



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Aerospace, Maritime and Defence Industries

26 FEB. 2018

Brussels,
GROW.L4

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Subject: Involvement of key stakeholders in the study on economic impacts to support the European Defence Fund impact assessment

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

The European Defence Fund is a major new policy initiative by the European Commission for the next Multi-annual Financial Framework. It shall promote competitiveness of the European Defence and Technological Industrial Base by incentivising and funding collaborative research and development projects. The total budget is foreseen to be 1.5 Billion Euros per year for the seven year period 2021 – 2027.

The European Commission will put forward a legal proposal for the European Defence Fund in May / June 2018. To accompany this legal proposal the European Commission will publish an impact assessment. In view of the preparation of this impact assessment, the Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission has awarded a study contract to the consultant "Ecorys" in a consortium with Vedette Consulting, Centre for Security Economics and Technology (University of St. Gallen), Swedish Defence University and VVA Economics and Policy to estimate economic impacts of the European Defence Fund.

The objective of the study is to assess the potential impacts of a possible EU financing Programme for defence research and development which will allow policy makers to understand the added value of the programme (European Defence Fund). As such the study shall assess the problem setting, policy options and impacts of the EDF.

Involvement of all key stakeholders in this study is important in order to obtain the best possible understanding and basis for the assessment of impacts of the European Defence Fund. Therefore, I would be grateful if you could provide Ecorys and its partners with all the necessary support and information to enable them to carry out their work.

I anticipate that some of the information the consultant may request may be of a confidential nature. I would therefore be grateful if, when providing information to the consultant for the purposes of this study, you make clear which parts of the information are confidential so that we can ensure that any published material takes into account any concerns that you might have.

Should you have any questions about this contract, please contact [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] (@ec.europa.eu) in charge of the study.