



Request for Information (RFI)

For Laboratory Information Management System for Laboratory eTools Repository

RFI Issued: April 5, 2022

**Responses Due: Accepting responses on an
ongoing basis until December 31, 2023**

www.aphl.org

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Statement of Need

This is a request for information advising interested parties that the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is seeking information on providers of laboratory e-tools for the following purposes:

- Proficiency Testing/External Quality Assessment
- Equipment Management
- Data Integration Engines
- Sample Referral Software
- Instrument Data Capture Software
- Data Centralization Software
- Data Analysis Software for Laboratory Data
- Freezer Management, and
- Laboratory Information Management Systems

Vendors will be asked to complete a questionnaire pertaining to their products/tools. APHL's intent is to include vendors and their products' information in an online interactive repository that will be available globally.

Background

In collaboration with the Global Fund, APHL is developing an interactive repository of Global Laboratory e-Tools that will enable health leaders and key decision makers with viewing, comparing, and evaluating various laboratory tools to implement in their laboratories, both in the private and public sector. Users will be able to view, compare, and filter tools based on their needs and features of tools available, shortlist tools they are interested in and contact vendors/providers to gather more details about each tool.

The questionnaire is based on the maturity framework: a 5 point scale across 13 categories providing decision makers with breadth and depth of detail about each tool. This project focuses on:

- Laboratory tools that support various data needs of laboratories
- Commercial, open source and in-house developed solutions. Therefore, these are not limited to open source software or data management tools
- Tools with evidence of use in at least one of the regions supported by the Global Fund, i.e.
 - West and Central Africa
 - Eastern and Southern Africa
 - Asia
 - South America

However, the repository will not be limited to tools that have been implemented in these regions and all tools will be included provided information is complete.

Instructions to Vendors

This Request for Information (RFI) is not an order. No cost can be charged to APHL for any reason. This is not a request or authorization to perform work at APHL's expense. Any work performed will be at the vendor's own discretion and expense. The RFI does not represent a commitment to buy. APHL is providing a questionnaire to vendors to complete as a part of this RFI. All interested parties are required to answer the questions in the questionnaire, the link to which is provided below. APHL's goal is to keep the online repository updated and relevant; therefore, as vendors make updates to their tools they are requested to reach out to the point of contact, Natalie Martinez (natalie.martinez@aphl.org), to provide new information.

Information requested

Information is requested in the following domains or categories:

1. System Infrastructure
2. Utilization
3. Country Health
4. Cost
5. Technical Support
6. Roadmap
7. User Documentation
8. Multi Language
9. Technical Documentation
10. Implementation
11. Interoperability
12. Security
13. Scalability

The above requested information will be provided to participating vendors via a questionnaire (see the link to the questionnaire below). Vendor information in the Laboratory eTools Repository will be based upon vendor's responses to the questionnaire.

Time for response

The repository will include a compilation of laboratory tools that Ministries of Health can reference for possible use. Vendors/tool providers and Ministries of Health will be responsible for licensing and implementation costs. APHL is providing this repository as a means for Ministries to learn about options available for meeting the needs of their laboratories and as a way to compare options available and viewing each tool's maturity level. Selection of vendors/providers and associated costs is at the discretion of Ministries of Health.

The repository will be updated on a regular and continuous basis as complete responses are received from Lab e-Tool providers. APHL expects to launch the repository in April 2022; therefore, the sooner responses are provided, the more likely it will be included in the repository as part of the launch.

Link to Questionnaire

Global Laboratory eTools repository was initiated by the Global Fund in collaboration with the Association of Public Health Laboratories (www.aphl.org). The intent is to assist country health leaders, public health laboratories, and key decision makers with reviewing, comparing, and evaluating laboratory tools to select and implement the tool best suited to their laboratories. The link below asks for further details to be included in the Global Fund laboratory e-tools repository. Please complete the information on the form to the best of your ability.

<https://form.jotform.com/220032103189543>