



Appendix B: Questions & Answers

Market Consultation Forecast Assistant

Project: The market consultation is part of AI Impulse programme for Water Movement Models (AIWaM).

Zaaknummer: AIWam02

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1	General questions	3
2	Desired Functional Capabilities and Consultation Questions	5
3	Technical requirements and consultation questions	6

1 General questions

PP-01 What form of procurement procedure would best suit this assignment, in your view (e.g. open procedure, innovation partnership, multiple negotiated procedure)? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each option in this context?

Response:

PP-02 What contract duration and phasing (e.g. proof of concept, pilot, operational deployment) would you consider realistic?

Response:

PP-03 What indicative price range would you expect for the proposed solution, per phase? What conditions or assumptions underlie these indications?

Response:

PP-04 What are the expected recurring costs (e.g. hosting, API or model usage, maintenance, data subscriptions), and how do these scale with usage?

Response:

PO-01 What project set-up would you recommend for a development trajectory of this kind (e.g. agile, co-creation with end users, staged gating)?

Response:

PO-02 What is needed from Rijkswaterstaat to make the project succeed (e.g. data access, availability of forecasters, decision moments, test environment)?

Response:

PO-03 What expertise and roles are needed to realise and operate the proposed solution (e.g. data scientists, ML engineers, domain experts, DevOps)?

Answer:

PO-04 Have you previously developed, or are you currently developing, a solution that could be applied to this assignment? If so, please describe it briefly, including its current maturity and the context in which it was developed.

Response:

PO-05 To what extent would you build on open-source components or existing frameworks, and what does that mean for IP, maintainability and vendor lock-in?

Response:

RI-01 What do you consider the main risks of this type of solution (technical, organisational, operational), and how would you mitigate them?

Response:

RI-02 What legal aspects should be considered (e.g. intellectual property of models and data, liability, use of open-source components)?

Response:

UN-01 Are there user needs that, in your view, are missing from this list?

Response:

UN-02 How would you ensure that the solution supports expert judgement rather than replacing it?

Response:

2 Desired Functional Capabilities and Consultation Questions

FC-01	Elaborate on information integration and reasoning addressing: • Which information sources you consider most valuable, and why — and which additional (types of) data sources you would recommend including. • Which tools and APIs would be needed, and for which purpose. • How information from different source types could be combined into a coherent line of reasoning ("redeneerlijn") for the forecaster. • How forecast drivers, assumptions and supporting evidence could be identified and presented. • How comparable historical situations could be identified, and which characteristics should be used to determine similarity. • How a solution could provide reliable support during rare or extreme situations, and how this reliability could be validated. • The main technical and practical challenges you foresee.
Response:	
FC-02	Elaborate on uncertainty and data quality: • How uncertainty and data quality could be assessed and communicated within the forecasting process, including their effect on forecast interpretation. • Which indicators, comparisons or visualisations would be most useful for users.
Response:	
FC-03	Elaborate on expert feedback and human oversight: • How authorised users can review, correct, reject or supplement system output, and at which point human approval should be required. • How the reasoning process can be adapted during runtime based on user feedback, and what capabilities are needed to support this. • How expert knowledge ("redeneerlijn") could be captured, governed and reused across forecasting situations, so that forecasters can apply it independently, and what quality requirements should apply to it. • How failures, unavailable services, conflicting results and operational or security restrictions should be handled.
Response:	
FC-04	Elaborate on output and reporting • Which output and reporting formats you foresee and what would best support operational workflows. • Which source references, issue times, warnings and uncertainty information should accompany an output. • How generated content could be reviewed, edited and approved. • How different versions of an output could be compared and traced. • Which export and integration options should be considered.
Response:	

3 Technical requirements and consultation questions

TR-01	Elaborate on architecture and integration • Which architecture would be suitable for the proposed capabilities and what requirements and constraints should be considered. • Which components or services should be provided by Rijkswaterstaat, third parties or the suppliers. • Which hosting and deployment options should be considered, and which components should operate within a Rijkswaterstaat-controlled environment.
Response:	
TR-02	Elaborate on data, security, traceability and AI Governance • What requirements are needed regarding data management, information security, traceability and access control. • Which requirements should apply to the responsible, transparent and controlled use of AI, including version management, and the distinction between retrieved information, expert knowledge, calculations and AI-generated interpretation. • How the use of Rijkswaterstaat data, user input, outputs and feedback for AI model training or improvement should be handled. • Which of these aspects you consider most important, and which additional requirements or considerations should be included.
Response:	
TR-03	Elaborate on testing and validation • How factual accuracy, source attribution, retrieval relevance, uncertainty communication and data-quality detection could be validated. • How validation could use representative historical forecasting situations, ensuring that no information is used that was unavailable at the original forecast issue time. • Which acceptance criteria and expert-review procedures could be applied. • How testing and revalidation could be organised following significant model, configuration or software changes.
Response:	
TR-03	Elaborate on deployment, operations and maintenance • What deployment, hosting, integration and portability considerations should be taken into account. • How operational monitoring of system health, data freshness and errors could be organised. • How continued operation could be ensured when data is missing, delayed or conflicting. • What operational support, maintenance and knowledge transfer would be needed, and how dependencies on proprietary technologies, external services and suppliers could be managed. • How the solution could scale to other forecast domains. • What factors are expected to have the greatest impact on implementation effort, operational complexity and costs.
Response:	