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Energy Efficiency Compliant Product 2018 - EEPLIANT3 [GA 832558]

Prior Information Notice (PIN)

in connection with the procurement of services for developing a web crawler prototype or a minimum viable product (MVP) in the context of the EU-funded EEPLIANT3 Concerted Action.

1. Objectives of the PIN

This prior information notice (PIN) announces the intention of PROSAFE to publish a future call for offers following a preliminary Open Market Consultation (OMC).

The objectives of the PIN is to set the date and time of the OMC and gather expressions of interest from potential suitable bidders.

2. Introduction

During the OMC, PROSAFE seeks to inform potential service providers about this procurement opportunity and, in particular, collect feedback on the technical specifications of the target application, the technical challenges and possible solutions which will be used to pin down our procurement conditions.

All interested market actors, including in particular technology vendors and freelance software developers, are invited to take part in this OMC, regardless of their geographical location, size or business structure.

This is a prior information notice only and not a commitment to purchase. Participation in the OMC is voluntary and non-binding. Participation in the OMC is not a pre-selection or pre-qualification to participate in the upcoming procurement. Moreover, participation in this OMC is done on the account of the interested parties.

3. Context and scope of the procurement

EEPLIANT3 aims to support the implementation of EU Energy labelling and Ecodesign regulations and improve the energy efficiency of products placed on the Single Market. Apart from executing targeted market controls, the 29 participating Market Surveillance Authorities (MSAs) also seek to co-create methodologies and systems to harmonise their work and achieve efficiencies.

One of the objectives of the EEPLIANT3 project is to develop digital tools to support MSAs in enforcing EU product energy efficiency legislation. The procurement is to **design and build a working beta prototype or, at best, an MVP of a pro-active e-Commerce web crawler** by November 2023. The web crawler prototype should be able to extract and index data/information from at least 3 retailer websites that sale electronic products (focus on televisions) in at least one EU country. It should be scalable and adaptable to include the possibility of adding more functionalities, deeper automation and machine learning in a future iteration. The final functional and system requirements will be determined together with the selected contractor.



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The contractor will work closely with an external IT consultant contracted by EEPLIANT3, the management team of the project, and a dedicated group of subject-matter experts from participating market surveillance authorities.

The service duration is expected to be from June to November 2023.

4. Place of performance of the contract

Main site or place of performance: Contractor's premises.

5. Scope of the Open Market Consultation

The open market consultation aims to:

- Inform the market about the requested service and procurement process;
- Acquire specialist information about the technical specifications of the web crawler prototype to be developed in order to design fit-for-purpose Tender Specifications;
- Get feedback on the validity of the work plan and the feasibility of the desired functionalities in order to confirm our assumptions;
- Identify critical challenges, gaps, and market risks potentially able to endanger the goals of the project and the performance of the service contract;
- Map companies and freelancers capable of submitting responses to the tender.

6. Procurement process

The procurement includes three phases:

PHASE 1 involves an OMC. It will be organised in the form of an online survey, as part of the registration to the OMC webinar, and a webinar for potential service providers. The OMC will be conducted in English. The agenda of the webinar can be found in ANNEX 1.

We invite you to fill in the registration form and answer our questionnaire here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EEPLIANT3-WP2-OMC>

The deadline for registrations is **Monday 24 April 2023, 12:00 pm.**

PHASE 2 is the invitation to tender. After the OMC and based on its conclusions, PROSAFE will invite all suitable service providers to submit an offer within two weeks, unless communicated otherwise.

PHASE 3 is the evaluation of the tenders, which may also include direct negotiations with shortlisted bidders. This will lead to the award of a fixed-term service contract to the bidder who demonstrates best value for money and best meets the project's needs.



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Additional background information

Additional information about the EEPLIANT3 Concerted Action can be found here:

<https://eepliant.eu/index.php/new-about-eepliant/about-eepliant3>

Additional information about Work Package (WP) 2 of EEPLIANT3 on the development of Digital Tools for market surveillance on Energy labelling and Ecodesign is available here:

<https://eepliant.eu/index.php/horizontal-themes/it-tools>

Contact

Questions may be sent to Kyriakos Papazoglou, Programme Manager, at Kyriakos@prosafe.org. The responses that PROSAFE will provide to all questions received in the framework of this OMC will be published here:

<https://eepliant.eu/index.php/calls-for-tenders/34-news/news-items/179-eepliant3-wp2-prior-information-notice>

and <https://prosafe.org/index.php/en/news-events/calls-for-tender?id=843>

In respect of equal treatment and confidentiality, confidential or commercially sensitive information will not be published in the Q&A. The Q&A will be published in an anonymised way without specific details about suppliers or their solutions.

With best regards,

Ioana Sandu, PROSAFE Executive Director

DISCLAIMER

This notice is part of the EEPLIANT3 Concerted Action that has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 832558.

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ANNEX 1: Agenda of the webinars (45-min. duration)

#	TOPICS
1	Welcome and introduction to the EEPLIANT3 procurement action for building a web crawler prototype (or MVP)
2	Background of the EEPLIANT3 Concerted Action and Work Package (WP) 2 on Digital Tools
3	Prior information about the product to be developed, the desired functionalities, the tender specifications, and the procurement structure
4	Open consultation about the procurement and the technical specifications - <i>Moderated Q&A discussion</i>
5	Closing remarks and next steps

