

## Need statement: Recycling of single-use sanitary safety materials

### Need: Ways to recycle single-use sanitary safety materials

To ensure the safety of patients and their workers, large quantities of health safety materials and single-use personal protection are used, which must be discarded once they have fulfilled their purpose. In the 8 hospitals managed by the ICS (Arnau de Vilanova University Hospital, Bellvitge University Hospital, Germans Trias i Pujol University Hospital, Joan XXIII University Hospital, Josep Trueta University Hospital, Tortosa Verge de la Cinta Hospital, Viladecans Hospital), on average, large quantities of disposable sanitary safety items are consumed every month: 60,000 gowns; 30,000 aprons; 200,000 surgical drapes, sheets, and other cloths; 1,000,000 masks; 17,000,000 gloves; and 400,000 caps, pants, gloves, overalls and other protective equipment. Once used only once, these materials are rejected as group II sanitary waste, destined for urban waste dumps, despite the fact that they are high-quality materials with many opportunities for recovery.

Apart from the 8 hospitals, the ICS also manages a network of more than 900 Primary Care Centers and Local Consultations, which, to a lesser extent but with larger geographical coverage, also generate this type of waste.

A preliminary market consultation is launched, March 23, 2023, to explore the proposals that industry, entities and economic operators can offer to reuse or recycle of these large amounts of waste. The difficulties that motivate this consultation, and that the proposals presented must take into account are that:

- These are materials of plastic origin, but of different types (polyethylene, polypropylene, latex, nitrile, vinyl, neoprene, etc.) which can be mixed together.
- These are materials that have had a sanitary use and are classified as Group II sanitary waste, with a low biological risk, but that may need a biological decontamination treatment before being valued.

Participating companies or entities must submit a duly completed B2 question form, as well as a project that responds to the needs raised, and that includes:

- Details of the proposed technical and logistical solutions.
- Innovations and benefits offered by the proposal
- Current state of development of the proposal
- Breakdown of the economic costs that would entail the execution of the proposal to the contracting body.
- Other additional information that is considered necessary

Once the project submission period has ended, the contracting body will call the participating companies or entities separately to present their project, explain the details and answer any questions that may arise.

At the end of the analysis of the projects presented and the presentations made, the contracting body will publish a final report on the procurement platform with the conclusions of the consultation.



This project is co-funded by the European Union's COSME programme.

Once the report on the results of the preliminary market consultation has been published, the procurement body can start, if necessary, the corresponding procurement procedure.

This eventual procedure will be open to all proposals that meet the requirements established by the contracting authority in the regulatory clauses of the award procedure, whether or not they have participated in this preliminary market consultation. Participation in the consultation does not constitute an obligation or a commitment to participate in the tender, nor is it an impediment.

When drawing up the set of clauses, the result of the consultation carried out must be taken into consideration; if not, the final results report will record the reasons.

This consultation does not entail any commitment or obligation to tender on the part of the contracting body.



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