



## **CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FURTHER ENHANCING THE SADC-GIP**

### **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. The 4-year phase 2 project is financed by the Multi Donor Trust Fund Cooperation in International Waters in Africa (CIWA), through the World Bank.

### **EVOLUTION OF THE SADC-GIP**

In a quest to harmonize groundwater data across the SADC region, the SADC-GMI established a portal, the SADC Groundwater Information Portal, (SADC-GIP) through which hydrogeological data is being managed and availed to stakeholders. The SADC-GIP was developed as an on-line data and information system, currently contains all the results from the SADC Hydrogeological Mapping Project of 2010.

The strategic vision of the SADC-GMI is for the SADC-GIP to provide more services to stakeholders, through for example, in-cooperating time series data, ability to generate graphs, maps and where data is missing apply big data analytics and machine learning to generate useful information for stakeholders.

This request of interest of expression is therefore for a consultancy to update the data stored in the SADC-GIP and enhance its functionalities.

### **OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The key objective of this assignment is to update the data stored in the SADC-GIP and enhance its functionalities.

### **TASKS**

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

- Engage Young Professionals to facilitate collection of data in the respective Member States.
- Develop and workshop a framework and tool for data collection from the Member States.
- Develop a functionality to capture time series data into the GIP.

- Engage Member States, River Basin Organisations, and other key stakeholders to identify strategic National and Transboundary Aquifers for implementing pilot activities.
- Pilot implementation and application of big data analytics and machine learning functions into the SADC-GIP for selected strategic aquifers. The objective being to extract useful information in light of the expected data limitations.
- Make recommendations for the sustainability of data capture into the SADC-GIP e.g., human resources, capacity building, financial resources amongst others.

## SCHEDULE AND DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT

This is a once-off assignment without any obligation for follow-up work and it is intended to be implemented for an estimated duration of 24 months from contract signature with an estimated aggregate level of effort of 310 man-days for key experts only.

## ELIGIBILITY

The ideal consulting firm should be a registered company with proven experience in hydrogeology, environmental monitoring (groundwater), developing agile systems and development of databases. The Consulting firm should also have experience in systems integration and Big Data analytics and machine learning. 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](mailto: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](mailto:procurement@sadc-gmi.org) by 12:00 noon (RSA Time) on 17 June 2022.

Request for Expressions of Interest shall be marked **“CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FURTHER ENHANCING THE SADC-GIP”**