

Request for Information (RFI) – Product Carbon Footprint Calculator

1. About AS Vinmonopolet

AS Vinmonopolet is a Norwegian company owned by the state through the Ministry of Health and Care Services. The company has a nationwide monopoly on retail sales of alcoholic beverages with an alcohol content above 4.75% by volume, including wine, spirits and strong beer. Vinmonopolet offers approximately 35,000 products supplied by around 750 Norwegian wholesalers.

Vinmonopolet's purpose is to ensure the responsible sale of alcoholic beverages and reduce alcohol-related harm in the society. The company places strong emphasis on providing quality, expertise and objective advice and information across all sales channels. Vinmonopolet is also strongly committed to sustainability and works actively on human rights, climate and environmental issues throughout the value chains of its products.

2. Procurement of a Product Carbon Footprint Calculator

Vinmonopolet aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and environmental impacts throughout the value chain. The products we sell account for a large share of our total emissions. Vinmonopolet is considering procuring a product carbon footprint calculator to provide better insight, stronger management information and more targeted measures to cut our emissions. Vinmonopolet seeks to implement a cost-effective solution for calculating, monitoring and comparing product-level greenhouse gas emissions. The solution should provide a more accurate greenhouse gas inventory and support targeted emission reductions across the product value chain.

In developing the project, we are mindful of the need to balance simple data handling and administration, costs, and sufficient quality in the product carbon footprint calculations.

As a public entity, Vinmonopolet is subject to public procurement regulations, and the procurement will, in that case, be conducted in accordance with these regulations.

3. Purpose of the RFI

Before initiating the procurement process itself, Vinmonopolet seeks, through this RFI process, insight from potential suppliers into available product carbon footprint calculator solutions. The RFI should give us a better understanding of available solutions, integrations, methodologies, including sources of emission factors, and cost models.

No detailed requirements have been defined at this stage. The information gathered through the RFI process will help Vinmonopolet determine the next steps regarding a potential procurement

4. Purpose of the Solution

The solution should provide a common and reliable basis for both Vinmonopolet and its suppliers/wholesalers to calculate, understand, and reduce product-level greenhouse gas emissions.

Vinmonopolet's approach is based on a jointly developed and common methodology developed by the Nordic alcohol monopolies (NAM) for calculating product-level greenhouse gas emissions. Under this methodology, all products can initially be calculated using default values. Selected default values may then be replaced over time with documented and verifiable activity data provided by wholesalers. The methodology may be implemented through different technical solutions, and Vinmonopolet is open to suppliers proposing how their systems are best to support the purpose of the solution.

At an overall level, Vinmonopolet wants the solution to:

- Calculate average greenhouse gas emissions per product based on relevant data for cultivation, production, packaging and transport.
- Show Vinmonopolet and wholesalers where emissions arise in the product value chain and which measures could have the greatest impact (for example through simulations and analysis).
- Provide Vinmonopolet with a better ongoing greenhouse gas inventory and a stronger basis for requirements and incentives in the supply chain.

Over a five- to ten-years horizon, we want the solution to enable Vinmonopolet to monitor developments in product-related greenhouse gas emissions and assess whether measures have the intended effect. The dataset should also support cooperation with wholesalers and producers on emission reductions. Over time, selected product-level information may be made available through Vinmonopolet's sales channels to help customers make choices based on the product climate footprint.

4.1 Principles for the Solution and System Selection

The following principles have been approved by Vinmonopolet's management team and will guide the design and assessment of potential solutions. They are not intended as detailed technical requirements at this stage.

1. **Self-declaration:** Wholesalers may voluntarily provide additional documented and verifiable activity data for selected data fields (Vinmonopolet require a few mandatory activity data pr product today like type/weight of packaging).
2. **Responsibility for data in the product carbon footprint calculator:** The wholesaler collects the data and submits it to Vinmonopolet in the same way as other product master data. We will not request data from each individual actor in the supply chain or develop any system-based support for such data collection.

3. **Data quantity and quality:** We will prioritise collection of reliable and verifiable activity data that has a significant impact on the product carbon footprint. We will only collect data that can be shared with customers and other wholesalers and will avoid commercially sensitive information, such as recipes or details about ingredients.
4. **Verifiability:** We will only allow to replace the default data value when the collected activity data value can be verified through sample checks based on supporting documentation or other control mechanisms.
5. **Rights to use data:** Vinmonopolet shall retain the right to use data received from wholesalers on the same basis as other master data related to our products.
6. **Methodological transparency:** We will be fully transparent about the methodology used to calculate greenhouse gas emissions pr product, including the types and quantities of input data, the emission factors applied and their sources.
7. **Scalable and dynamic system:** We want a system that allows us to add more data points, product types and products over time.
8. **Ease of use:** We want a system that is easy to use and does not require a separate login to view and analyse results. The product carbon footprint calculator should be integrated into Vinmonopolet's systems or presented as our system; otherwise, we would place an unnecessary burden on the industry. We want a solution that can retrieve relevant and selected product and master data from Vinmonopolet's master data system (being developed on the Azure platform in 2026).
9. **Scope of use:** The combined dataset will primarily be used to establish requirements and incentives for the industry. Product labelling in stores is a secondary purpose.
10. **Coordination with the Nordic alcohol monopolies:** We will follow the commitments established through the Nordic product carbon footprint (PCF) project. The principle of Nordic coordination is further described below.

4.2 Nordic Cooperation and Methodological Alignment

Vinmonopolet participates in the Nordic product carbon footprint project together with the other Nordic alcohol monopolies. The commitments arising from this cooperation are:

- Method and calculations
 - Full transparency on respective PCF calculations and comparing them twice a year
 - Identification of discrepancies in calculations and closing the gaps
 - Sharing to NAM the use of PCF results and communication to supply chain
- Data collection from the supply chain
 - Comparing which data fields are collected
 - Identifying differences in data collection and aligning data fields to be the same
 - Monopolies may choose different granularity of the collected activity data related to a product. The collected data-fields should however be aligned and

harmonized with the same wordings etc to ease the burden for data collection of the industry

- Commitments on working together as a project group going forward

4.3 Dataset

Vinmonopolet has attached a simplified dataset with examples of product data for product carbon footprint calculations, including key information on products, origin, composition and packaging. Suppliers should use the dataset to demonstrate their proposed solution. See appendix A.

5. Response from potential suppliers

We ask suppliers to describe how their proposed solution could meet Vinmonopolet's needs and support the principles outlined in section 4. The response should give us a clear understanding of the solution's functionality, methodology, technical architecture, implementation requirements and costs. Suppliers should explain how their proposed solution provides a cost-effective approach to Vinmonopolet's needs and identify any assumptions, limitations or alternative approaches that Vinmonopolet should consider in a potential procurement process.

5.1 Information to be included in the response

The response should address the following points:

- 1 Company and contact details: Provide a brief description of the company and relevant contact details.
- 2 Proposed solution and functionality: Describe the proposed solution and its functionality, including:
 - 2.1 *Solution concept*: Describe how the solution supports calculations based on default values and the gradual replacement of selected default values with documented and verifiable activity data.
 - 2.2 *Methodology, calculations and standards*: Describe how the solution calculates emissions from cultivation, production, packaging and transport, including land-use change where relevant.
 - 2.3 *Emission factors*: Describe the emission factor datasets used, how often they are updated and how their suitability for Vinmonopolet's products is assessed. Explain whether emission factors developed by the Nordic alcohol monopolies can be incorporated into the solution. Describe how the solution ensures transparency and historical traceability of emission factors, calculation methods and updates, including how changes caused by actual improvements can be distinguished from changes caused by updated factors or methods at product level. Specify any relevant limitations or reservations.
 - 2.4 *Analysis, simulation and reporting*: Describe the solution's functionality for analysing, simulating and reporting emissions at product, category, geographical and portfolio level.
 - 2.5 *Frameworks and regulations*: Describe the frameworks and standards on which the solution is based and which frameworks it can help Vinmonopolet implement.

- 3 Technical architecture and integration: Describe the proposed technical architecture and integration, including:
 - 3.1 *Initiation of calculations:* Describe how product data is transferred from Vinmonopolet to the solution for calculation and processing, and how the calculation results are returned to Vinmonopolet.
 - 3.2 *Data storage, ownership and use:* Describe where and how data is stored and processed, and how data ownership and rights of use are managed. Explain how the solution ensures historical traceability of source data, calculation methods and results
 - 3.3 *System management and environments:* Describe the management and operating model for the proposed solution, including roles and responsibilities. Explain how the solution supports separate test and production environments, access control and deployment procedures.
 - 3.4 *Flexibility and scalability:* Describe how the solution allows selected default values to be gradually replaced with documented and verifiable activity data and how additional data points, product types and products can be added over time. For example, a product default calculation may initially contain 20 data fields, of which Vinmonopolet provides data for five of them. The solution should populate the remaining fields with default values, apply the relevant emission factors and return the calculation results to Vinmonopolet. If Vinmonopolet later adds a 21st data field, this should be possible without significant technical development or additional charges. Describe which changes are included in the standard solution and licence fee, which changes may result in additional costs, and how the solution can be further developed.
- 4 Use of the attached dataset: Describe how the attached dataset has been used to demonstrate the proposed solution. Explain how the data would be imported, structured, supplemented with default values, calculated, visualised and analysed. Identify any assumptions, data gaps, quality issues or additional data requirements.
- 5 Implementation process: Describe briefly a high-level implementation process.
- 6 Cost structure and licence model: Describe the cost structure, licence model and key cost drivers, including:
 - 6.1 *Pricing model:* Describe the total cost structure and licence model, including implementation costs, annual costs and any usage-based fees. Explain the main cost drivers and what is included in the standard solution and licence fee.
 - 6.2 *Additional costs:* Specify any additional costs related to emission factors, external data sources, integrations, configuration, support, upgrades, etc.
 - 6.3 *Cost development:* Describe how costs may change when the number of products, calculations, users, data fields or integrations increases, and how the pricing model supports predictable costs as the solution scales.
 - 6.4 *Cost estimate:* For the purpose of the cost estimate, suppliers should assume a portfolio of 35,000 products across seven to eight main product categories, such as beer, spirits and wine. Of these, 32,000 products will initially be calculated using default values only. In the first year, 1,500 products are expected to have one data field replaced with actual activity data, while another 1,500 products are expected to have an average of three data fields replaced with

actual activity data. Provide an estimate of the total cost of ownership over two to five years, including implementation, licences, operation, support, upgrades, integrations and expected further development. State the assumptions underlying the estimate and identify any costs that are not included.

- 7 Relevant experience: Describe experience from similar implementations, particularly solutions involving product carbon footprint calculations, large product portfolios, default values and activity data. Provide relevant examples or references and briefly describe the scope of the implementation, the supplier's role and the main results.

5.2 Submission requirements

- Suppliers are responsible for covering all costs incurred in connection with preparing and submitting their response.
- Responses must be submitted through the Mercell portal. For assistance with the submission process, please contact Mercell Support.
- All questions regarding the RFI must be submitted through the Mercell portal.

6. Confidentiality

Vinmonopolet will treat all responses as confidential and will not share information received through the RFI with third parties.

7. Limitations of Liability

This Request for Information (RFI) is for planning purposes only. It is neither a binding request for quotation nor a formal invitation to tender. A response to this RFI does not constitute a binding offer and cannot be accepted by Vinmonopolet in a manner that creates a binding contract. A response to this RFI will not be regarded as a response to a prequalification process for any future procurement.

8. Next Steps

- Publication of RFI in Mercell: 15 October 2026
- Response deadline in Mercell: 16 November 2026
- Potential clarification meetings: 23–27 November 2026
- Decision by Vinmonopolet's management team on the next steps in the product carbon footprint calculator project: December 2026
- Completion of the master data project: May 2027

Based on the outcome of the RFI, Vinmonopolet will decide whether to proceed with an RFP process. If the project proceeds, the RFP process is expected to take place in spring 2027, with implementation starting in the second half of 2027.