><td>Minimum annual turnover of 50 000 EUR for the last three financial years for which accounts have been closed.</td><td>Declaration on honour (the tenderer must undertake to submit to EDA evidence of their economic, financial, technical and professional capacity that EDA considers necessary to perform its checks, within fifteen calendar days following the receipt of EDA's request).</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Technical and professional criteria</p>	Economic and financial criteria			Criterion	Minimum capacity	Evidence/supporting documents	Economic and financial capacity	Minimum annual turnover of 50 000 EUR for the last three financial years for which accounts have been closed.	Declaration on honour (the tenderer must undertake to submit to EDA evidence of their economic, financial, technical and professional capacity that EDA considers necessary to perform its checks, within fifteen calendar days following the receipt of EDA's request).			
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	Criterion	Minimum capacity	Evidence/supporting documents
	Minimum capacity level related to the tenderer	To successfully conduct the contract the tenderer shall have: minimum of 2 years' experience in conceptualising, organizing and running large-scale international interactive training sessions, simulation exercises, or table-top exercises in the defence domain.	Declaration on honour (the tenderer must undertake to submit to EDA evidence of their economic, financial, technical and professional capacity that EDA considers necessary to perform its checks, within fifteen calendar days following the receipt of EDA's request).
	NB Whilst no documents need to be submitted at this stage to prove that the above criteria are met, potentially interested economic operators are strongly advised to verify that they fully comply with the announced criteria.		
Indicative date for launching the negotiated procedure	Invitation to submit tenders will be electronically sent to economic operators indicatively mid-March 2026 .		
Indicative time schedule for signing the contract	The envisaged contract will be signed indicatively second half of May 2026 .		

If you are interested in being invited in the above-mentioned call for tenders, please reply to this ex-ante publicity notice by sending via email the filled-in **Reply Form**. Such Reply Form shall be sent to no later than **13/02/2026 – at 17h00** (Brussels time) to the following EDA functional mail box:

procurement@eda.europa.eu

No evaluation is performed at this stage. All the economic operators who have expressed their interest to participate in this procurement procedure within the above-mentioned deadline will be subsequently invited to submit a tender. The contracting authority reserves the right to also

invite economic operators not included in the list of interested economic operators who responded to this ex-ante publicity.

Only the candidates invited by the contracting authority to participate in this procurement procedure will be admissible.

This publicity is in no way binding for the EDA. The EDA's contractual obligation commences only upon signature of the contract with the successful tenderer.

Submission of an expression of interest implies acceptance of receiving the invitation to tender by electronic means. **It is the tenderer's responsibility to provide a valid e-mail address together with their contact details in the Reply Form and to check their e-mail regularly.**

We look forward to receiving your expression of interest.

Annex: Reply Form (Expression of interest)