**Early Market Engagement Request for Information**

**Project 4147 Global Trade Data for DBT**

**Background**

The Department for Business and Trade (“DBT”) has a potential requirement for the provision of data on Global Trading activity.

The Secretary of State for DBT is the contracting authority responsible for meeting this anticipated requirement. DBT intends to publish the Contract Notice late August 2024.

The full specification will be provided with the contract documents when we go out to tender, but the procurement is expected to incorporate the following:

A comprehensive suite of trade statistics, covering worldwide activity and disaggregated by HS code. The data must cover sectors and countries and be easily accessible via online platform. The suit must provide up-to-date, timely, accurate data. DBT require API integration with internal data architecture, in order to conduct data visualisation/analysis for internal purposes.

It is anticipated the contract shall be for a period of 36 months, including any available contract option(s). The requirement has an estimated total value of £50,000 (ex-VAT) for initial term of 24 months, and an optional 12-month extension period.

At this stage, DBT wants to understand the view of the market in terms of its approach to this requirement, key considerations, and costings. Information that it gathers will be used to refine requirements to ensure they are fit for suppliers to deliver against.

Please could you fill out the questionnaire below and email to **commercialddat@businessandtrade.gov.uk** ahead of the **deadline of** **Monday 26th August 2024 at 17:00hrs BST.**

It should be noted that DBT makes no commitment to procure these services and may decide to not progress this any further following this engagement with the market. DBT reserves the right to change any information contained within the Early Engagement documentation at any time, and Potential Suppliers rely upon any information provided entirely at their own risk.

**Functional outputs required from the market research data service must include:**

* A global trade database where data is delivered via a digital platform providing bilateral trade data from across the world
* **Key statistics** on global trade activities
* **Intelligence** by HS code on sectors and countries
* **Up to date** intelligence on changes in sectors and countries
* **Disaggregation by product HS code** at 8 digits or more
* **Capability to download** full market research reports and build customisable reports
* **Customisable output** in various formats

 **Desirable:**

* A desirable criterion would be other desegregations that are not readily available (for free) elsewhere.

**Technical service requirements**:

* Easily accessible, up-to-date and accurate intelligence from credible sources
* Organisation-wide access 24/7
* Customisation of data download (e.g. report sections, report builder etc.)
* Integration with DBT data architecture
* Unlimited download
* 365 days a year service support/helpdesk
* Free customer training
* Excellent customer service

**Early Engagement Process & Market Questionnaire:**

As detailed in the notice, DBT is looking to engage with relevant suppliers in the market. Suppliers that are interested in engaging are asked to complete the questionnaire at **Annex A of this document and submit to** **commercialddat@businessandtrade.gov.uk** by the deadline of **Monday 26th August 2024 at 17:00hrs (BST).**

Once the deadline has passed, DBT will review the submissions, and this will aid internal decision making ahead of the Contract Notice. This is not a formal invitation to tender.

 **ANNEX A – QUESTIONNAIRE**

 **Company information is not required at this stage. Suppliers are asked to limit their response to each question to 250 words.**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Question | Response  |
| 1 | **Pricing:**1. Please can you describe your pricing approach to this type of data offering? For example, per user cost/fixed price access?
2. Is our budget realistic and proportionate to the high-level requirements given in the Background section?
3. Do you offer a departmental wide enterprise licence? If so, please specify.
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| 2 | **Deliverables:** 1. What, (if anything), has the Authority missed or overlooked in setting out the high-level requirement?
2. What additional information, parameters or steers could the Authority provide to enable bidders to develop well-targeted proposals, and why?
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| 3 | **Wider Marketplace Innovation:** 1. Based on the information you have been presented, are there any innovative ideas or suggestions on how to deliver this requirement you would like to share with DBT?
2. How up to date is your data and at what frequency is the data updated i.e. monthly, quarterly or annually?
3. If errors or inaccuracies are introduced into the data, how do you resolve this?
4. Are there any restrictions of how DBT use the data available on your platform?
5. Are there any market considerations which you would like to highlight to DBT which should be factored into the procurement?
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| 4 | **Future Discussions:**1. Would you be open to a 121 non-committal discussion with DBT about this early engagement questionnaire?
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