



LESOTHO HIGHLANDS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 7332, Maseru 100, Lesotho. Tel: 22246000 Fax: 22310665

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PANEL OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS (POEs) FOR THE LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER PROJECT

1.0 Background

The Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) is implemented pursuant to the Treaty between the Government of Lesotho and the Republic of South Africa. The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) is the implementing Authority reporting to the Board of Directors and the Lesotho Highlands Water Commission (LHWC). The Treaty binds both governments to take all reasonable measures to ensure that the LHWP is implemented and operated taking into consideration protection of the existing quality of the environment.

In complying with the Treaty, the LHDA developed the Environmental Action Plan (EAP) with the purpose of improving on the positive impacts and mitigating the negative impacts of the LHWP activities. The EAP is made up of three (3) key action plans: Compensation, Resettlement and Development Action Plan, Public Health Action Plan and Natural Environment and Heritage (NEH) Action Plan.

The now completed Phase I of the LHWP comprised of Katse and Mohale dams, inter-connecting tunnels, Matsoku Weir and 'Muela Hydropower Station. The LHDA are now implementing Phase II of the LHWP that will include construction of a 165m high CFR dam on the Senqu River at Polihali in the Mokhotlong district, a transfer tunnel from the Polihali Reservoir to the Katse Reservoir, associated advance infrastructure; such as access roads, power and telecommunication transmission lines to the Project sites as well as socio-economic development projects/programmes.

The environmental and social baseline studies were completed in 2015/16. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) for the advance infrastructure and the dam basin works for Phase II are underway.

2.0 Expression of Interest (EOI)

2.1 Introduction

The LHDA procured the services of a Panel of Environmental Experts (POEs) to monitor and evaluate implementation of environmental and social programmes and contracts under Phase I and Phase II of the LHWP in June 2014 for a period of three (3) years. This tenure comes to an end on the 31st May 2017. To ensure continuity of



operations, technical back-stopping and expert review of the respective environmental and social programmes and projects under the LHWP Phases, LHDA requires the services of four (4) external experts for a three (3) year term. Contracts may be renewable subject to satisfactory performance and need for continuity.

2.2 Required Expertise

The LHDA is now inviting interested, eligible and suitably qualified and experienced professionals to serve on the following four (4) portfolios:

- a) Bio-physical Environment;
- b) Riverine and Terrestrial Ecology;
- c) Socio-economic Development and Resettlement; and
- d) Public Health.

Applicants are required to indicate their area of interest and specialization they wish to be considered for on the LHDA Panel of Environmental Experts (POEs) for the LHWP. Successful candidates are expected to enter into a contract agreement with the LHDA from 01 April 2017. Subject to LHDA procedure and requirements, the Panel members will be required to attend between one (1) and four (4) missions to Lesotho per year.

During missions, the expert panelists will be expected to provide an independent assessment on the planning and implementation of the EAP of Phase I and Phase II environmental and social development programmes/projects of the LHWP. The POEs will take direction from the LHDA Management in preparation for and during missions and present reviews/assessments consistent with relevant international best practice. Generally, the POEs will primarily act in an advisory capacity to the LHDA and its consultants.

2.3 Purpose of the POEs

The objective of the POEs would be to serve as strategic independent quality review body. The POEs would conduct comprehensive and independent peer review of the adequacy, technical quality, suitability and rigour of the technical criteria, designs, monitoring methods and reports. The duty of the POEs would be to:

- Provide a measure of independent assurance to LHDA of the scientific validity and technical quality of reports;
- Provide assurance to LHDA that reports would be able to stand up to public, expert and judicial court scrutiny;



- Provide an independent assessment of the rigour and suitability of the methodology, management, monitoring and mitigation processes;
- Provide independent advice to LHDA on improvements to the monitoring programmes;
- Determine the confidence that can be attached to the monitoring results;
- Review the monitoring programmes, the resultant data and reports in relation to the work-plan, method and specifications of the contract; and
- Identify risks to LHDA.

Individuals appointed to the POEs would be recognized experts within their fields, but also have a comprehensive breadth of experience in large engineering projects. Individual experts in the following scientific disciplines are required:

- Wetlands ecologist (constructed wetlands, ecological functioning, hydro-dynamics, etc.);
- Aquatic ecologist (water chemistry, hydro-biology, water quality management, design, implementation and evaluation of water quality monitoring programmes, etc.);
- Environmental Management (landscape rehabilitation, etc.);
- Social scientist (monitoring and evaluation, SIA, community-based development, qualitative and quantitative social surveys, design, implementation and evaluation of social monitoring programmes, etc.); and
- Public Health and Epidemiology, impact surveys etc.

2.4 Key Qualifications and Experience

- a) Applicants should possess at least Master's degree qualifications in relevant specialist fields, but preferably a PhD or Doctorate degree;
- b) Applicants should have at least twenty-five (25) years of experience in planning, scheduling, design of programmes/projects and implementation as well as setting up monitoring and evaluation systems of such programmes/projects within the SADC region;
- c) Experience on similar assignments (e.g. as expert advisor, member of external review panel, etc) will be an added advantage (to authenticate the required



level of experience, specific projects, dates and roles should be clearly stated);
and

- d) Applicants should provide a detailed CV plus a minimum of three (3) references based on the specific projects mentioned in c) above.

2.5 Submission of Expression of Interest

Expressions of Interest must be submitted in sealed envelopes, clearly marked **“EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PANEL OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS (POEE) FOR THE LHWP”** to the Offices of the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) on the 7th Floor, LHDA Tower Building, not later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 13th April 2017, where a register of submissions will be kept.

2.6 Feedback to Applicants

Short listed candidates will be invited for an oral interview to determine their suitability. Unsuccessful applicants will be responded to upon conclusion of contracts with the successful members.

ALL ENQUIRIES MAY BE ADDRESSED BY EMAIL TO THE LHDA PROCUREMENT SECTION:

Email : procurement@lhda.org.ls