



LESOTHO HIGHLANDS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
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INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERT – MEMBER OF THE PANEL OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS (POEs) TO THE LHWP

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 is now implementing Phase II of the LHWP that includes 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 public health, socio-economic development and livelihoods restoration & improvement projects/programmes

The environmental and social baseline studies including the public health baseline were completed in 2015/16. Public health, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) for the advance infrastructure and the dam basin works for Phase II have also been completed.



2.0. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

2.1. Introduction

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 has just procured a new Panel of Environmental Experts to cover three (3) portfolios of Biophysical Environment, Riverine & Terrestrial Ecology and Socio-economic & Resettlement, without the Public Health portfolio.

2.2. Required Expertise

LHDA is now inviting interested, eligible and suitably qualified and experienced professionals to serve as the **Public Health Expert** for the public health portfolio as a member of the Panel of Environmental Experts (POEs) to the LHWP.

The successful candidate is expected to enter into a contract agreement with the LHDA from 01st April 2024 for a period of three (3) years. Subject to LHDA procedures and requirements, the Panel members will be required to attend between one (1) and four (4) missions to Lesotho per year.

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

2.3. Purpose of the Public Health (PH) Expert

The objective of the PH Expert member is to serve as strategic independent quality review expert as a member of the POEs to the LHWP. Generally, the POEs are required to 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 Public Health Expert as a member of the POEs would be to:

- Provide a measure of independent assurance to LHDA of the scientific validity and technical quality of the public health 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.

The Public Health expert should be a recognized expert within his/her field, but also have a comprehensive breadth of experience in large engineering projects, especially in the water sector.

2.4. Key Qualifications and Experience

- a) Applicants should possess at least master's degree qualifications in Public Health or epidemiology or equivalent medical qualification, but preferably a PhD or Doctorate Degree in public health;
- b) Applicants should be experts in the scientific discipline of public health, epidemiology and/or impact health surveys;
- c) Applicants should have at least twenty (20) years of experience in planning, scheduling, design of public health programmes/projects and implementation as well as setting up monitoring and evaluation systems of such programmes/projects for large engineering projects in the water sector, internationally and within the SADC region;
- d) 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
- e) Applicants should provide a detailed CV plus a minimum of three (3) references based on the specific projects mentioned in (c) above.

2.5. Evaluation Criteria

The EOIs will be evaluated using the Evaluation Criteria as shown below.



S/N	CRITERIA	SCORES	ASSIGNED SCORES	MAX. ASSESSMENT SCORE
1	QUALIFICATIONS			
	a) Professor	5	20	100
	b) PhD	4		
	c) Masters	3		
	d) Honours	2		
	e) Other	1		
2	EXPERIENCE			
	a) 20 or more years	5	30	150
	b) 18 to 20 years	4		
	c) 15 to 17 years	3		
	d) 10 – 14 years	2		
	e) 0 – 10 years	1		
3	EXPOSURE (INDEPENDENT ADVISOR)			
	a) International	5	30	150
	b) Regional	4		
	c) Sub-regional	3		
	d) Local	2		
	e) Other	1		
4	WORK IN SIMILAR PROJECTS			
	a) Multi-Purpose Water project	6	20	100
	b) Mid-Level water project	4		
	c) Low-level Water project	2		
	d) Non-Water Project	2		
	e) Other	1		
TOTAL			100	500

2.6. 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 (POEs) 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 Thursday the 14th March 2024**, where a register of submissions will be kept.

2.7. 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