



## Question and Answers

### SBIR Circular construction Ukraine

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This document contains the questions and answers from the information meeting, and which were received by e-mail.

	Question	Answer
1.	Is (local) bio-based material also part of the method?	Yes, possibly as long as it fits in the sustainability requirements of the call and the Ukraine context. Also, the call states: <i>aligned with EU standards, re-use of construction waste ("circular"), use of locally available materials and climate proof,</i>
2.	Should the contractor be a Dutch organization or could also be Ukrainian?	The main contractor should be from the EU, preferably the Netherlands.
3.	Could phase 1 and phase 2 proposals be separate proposals with (potentially) different partners? Or it should be 2 phases, described in a single proposal?	The bid for phase 1 is separate from a bid for phase 2. Therefore, these are separate proposals and possibly there will be different partners. But not necessarily. It is possible that during phase 1 you develop a new idea and adapt your feasibility study accordingly after permission from RVO.
4.	Can a party join more than one EoI and bid?	More projects from one applicant are possible. However, the assessment committee will assess if there is enough capacity to work on several innovations simultaneously.
5.	Will this presentation be shared with all of us?	Yes, together with all the questions asked and their answers.
6.	What is meant by "Who is going to pay for it"? It is not the World Bank that you mean here. Can you elaborate a little bit more about this question?	The focus of the SBIR is to facilitate innovations that result after phase 1 and 2 in a business case. Therefore, from the beginning the question "Who is going to pay for it" is crucial.
7.	How important is the Dutch connection in the long term when you aim for scaling in the Ukraine?	The applicant should be an EU party; however, the business perspective does not prescribe a Dutch led business model. As long as the innovation will fly. This may be for the interest of the Dutch company. But there are also business models in which a Ukrainian partner may find a business as well. It is not a requirement. You will not be ranked higher in the rating if you favour a Dutch company. The most important thing is impact.
8.	How much innovation is possible looking at the budget and timeframe of this SBIR?	This SBIR challenge is looking for innovations that do not start from scratch. Looking at the urgency of this call, we are looking for innovations that are already there, but not in Ukraine and still in need of substantial R&D to make it work there.



9.	Where do we have to build the prototype?	Normally in the local context. However, possibly in the Netherlands as long as you can convince the assessment committee that it will work in the specific context. Note. Look at realistic possibilities, maybe in neighbouring countries. Please keep in mind that a prototype does not need to be a whole building yet. The budget is for R&D and providing enough evidence needed for further commercialization and other funds.
10.	Can you please explain "Focus: housing and utility buildings, not infrastructure" Can you please give concrete examples of what is in-/outside your focus?	Housing: Anything from a single person house to a high-rise building.  Utility buildings: anything that is not infrastructure, such as schools, universities, hospitals or offices.  So not: Bridges, dams, nor buildings with very specific properties like energy plants  We are not construction engineers, but we believe that some techniques and innovations used in circular infrastructure construction can also be used in construction of housing and utility buildings.
11.	Many of the RVO calls are about the entrepreneurship of the Netherlands. Scalability however is in Ukraine. How important is the NL – UK connection?	The most important thing here is that the innovation will be used. In the end, we know it will be used by contractors, and they will most certainly be Ukrainian. Bottom line, we don't care. As long as it aids the reconstruction of Ukraine. It is not a requirement. You will not be ranked higher in the rating if you do more for the Dutch economy. The most important thing is impact.
12.	The budget of SBIR doesn't allow us to bring equipment to Ukraine, so it will not allow us to use local materials.  Is it realistic to create an innovation with only that budget?	From experience in other SBIR calls concerning innovative construction with a similar budget, it is possible. Samples of the intended feedstock are sent to the Netherlands, recipes developed, applied in Ukraine and evaluated. Sometimes small machines are used to test it on a larger scale. It is also to do part of the work in neighbouring countries.
24.	What is the deadline for phase 1? And for the bids for phase 2?	We expect you to send in your phase 1 report together with your bid for phase 2 before <b>1 July 2025 10:00 CET</b>