Request for Expression of Interest

For

CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP A GROUNDWATER STRATEGY FOR THE LIMPOPO RIVER BASIN (LRB).

1. Background

The Limpopo River Basin is shared by four SADC Member States, i.e., Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, and has a total catchment area of approximately 408,000 km². Groundwater is used extensively throughout the southern African region, including the Limpopo River basin, supplying a large percentage of water for irrigation and rural water supply schemes. This is especially true in rural areas located far away from surface water resources. Groundwater is also used extensively by the mining industry in the Basin.

In February 2018, the Limpopo Watercourse Commission (LIMCOM) in collaboration with the SADC Groundwater Management Institute formalised a cooperation mechanism focusing on groundwater resources development and management through establishing the LIMCOM Groundwater Committee (LGC). The objective of the LGC is to advise the Technical Task Team (TTT) and the Commission on the development and management of groundwater resources of the Limpopo River Basin.

2. Objective of the Assignment

The LGC in collaboration with SADC Groundwater Management Institute (SADC-GMI) resolved that a groundwater strategy for the LRB is required, with the overall objective of the strategy being, to promote the recognition of the strategic value, equitable access, sustainable use and protection of groundwater in the LRB; to be achieved through amongst others i). guiding joint groundwater resources development and management, ii). harmonising current and planned groundwater initiatives with national plans of the LRB riparian states iii). prioritising groundwater related projects iv). and in the process capturing the multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approach to management and development of national and transboundary groundwater resources in the LRB.

3. Specific Tasks and Activities

To achieve the objectives of this assignment, the successful Consultant will undertake the following core tasks:

- Task 1: Project Inception
- Task 2: Implement Stakeholder Mapping and Dialogues
• Task 3: Review of previous, current, and future transboundary groundwater initiatives and related projects in the Limpopo Basin
• Task 4: Formulation of the Limpopo Groundwater Strategy

4. Eligibility

The Consulting firm should have proven experience in Regional and Transboundary Groundwater Governance Issues and demonstrate knowledge with groundwater capacity building initiatives, Groundwater assessment, development/integration of groundwater management information system and/or decision support systems, development of a Groundwater Strategy and Implementation Plan. Experience with donor-funded projects is desirable. The Consultant who can demonstrate a proven track record of completing at least three similar assignments, of which one should have been in the SADC region, are preferred.

5. Schedule and Duration of Assignment.

The assignment is a once-off project without any obligation for follow-up work, to be implemented for an estimated duration of 56 weeks from contract signature with an estimated level of effort of 210 person-days.

6. Liaison and Logistics

On a day-to-day basis, the Consultant will liaise with the SADC-GMI and LIMCOM through the Senior Groundwater Specialist and the Water and Environment Specialist, respectively.

7. Expression of Interest Submission Requirements

Interested consultancy firms are requested to submit an expression of interest, and 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 one 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 at the e-mail address listed below during office hours i.e., 08:00 am-5:00pm, Monday – Friday, procurement@sadc-gmi.org

8. Submission of Expression of Interest (EOI)

Bidders must submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) by e-mail to procurement@sadc-gmi.org by 12:00 noon (RSA Time) on or before 19 August 2022.

Expressions of Interest shall be marked “Consultancy to Develop a Groundwater Strategy for The Limpopo River Basin (LRB)".