



Brussels, 18.10.2023
C(2023) 7320 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 18.10.2023

**on the financing of the instrument on supporting ammunition production (ASAP)
established by Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 of the European Parliament and of the
Council and the adoption of the work programme for 2023-2025**

(Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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on the financing of the instrument on supporting ammunition production (ASAP) established by Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 of the European Parliament and of the Council and the adoption of the work programme for 2023-2025

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 July 2023 on supporting ammunition production (ASAP)², and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of ASAP, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2023-2025.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.
- (3) Pursuant to Article 7(1) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, indirect management following Article 62(1), first subparagraph point (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 is to be used for the implementation of the ASAP Ramp-up Fund.
- (4) Pursuant to Article 12(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, the work programme is to set out the funding priorities taking into account the work of the Defence Joint Procurement Task Force.
- (5) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046. To that end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

² OJ L 185, 24.7.2023, p. 7-25.

- (6) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (7) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to determine the changes, which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (8) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 16 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual work programme for the implementation of ASAP for years 2023-2025, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2023-2025 is set at EUR 499 027 699, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) budget line 13.0701: EUR 499 027 699.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2024 and 2025 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

Article 3

Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in the Annex.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in Article 2, first paragraph, of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 5

Financial instruments

In line with the conditions laid down in the Annex, an amount of EUR 30 000 000 may be allocated to actions under a Ramp-up Fund. Union support would be provided in indirect management in the form of a financial instrument as a blending operation.

The provision of financial support by means of the Ramp-up Fund for the amount set in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities referred to in Article 62(1), point (c)(ii), (iii), (v) and (vi), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

Done at Brussels, 18.10.2023

For the Commission
Thierry BRETON
Member of the Commission



Brussels, 18.10.2023
C(2023) 7320 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Commission Implementing Decision

**on the financing of the instrument on supporting ammunition production (ASAP)
established by Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 of the European Parliament and of the
Council and the adoption of the work programme for 2023-2025**

ANNEX

Work programme for 2023-2025 for Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 July 2023 on supporting ammunition production (ASAP)

1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives laid down in Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for years 2023-2025 as follows:

- (a) for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2);
- (b) for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 3);
- (c) for actions implemented under indirect management (point 4);
- (d) for contributions to blending facilities (point 5).

Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 July 2023 on supporting ammunition production (ASAP)

Budget line

Budget line 13.0701: EUR 499 027 699

Objectives pursued

The objective of the Instrument is to foster the efficiency and competitiveness of the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB) to support the ramp-up of the production capacity and timely delivery of relevant defence products (ground-to-ground and artillery ammunition as well as missiles) through industrial reinforcement.

The industrial reinforcement shall in particular consist of initiating and speeding up the adjustment of industry to the rapid structural changes imposed by the supply crisis affecting the relevant defence products which are necessary for the swift replenishment of the ammunition and missile stocks of the Member States, associated countries and of Ukraine. That shall include the improvement of the capacity of adaptation of supply chains for relevant defence products and the acceleration of such adaptation, the creation of manufacturing capacities or their ramp-up, and a reduction of the lead production time for relevant defence products throughout the Union, in particular through the intensification and widening of cross-border cooperation between the relevant entities.

Expected results

Adjustment of industry to the rapid structural changes imposed by the supply crisis affecting the relevant defence products which are necessary for the swift replenishment of the ammunition and missile stocks of the Member States, associated countries and of Ukraine

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution - description of how the action(s) included in this work programme contribute to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming, in qualitative and quantitative ways

Not applicable.

2. Grants

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 468 350 000. See Appendix 1 for an overview of the calls for proposals, topics and budgets.

Nota: Due to technical constraints, calls and topics ID (i.e. ASAP-2023-LS-XXX) used below will be displayed as EDF-ASAP-2023-LS-XXX in the IT tool used for the publication of the calls (Funding & Tenders Portal).

2.1 ASAP-2023-LS-XPL: Call for proposals focused on the increase of production capacities for explosives

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Any eligible entity or entities as defined in Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals, as well as of the objectives pursued and the expected results

ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-STEP: Increased production capacity for explosives with strong focus on elimination of bottlenecks and cross-border cooperation

Any eligible action as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, that addresses the increase of production capacities in the area of explosives, and that aims at supporting the ramp-up of the production capacity and timely delivery of artillery ammunition, as well as mortars and rockets, with potential positive spill over effects on other ground-to-ground ammunition as well as missiles. Proposed actions should specifically focus on the elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks as well as on achieving resilience through cross-border cooperation by triggering a step change in the capacity, hence the robustness of the supply chains.

ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-FAST: Increased production capacity for explosives with strong focus on reduction of lead production time

Any eligible action as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, that addresses the increase of production capacities in the area of explosives, and that aims at supporting the ramp-up of the production capacity and timely delivery of artillery ammunition, as well as mortars and rockets, with potential positive spill over effects on other ground-to-ground ammunition as well as missiles. Proposed actions should specifically focus on the reduction of lead production time, in order to incentivise rapid adjustments leading to increased responsiveness of the supply chains.

Targeted activities for all topics: Proposed actions must address at least activities (a) as referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. Proposed actions may in addition address one or more activities among (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) as referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. See Appendix 2 for the list of the activities referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Implementation

Actions will be implemented using lump sum grants in the sense of Article 125(1), first subparagraph point (d), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 under direct management

by the Commission.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution - description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming i qualitative and quantitative ways

Not applicable.

Additional information

Budget

The Commission is considering an indicative budget of EUR 190 000 000 for this call with the following indicative budget allocation per topic and fixed ceilings per project:

- ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-STEP: EUR 130 000 000, with a maximum EU contribution of EUR 65 000 000 per project
- ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-FAST: EUR 60 000 000, with a maximum EU contribution of EUR 20 000 000 per project

Financing rate

The EU will finance up to:

- 35% of the eligible costs of the proposed action related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(a)-(e)¹ of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, or up to 45% if at least one of the conditions provided in Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 is met; and
- 100% of the eligible direct costs related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(f) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Indirect costs will be determined as a flat-rate of 7% of the total eligible direct costs.

Award criteria and weighting

Submitted proposals will be scored against each of the following award criteria (score from 0 to 5) using the weighting below:

Award criteria as defined in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525	Weighting	
	<u>ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-STEP</u>	<u>ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-FAST</u>
(a) Increase in production capacity in the Union	3	3
(b) Reduction of lead production time	2	3
(c) Elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks	3	2
(d) Resilience through cross-border cooperation	3	1

¹ See Appendix 2 of this Annex

(e) Support to procurement	1	1
(f) Quality of the implementation plan of the action	2	2
Maximum score	70	60
Overall threshold	46.5	40

There is no minimum pass score for individual criteria: only an overall threshold will apply for each of the topics.

See Appendix 3 for the list of the award criteria referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

If indicated in the specific call conditions, proposals above the threshold which did not succeed because of budget limits will receive a *Seal of Excellence*.

2.2 ASAP-2023-LS-POW: Call for proposals focused on the increase of production capacities for powders

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Any eligible entity or entities as defined in Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals, as well as of the objectives pursued and the expected results

ASAP-2023-LS-POW-STEP: Increased production capacity for powders with strong focus on elimination of bottlenecks and cross-border cooperation

Any eligible action as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, that addresses the increase of production capacities in the area of powders, for example propelling charges and propelling powder based on nitrocellulose, nitroglycerin or nitroguanidine, and that aims at supporting the ramp-up of the production capacity and timely delivery of 155mm artillery ammunition, as well as mortars, with potential positive spill over effects on other ground-to-ground and artillery ammunition as well as missiles. Proposed actions may also address the production of single components, i.e. nitrocellulose, nitroglycerin or nitroguanidine. Proposed actions should specifically focus on the elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks as well as on achieving resilience through cross-border cooperation by triggering a step change in the capacity, hence the robustness of the supply chains.

ASAP-2023-LS-POW-FAST: Increased production capacity for powders with strong focus on reduction of lead production time

Any eligible action as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, that addresses the increase of production capacities in the area of powders, for example propelling charges and propelling powder based on nitrocellulose, nitroglycerin or nitroguanidine, and that aims at supporting the ramp-up of the production capacity and timely delivery of 155mm artillery ammunition, as well as mortars, with potential positive spill over effects on other ground-to-ground and artillery ammunition, as well as missiles. Proposed actions may also address the

production of single components, i.e. nitrocellulose, nitroglycerin or nitroguanidine. Proposed actions should specifically focus on the reduction of lead production time, in order to incentivise rapid adjustments leading to increased responsiveness of the supply chains.

Targeted activities for all topics: Proposed actions must address at least activity (a) as referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. Proposed actions may in addition address one or more activities among (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) as referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. See Appendix 2 for the list of the activities referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Implementation

Actions will be implemented using lump sum grants in the sense of Article 125(1), first subparagraph point (d), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 under direct management by the Commission.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution - description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming i qualitative and quantitative ways

Not applicable.

Additional information

The Commission is considering an indicative budget of EUR 144 000 000 for this call with the following indicative budget allocation per topic and fixed ceilings per project:

- ASAP-2023-LS-POW-STEP: EUR 94 000 000, with a maximum EU contribution of EUR 47 000 000 per project
- ASAP-2023-LS-POW-FAST: EUR 50 000 000, with a maximum EU contribution of EUR 10 000 000 per project

Financing rate

The EU will finance up to:

- 35% of the eligible costs of the proposed action related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(a)-(e)² of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, or up to 45% if at least one of the conditions provided in Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 is met; and
- 100% of the eligible direct costs related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(f) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Indirect costs will be determined as a flat-rate of 7% of the total eligible direct costs.

Award criteria and weighting

Submitted proposals will be scored against each of the following award criteria (score from 0 to 5) using the weighting below:

Award criteria as defined in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525	Weighting	
		ASAP-2023-LS-POW-STEP

² See Appendix 2 of this Annex

(a) Increase in production capacity in the Union	3	3
(b) Reduction of lead production time	2	3
(c) Elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks	3	2
(d) Resilience through cross-border cooperation	3	1
(e) Support to procurement	1	1
(f) Quality of the implementation plan of the action	2	2
Maximum score	70	60
Overall threshold	46.5	40

There is no minimum pass score for individual criteria: only an overall threshold will apply for each of the topics.

See Appendix 3 for the list of the award criteria referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

If indicated in the specific call conditions, proposals above the threshold which did not succeed because of budget limits will receive a *Seal of Excellence*.

2.3 ASAP-2023-LS-SHL: Call for proposals focused on the increase of production capacities for shells

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Any eligible entity or entities as defined in Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals, as well as of the objectives pursued and the expected results

ASAP-2023-LS-SHL-IPC: Increased production capacity for shells

Any eligible action as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, that addresses the increase of production capacities in the area of shells (forging shell bodies, shell filling or assembling of shell-integrated components) that aims at supporting the ramp-up of the production capacity and timely delivery of 155mm artillery ammunition, with potential positive spill over effects on other ground-to-ground and artillery ammunition.

Targeted activities: Proposed actions must address at least activity (a) as referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. Proposed actions may in addition address one or more activities among (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) as referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU)

2023/1525. See Appendix 2 for the list of the activities referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Implementation

Actions will be implemented using lump sum grants in the sense of Article 125(1), first subparagraph point (d), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 under direct management by the Commission.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution - description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in qualitative and quantitative ways

Not applicable.

Additional information

The Commission is considering an indicative budget of EUR 90 000 000 for this call with the following fixed ceiling per project:

- ASAP-2023-LS-SHL-IPC: maximum EU contribution of EUR 22 500 000 per project

Financing rate

The EU will finance up to:

- 35% of the eligible costs of the proposed action related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(a)-(e)³ of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, or up to 45% if at least one of the conditions provided in Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 is met; and
- 100% of the eligible direct costs related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(f) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Indirect costs will be determined as a flat-rate of 7% of the total eligible direct costs.

Award criteria and weighting

Submitted proposals will be scored against each of the following award criteria (score from 0 to 5) using the weighting below:

Award criteria as defined in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525	Weighting
(a) Increase in production capacity in the Union	3
(b) Reduction of lead production time	3
(c) Elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks	1
(d) Resilience through cross-border cooperation	1
(e) Support to procurement	2
(f) Quality of the implementation plan of the action	2

³ See Appendix 2 of this Annex

Maximum score	60
Overall threshold	40

There is no minimum pass score for individual criteria: only an overall threshold will apply. See Appendix 3 for the list of the award criteria referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

If indicated in the specific call conditions, proposals above the threshold which did not succeed because of budget limits will receive a *Seal of Excellence*.

2.4 ASAP-2023-LS-MIS: Call for proposals focused on the increase of production capacities for missiles

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Any eligible entity or entities as defined in Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals, as well as of the objectives pursued and the expected results

ASAP-2023-LS-MIS-IPC: Increased production capacity for missiles

Any eligible action as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, that addresses the increase of production capacities in the area of missiles, in particular assembly of final product and production of propulsion systems, and that aims at supporting the timely delivery of missiles.

Targeted activities: Proposed actions must address at least activity (a) as referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. Proposed actions may in addition address one or more activities among (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) as referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. See Appendix 2 for the list of the activities referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Implementation

Actions will be implemented using lump sum grants in the sense of Article 125(1), first subparagraph point (d), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 under direct management by the Commission.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution - description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in qualitative and quantitative ways

Not applicable.

Additional information

The Commission is considering an indicative budget of EUR 40 000 000 for this call with the following fixed ceiling per project:

- ASAP-2023-LS-MIS-IPC: maximum EU contribution of EUR 10 000 000 per project

Financing rate

The EU will finance up to:

- 35% of the eligible costs of the proposed action related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(a)-(e)⁴ of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, or up to 45% if at least one of the conditions provided in Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 is met; and
- 100% of the eligible direct costs related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(f) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Indirect costs will be determined as a flat-rate of 7% of the total eligible direct costs.

Award criteria and weighting

Submitted proposals will be scored against each of the following award criteria (score from 0 to 5) using the weighting below:

Award criteria as defined in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525	Weighting
(a) Increase in production capacity in the Union	2
(b) Reduction of lead production time	3
(c) Elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks	1
(d) Resilience through cross-border cooperation	1
(e) Support to procurement	2
(f) Quality of the implementation plan of the action	2
Maximum score	55
Overall threshold	36.5

There is no minimum pass score for individual criteria: only an overall threshold will apply.

See Appendix 3 for the list of the award criteria referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

If indicated in the specific call conditions, proposals above the threshold which did not succeed because of budget limits will receive a *Seal of Excellence*.

2.5 ASAP-2023-LS-TRC: Call for proposals focused on testing and reconditioning certification for artillery ammunition

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

⁴ See Appendix 2 of this Annex

Any eligible entity or entities as defined in Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals, as well as of the objectives pursued and the expected results

ASAP-2023-LS-TRC-AM: Testing and reconditioning certification for artillery ammunition

Any eligible action as defined in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, that addresses primarily the obsolescence, testing or reconditioning certification in the area of artillery ammunition and that aims at supporting the timely delivery of artillery ammunition, with potential positive spill over effects on other ground-to-ground ammunition.

Targeted activities: Proposed actions must address at least activity (d) as referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. Proposed actions may in addition address one or more activities among (a), (b), (c), (e) and (f) as referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525. See Appendix 2 for the list of the activities referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Implementation

Actions will be implemented using lump sum grants in the sense of Article 125(1), first subparagraph point (d), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 under direct management by the Commission.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution - description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in qualitative and quantitative ways

Not applicable.

Additional information

The Commission is considering an indicative budget of EUR 4 350 000 for this call with the following fixed ceiling per project:

- ASAP-2023-LS-TRC-AM: maximum EU contribution of EUR 2 000 000 per project

Financing rate

The EU will finance up to:

- 35% of the eligible costs of the proposed action related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(a)-(e)⁵ of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, or up to 45% if at least one of the conditions provided in Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 is met; and
- 100% of the eligible direct costs related to activities referred to in Article 8(3)(f) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Indirect costs will be determined as a flat-rate of 7% of the total eligible direct costs.

Award criteria and weighting

Submitted proposals will be scored against each of the following award criteria (score from 0 to 5) using the weighting below:

⁵ See Appendix 2 of this Annex

Award criteria as defined in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525	Weighting
(a) Increase in production capacity in the Union	n.a.
(b) Reduction of lead production time	3
(c) Elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks	n.a.
(d) Resilience through cross-border cooperation	n.a.
(e) Support to procurement	1
(f) Quality of the implementation plan of the action	2
Maximum score	30
Overall threshold	20

There is no minimum pass score for individual criteria: only an overall threshold will apply.

See Appendix 3 for the list of the award criteria referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

If indicated in the specific call conditions, proposals above the threshold which did not succeed because of budget limits will receive a *Seal of Excellence*.

3. *Procurement*

Amount

EUR 677 699.

Description, including the objectives pursued and expected results

- As referred to in Article 22(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, ASAP outreach actions will contribute to information and communication activities related to ASAP, including dissemination activities, matchmaking events, awareness raising activities.
- Development and support of IT systems adapted to ASAP specificities.
- Studies related to the ASAP evaluation as referred to in Article 23 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.
- Cost arising for the performance of the audits referred to in Article 20 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 (contracts).

Implementation

Public procurements under direct management by the Commission.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution – description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in qualitative and quantitative ways

Not applicable.

4. Actions implemented in indirect management

Ramp-up fund implemented in indirect management

Implementing entity

See point 5.

Description, including the objectives pursued and expected results

See point 5.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution – description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in qualitative and quantitative ways

See point 5.

5. Contribution to blending facilities

Ramp-up Fund

Amount allocated to the blending facility

EUR 30 000 000.

Description, including the objectives pursued and expected results

In order to leverage, de-risk and speed-up investments needed to increase manufacturing capacities, a facility offering debt solutions (“Ramp-up Fund”) may be established (Article 21(1) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525). In line with recital 37 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, the Commission will explore the most appropriate way to support such rapid ramp-up.

Pursuant to Article 5(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, the Ramp-up Fund would provide funding in the most appropriate form laid down in Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

The Ramp-up Fund should support the increase of manufacturing capacities in the ammunition and missiles sector by providing opportunities for increased availability of funds to companies across the value chains. As defined in Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525, it will have the following objectives:

- (a) improving the leverage effect of the Union budget spending and achieving a higher multiplier effect in terms of attracting private-sector financing;
- (b) providing support to companies facing difficulties in accessing finance, and addressing the need to underpin the resilience of the Union defence industry;
- (c) accelerating investment in the field of manufacturing relevant defence products and leveraging funding from both the public and the private sectors, while increasing the security of supply for the whole Union defence industry value chain;
- (d) enhancing access to finance for investments related to activities referred to in

Article 8(3), points (a) to (e), of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

Implementation

Subject to the results of the exploratory phase, all relevant parameters being considered, either the Ramp-up Fund will be implemented under indirect management as a blending operation, or the EUR 30 000 000 will be reallocated to grants under direct management.

Entities participating in the blending facility

Implementing partners, financial intermediaries and final recipients.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution – description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in qualitative and quantitative ways

Where financing supported by InvestEU is involved, sustainable proofing and climate tracking guidances (Commission Notices (2021/C 280/01), C(2021) 3316)) apply.

APPENDIX 1: Overview of the calls for proposals, budget and topics from a thematic perspective

Thematic	Calls	Topics	Total indicative call budget
Explosives	ASAP-2023-LS-XPL	<p>ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-STEP Indicative budget: EUR 130 000 000 Fixed ceiling per project: EUR 65 000 000</p> <p>ASAP-2023-LS-XPL-FAST Indicative budget: EUR 60 000 000 Fixed ceiling per project: EUR 20 000 000</p>	EUR 190 000 000
Powders	ASAP-2023-LS-POW	<p>ASAP-2023-LS-POW-STEP Indicative budget: EUR 94 000 000 Fixed ceiling per project: EUR 47 000 000</p> <p>ASAP-2023-LS-POW-FAST Indicative budget: EUR 50 000 000 Fixed ceiling per project: EUR 10 000 000</p>	EUR 144 000 000
Shells	ASAP-2023-LS-SHL	<p>ASAP-2023-LS-SHL-IPC Fixed ceiling per project: EUR 22 500 000</p>	EUR 90 000 000
Missiles	ASAP-2023-LS-MIS	<p>ASAP-2023-LS-MIS-IPC Fixed ceiling per project: EUR 10 000 000</p>	EUR 40 000 000
Testing and reconditioning certification (artillery ammunition)	ASAP-2023-LS-TRC	<p>ASAP-2023-LS-TRC-AM Fixed ceiling per project: EUR 2 000 000</p>	EUR 4 350 000

APPENDIX 2: Eligible activities under ASAP (article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525)

Eligible activities
<p>(a) the optimisation, expansion, modernisation, upgrading or repurposing of existing, or the establishment of new, production capacities, in relation to relevant defence products or their components and corresponding raw materials, insofar as those components and raw materials are used as direct input for the production of relevant defence products, in particular with a view to increasing production capacity or reducing lead production times, including on the basis of the procurement or acquisition of the requisite machine tools and any other necessary input;</p>
<p>(b) the establishment of cross-border industrial partnerships, including through public private partnerships or other forms of industrial cooperation, in a joint industrial effort, including activities that aim to coordinate the sourcing or reservation of components and the corresponding raw materials insofar as those components and raw materials are used as direct input for the production of relevant defence products, as well as to coordinate production capacities and production plans;</p>
<p>(c) the building-up and making available of reserved surge manufacturing capacities of relevant defence products, their components and corresponding raw materials, insofar as those components and raw materials are used as direct input for the production of relevant defence products, in accordance with ordered or planned production volumes;</p>
<p>(d) the testing, including the necessary infrastructure, and, as appropriate, reconditioning certification of relevant defence products with a view to addressing their obsolescence and making them useable by end users;</p>
<p>(e) the training, reskilling or upskilling of personnel in relation to the activities referred to in points (a) to (d);</p>
<p>(f) the improvement of the access to finance for the relevant economic operators active in the production of or making available of relevant defence products, by means of the offset of any additional cost arising specifically from the defence industry sector, for investments related to activities referred to in points (a) to (e).</p>

APPENDIX 3: Award criteria under ASAP (article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525)

Award criteria
(a) increase in production capacity in the Union: the contribution of the action to the increase, ramp-up or reservation of manufacturing capacities, their modernisation or the reskilling and upskilling of the related workforce;
(b) reduction of lead production time: the contribution of the action to the timely satisfaction of the demand expressed through procurement in terms of reduced lead production times, including via order reprioritisation mechanisms;
(c) elimination of sourcing and production bottlenecks: the contribution of the action to the swift identification and rapid and lasting elimination of any sourcing (raw material and any other input) or production (manufacturing capability) bottlenecks;
(d) resilience through cross-border cooperation: the contribution of the action to the development and operationalisation of cross-border cooperation between undertakings established in different Member States or associated countries, involving in particular, to a significant extent, SMEs or mid-caps as recipients, as subcontractors or as other undertakings in the supply chain;
(e) support to procurement: the demonstration by the applicants of the link between the action and newly placed orders stemming from the joint procurement of relevant defence products by at least three Member States or associated countries especially if done in a Union framework;
(f) the quality of the implementation plan of the action, including in terms of its processes and monitoring.