

Report on Contracts

Infrax, like the municipalities, is obliged to follow the rules of public procurement.

Before ESCOLIMBURG2020

Appointment of study agencies

In order to obtain a shorter lead time and lower prices, the purchase department negotiated framework contracts with study agencies for study and follow-up of the projects. Study agencies could enlist themselves for the 4 disciplines: relighting, building shell, HVAC and renewable energy. For relighting, a separate study agency was accepted, given that this matter is too complex and not all the study agencies possess the required expertise. The three remaining techniques were assigned to one study agency. The restrained study agencies were listed in order of their quotation. The one in first place could first acknowledge their acceptance of the study assignment.

Appointment of contractors

Contractors were selected for the execution of the works through a tender. The accepted contractors were listed on a list of candidates. This way a single price quotation could be launched instead of procuring a tender. For every technique a list of contractors was available.

During this period there were 8 study agencies (4 general and 4 relighting) and 48 contractors and included in the list.

Change during the course of the project ESCOLIMBURG2020

Because only a few study agencies were selected, they were overloaded with a longer duration as a result. During the duration of the project, the framework contract with the study agencies expired. Then was decided to work in a different way and establish a list of qualified study agencies. When a feasibility study is requested, these study agencies were contacted to submit a price offer.

This method has the advantage that candidate study agency can be listed and included in the list at any time. For the qualification, the study agency must provide an exemplary project using the ESCO project documents.

An amendment to the law on public procurement has recently made it possible for Infrax to work permanently with a list of qualified contractors. Candidate contractors may be included in the list at any time. They must complete a list of preselected qualification criteria and when approved by Infrax, the contractor is included in the list of qualified contractors.

Before the law was amended, the list of candidates could only be changed once a year. This meant that (local) contractors had missed their opportunity for projects for which they were eligible in the past. A list of qualified contractors means that Infrax can allocate and divide the work more flexibly over different / multiple contractors. This reduces the risk of contractors becoming overloaded.

During the ESCOLIMBURG2020 project we focused on courses on public procurement and information sessions, training and networking, so more local contractors and study agencies were informed about the ESCO and the works methods..

By working this way, the number of study agencies and contractors that are involved increased.

There are currently 22 study agencies and 92 contractors listed on the qualifications list: they can be addressed for the implementation of ESCO studies and work.

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