



Ministry of Agriculture,
Nature and Food Quality

Market orientation Databases NVWA

Date: April 17, 2023

1 Organisation

The Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA). The NVWA is an independent agency in the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

The NVWA stands for safe food and safe consumer products, for animal welfare and animal and plant health, and for protecting nature and the environment. Through supervision, the NVWA contributes to public confidence in a sound system of food and commodity production. In doing so, the NVWA protects the interests of people, animals and the environment.

More information about the NVWA can be found on <https://www.nvwa.nl/> and <https://english.nvwa.nl/>.

2 Background information

One of the fields in which the NVWA operates is public health. The protection of the consumer incorporates food and non-food product safety.

The interest of the NVWA is twofold: on the one hand the ability to perform risk assessment, in case of NVWA Office for Risk Assessment & Research (BuRO) on a scientific basis, on the other hand the tasks resulting from its statutory duty to monitor the safety of food and non-food products and to enforce legislation. At this point it must be stated that information from an external database can never be used directly for enforcement activities by the NVWA.

The NVWA currently gathers information on these products through its own activities. However, this information is acquired with the operational (risk-based) goals of the Authority in mind, and does not give an unbiased and complete picture of the market. For future activities, the NVWA would like to be able to access more data. Instead of collecting this data itself using its own organization the NVWA is looking for external data sources, companies for whom collecting and making available market data is a core business.

For risk assessment it is important to have insight in the volume of the market, specific products on the market and the characteristics of these products (e.g. brand, ingredients, claims, usage information, marking). In addition, it is also important to identify trends and changes regarding the aforementioned points, but also regarding changes in consumer behavior and the influence of economic and environmental factors.

The NVWA monitors the safety of food and consumer products. BuRO of the NVWA carries out science-based risk assessments and initiates research regarding food safety and consumer product safety. For the NVWA in general and BuRO in particular, getting reliable insight in product ingredients and consumer trends is very valuable.

The NVWA is looking for a database or databases with the following up-to-date information about products (food and non-food) in Dutch retail:

- Product name
- Detailed product categories (food: e.g. fresh, ready to eat, preserved, frozen, single ingredient, composite non-food e.g. cosmetics (leave on, rinse off), cleaning agent, child care product – in case of broader scope of data other non-food categories)
- Ingredients (preferably including percentage, content)
- Claims
- Target group

- Brand
- Usage information (e.g. dosage, instructions for use)
- Intended use (to be eaten raw/cooked)
- Quality marks
- Shelf life
- Serving size
- Country of origin

Example 1: Sun screen products are for most consumers the primary defense against UV-radiation from sunlight. As a market surveillance authority the NVWA is interested in the quality of these products as well as the claims these products carry. For a complete overview, data on the sun screen products on the market are necessary (e.g. product types, brands, sun protection factors, ingredients). This information is then used to set up relevant and representative sampling.

Example 2: A current trend is the usage of natural, biological and vegan non-food products (cosmetics, detergents, etc.). From a risk assessment point of view it is interesting to compare the ingredients of these new products (advertised as new products) to the products already on the market. Are there significant differences between these new and the regular products, are ingredients being used whose risks are not known or ingredients that have not been authorized. If other ingredients are applied in these products, it could be researched if these ingredients could potentially cause a health risk.

3 Purpose of market orientation

The purpose of this market consultation is to gain more insight into which parties are interested and who are eligible for future purchase orders from the NVWA in the field of databases as described above.

4 Question

If you have demonstrable experience with similar projects in the named areas (chapter 2), you can let us know your interest in future procurement processes.

When registering for this market orientation, please indicate at least the following components:

- what experience you have (with any references);
- which areas you are interested in and why;
- what your coverage ratio of the Dutch market is;
- how new products are entered into your databases;
- to what extent the information in your databases is up-to-date;
- which search functions your databases have;
- an example of a data sample of your database with all available data fields;
- a description of a complete metadata, which describes what each data field in the database means and preferably also how well each data field is filled in the database (for the Dutch market);
- a description of the method you use with regard to the completeness, reliability, timeliness and quality of your data;

- how the NVWA can access your data technically after concluding a contract;
- whether it is possible to agree a short test / pilot period before we conclude a formal contract, so that the NVWA can test whether their data meets the needs;
- a description for what purposes and under what conditions the NVWA may use your data;
- to what extent the NVWA may be faced with an 'opt-out' period, during which underlying data owners can indicate that they do not want the NVWA to use their data.

5 Procedure

Interested parties can express their interest and motivation by e-mail at iuc.accountnvwa@rvo.nl, attn. J. de Kleer.

Include your company details, elaboration of the points from chapter 4 and motivation with your reply by e-mail.

6 Results of the market orientation

The NVWA can use the information collected as a result of this market orientation when formulating an assignment. Candidates should note that information they provide in the context of this market orientation may be made public (albeit in anonymised form).

In case of a follow-up process, no distinction will be made between parties that have or have not participated in the market orientation.

If you have any questions about this market consultation, you can ask them by e-mail (iuc.accountnvwa@rvo.nl) until **May 1, 2023** at the latest. These questions are then answered centrally and shared as quickly as possible.

I look forward to receiving your response no later than **May 15, 2023**.

Yours sincerely,

Jordy de Kleer
Procurement Advisor IUC EZK