

17 February 2023

Preliminary Market Research – Questionnaire on Harmonised Classification and Labelling reporting using IUCLID

Introduction

European Chemicals Agency, ECHA, is inviting you to reply to this questionnaire by **09/03/2022 by 18.00 Helsinki time (EET)**, via e-mail addressed to the functional mailbox procurement@echa.europa.eu.

This questionnaire is meant for market consultation conducted by the Agency prior to launching procurement around services and expertise your company may offer related to reporting solutions for [Harmonised Classification and Labelling](#) (CLH) reporting using IUCLID. The market consultation is part of the preparation of a call for tenders for a direct contract for the creation of a CLH report using the IUCLID Report generator.

In accordance with the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment and transparency, a Prior Information Notice for this contract has been published in the Official Journal of European Union including the invitation to participate in this market consultation.

Important: Before answering the questions, please read carefully the background information provided below.

ECHA will preserve the confidentiality of the information provided in response to this questionnaire. Your data will be processed in accordance with [ECHA's privacy rules](#).

1. General Information

- The information included in this questionnaire is only indicative; it is meant to give context for the respondents to provide their answers, but does not commit or bind ECHA, i.e. with regard to any procurement launched by the Agency in the future.
- The responses do not bind the respondents in any way. The information to be collected through this questionnaire will not be considered by ECHA in the evaluation of tenders submitted during an eventual procurement procedure launched by the Agency.
- The identity of the companies that will respond to this questionnaire will not be disclosed to any third party except the European Court of Auditors, the European Anti-Fraud Office or, for the processing of personal data, the European Data Protection Supervisor if requested for the performance of audits and checks.
- The responses to be provided in the free text fields of this questionnaire should be clear and standalone, i.e. without web links to documents or websites.
- No further interviews are planned to take place with the respondents. Therefore, we kindly invite you to provide as many information as you feel is relevant for ECHA to assess best the market situation.

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2. Background Information

IUCLID is a software to record, store, maintain and exchange data on intrinsic and hazard properties of chemical substances. ECHA co-develops the software with the OECD.

IUCLID contains a [Report Generator](#) which uses [Freemarker](#) report templates (FTLs) to support the extraction and conversion of IUCLID's structured data on chemicals into a standalone format, such as PDF. Currently, the Report generator is utilised to generate various assessment reports such as the [REACH Chemical Safety Report](#).

In the preparation and assessment of [Harmonised Classification and Labelling](#) dossiers, there is currently no means to directly generate a draft CLH report from IUCLID's structured data. ECHA envisions a future procurement for the creation of a CLH report using the IUCLID Report generator. Currently, there are a set of [specifications](#) provided by ECHA which guide users on how the report should ideally be structured, as well as the expected content.

The IUCLID Report generator currently uses [Docbook](#) to style RTF- and PDF-generated reports. From now on, Docbook will be replaced by HTML as the primary programming language for styling reports generated from IUCLID. Therefore, the CLH report templates would be written using a combination of [Freemarker](#) and HTML.

The aims of this market survey, which is open to all possible interested market operators, are to:

- Check the availability of offerings on the market for a IUCLID Report generator solution to generate a CLH report, with regards to:
 - Relevant regulatory understanding and experience
 - Available and relevant resources to work with the Report generator of IUCLID in order to create, re-engineer, and test the FTL report templates
- Check the expertise available to offer solutions within a regulatory context
- Ensure that a potential call for tender is sufficiently attractive to the market players
- Help ECHA estimate the potential costs for the development of a CLH report template for the IUCLID report generator

3. Questions

1. Are you an organisation that has previous experience in delivering IT products or services for the needs of chemical regulators (such as ECHA or national competent authorities) **or** companies complying with chemical regulations (for example: REACH, CLP, BPR, PPP)?
2. What previous experience do you have:
 - a. Working with IUCLID or IUCLID-related products?
 - b. Working with the programming languages [Freemarker](#) (or a similar web template engine), HTML and [Docbook](#)
 - c. Providing IT solutions which answers to a set of specified requirements?
 - d. Providing IT solutions that consist of re-engineering existing report templates code to fit new objectives?
3. If you are not familiar with Freemarker or HTML, do you think you could still work with this type of programming languages? If yes, why?

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4. What is your level of interest in submitting an offer should ECHA decide to publish a call for tenders for building a CLH report template for IUCLID, adapting the current set of common modules (which are currently used in REACH and PPP reports) to support this new report, and moving various Docbook elements to HTML?
5. Would you be in a position, and willing, to estimate the costs for implementing the contract, including the estimated average price (e.g. daily rate) for the expertise to be involved?
6. Any other feedback/remarks