

Call for tenders' details

Title: Applicability of 'in silico' tools for the prediction of dermal absorption for pesticides.

Start date: 24/09/2016

Time limit for receipt of tenders: 11/01/2017

Contracting authority: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

Status: Closed

Call for tenders question list

#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
1	18/10/2016 15:00	21/10/2016 11:13	PPPs database from EFSA	In the call it is noted that validation of the different in silico methods must be made on EFSA database. But no information is given in these database : size, format, data. Is it possible to have a short description of these databases?	21/10/2016 The EFSA human in vitro dermal absorption dataset is an xls file (2 MB approximately) including information and data from dermal absorption experiments using human skin, such as: active substance name, molecular weight, water solubility, logPow, formulation type, exposure duration, skin type/region, donor sex/age, concentration tested and applied, directly absorbed dose, non-absorbed dose, skin dose, stratum corneum dose, tape strips dose, recovery dose and calculated absorbed dose.

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2	18/10/2016 14:57	24/10/2016 17:03	modify deadline	Considering the short time to answer the call, and difficulties to connect these last days, is it possible to push the deadline until end of november or mid-december?	24/10/2016 Please note that the deadline to submit offers has been extended until 11/01/2017. The corrigendum is under publication.
3	18/10/2016 17:08	24/10/2016 17:03	Request for deadline extension	Dear Sir or Madam, In order to prepare relevant offers answering all the requirements mentioned in the tender specifications, we would like to request an extension of the deadline for the submission of offers or the call Applicability of 'in silico' tools for the prediction of dermal absorption for pesticides (OC/EFSA/PRAS/2016/02). Thanks for your consideration,	24/10/2016 Please note that the deadline to submit offers has been extended until 11/01/2017. The corrigendum is under publication.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
4	21/10/2016 15:06	03/11/2016 16:27	Technical case	In preparing the technical case for the Quality Award criteria, should this be prepared as a single file for uploading to the e-tendering portal, or as multiple attachments? And should these documents be attached under the "Tenderers" section in the portal under "Documents", or somewhere else?	<p>03/11/2016 EFSA does not prescribe if the technical offer should be a single document or more documents. For submitting your offer please refer to the detailed instructions under PART 3 of the tender specifications, pages 17-22. In particular under STEP: e-submission wizard step 3 of 5 - QUALIFICATION: tender it is indicated that: "Technical offer: The technical tender needs to be uploaded in the section "Tender" in the e-Submission application. The tenderer will need to select the "Technical Tender" document from the dropdown box ("Financial Tender or Technical Tender"). The e-Submission application allows attachment of as many documents as necessary. This technical section is of great importance in the assessment of the offers, the award of the contract and the future execution of any resulting contract. The technical offer must cover all aspects required in the technical specifications and provide all the information needed to reply to the quality award criteria (see section 2.6 A).</p>

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					A). Offers deviating from the minimum requirements or not covering all minimum requirements will be excluded on the basis of non-conformity with the tender specifications and will not be evaluated (see section 2.5). In case of subcontracting: please indicate in the technical offer the % proportion of subcontracting.”

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
5	18/11/2016 16:59	22/11/2016 17:47	Selection criteria and technical and professional capacity	The 5 years of professional experience in the area of computational methods for skin penetration would be fulfilled in a team providing 2 experts with demonstrated professional experience in computational methods for risk assessment/toxicology/public health and 1 expert in skin penetration experiments, all experts having >5y professional experience each?	<p>22/11/2016</p> <p>The Senior Key Expert(s) should have a higher university degree (e.g. PhD, MSc) in the area of chemicals risk assessment/toxicology/public health AND at least 5 years of professional experience in the area of computational methods for skin penetration.</p> <p>The role of the Senior Key Expert(s) is critical to the project development and, in addition to the required education background, his/her expertise (5 years) in in silico methods for skin penetration is mandatory.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
6	08/12/2016 07:39	14/12/2016 09:33	In vitro dataset contents	<p>We would like additional information on the dataset contents as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Does the absorbed dose include data on the rate of absorption, or the time course of the material's appearance in the receptor fluid? 2) Does the dataset contain concentration of the initial applied material as a mass load per area? 3) Is the exposure duration constant across protocols, or recorded for each experiment? 4) Is sufficient data available in the dataset to calculate flux of material (mass per area over time?) 5) Do the included studies follow OECD protocol guidelines for dermal absorption studies? 	<p>14/12/2016</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Absorbed dose (% of applied dose) and absorption at half duration of the study in the receptor fluid (T0.5 calculated as %absorption at 12h relative to 24h) are reported in the dataset. 2) Applied concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$) and tested concentration (g/L or g/kg) are reported in the dataset. 3) Exposure duration of the collected studies is from 6h up to 24h. Most represented studies in the dataset (86%) have an exposure duration of 6h and 8h 4) no. 5) Yes, all studies are OECD TG 428-compliant
7	12/12/2016 23:27	14/12/2016 17:08	Project Leader role	<p>Is there a requirement that the project leader be from one of the qualifying European countries?</p>	<p>14/12/2016</p> <p>The project leader does not have to be from one of the qualifying European countries, however the project leader should ideally be staff from the tenderer or the leader of the joint tender. (The last sentence is in the specs).</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
8	08/12/2016 07:27	14/12/2016 17:09	Subcontractor exclusion criteria	Is there a limitation on the amount of the tender assigned to a subcontractor from a country outside of the approved European nations?	<p>14/12/2016 As indicated in the EFSA guidance for tenderers, page 10, if a subcontractor provides the whole or a very large part of the financial capacity OR executes the whole or a very large part of the tasks, EFSA may demand that that the subcontractor signs the contract as well. In this case EFSA will check that the subcontractor is not in a situation of exclusion and that it has access to the market. Additionally, tenderers may be requested to state the value of the contract that they propose to subcontract and/or the percentage of subcontracting foreseen.</p> <p>In line with the above and taking into account that the contractor must have access to the EU market (page 5-6) it is excluded that 100 % of the contract can be subcontracted to a country outside of the approved European nations. There is however no fixed limitation to the part that can be subcontracted to a country outside of the approved European nations.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
9	22/12/2016 18:12	23/12/2016 10:51	Selection criteria 2A and 2B	Do the selection criteria in 2A and 2B apply to the whole consortium or to each individual partner, especially the leading partner, in the consortium? We may assign a one man company as the leading partner, who by himself does not comply with all requirements (financial and technical). If it applies to the whole consortium, how should the declaration on honour for selection criteria be filed (for the whole consortium or for the leading partner)? Thank you for your reply. We wish you happy holidays.	23/12/2016 In case of a joint offer from a group of economic operators, selection criteria 2.4 A and 2.4 B have to be met by the joint tender as a whole. Annex 5: Declaration on Honour on selection criteria should be completed by the leading partner only as indicated at page 11 of the tender specifications.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
10	29/12/2016 21:59	06/01/2017 15:54	Declaration in interest (DOI)	<p>Our consortium has the benefit of including two emeritus professors who are very experienced in the project topic. They will participate as an individual, so we are considering submitting their individual DOIs. However, as they are still cooperating with their universities (not being employed there), we are not sure.</p> <p>Question 1: Could you instruct us what kind of DOI (individual or institutional) we should submit?</p> <p>Question 2: In either case, to what extent do we need to supply information about companies and institutions that have been asking research or consultancy from these professors (or any member of our consortium)? The list of clients may be very long indeed, especially if all the university clients should be mentioned.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your response.</p>	<p>06/01/2017</p> <p>The emeritus professors should submit the Dols as individuals.</p> <p>In the Dols need to include only interests which fall within the specific subject matter of the call.</p>