

1. SCOPE AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCUREMENT

1.1 Contracting authority: who is the buyer?

This call for tenders is inter-institutional. The following EU institutions, agencies and bodies (hereafter the participating entities) will participate as contracting authorities to the framework contract(s) resulting from this call for tenders:

The lead contracting authority is the **European Chemicals Agency in Helsinki (ECHA)** acting as an agent for the participating entities for the purposes of this call for tenders and the resulting framework contract(s). ECHA will publish the call for tenders, organise the evaluation, sign and manage the framework contract(s) (including any amendments thereto) on behalf of all participating entities.

The **European Commission, assisted by its Directorate General Environment (DG ENV)**, is a participating entity in **Lot 2**. Yet, the list of participating entities may be extended to include any other institution, agency or body created on the basis of the Treaties or secondary Union law after the launch of this procedure.

Each of the participating entities may avail itself of the resulting framework contract(s) autonomously by concluding specific contracts with the contractor(s). References to the *Contracting Authority* in these Tender Specifications and their annexes shall be understood, depending on the context, as referring to one of the following: – the European Chemicals Agency acting in its capacity as lead contracting authority; – all the participating entities, in relation to their collective rights and obligations with the contractor(s), as one of the parties to the framework contract(s); – any of the participating entities acting in its own capacity, in particular for matters related to the conclusion, execution or termination of specific contracts with the contractor(s).

1.2 Subject: what is this call for tenders about?

The subject of this call for tenders is the establishment of a Framework Contract (FWC) for IT services that will support the development and maintenance activities of Scientific IT tools supporting the regulatory processes currently entrusted to ECHA, without preclusion of those that shall or are in the process of being entrusted to ECHA, on the basis of the following legislation:

- The REACH, CLP Regulations and the Biocides Regulation, the PIC Regulations;
- The POP Regulation;
- Waste, Drinking Water, Tobacco, Electronics, Directives;

In addition to the above, having regard to the evolving/expanding legislative context in which ECHA's operates, new tasks entrusted to ECHA and stemming from existing or new piece of legislation, new initiatives (e.g. Drinking Water Directive), cooperation with other organisation etc. will also be supported.