



## Case study on public procurement: The IQ project

### Lead partner

- regional innovation agency (public law body),
- involved in several Interreg projects and usually supported by an external company for the day-to-day project management.

### Internal Procurement procedures

	Threshold	Procedure
Adequate procedures	EUR 0 - EUR 25,000	Request of 3 offers minimum
	EUR 25,000 - EUR 50,000	Publication on the internet site during 15 calendar days
	<b>EUR 50,000 - EUR 209,000</b>	<b>Publication on national official journal or platform for public procurement notices or in a newspaper during 20 calendar days.</b>
European Tender	> EUR 209,000	Publications in the EU Official Journal + European tender procedures apply.

External Expertise item:

**Project management services for the IQ project, Miller Management Company (MMC), EUR 150,000**

Procedure applied: **direct award**

### Justification:

- MMC was **the only one to have the required project specific knowledge**:
  - o They were already the project manager of the IQ predecessor project under INTERREG IVC.
  - o They had delivered high quality work to the satisfaction of the whole partnership.
  - o The results of the previous project represents the starting point of the new project.
  - o MMC was also involved in the preparation of the project and thus the only one familiar with all details of the application.
- The **direct award was more economic**: Contracting another company would have caused extra costs to the LP to train the new company and to the new company to become operational.
- MMC provides **good value for money** (proven through comparison done in 2009).
- There was **urgency** in starting up the project. Awarding the contract directly to MMC was the only way to ensure a timely and quick project start up.
  - o The conditions were fulfilled and the project finally approved on 15 March 2016. The start date had been set by the programme to 1 April 2016.
  - o Only Miller Management was in the position to be immediately functional.

### Question:

Would you as FLC of this project accept the public procurement procedure based on the argument(s) above and consider the costs linked to this contract as eligible?