BACKGROUND:

The Southern African 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), established as a regional Centre of Excellence on groundwater management, hosted by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria, South Africa.

After successful completion of the Sustainable Groundwater Management in SADC Member States Phase 1 project, the SADC-GMI is now implementing phase 2 of the same project, under the strategic guidance of the SADC Secretariat and with funding from the Trust Fund Cooperation in International Waters in Africa (CIWA) channeled through the World Bank. Component 2 of the phase 2 project foresees the support to Member States in conducting groundwater studies, preparing monitoring plans, and compiling groundwater data to produce groundwater assessments.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT:

The main objective of this assignment is to construct a steady-state groundwater model of the EKK-TBA to enable the quantification of groundwater in the Basin. The objective of the model is to;

- provide first estimates of sustainable abstractions (e.g., setting a limit to abstraction)
which are important in joint sustainable groundwater management.

- contribute towards enhancing water security in the Basin.

Ancillary objectives are to;

- identify data gaps and data needs and
- to capacitate technical staff from both riparian States in the modelling process and application of the model.

The model would also be essential in the designing and implementation of a basin-wide integrated monitoring network of water levels, abstractions and water quality with the engagement and involvement of stakeholders from both public and private sector and civil society.

**SCOPE OF WORK AND SPECIFIC TASKS OF THE CONSULTANTS:**

To achieve the objectives of this assignment, the successful consultant will be expected to implement the following core tasks which are not exhaustive:

- Inception
- Collation of data and information in time and space
- Construction of finite-difference groundwater model
- Calibration of model – Steady state
- Scenario analysis (pumping)
- Groundwater model report and course notes
- Training and handover of the model to stakeholders

**TIMING OF THE ASSIGNMENT:**

This is a once-off assignment without any obligation for follow-up work and it is intended to be implemented over approximately 140 days over a period of 27 weeks.

**ELIGIBILITY**

The ideal Consulting firm should be a registered company with proven experience in Hydrogeology/ Water resources planning/ Hydro-geo-spatial analysis, or related discipline; plus a track record of more than 10 years in mainstream groundwater and water resources planning and management in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in the SADC region. Firms demonstrating a proven track record of successfully completing at least 3 similar projects, of which 1 should have been in the SADC region are preferred.
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Interested consultancy firms are requested to submit an expression of interest. The expression of interest should include the following:

a) Valid Business License
b) Registration Certificate of TIN and VAT
c) Company Certificate Registration/Incorporation
d) Evidence showing that the firm is a legal entity (certificate of registration);
e) Experience of working in a similar geographical region (SADC region);
f) Availability of Professional Key Staff with Suitable Qualifications in the field of assignment;
g) Evidence of at least 3 similar projects previously successfully completed, of which 1 was in the SADC region;
h) Evidence showing the technical and managerial capabilities of the firm in the field of assignment;
i) Brief description (not more than 3 pages) of the proposed Methodology of carrying out the scope of the work;
j) The EOI submission should not exceed 30 pages.

Further information can be obtained by sending an e-mail to procurement@sadc-gmi.org during working hours, 8:00 – 17:00, Monday to Friday.

Bidders must submit Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) by e-mail to procurement@sadc-gmi.org by 12:00 noon (RSA Time) on 10 June 2022.

Request for Expressions of Interest shall be marked No. ZA-SADC-GMI-295851-CS-CQS: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A NUMERICAL GROUNDWATER MODEL FOR THE EASTERN KALAHARI-KAROO TRANSBOUNDARY BASIN AQUIFER SYSTEM (EKK-TBA)