

14 February 2024

## **Preliminary Market Research – Questionnaire for providers of scientific, regulatory, and technical support related to ECHA’s risk management activities**

### **Introduction**

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is conducting a market consultation to gain an understanding of the interest and availability in participating in a call for tenders for a framework contract to support ECHA’s work on managing the risks of chemicals. To this end, ECHA invites you to take the questionnaire below.

This document starts with general information on the questionnaire followed by more specific background information and the actual questions. The feedback collected through the questionnaire will help ECHA in effectively organising the call for tenders – your input is therefore valuable and appreciated.

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

We invite you to reply to this questionnaire by **5 March 2024, 18.00 Helsinki time (EET)**, via e-mail to [procurement@echa.europa.eu](mailto:procurement@echa.europa.eu).

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.

ECHA preserves 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 to the respondents so that they can provide informed answers, but does not commit or bind ECHA, i.e. with regard to any procurement launched in the future.
- The responses do not bind the respondents in any way either. Specifically, the information to be collected through this questionnaire will not be considered by ECHA in the evaluation of any request to participate or tender submitted during an eventual procurement procedure launched by the Agency.
- The identity of organisations that 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 best assess the market situation.

14 February 2024

## 2. Background Information

ECHA is considering opening a call for tenders for a new framework contract to support its risk management activities under REACH, the EU Battery Regulation, Industrial Emissions Directive, OECD Projects (e.g. SWACHE)<sup>1</sup>, and other potential new ECHA tasks<sup>2</sup>.

The purpose of the new framework contract(s) is to provide ECHA with scientific, regulatory, and technical support related to the regulation of hazardous substances. This includes support with tasks, such as collecting and analysing information; preparing reports and documents; conducting surveys to collect information; and developing methodologies for socio-economic analysis, among other things. More specifically, tasks that contractors would support ECHA with include collecting and analysing information on:

- Risk assessment:
  - Human exposure and the hazards of the relevant substances related to their impact on human health and/or the environment, including the derivation of dose-response curves and scientific limit values;
  - Emissions/releases to the environment, including carbon footprints; the retrieval of information on end-of life of substances and articles including life cycle assessment.
  - Hazards, risks, and the environmental footprint of producing substances, including technical and economic feasibility, availability and market acceptance of potential alternatives to harmful substances.
- Socio-economic analysis:
  - Socio-economic impacts of regulatory measures, including the quantification and monetisation of effects, the conduct and analysis of market surveys etc.
  - Potential alternatives to relevant substances, including available information on the alternatives' economic feasibility, and availability.
- Economic analysis:
  - Empirical and theoretical methodologies related to socio-economic analysis, including elements of environmental, health and public economics.

The framework contract may be divided into lots that are separately contracted out based on the subject area and/or the type of task.<sup>3</sup> Interested economic operators are invited to analyse the three above-mentioned areas and consider the opportunity to submit joint offers and/or include subcontractors to cover the full depth of work to be done under the framework contract(s).

The purpose of the call for tenders is to ensure that ECHA makes the best use of the products and services available on the market. In connection with that, the aim of this market survey is to:

1. Validate the availability of offerings on the market;
2. Ensure that a potential call for tender is sufficiently attractive to market participants; and
3. Help ECHA with identifying the types of offerings that could cover ECHA's needs.

---

<sup>1</sup> Surveys on Willingness-to-Pay to Avoid Negative Chemicals-Related Health Impacts

<sup>2</sup> Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment; End-of Life Vehicles; Cosmetic Products Regulation; Toys Safety Directive; etc.

<sup>3</sup> At this point, ECHA envisions the framework contract to be divided into two lots: Lot 1 – concerning risk assessment and socio-economic analysis tasks as described above; and Lot 2 – concerning economic analysis tasks as described above.

14 February 2024

### 3. Questionnaire

#### 1. Description of organisation

- a. Please provide a short description of the products, services and capabilities offered by your organisation with respect to the tasks and subject areas described in section 2 above.
- b. Please indicate the approximate size of your organisation by choosing one of the below categories:
  - i. Small: 1-50 employees;
  - ii. Mid-size: 51-250 employees; or
  - iii. Large: 251+ employees.
- c. Please describe the typical team composition of your organisation by filling in the approximate number of team members your organisation staffs on projects, by their role in the team (i.e. senior, mid-level, and junior team members).

	Senior	Mid-level	Junior
Small projects (<20 man-days)			
Mid-sized projects (20-60 man-days)			
Large projects (60+ man-days)			

#### 2. Previous experience

Please describe relevant previous experiences your organisation has had with:

- a. Working with public entities;
- b. Working with scientific experts on complex matters; and
- c. Sub-contracting tasks to third parties to cover different areas of expertise on a project.

#### 3. Joint offers and subcontracting

The range of areas that ECHA may require support with is broad (e.g. risk assessment, socio-economic analysis, economic analysis). In some cases, ECHA may need the contractor(s) to provide support across more than one of these areas at the same time.

- a. If your organisation offers support/services only in some but not all of these areas, would you be interested in and able to establish partnerships with other organisations/experts (i.e. to submit a joint tender or include subcontractors in your tender)?
- b. How long, from the time of publishing the call for tenders, would you estimate you may need to establish partnerships with other organisations/experts to offer a joint tender or include relevant subcontractors?

#### 4. Interest

On a scale from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest), what is your level of interest in submitting an offer, should ECHA publish a call for tenders for (a) new framework contract(s) purchasing services of scientific, regulatory, and technical support related to its risk management activities?

14 February 2024

**5. Any other feedback/remarks**