



SOUTHERN AFRICA DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE  
(SADC-GMI)

WORLD BANK ASSISTED  
Project ID: P127086

Issuance Date: 16 January 2018

## **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

### **CONSULTING SERVICES – REGISTERING OF INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS/PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS ON THE SADC-GMI DATABASE.**

*Contract No. CS/2017/23*

#### **1. Background**

The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Secretariat, through the Directorate of Infrastructure and Services – Water Division, in Gaborone, Botswana received a grant through the World Bank to implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management in SADC Member States project. The SADC Secretariat has delegated the implementation of the project to the Southern African Development Community Groundwater Management Institute (SADC-GMI), a newly established regional centre of excellence on groundwater management hosted by the University of the Free State in Bloemfontein, South Africa.

The vision of the SADC-GMI is to ensure equitable and sustainable use and protection of groundwater in the SADC region, as well as being a centre of excellence in the areas of groundwater management and management of groundwater dependent ecosystems. The role of the SADC-GMI is to:

- Promote sustainable groundwater management and solutions to groundwater challenges in the SADC region through building capacity, providing training, advancing research, supporting infrastructure development, and enabling dialogue and exchange of groundwater information.
- Conduct and support SADC Member States in groundwater research, and serve as a focal interlocutor with national, regional and international groundwater initiatives.

The project which the SADC-GMI is implementing comprises four main components, with each component comprising a number of sub-components:

- Component A: Operationalising the SADC-GMI;
- Component B: Enhancing institutional capacity of governments in SADC Member States and transboundary organisations;
- Component C: Improving availability of and access to knowledge, scientific research and data on groundwater; and
- Component D: Promoting infrastructure solutions for sustainable groundwater management.

The SADC-GMI anticipates its workload in the field of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Planning (SAP) for Transboundary Aquifers (TBAs), to substantially increase in the year 2018, hence there will be a need for consultants to compliment the core SADC-GMI staff. To this end the SADC-GMI wishes to develop a database of consultants with ability to perform tasks listed under Core Tasks and with qualifications in listed under Required Experts. SADC-GMI intends to maintain a database of registered consultants from whom quotations will be requested for upcoming projects.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

The ideal Consultants the SADC-GMI seeks are:

- a. Freelance Individual Consultants and Individual Consultants associated with consulting firms meeting the qualifications and experience listed under Required Experts.
- b. Able to demonstrate geographic experience in sub-Saharan Africa, and particularly the SADC region;
- c. Able to demonstrate technical and managerial capabilities in the field of assignment;

The SADC-GMI, now invites eligible freelance individual Consultants and individual Consultants associated with consulting firms to indicate their interest in being incorporated in the database of consultants. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services as described under Core Tasks for which consultants are sought and Required Experts.

## 3. CORE TASKS FOR WHICH CONSULTANTS ARE SOUGHT

Consultants capable of performing the following core tasks are sought.

### 3.1. Undertake a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)

To gather the state of knowledge in a particular aquifer system so as to facilitate identification of priority issues and appropriate action. Key activities for this task are:

- a) Collection and synthesis of existing data and information on groundwater and surface water systems to understand the aquifer system, surface flows, ecosystems, and nature of the interactions and flows between them; and
- b) Targeted biophysically-oriented work to gap-fill priority areas, in which existing knowledge fails to provide required understanding.

### 3.2. Implement Stakeholder Dialogues

To understand relevant issues and raise consensus on conjunctive management of water resources in the system. Specific activities foreseen for this task include:

- a. Engagement of technical level stakeholders of an aquifer system to improve surface and groundwater data collection, analysis and sharing;
- b. Performing SWOT Analyses and joint Strategic Action Planning (SAP) for enhanced national and transboundary water management issues in a given aquifer system
- c. Apply learning-by-doing approach to pilot some quick-win innovative solutions identified in the SAP for conjunctive water use in specific bilateral framework agreements, and procedures for strengthening the co-developed cooperation.

### 3.3. Knowledge Management of the Research Results

To share the experiences for conjunctive water resources using the given aquifer system as the case study. Activities foreseen under this task include:

- a. Utilising the outcomes of the above tasks to document generally agreed principles for advancing cooperative conjunctive management in the TBA system through intense participation of the technical and policy level stakeholder in the riparian Member States.
- b. Sharing of the research outcomes and developed principles amongst the nations sharing the transboundary aquifer and the SADC region.

## 4. REQUIRED EXPERTS

Experts are sought in the fields listed below.

### 4.1. Principal Researchers/Team Leaders

At least a Master's degree in a relevant water related discipline and 15 years' experience working in the groundwater field. At least 10 years should have been in the field of groundwater governance research and development. Demonstrated team leadership on at least 3 similar research projects, 1 of which should have been in the SADC region either at Member State or regional level. Proven proficiency with the conjunctive water resources management concept and engagement of multi-country transboundary water course stakeholder institutions and issues. The Team Leader should be fluent in English. Professional proficiency in the other SADC Languages (French and Portuguese) is desirable.

### 4.2. Hydrogeologists/Geohydrologists

At least a Master's degree in hydrogeology/geohydrology or related discipline and 15 years working experience in the groundwater field, 5 of which should have been in the SADC region. Knowledge of key issues pertaining to the management of groundwater resources in national and transboundary aquifers the SADC region that include recharge, pollution and impacts of climate change and droughts. Should have participated in at least 2 projects where similar skills required for this assignment were applied. Demonstrated skills in application and interpretation of groundwater modelling and water quality models including the use of related software.

### 4.3. Hydrologists

At least a Bachelor's degree in an engineering discipline (Civil/Water) or similar and about 10 years' experience in the assessment of the hydrology of major rivers. Should have experience of at least two projects of a similar magnitude in Southern Africa. Proven experience in data analysis and interpretation using computer software models is essential. Fluency in English is mandatory, and working knowledge of French and Portuguese is desirable.

### 4.4. Institutional and Governance Experts

To ideally possess at least a Master's degree in international development, institutional development, development studies or similar with at least 10 years in institutional assessment and organisational development in the public sector/national government ministries, departments and agencies; and private sector. Familiarity with the regional integration and development agenda in the SADC region is essential, particularly in the groundwater sector through participation in at least 2 institutional assessment and development projects implemented in the SADC region. Experience with transboundary water courses governance structures and institutional strengthening is required.

### 4.5. Environmental Experts

At least a Bachelor's degree in environmental management, or other relevant discipline. At least 15 years of post-graduate professional experience, of which at least 5 years shall be in the water sector. Team member in at least 3 projects in the field of water resources planning and management in the role of Environmental Specialist.

Demonstrated experience with application of relevant standard environmental policies and procedures such as those of the World Bank. Good understanding of World Bank social safeguard policies is preferred. Experience in SADC region preferred. Fluency in oral and written English and working knowledge of French and Portuguese is desirable.

#### 4.6. Documentation and Knowledge Management Experts

At least a Bachelor's degree qualification for data collection, synthesis, documentation and reporting/dissemination or similar. A cumulative working experience of at least 10 years in the documentation of lessons learnt and development of tools and materials for validation, advocacy and training of multi-sectoral stakeholder groups in the public and private sector. Demonstrated knowledge in the development of guidelines, tools and standards is essential. Fluency in English is mandatory, and working knowledge of French and Portuguese is desirable.

#### 4.7. Sociologists

At least a tertiary level qualification in the field of social studies incorporating human structures, cultures and behaviour and at least 10 years working experience in sub-Saharan Africa. Experience working in the SADC region, an understanding of the community development and water resources dynamics in these countries is a distinct advantage. Previous working experience as a team member on at least 3 similar assignments in the role of Sociologist is essential. Specific experience in the water sector, particularly in transboundary river/aquifer systems is invaluable. Fluency in English is mandatory, and working knowledge of French and Portuguese is desirable. Knowledge of local languages from the project area is desirable.

#### 4.8. Other Experts

Other experts and support staff as required according to the deemed requirement e.g. Communications expert, Information Management System expert, Water quality experts, Modellers, Hydro-Geophysicists etc.

### 5. SHORTLISTING PROCESS.

Interested applicants are requested to submit an expression of interest. The expression of interest should include; a cover letter stating the expertise of the consultant(s) selected under **REQUIRED EXPERTS**, any firms to which the consultant is affiliated and a detailed CV.

The SADC-GMI will review the submissions in the stages shown below;

- Stage 1: Documentation submitted in response to this EOI. If such documentation meets the requirements listed under *ELIGIBILITY*, the Consultant will progress to Step 2.
- Stage 2: This may include (but not be limited to) the following:
  - Reference checks;
  - Requests for additional information;
- Stage 3: Informing the consultant of the outcome and subsequent registration on the SADC-GMI database of consultants.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours i.e. 08:00 am-4:00pm, Monday – Friday

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, by mail or by email) by procurement@sadc-gmi.org **12:00noon (Pretoria Time) on the 16 February 2018.**

**Attention:**

Procurement and Grants Office  
SADC Groundwater Management Institute  
Institute for Groundwater Studies  
University of the Free State  
Bloemfontein, SOUTH AFRICA  
Office Tel: [+27 51 401 7721](tel:+27514017721)  
Mobile Tel 1: [+27 60 738 0437](tel:+27607380437)  
[www.sadc-gmi.org](http://www.sadc-gmi.org)