

Frequently Asked Questions

Laudes Foundation Learning Lab RFP

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1. Budget & Contracting

Do you have an indicative budget range or ceiling?

We do not publish a budget range. We invite bidders to propose a scope and budget that reflects the ambition and quality of their approach.

Is this a grant or a consultancy contract?

This is a consultancy contract.

Are for-profit firms eligible? What about independent consultants or international organisations?

Yes — proposals are welcome from for-profit firms, nonprofits, consortia, and independent consultants. There are no geographic eligibility restrictions.

Should proposals include maintenance and operations postlaunch?

Please outline your recommended postlaunch support model separately (e.g., maintenance, technical support, content governance) so we can understand ongoing cost implications.

What currency should we use?

EURO is preferred, but other invoicing currencies may be accepted if clearly stated.

2. Timeline & Delivery

Is the February–June 2026 timeline fixed?

The platform build timeline is fixed (with some flexibility); however, you may propose alternative scheduling for the development of learning products if needed. Any adjustments should include rationale.

Can we request a call to clarify questions?

Due to the volume of interest, we are not offering one-on-one calls. All clarifications will be shared via this FAQ.

3. Learning Products (4–5 for launch)

Should the launch products follow a consistent format?

This will be determined collaboratively with the selected consultant or team. We are open to either a unified approach across all launch products or a mixed set of formats. Please propose what you believe is most appropriate based on your understanding of the Learning Lab's purpose and user needs and explain your rationale.

How large should a launch learning product be?

There is no prescribed size. A “product” could be a short tool, a narrative guide, a multimedia module, or another format. Please articulate your assumptions about workload, format, and depth.

Will Laudes provide content?

Laudes will provide relevant materials (reports, evaluations, tools) and access to staff/partners. Consultants are expected to synthesise and translate these and develop new content as needed.

Are audio/video formats expected?

They are optional. If you include AV formats, please budget for scripting, editing, captioning, and accessibility requirements.

What interactive elements are expected?

You may propose interaction types (e.g., guided journeys, decision tools, quizzes, reflective exercises, templates). Please align with feasible delivery in Umbraco.

What is the purpose of the learning/content templates referenced in the RFP?

Templates are intended primarily to support **consistency, clarity, and accessibility** across future Learning Lab materials. They provide a shared structure and user experience baseline, while still allowing for a wide range of content types and formats. Bidders may propose template approaches that best balance usability, flexibility, and production practicality.

4. Platform, CMS, and Technical Specifications

What CMS is used?

The Learning Lab will be built within Laudes Foundation's existing Umbraco CMS environment. Our digital agency will be responsible for the development of new pages, systems or embedding tools into the system, working closely with the selected partner to deliver the proposed approach.

Is a headless approach (e.g., React frontend) acceptable?

Yes, headless approaches will be considered, provided they integrate cleanly with Umbraco and our web development partners.

May we propose alternatives to Umbraco?

We are open to hearing alternative approaches, but the project should be deliverable within the current Umbraco environment. When proposing new approaches, please provide a compelling justification and specify costs of building, updating and maintaining any alternative platform or solution used in addition to Umbraco.

Can you share details of your current Umbraco setup (version, templates, workflows, constraints, hosting, etc.)?

High level information will be provided to the selected partner. In your proposal, please state any assumptions or required technical access.

What search, metadata, or taxonomy standards should be used?

Please outline a proposed taxonomy and metadata model that supports intuitive navigation, filtering, and future scalability.

What accessibility standards are required?

WCAG 2.1 AA or equivalent. Please also design with low-bandwidth and mobile-first considerations.

5. Content Governance, Editorial Process & Quality

How will editorial oversight and approvals work?

Please outline your proposed editorial workflow. Laudes will retain final approval of all public facing learning products.

How should external resources be curated and maintained?

Please include recommended criteria for quality, transparency, and update cycles for external links.

Should download rights or permissions be considered?

Yes. Materials should generally be accessible for download. You may propose an approach to licensing, rights statements, and (if beneficial) optional user tracking mechanisms.

6. Audience, Impact & Strategy

Who is the primary audience?

The Learning Lab will serve philanthropic practitioners, partners, civil society actors, and others interested in Laudes' learning, insights, and applied practice.

How does the Lab fit into Laudes' broader systems change strategy?

The Lab enables open access to insights, tools, and learning that can strengthen field building, influence practice, and enhance shared understanding across philanthropy and civil society.

Is multilingual expansion expected?

Not at launch. All pages and content formats in our current website are built to ensure easy translation to any language by free translation extension apps, such as Google Translate. If formats proposed to deliver content, such as JPG / GIF, do not allow automatic translation, please propose a pragmatic roadmap for phased translation or localisation if relevant.

7. Additional Logistics

Is travel expected?

Not expected. If you believe travel is necessary to your proposed methodology, please justify and itemise it.

Has user research already been conducted?

Limited prior insights exist. You may propose lightweight discovery or persona development as part of your methodology.