

PUBLIC CALL

**Invitation to participate to the Preliminary Market Consultation
pursuant to Articles 66 and 67 of the Legislative Decree 50/2016**

AIMING AT

**Understanding the state-of-the-art technology for short distance
and very wideband optical transmitters and receivers**



INDEX:

1.	Context and scope of the notice	3
2.	Purpose and characteristics of the market consultation.....	3
3.	Specific aims of the market consultation	4
4.	Administrative planning	5
5.	Advertising	6
6.	Privacy protection	6
7.	Officer in charge for the procedure	8

1. Context and scope of the notice

The Astronomical Observatory of Cagliari (OAC) is a research facility of the National Institute for Astrophysics (INAF), located in Via della Scienza 5, municipality of Selargius (CA). OAC also has managerial and operational responsibility for the radio telescope "Sardinia Radio Telescope" (SRT), in the "Pranusanguni" area, municipality of San Basilio (SU), INAF's Research Infrastructure. The SRT is a radio telescope with an alt-azimuth mount, about 70 meters high and weighing over 3000 tons, with a 64 meter diameter primary dish.

The MIUR ("Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca") identified the Sardinia Radio Telescope as a research infrastructure that can be subjected to upgrade. In the framework of this upgrade the radio telescope will be equipped with new microwave receivers working in a range of frequencies spanning from 18 to 116 GHz. The corresponding converted bandwidth to be delivered to the back-ends will be very large, up to 18 GHz and this is the reason to look for a reliable, performant and very wideband optical transmitter and receiver. The amount of optical links necessary to the upgrade is around 40.

In such a context, this Notice refers to the need for a better understanding of the present technological scenario, i.e. which technological solutions are available, the estimate of the actual lead time, the economic constraints, etc.

Further details on the technical and functional characteristics required are contained in the technical document **Annex 1** to this Notice.

The (very) preliminar estimated budget for this supply spans in the range from **600,000** to **900,000 euro**.

2. Purpose and characteristics of the market consultation

This notice is **aimed exclusively at receiving expressions of interest**, according to art. 66 and 67 of Legislative Decree No. 50/2016, **to encourage the participation and the consultation** of the largest number of potentially interested parties then to participate to the following procurement procedure.

This consultation is carried out on the basis of the general principles of economy, effectiveness, impartiality, equal treatment, transparency, proportionality, publicity and environmental protection.

The market consultation, taking also into account the marked innovative and technological connotation of the supply, has therefore **the sole purpose of acquiring** - from the interested operators – **knowledge, technical and/or organizational solutions, reports, data and information**, that can be functional to the contracting authority to plan the next tender procedure, in order to meet the aims and the needs of the INAF, in accordance with the available resources and the real potential of the market offer.

With this notice, therefore, no bankruptcy or insolvency procedure is called for and **no worth ranking or scoring is required**; the notice does not constitute a contract proposal, nor does it constrain this Institution to carry out the subsequent tender procedure.

The expression of interest by the economic operators and the participation in the market consultation do not constitute in any way expectations or rights for the participants about the participation in the subsequent tender procedure and therefore do not determine the establishment of legal positions or negotiating obligations or restrictions to INAF.

Therefore, the participant to the consultation procedure will not obtain any advantages of any kind, in the performance of the subsequent selection procedure. On the other hand, the invited subjects are always free not to join the consultation, without compromising their possible future participation in the tender procedure.

The contracting authority may interrupt, suspend or revoke the market consultation without incurring liability. The contracting authority therefore reserves the right not to proceed with the indictment of any subsequent procurement procedure. In this case no compensation is due to the participants in the market consultation.

3. Specific aims of the market consultation

In this context, the consultation of the market is therefore functional to achieve the **following specific aims**:

- a) verify the technical ability and willingness of individual operators to **guarantee the supply** in less than one year;
- b) acquire the elements and information necessary to define **the professional technical competence requirements** that may favor the maximum participation of operators in a future call for tender ;
- c) acquire the elements and information necessary to identify the possible requirements and criteria – from the technical, functional and performance point of view – for the evaluation of offers in the tender procedure, in order to promote the maximum competition of the companies.

According to the feedbacks received from the market and their subsequent evaluations, INAF will evaluate which procurement procedure will be used for the selection of the contractor, if any.

The specific general requirements, technical and professional ability and of financial nature, for the participation in the subsequent call for tenders, will be defined in view of what will emerge from the present market consultation.

4. Administrative planning

A public market consultation event will be taken, by using corporate Google Meet videoconferencing system, on **November 15th, 2019, starting at 15:00 CET**. The actual link will be sent to the candidates that will fill-in and submit the attached Expression of Interest, see Annex 1.

All the subjects, Italian or foreigner, potentially interested and / or able to provide the requested information are allowed to send the expression of interest and to participate in the preliminary market consultation.

The expression of interest must be drawn up in compliance with Annex 2 and must be signed digitally, or signed accompanied by the identification document. Annex 2 provides for the completion of a specific questionnaire, which must be completed.

Furthermore, the operators have the right to send in written form any further technical contributions that may be considered of interest for the purposes of this market consultation. The contributions provided may not contain economic offers or contract proposals.

It should be noted that participation in the market consultation and any technical contribution of the operators are provided free of charge, without the right to reimbursement of expenses.

This technical contribution can be provided:

- a) in attachment to the application for expression of interest
- b) at the market consultation event
- c) within 20 calendar days from the date of the event.

The subjects participating to the consultation should indicate whether the provided contributions contain information, data or documents protected by the rights of patent or disclosing business, commercial and industrial secrets, as well as any other information useful to reconstruct the position of the subject in the market and the competence of the subject in the field of activity referred to in the consultation.

The expressions of interest must be sent to the following e-mail

inafoacagliari@pcert.postecert.it

not later than **November 11th, 2019**, subject "Preliminary market consultation – Optical Links”.

5. Advertising

This notice, compliant with the principles of publicity, non-discrimination, equal treatment, is also published on the corporate website of the INAF – Cagliari Astronomical Observatory,

http://www.oa-cagliari.inaf.it/page.php?id_page=101&level=3&set_language=2

and on the official website

<https://www.serviziocontrattipubblici.it/SPInApp/it/bandi.page>

6. Privacy protection

Pursuant to article 13 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 concerning the protection of physical persons with regard to the processing of personal data, as well as the free circulation of such data.

According to the Directive 95/46/EC, also known as the "General Regulation on Data Protection", the National Institute for Astrophysics, as a data controller, informs that the processing of personal data provided by the Companies that will apply for participation in this tender procedure, is aimed solely at the completion of the tender activities and will be carried out by the persons in charge of the procedure, at the National Institute of Astrophysics. In relation to the aforementioned purposes, the provision of such data is necessary to verify the participation requirements and the failure to indicate it may preclude such verification.

The processing will take place with the use of computerized procedures, in the ways and within the limits necessary to pursue the aforementioned purposes, also in the event of any communication to third parties. The data may also be processed through the use of the "Google Drive" electronic platform of the company Google LLC, which, as a provider of IT services for the benefit of the National Institute for Astrophysics, has been identified as data controller, pursuant to Article 28 of the General Data Protection Regulation.

Data will be kept for the time strictly necessary for the completion of the tender activities, for the duration of the contractual relationship and, subsequently, for the time in which the National Institute of Astrophysics is subject to conservation obligations: tax, contributory or other purposes provided for by law or regulation.

To the interested parties are recognized the rights referred to in articles 15 and following of the "General Regulation on Data Protection" and, in particular, the right to access their personal data, to request their correction, deletion, limitation of the treatment, as well as to oppose the processing, which may be exercised by sending a request to the "National Institute of Astrophysics", based in Rome, in Viale del Parco Mellini number 84, Postal Code 00136, in the manner defined in the next paragraph.

Rights listed above may take place, without any formality, by sending a request to the Head of Data Protection of the National Institute of Astrophysics in one of the following ways:

- by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt to the address: Viale del Parco Mellini, 84 - 00136 Rome;
- by e-mail sent to the following address: rpd@inaf.it;

- by certified e-mail sent to the following address: rpd-inaf@legalmail.it.

People who consider that the processing of personal data referring to them is in violation of the provisions of the Regulations have the right to lodge a complaint with the Guarantor for the protection of personal data, as envisaged by art. 77 of the same Regulation, or to take the appropriate judicial seats (art. 79 of the Regulation). By participating in this procedure the consent to the processing of personal data referred to in the previous points is intended to be issued.

7. Officer in charge for the procedure

The appointed Officer in charge (“Responsabile del procedimento”) will be Dr. Ignazio Enrico Pietro Porceddu, Cagliari Astronomical Observatory. Questions must be sent to the corporate e-mail address ignazio.porceddu@inaf.it or to the certified e-mail (PEC) inafoacagliari@pcert.postecert.it

Annexes for participation in the expression of interest and market consultation:

- Annex 1 – **Technical description of the supply**
- Annex 2 – **Application form for the expression of interest, survey and questionnaire**