1. Buyer

1.1 Buyer

Official name:	Naturalis Biodiversity Center
Legal type of the buyer:	Body governed by public law
Activity of the contracting authority:	Recreation, culture and religion

2. Procedure

2.1 Procedure

Title:	Automated Specimen Sorter - Naturalis
Description:	Naturalis needs a system to automatically sort specimens (<2,5 mm) in liquid. The contract includes the turnkey delivery of the system, and necessary supplies (e.g. flowcells), support, and maintenance for a period of 4-5 years and possibly longer. 1 automated specimen sorter, including 5 years of support and maintenance
Procedure identifier:	5c0b5f5e-8e97-44bd-893a-3d9c2fe0de8a
Type of procedure:	Negotiated without prior call for competition
Main features of the procedure:	This is a voluntary ex ante transparency notice. You have until 29 August 2025 at the latest to object to the award of the present contract to Union Biometrica. You should make your objection known through a message in the TenderNed message module. If Naturalis has not received any objection 29 August 2025 then it may award the contract to Union Biometrica.

2.1.1 Purpose

Main nature of the contract :	Supplies
Main classification (cpv):	38000000 Laboratory, optical and precision equipments (excl. glasses)

2.1.2 Place of performance

Country:	Netherlands

Anywhere in the given country

Additional information:	Leiden

2.1.4 General information

Legal basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

5. Lot

5.1 Lot technical ID: LOT-0000

Title:	Automated Specimen Sorter - Naturalis

Background Naturalis is building a large-scale research infrastructure for biodiversity monitoring through environmental DNA. This will allow, for the first time, a near-real time view of the state of biodiversity in the Netherlands. The project is called eDentity, and should be available in 2028. This infrastructure was made possible by a €18.573.838 subsidy from the Applied Research Facilities funding program by the Ministry of Economic Affairs & Climate. The eDentity infrastructure will allow for the analysis of large amounts of biological samples (soil, water, air filters, etc) through standard procedures. It aims to facilitate all steps of the analysis, from sampling to data analysis, quickly and at low cost, for a maximum of 250.000 eDNA metabarcoding samples per year. Besides setting up a metabarcoding facility, Naturalis will implement a process for large-scale automated sample sorting of community bulk samples, enabling identification of

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Description:	individual specimens in complex samples. Automated sample processing Sample triage and sorting limits both the assessment of community composition and building of reference databases because it currently relies on labour-intensive work by skilled persons. In marine benthic monitoring this can result in up to two years delay between sampling and reporting. An approach integrating image recognition and, where needed, additional techniques (e.g. X-ray, hyperspectral imaging, UV imaging, etc.) will make this process more efficient and allow identification of specimens that cannot immediately be linked to vouchers in the reference database. This component will be able to process a complete range of sample types, including: passive open trap samples (terrestrial), attractant trap samples (terrestrial), soil cores, marine samples, and aquatic samples. The biological specimens in these samples are sorted by size or other physical features and quantified. The different fractions of the sample then enter the DNA sequencing component. For macro-organisms, image recognition tools are used to separate known from unknown specimens. Representatives of the latter then enter the DNA pipeline for identification, while another subset is added to the specimen collections. This contract As part of the automated sample processing line Naturalis needs a system capable of sorting specimens in liquid. The system must meet the following requirements: The system is capable of analyzing and sorting specimens with a size of up to 1.5 mm; The system includes the required peripheral equipment for proper functioning (e.g. air compressors); The system analyzes particles based on shape, excitation (488nm blue, 561nm yellow and potentially 405nm for UV detection) or other properties; The system uses a minimum of 70% EtOH as sheath fluid; The system is capable of dispensing into 96-wells (flat bottom) plates and tubes with a diameter of maximum 10 mm; During the sorting process particles must remain completely intact; The Biosorter is a benchtop type instrument which fits on a bench of 65cm deep, and supports regular connection to 220V. The instruments fits in the elevator (90cm gap size doors, 200cm depth); The system can be connected to an IP network using an RJ45 connector supporting the TCP/IP protocol; The system has the ability to copy/move data and run data to another storage location within the IP network, either using the SMB protocol, the NFS protocol or a S3 API. In case of S3 API support, this should include compatibility with non-AWS S3 compatible object storage systems. The system has the ability to automate the copying of the above mentioned data using a scheduled task or an API call; The system can be connected to laboratory automation options, e.g. barcode scanner and/or stacking instrument.
Internal identifier:	1

5.1.1 Purpose

Main nature of the contract :	Supplies
Main classification (cpv):	38000000 Laboratory, optical and precision equipments (excl. glasses)

5.1.2 Place of performance

Country:	Netherlands

Anywhere in the given country

Additional information:	Leiden

5.1.3 Estimated duration

Duration:	60 Month

5.1.6 General information

Procurement Project not financed with EU Funds.

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA):	yes

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5.1.7 Strategic procurement

Aim of strategic procurement:	No strategic procurement

5.1.10 Award criteria

Criterion:	
Type:	Quality
Name:	Q1
Description:	Q1
Category of award threshold criterion:	Weight (points, exact)
Award criterion number:	50
Criterion:	
Type:	Price
Name:	P1
Description:	P1
Category of award threshold criterion:	Weight (points, exact)
Award criterion number:	50

5.1.15 Techniques

Framework agreement:

No framework agreement

Information about the dynamic purchasing system:

No dynamic purchase system

5.1.16 Further information, mediation and review

Review organisation:	Naturalis Biodiversity Center - Rechtbank 's-Gravenhage
Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure:	Naturalis Biodiversity Center
Organisation providing more information on the review procedures:	Naturalis Biodiversity Center
Organisation signing the contract:	Naturalis Biodiversity Center

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6. Results

Value of all contracts awarded in this notice:	900 000 Euro
Direct award:	
Justification for direct award:	The contract can be provided only by a particular economic operator because of an absence of competition for technical reasons
Other justification:	In order to process all the samples that Naturalis receives as part of the eDentity project, Naturalis requires a system capable of handling the full range of specimens — from small to large, and from morphologically complex to less complex. Following thorough market research, the BioSorter#PRO has proven to be the only system capable of effectively analyzing and sorting this broad spectrum of samples. The BioSorter#PRO is the only system that: - can analyze and sort particles ranging from 10 to 1,500 µm; - causes minimal damage to particles during sorting; - can sort particles based on spatial profile, morphology, and fluorescence; - can produce sorted samples that can be used for molecular analysis. Based on the above considerations, Naturalis sees no reasonable alternative to the BioSorter#PRO and no possibility to put the procurement out to competitive tender.

6.1 Result lot Identifier: LOT-0000

At least one winner was chosen.

6.1.2 Information about winners

Winner:	
Official name:	Union Biometrica
Tender:	
Tender identifier:	1
Identifier of lot or group of lots:	LOT-0000
Value of the tender:	10 000 Euro
The tender was ranked:	no
The tender is a variant:	no
Subcontracting :	No
Contract information:	
Identifier of the contract:	CON-0001
Title:	P1 Automated Specimen Sorter - Naturalis
Date on which the winner was chosen:	22/07/2025
Date of the conclusion of the contract:	23/07/2025
Organisation signing the contract:	Naturalis Biodiversity Center

6.1.4 Statistical information

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Summary of the review requests the buyer received:

Number of complainants:	0

Received tenders or requests to participate:

Type of received submissions:	Tenders from micro, small or medium tenderers
Number of tenders or requests to participate received:	1
Type of received submissions:	Tenders
Number of tenders or requests to participate received:	1

8. Organisations

8.1 ORG-0001

Official name:	Naturalis Biodiversity Center
Registration number:	41647282
Postal address :	Darwinweg 2
Town:	Leiden
Postcode:	2333CR
Country subdivision (NUTS):	Agglomeratie Leiden en Bollenstreek (NL363)
Country:	Netherlands
Contact point:	Thomas van Oudheusden
Email:	aanbesteding@naturalis.nl
Telephone:	+31 715687600
Internet address:	http://www.naturalis.nl

Other contact points:

Official name:	Rechtbank 's-Gravenhage
Postal address :	Prins Clauslaan 60
Town:	's-Gravenhage
Postcode:	2595 AJ
Country subdivision (NUTS):	Agglomeratie 's-Gravenhage (NL361)
Country:	Netherlands
Email:	info@rechtspraak.nl
Internet	

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address: https://www.rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Rechtbanken/Rechtbank-Den-Haag

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure

Review organisation

Organisation providing more information on the review procedures

Organisation signing the contract

8.1 ORG-0002

Official name:	Union Biometrica
Size of the economic operator:	Micro, small, or medium
Registration number:	00001313277525
Postal address :	Ninovesteenweg 19816
Town:	Aalst
Postcode:	B-9320
Country subdivision (NUTS):	Arr. Aalst (BE231)
Country:	Belgium

Roles of this organisation:

Tenderer

Winner of these lots: LOT-0000

Notice information

Notice identifier /version:	1a785f59-2042-448a-9e67-e1ac32666934 - 01
Form type:	Result
Notice type:	Contract or concession award notice – standard regime
Notice dispatch date:	19/11/2025 14:48 +01:00
Languages in which this notice is officially available:	English

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