

128391-2026 - Competition

Germany – Software programming and consultancy services – Framework Agreement Direct Contributions - Lot 1: Technical debt
OJ S 38/2026 24/02/2026
Contract or concession notice – standard regime - Change notice
Services

1. Buyer

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH

Email: sovereign.tech-tenderprocedure@fgvw.de

Legal type of the buyer: Public undertaking, controlled by a central government authority

Activity of the contracting authority: Economic affairs

2. Procedure

2.1. Procedure

Title: Framework Agreement Direct Contributions - Lot 1: Technical debt

Description: Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH strengthens the security of open digital infrastructures. To this end, it has established various programs, including the "Sovereign Tech Resilience Program," which provides a holistic approach to protect critical digital infrastructures. This program includes, among other things, the service components 'Direct Contributions' and 'Security Audits. The services covered by this program will be extended and re-awarded in two new framework agreements with a maximum contract term of four years. The subject of this procurement procedure is the framework agreement on the services of 'Direct Contributions'. Covered with four lots, these services include the targeted technical, security-related and regulatory further development of open source software through, among other things, analyses, code changes, documentation and maintainer support. The details are set out in the service descriptions for the respective lots.

Procedure identifier: d38f7dd4-876e-4e28-a220-02926cd811e3

Internal identifier: 03/2026

Type of procedure: Open

The procedure is accelerated: no

Main features of the procedure: Reference is made to Section 14 of the Public Procurement Ordinance (VgV).

2.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 72200000 Software programming and consultancy services

2.1.2. Place of performance

Postal address: Gartenstraße 7

Town: Berlin

Postcode: 10115

Country subdivision (NUTS): Berlin (DE300)

Country: Germany

2.1.3. Value

Maximum value of the framework agreement: 2 340 000,00 EUR

2.1.4. General information

Additional information: #Bekanntmachungs-ID: CXP4D9LMB6A#

Legal basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

vgv -

2.1.6. Grounds for exclusion

Sources of grounds for exclusion: Notice, Procurement Document

Breaching of obligations set under purely national exclusion grounds: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Participation in a criminal organisation: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Money laundering or terrorist financing: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Fraud: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Corruption: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Child labour and including other forms of trafficking in human beings: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Breaching obligation relating to payment of taxes: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Breaching obligation relating to payment of social security contributions: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Breaching of obligations in the fields of environmental law: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Breaching of obligations in the fields of social law: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Breaching of obligations in the fields of labour law: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Insolvency: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Assets being administered by liquidator: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Business activities are suspended: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Analogous situation like bankruptcy, insolvency or arrangement with creditors under national law: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Grave professional misconduct: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Agreements with other economic operators aimed at distorting competition: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Conflict of interest due to its participation in the procurement procedure: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Direct or indirect involvement in the preparation of this procurement procedure: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Early termination, damages, or other comparable sanctions: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

Misrepresentation, withheld information, unable to provide required documents or obtained confidential information of this procedure: In accordance with Sections 123,124 GWB (Act Against Restraints of Competition), Section 21 AEntG (Posted Workers Act), Section 98c AufenthG (Residence Act), Section 19 MiLoG (Minimum Wage Act), Section 21 SchwarzArbG (Act to Combat Illegal Employment) and Section 22 LkSG (Supply Chain Due Diligence Act)

5. Lot

5.1. Lot: LOT-0001

Title: Framework Agreement Direct Contributions - Lot 1: Technical debt

Description: Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH strengthens the security of open digital infrastructures. To this end, it has established various programs, including the "Sovereign Tech Resilience Program," which provides a holistic approach to protect critical digital infrastructures. This program includes, among other things, the service components 'Direct Contributions' and 'Security Audits'. The services covered by this program will be extended and re-awarded in two new framework agreements with a maximum contract term of four years. The subject of this procurement procedure is the framework agreement on the services of 'Direct Contributions'. Covered with four lots, these services include the targeted technical, security-related and regulatory further development of open source software through, among other things, analyses, code changes, documentation and maintainer support. The details are set out in the service descriptions for the respective lots.

Internal identifier: 03/2026

5.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 72200000 Software programming and consultancy services

Options:

Description of the options: With regard to the options for the Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH, reference is made to the tender documents and, in particular, to the framework agreement.

5.1.2. Place of performance

Postal address: Gartenstraße 7

Town: Berlin

Postcode: 10115

Country subdivision (NUTS): Berlin (DE300)

Country: Germany

5.1.3. Estimated duration

Duration: 12 Months

5.1.4. Renewal

Maximum renewals: 3

Other information about renewals: Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH has the option to extend the framework agreement three times, each time for one year.

5.1.6. General information

Reserved participation:

Participation is not reserved.

The names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to perform the contract must be given: Tender requirement

Procurement Project not financed with EU Funds.

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): yes

This procurement is also suitable for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs): yes

Additional information: #Besonders auch geeignet für:startup#

5.1.7. Strategic procurement

Aim of strategic procurement: No strategic procurement

5.1.9. Selection criteria

Sources of selection criteria: Notice

Criterion: References on specified services

Description of selection criterion: At least three references from reference provider (RP) for the performance of comparable services (technical debt covering (1) documentation, (2) process improvements (3) testing frameworks and/or (4) technical debt remediation broader technical work across diverse technologies; at least two different services must be covered across all references) since January 1, 2023, (it is sufficient that the comparable services were also provided in the reference period in the specified reference project, e.g., a reference that began on January 1, 2022, and ended on February 1, 2023, would be sufficient). Only references to audits on open source projects are permitted. Each reference must be either completed or ongoing. In the case of an ongoing reference. specifications of the planned/contractual project duration and information on the current status must be included It is irrelevant whether the reference provider is a public or private company. For verification purposes, the reference details must include the contact details of a responsible person at the respective company, i. e., name, telephone number, and/or email address. Minimum requirements for each reference: 1. Since January 1, 2023 2. Completed and ongoing reference; if ongoing, specifications of the planned/contractual project duration and information on the current status of the reference project must be included 3. The respective reference must include technical debt covering (1) documentation, (2) process improvements (3) testing frameworks and/or (4) technical debt remediation broader technical work across diverse technologies; at least two different services must be covered across all references. Please use the relevant form "Appendix 01_Self-declarations and evidence".

Criterion: Enrolment in a trade register

Description of selection criterion: If the company is registered in the commercial register or a comparable register in the country of origin, Submission of a copy of the extract from the commercial register or equivalent proof from the respective country of origin (not older than 90 days at the time of expiry of the tender deadline) at the request of the client after expiry of the tender deadline. For foreign documents that are not written in German or English, a simple translation into German or English must be enclosed

Criterion: Specific average yearly turnover

Description of selection criterion: Self-declaration regarding the company's turnover from the business area for Technical debt in the last three completed financial years. Minimum requirement Turnover from the business area "Technical debt" (area of activity of the contract to be awarded) - average annual turnover of at least EUR 500,000.00 (net) Please use the relevant form "Appendix 01_Self-declarations and evidence".

Criterion: Professional risk indemnity insurance

Description of selection criterion: Self declaration to undertake to take out and maintain business liability insurance with the coverage amounts specified below in the event of an award. Insurance coverage shall be provided without restriction and in full for the entire duration of the contract. The sum insured is available twice per annum. Financial loss: At least EUR 1,0 million. Please use the relevant form "Appendix 01_Self-declarations and evidence".

5.1.11. Procurement documents

Languages in which the procurement documents are officially available: English

Deadline for requesting additional information: 17/03/2026 23:59:59 (UTC+01:00) Central European Time, Western European Summer Time

Address of the procurement documents: <https://www.dtv.de/Satellite/notice/CXP4D9LMB6A/documents>

Ad hoc communication channel:

Name: Communication shall only take place via the electronic procurement platform DTVP. .

URL: <https://www.dtv.de/Satellite/notice/CXP4D9LMB6A>

5.1.12. Terms of procurement

Terms of submission:

Electronic submission: Required

Address for submission: <https://www.dtv.de/Satellite/notice/CXP4D9LMB6A>

Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted: English

Electronic catalogue: Not allowed

Variants: Not allowed

Tenderers may submit more than one tender: Not allowed

Deadline for receipt of tenders: 25/03/2026 10:00:00 (UTC+01:00) Central European Time, Western European Summer Time

Duration during which the tender must remain valid: 98 Days

Information that can be supplemented after the submission deadline:

At the discretion of the buyer, all missing tenderer-related documents may be submitted later.

Additional information: Sovereign Tech Agency asks - within its discretion - the bidder to submit, complete or correct documents, within the framework laid down by law (Section 56 (2) VgV).

Information about public opening:

Opening date: 25/03/2026 10:01:00 (UTC+01:00) Central European Time, Western European Summer Time

Place: Bidders are not permitted to attend the opening of bids.

Terms of contract:

The execution of the contract must be performed within the framework of sheltered employment programmes: No

Conditions relating to the performance of the contract: Reference is made to the tender documents.

Electronic invoicing: Required

Electronic ordering will be used: yes

Electronic payment will be used: yes

5.1.15. Techniques

Framework agreement:

Framework agreement, without reopening of competition

Maximum number of participants: 3

Information about the dynamic purchasing system:

No dynamic purchase system

5.1.16. Further information, mediation and review

Review organisation: Vergabekammer des Bundes

Information about review deadlines: According to Article 160, Section 3 of the German Act Against Restraint of Competition (GWB), application for review is not permissible insofar as 1. the applicant has identified the claimed infringement of the procurement rules before submitting the application for review and has not submitted a complaint to the contracting authority within a period of 10 calendar days; the expiry of the period pursuant to Article 134, Section 2 remains unaffected, 2. complaints of infringements of procurement rules that are evident in the tender notice are not submitted to the contracting authority at the latest by the expiry of the deadline for the application or by the deadline for the submission of bids, specified in the tender notice. 3. complaints of infringements of procurement rules that first become evident in the tender documents are not submitted to the contracting authority at the latest by the expiry of the deadline for application or by the deadline for the submission of bids, 4. more than 15 calendar days have expired since receipt of notification from the contracting authority that it is unwilling to redress the complaint. Sentence 1 does not apply in the case of an application to determine the invalidity of the contract in accordance with Article 135, Section 1 (2). Article 134, Section 1, Sentence 2 remains unaffected.

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure: Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH

Organisation receiving requests to participate: Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH

8. Organisations

8.1. ORG-0001

Official name: Sovereign Tech Agency GmbH

Registration number: DE346614449

Postal address: Gartenstraße 7

Town: Berlin

Postcode: 10115

Country subdivision (NUTS): Berlin (DE300)

Country: Germany

Contact point: Friedrich Graf von Westphalen & Partner mbB Rechtsanwälte

Email: sovereign.tech-tenderprocedure@fgvw.de

Telephone: +49 697191890-12

Internet address: <https://www.sovereign.tech/de>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure

Organisation receiving requests to participate

8.1. ORG-0002

Official name: Vergabekammer des Bundes

Registration number: 022894990

Postal address: Kaiser-Friedrich-Straße 16

Town: Bonn

Postcode: 53113

Country subdivision (NUTS): Bonn, Kreisfreie Stadt (DEA22)

Country: Germany

Email: vk@bundeskartellamt.bund.de

Fax: +49 2289499-163

Roles of this organisation:

Review organisation

8.1. ORG-0003

Official name: Datenservice Öffentlicher Einkauf (in Verantwortung des Beschaffungsamts des BMI)

Registration number: 0204:994-DOEVD-83

Town: Bonn

Postcode: 53119

Country subdivision (NUTS): Bonn, Kreisfreie Stadt (DEA22)

Country: Germany

Email: noreply.esender_hub@bescha.bund.de

Telephone: +49228996100

Roles of this organisation:

TED eSender

10. Change

Version of the previous notice to be changed

:

d6fe5517-93fd-457c-bb7d-9667ed0eb906-01

Main reason for change

:

Information now available

Description

:

Submission deadline was extended. Binding period was amended.

10.1. Change

Section identifier: PROCEDURE

Description of changes: Submission deadline was extended. Binding period was amended.

Notice information

Notice identifier/version: 5bb640bd-929e-4983-9a71-c329bca4c309 - 01

Form type: Competition

Notice type: Contract or concession notice – standard regime

Notice subtype: 16

Notice dispatch date: 21/02/2026 12:25:29 (UTC+01:00) Central European Time, Western European Summer Time

Languages in which this notice is officially available: English

Notice publication number: 128391-2026

OJ S issue number: 38/2026

Publication date: 24/02/2026