

Call for tender from the European Environmental Bureau (EEB)

Invitation to tender

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The European Environmental Bureau (EEB) brings together citizens' groups from across Europe. Our over 170 members from 36 countries have more than 30 million individual supporters. The EEB stands for sustainable development, environmental justice, global equity, transparency and participatory democracy. We promote the principles of prevention, precaution and believe that the polluter should pay.

The EEB is the largest and most inclusive European network of environmental citizens' groups – and the only one that works on such a broad range of issues. Our mission is to advocate for progressive policies to create a better environment in the European Union and beyond.

We work on a vast array of environmental issues and this project relates to our Zero Mercury Campaign and more specifically to the [Skin lightening creams campaign](#) launched in 2017.

1. Background and context

Mercury is a toxic global pollutant warranting immediate international action, according to a 2002 UNEP report. After a decade of discussions and negotiations, the [Minamata Convention on Mercury](#) ("the Convention") was adopted in 2013 with the objective to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic mercury emissions. The Convention entered into force in August 2017 and 131 countries have now ratified it.

The Convention under Article 4 bans the manufacture, import and export of mercury added products listed in Annex A. Cosmetic products with mercury content over 1 ppm are included in this list and banned.

The EEB, in collaboration with the Zero Mercury Working Group (ZMWG), started a [global NGO campaign](#) in 2017 focusing on the support of national government efforts to ban the manufacture, import, export and use of mercury-added cosmetics (with mercury content above 1 part per million.)

Extensive testing by ZMWG in 2019, confirmed that local markets and internet platforms, are still selling toxic, dangerous and often illegal skin-lighteners that have been already identified by many governments around the world as over the legal limit. The results of the testing have been gathered generating a list.

2. Overall objectives of the project

The EEB Zero Mercury campaign wants to make the list of skin-lightening creams containing or possibly containing toxic mercury publicly available and usable through an online platform. The platform should provide user-friendly access to information, with simple and effective search filters (and data visualisations) able to combine existing data collected by EEB / ZMWG and data from other databases.

We aim to use this database to:

- Become (the start of) a global hub for listed/dangerous products thanks to an excellent digital infrastructure
- Provide information on creams that contain or may contain high levels of mercury to consumers and governments
- Give access to a list of creams with high potential to contain mercury that should include:
 - primary data from our own testing
 - primary data from our partner's testing
 - creams listed in national government detention lists (e.g. Kenya, Uganda, California)
 - alert systems (e.g. RAPEX, ASEAN)
- Help consumers avoid creams suspected of containing harmful levels of mercury
- Support governments to better regulate, control and eventually effectively enforce the legislation(s) banning such products
- Convince public authorities to contribute to the list or agree to circulate and spread it with the aim of totally phasing mercury-added skin creams at global level.
- Build strong visibility of the problem to pressure named retailers and producers to stop adding mercury to cosmetics
- Push internet platforms to take responsibility for the quality and safety of the products they sell

The ultimate goal is to protect human health and the environment by avoiding mercury release and exposure.

3. Purpose of this invitation to tender

Through this invitation to tender, EEB/ZMWG aim to identify and select a qualified developer with the required technical and professional capacity to carry out the work outlined in this call for tender.

4. Essential features

A new web page under the Zero Mercury website (www.zeromercury.org – a [WordPress website](#)) is built by the developers with an attractive design and needs to include:

- Introductory text with context and goals
- The page should be adapted for good visualisation and functioning on every device (computer, tablet, smartphone)
- We need to highlight a disclaimer in the page (design to be discussed).

- The text will link to additional information on (e.g. subpages or PDFs)
 - Methodology
 - Sampling protocols
 - Analysis protocols
 - Health risks
 - Environmental risks
 - Minamata convention
 - Explanation of what detention lists and alert systems are
 - Actions taken (reports, letters sent, e-platforms having removed creams, etc)
- In relation to the above, we will ask the developer to advise on how best to insert the above sections so that it is designed in a user-friendly manner (e.g. hyperlinks that open a new page or a pdf? Small boxes when the text is short? Links listed on the left part of the screens? Etc)
- A contact form or feedback button through which the client can send us an email
- This new web page will be incorporated in our current Zero Mercury website but, a simple, short and easy web link will be needed [if possible]
- Main text in English, but with the possibility to make it available also in French and Spanish (translation provided by EEB).

The list of creams will be provided in Excel format (please see annex) and is to be featured on the web page in an appealing design/format. It will include fields such as brand name, year of sampling, if tested or not, means of testing, mercury level, place of purchase, country of purchase, region of purchase, etc. and may also include pictures of tested products.

- Customers must be able to filter the contents of the list by every category.
- The database must be easily and autonomously updatable by the EEB, including adding new fields or filters
- The resulting filtered list should be exportable in csv and or pdf format
- Include an option for bulk upload and download (for when EEB is updating or for other users)
- A field to 'unpublish' (or archive) a product should be included, so that we can retain old records, but hide them from the public.

Optional:

- SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) option for the website. Specify the price for this option.
- Link the data to a searchable map to visualise where some products are produced/sold/bought and their level of mercury OR to provide some information by country (e.g. laws in place etc). Specify the price for this option.

Technical features:

- All Intellectual Property Rights linked to the website page (including in the content of the database) arising in connection with the Project shall be the property of EEB, and EEB hereby grants the Supplier a royalty-free, licence for the duration of this agreement to use such Intellectual Property Rights for the provision of its Services to EEB. This licence granted to the supplier will no longer be valid once this contract comes to an end.
- The page should offer an intuitive user experience, i.e.:

- Quick to load on all the main browsers;
- Professional design;
- Intuitive basic animation to signal responsiveness;
- Responsive layouts to cater for different screen sizes/ use on mobile devices

5. Requirements for Submission

Send us your ideas for back and frontend development that will maximise public visibility and engagement, along with your quotation and the best relevant examples of your work. We understand some discussion may be needed before your quote can be finalised. The winning firm will be asked to complete a contract.

Proposals in response to this request should be submitted before 23:59 Brussels time, 19/09/2021, by email to elena.lymberidi@eeb.org, charline.cheuvart@eeb.org and rina.guadagnini@eeb.org.

Deadlines:

- Tendering ends 19 September 2021
- Webpage online by 1 December 2021

5.a. Cost Estimate

Please provide a cost estimate for carrying out the work under this project. An activity-based budget will need to be developed (in Excel format).

5.b. Proposed Workplan

Please provide workplan/table with the different steps to be taken and intermediate deliverables.

5.c. Eligibility criteria and supporting evidence

The tenderer must be able to prove the required technical and professional capacity to carry out the work subject to this call for tender. The following criteria and evidence should be provided:

Criteria as to technical and professional capacity	Possible Evidence	Comments
A1 Ability to provide high quality outputs / internet pages in English language	List of up to 5 publications / webpages	Essential criteria
A2 Ability to conduct data verification, data matching in the provided list.	List up to 3 studies / service / other involvement in last 5 years that relate to that criteria	Essential criteria
A3 Experience in the field of database reporting	List of up to 5 studies / service / other involvement in last 5 years that relate to that criteria	Essential criteria

A4 a CV of the persons involved in the service	Up to date CV	Essential criterion
A5 environmental and sustainability policy of the tenderer		Desirable criterion

6. Evaluation criteria

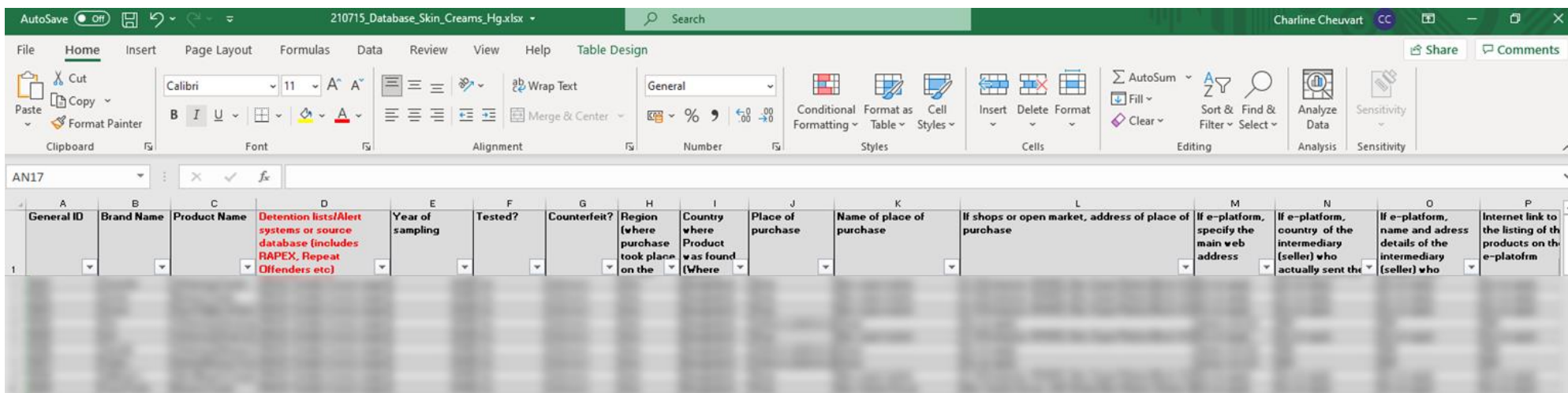
- combination of price and quality,
- production / delivery time and service.
- having/using environmental and sustainability policy/criteria
- the EEB holds the right to exclude a supplier who may have a negative financial record, that violates criteria such as bankruptcy, not paying taxes etc.

7. Contractual conditions

- a) the tender must comply with applicable environmental, social and labour law obligations established by Union law, national legislation, collective agreements or the international environmental, social and labour conventions listed in Annex X to Directive 2014/24/EU.
- b) subcontracting is not permitted unless explicitly approved in writing by the EEB.
- c) A memo of the tender providing background information as to the expertise in the field of the subject matter relating to the service, not exceeding three pages
- d) All Intellectual Property Rights linked to the website page (including in the content of the database) arising in connection with the Project shall be the property of EEB, and EEB hereby grants the Supplier a royalty-free, licence for the duration of this agreement to use such Intellectual Property Rights for the provision of its Services to EEB. This licence granted to the supplier will no longer be valid once this contract comes to an end.

ANNEX – Database with list of the creams

The list of creams will be provided in Excel format and will include, among others, the following entries:



General ID	Brand Name	Product Name	Detention lists/Alert systems or source database (includes RAPEX, Repeat Offenders etc)	Year of sampling	Tested?	Counterfeit?	Region (where purchase took place on the	Country where Product was found (Where	Place of purchase	Name of place of purchase	If shops or open market, address of place of purchase	If e-platform, specify the main web address	If e-platform, country of the intermediary (seller) who actually sent the	If e-platform, name and adress details of the intermediary (seller) who	Internet link to the listing of th products on the e-platfrm
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