

Request for services

Maintenance and development of EPI-Net website

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The call aims to select a contractor to update and maintain the website www.epi-net.eu for 1 year with renewal possibility for another year.

The EPI-Net website was developed in the context of the IMI- funded COMBACTE-MAGNET EPI-Net project. It aims to combine various sources of information at national and international levels to provide one comprehensive resource for Europe on antibiotic resistance and healthcare associated infections surveillance data. It provides thorough and detailed information in an efficient, searchable and accessible manner according to the principals of the scientific data visualisation and modern user-experience design. The audience of the website includes doctors, public health providers, researchers, journalists, policy makers, pharma companies as well as members of the general public.

Therefore, the website serves several purposes: to store detailed epidemiological information, to link the information (across the dataset and with their sources) and to inform Users with the help of interactive data visualization tools for better accessibility. The information is presented in a country-specific manner, and also allows comparison between countries. The website enables tracking of the progression of outbreaks over time and across European Countries. It is also used to communicate news, events, publications and related projects by the EPI-Net members.

The contract will be awarded in accordance with art. 13.1 of the ECRAID-base Grant Agreement n.965313 (Rules for subcontracting action tasks) and will cover the period of 1 year with renewal possibility for another year.

2. DESCRIPTION OF REQUIRED SERVICES

2.1 Operation/maintenance

- Maintenance of staging and production environment on AWS and Heroku platforms
- Perform regular backups of application data
- Monitor site status to detect if it is down and automatically notify administrators of any issues
- Monitor site errors and bugs and resolve them if related to the configuration of hosting infrastructure or third-party services, track them on a dedicated platform if related to source code. In particular ensure that data retrieval and display are functional
- Execute the following security measures:
 - Perform regular database upgrades on Heroku
 - Perform regular packages/libraries upgrades (update to Django 4.1 in August 2022 and to Django 4.2 in April 2023, and other libraries if needed and if it is possible to update them without relevant changes to the source code);
 - Update the configuration of hosting infrastructure or third-party services when needed for security alerts

All operational and maintenance activities are to be performed on a daily/consistent basis as required.

2.2 Content management

- Import data for existing data visualisations via Django framework
- Implement updates to existing records if needed to harmonize with new data updates and, where necessary, liaise with other developers involved in the project
- Create or update existing static webpages (texts, images, PDFs, video files, etc.)

All content management activities are to be performed as per the project requirement and in communication with the scientific team. A project management tool (e.g. GitLab or Asana) will be utilized to assign and track the execution of tasks.

2.3 GDPR compliance

- Update of the configuration of hosting infrastructure or third-party services if needed. Tracking of GDPR-related issues that requires source codes changes, for future adjustments.
- The selected service provider, through the signing of the contract, will be designated as Personal Data Processor, pursuant to art. 28 of EU Regulation 2016/679, by the University of Verona, which holds the role of Data Controller, limited only to the processing of personal data necessary and strictly indispensable for the execution and management of the activities covered by the contract.
- The express acceptance, through the signing of the contract, of all the obligations of the Personal Data Processor pursuant to the aforementioned EU Regulation 2016/679, with particular reference to:
 - the processing of personal data limited to that which is expressed in the contract or on the basis of further documented instructions from the Data Controller, even in the event of transfer of personal data to a non-European third country; in this case the Manager will be required to ensure compliance with the articles 45-47 of the Regulation;
 - the guarantee that all employees and collaborators of the selected service provider, in any capacity, in the processing of personal data covered by the contract, will respect the confidentiality, integrity, availability and quality of the data, as well as adequate and proven instruction for those authorized to process pursuant to art. 29 of the Regulation;
 - assist the Data Controller in compliance with the obligations within articles 32-36 of the Regulation; in particular in ensuring the response within the terms of the law to the requests presented to the Data Controller by The Italian Data Protection Authority: in this case the Data Processor will be required to communicate to the Data Controller, in the shortest possible time, and no later than 48 (forty eight) hours from when it became aware of it, any destruction, loss, alteration, disclosure or unauthorized access to personal data (DATA BREACH), including those involving its subcontractors;
 - assist the Data Controller in providing the interested parties with all the information pursuant to articles 13-14 and the exercise of the rights pursuant to articles 15-22 and in art. 34 of the Regulation;

- ensure compliance with the General Provision of The Italian Data Protection Authority of 27 November 2008, as amended on 25 June 2009, as well as any other pertinent provision of the Authority relating to the duties of system administrator;
 - inform the Data Controller if it is necessary to resort to another Data Processor (subcontractor): the Data Processor will be liable to the Data Controller for any violation of the obligations under the contract by the other Data Processors;
 - allow the Data Controller to exercise the power of control pursuant to art. 28, ch. 3, l. h) of the Regulations: the Data Controller will have the right to verify, also at the headquarters of the Data Processor, the compliance of the procedures adopted by the latter with respect to what is indicated in the contract or required by law; this right also extends to any subcontractors of the Data Processor;
 - upon termination, for any reason, of the effectiveness of the contract, the selected service provider is to cease any personal data processing operation and, at the discretion of the Data Controller, within 15 working days, proceed with the immediate return of the personal data to the Data Controller or sending of the data to another subject indicated by the Data Controller, and to the complete irreversible destruction of personal data.
- The appointment of the Service Provider as Data Processor pursuant to art. 28 of EU Regulation 2016/679 does not involve any additional compensation in favour of the Data Processor with respect to that which has already been agreed in the contract.

2.4 Upgrade of software codes

- Python upgrade supported by Heroku and consequent libraries and codes used at all levels (e.g., Django).

2.5 Implementation of new features and new visualisation tools

Description	Due date
Collaborate with the scientific team in dedicated meetings for the development of new concepts and ideas to improve new and old website features respecting the current style of the website (see next point).	Routinely
Plan, conceptualize, and implement new subsections (or subdomains) of the EPI-Net website and new data visualisations for authorized Users or for the public at large, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 new subsection to accommodate and show the analysis carried out within the Annual Report of ECRAID-Base (ECRAID-Base, Deliverable 9.10). The subsection should contain 5 different interactive visualisations that summarize 	End 2024

<p>the overall data included in the report: surveillance data, outbreaks data, and emerging resistance data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 new subsection to accommodate 2 interactive visualisations for the “HAI Brochure”. 	April/May 2025
Set-up a stage environment to test new features before implementation on the actual website, discuss and collaborate with the scientific team the characteristics of the data visualisation tools and the details of each new feature and implementation.	Routinely
Provide technical details for official reports when needed (ECRAID-Base Deliverable 9.10 and Deliverable 9.11), manuscripts, and other documents.	Routinely
Link contents of EPI-Net website to the server used by the ID-CARE team for a secure storage of data and information (double back-up).	July/August 2025

3. EXPERTISE REQUIRED

- Previous experience in planning, structuring and delivering interactive websites (as evidenced by portfolio, case studies, etc.)
- Expertise in current technologies for front- and back-end web development (HTML, CSS, Python, JavaScript, etc.)
- Previous experience with Django framework (or similar), PostgreSQL database
- Previous experience with Plotly and Dash library
- Good communication skills and command of the English language

4. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payments will be made every three months against the provision of an invoice and technical report detailing the activities of the invoiced period.

The invoice should include the following reference information

Project: Grant Agreement n. nr. 965313 ECRAID-Base (H2020- SC1)

CUP: B39J20002270005

5. Contractual Conditions

By entering into an agreement with the University of Verona, the contractor accepts that the Commission, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) can exercise their rights under Articles 22 and 23 of the ECRAID-base Grant Agreement n.965313 towards them as subcontractors.

Furthermore, the contractor accepts that Articles 35, 36, 38 and 46 of the ECRAID-Base Grant Agreement n° 965313 also apply to them upon entering into agreement with the University of Verona.

Finally, the contractor accepts that any intellectual property that may be generated by the contractor as a result of the implementation of this contract will revert to the University of Verona.

(See annex 1)

