



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Ref: WP11550

BID NO AND DESCRIPTION: WP11550: APPOINTMENT OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER (PSP) TO UNDERTAKE THE POST FEASIBILITY BRIDGING STUDY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE BREEDE-BERG (MICHELL'S PASS) WATER TRANSFER SCHEME FOR A PERIOD OF 36 MONTHS

Questions raised by prospective bidders and the answers. Questions and answers.

1. As you are aware Tlou Integrated Tech cc (Tlou), supported by Bigen Africa Services (Pty) Ltd (Bigen) and others were involved in the previous Breede-Berg (Michell's Pass Diversion) Water Transfer Scheme Study which contained lesser scope and was stopped due to funding and or fee escalation problems. The tender document is silent about previous project involvement. Can it please be clarified that we will be allowed to bid in an extended bid team to cover all of the additional scope?? = **With reference to the inquiry from the bidder below, please note that they are allowed to participate in the current bidding process should they wish to do so. They were previously appointed under an earlier contract for the project, which subsequently lapsed due to the Department's inability to provide the required rainfall data on time. The lapsing of the contract was not attributable to the bidder.**
2. Due to the complexity of the project, we require additional time to ensure our proposal meets all specifications and the high-quality standards expected by your organization. We respectfully request that the deadline be extended by 6 weeks. We believe this additional time will allow us to submit a more comprehensive and competitive bid that better serves the objectives of this project. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this request may cause and reaffirm our strong interest in participating in this procurement process = **Please note that extension of the closing date will be granted, the closing date is 02 April 2026 @11:00**
3. The Terms of Reference for the Request for Proposals for DWS BID WP11550 refers to the following:
 - Table 8.2 (p63): "joint venture (JV) or partnership".
 - Section 9 (p69): "Joint ventures". must include a formal agreement between participating parties. The agreement must clearly specify the percentage involvement of each firm within the joint venture.Given the above, can the following please be clarified:
 - Can a proposal be submitted by 2 x companies in partnership or must it be submitted in a JV format?
 - How will allocation of preference points (see Table 8.3) be dealt with? Will it only be based on percentage involvement of the two parties, i.e. a percentage of the total of their involvement only? What about the involvement of other sub-consultants?

- Table 8.4 (see p 67) is asking for a consolidated BBBEE certificate for a JV. Can the Table 8.3 preference points not be determined into %-involvement from the two parties forming a JV?
 - What method will be used for the determination of preference points of a partnership (Not JV) between 2 x parties? = **Please note that the same principle generally applies to partnerships as it does to joint ventures regarding the allocation of specific goal or preferential procurement points. Under the PPPFA framework and the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022, both JVs and partnerships are treated as a single bidding entity for purposes of scoring preference points — provided they submit a consolidated BBBEE status in the name of the bidding entity.**
4. Please review the registration requirement for the Social Impact Assessment specialist. SASA appears to be an academic association rather than a professional registration. The guidelines for social impact assessments and the EIA Regulations require only that the specialist should have relevant experience, as noted by various attendees the bid is highly complex, and an extension of time is requested to allow bidders to respond adequately. Specifically, it is requested that the department urgently confirm a date by which a final decision on the closing date will be communicated =**With regard to the requirement for registration of the Social Impact Assessment specialist, please take note that the Terms of Reference (ToR), Table 3.2, provides for registration with any equivalent professional body. From our previous engagements with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), EIA specialists were required to hold professional registration with a recognised professional body in addition to having relevant experience. In cases where a specialist was not registered, the Department of Water and Sanitation was required to submit a formal motivation for approval.**

You are therefore advised to identify a suitably qualified and experienced specialist (i.e. task leader) who is registered with a relevant professional body to lead the specialist study, in order to avoid any potential loss of evaluation marks. Supporting team members are not required to be registered. Please note, however, that this is not a mandatory requirement and your bid will not be disqualified should you elect not to comply.

5. The briefing for DWS Tender WP1150 related to the BBTS refers. During the briefing reference was made to the parallel study to update the hydrology of the Breede River catchment. This is also stated under item a) of the objectives on p 1 of the TOR. It was that the scope and budget of the Bridging study (assuming the hydrology task may be reduced).

The availability of the results from such parallel study will greatly impact on the planning, budgeting and programming related to TOR Task 3: Assessment of Water Resources. Given that the TOR Task 3.1) is requesting a full hydrological study comprising various sub-tasks, clarification is required which of the following subtasks are to be allowed and budgeted for in the Bidder's tender proposal:

- Updating of rainfall
- Updating of evaporation data
- Updating of land-use data
- Updating of streamflow data
- Groundwater resources
- Water Resources Simulation Model

- Runoff generation with the WRSM
- Naturalised streamflow records
- Stochastic hydrology

= As explained during the briefing session, bidders are required to price for the full scope of the Hydrology Task (Task 3.1 of the ToR), assuming the absence of the parallel hydrology study. Any scope adjustment (i.e. reduction), if applicable, will only be applied after PSP appointment, depending on progress with the parallel study to be commissioned by the Directorate: Strategic Water Resource Planning.

Since this required clarification will impact on the tender preparation process, your feedback at your earliest convenience will be appreciated.

6. The bid documents states that the 2021 Post Feasibility Bridging Study was only partially completed. Is it possible to have a copy of the work that was completed on this study? Otherwise, it poses an unfair advantage to the PSP who previously undertook this work, as they may not have to pre price the whole study, knowing that elements have already been done. This would also include any rainfall data that they did have access to for the study and hence would not need to include the additional cost to procure now =

7. Completion certificates and confirmation letters

Considering the limited time available to collect the required documentation, appointment letters and report signature pages will be accepted as adequate proof of the bidder's involvement in projects undertaken previously.

8. Page limitations for the Technical Proposal

With regard to the page limitations indicated for certain sections of the Technical Proposal, bidders should note that these limits were intended as guidelines only. Bidders may exceed the specified limits where necessary to include critical information required for a fair evaluation of their Proposal.

9. Land acquisition and servitudes

With reference to land acquisition and servitudes (Task 4.12(d) of the ToR), the identification of properties affected by the project forms part of the scheme layout task of the bridging study and must be priced appropriately in the Financial Proposal. The scheme layout task will provide the names and locations of affected properties.

The topographical survey required for land acquisition purposes is covered under the Topographical Surveys Task (Task 4.4) and no separate budget is anticipated. For pricing purposes, it will be sufficient to provide a quotation for collecting the information required for the registration of land rights and servitudes, including property names, title deeds, location details, cadastral data, Surveyor-General diagrams, and any other relevant information. This information gathering process should be treated as a single consolidated exercise for all the affected properties when engaging with the relevant authorities.

The actual registration of land rights and servitudes will be undertaken during implementation by the Sub-Directorate: Land Rights Administration of the Department. It is therefore neither necessary nor practicable at this stage for the Department to specify the number of affected properties.

10. With regard to the requirement for registration of the Social Impact Assessment specialist, please take note that the Terms of Reference (ToR), Table 3.2, provides for registration with any equivalent professional body. From our previous engagements with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), EIA specialists were required to hold professional registration with a recognised professional body in addition to having relevant experience. In cases where a specialist was not registered, the Department of Water and Sanitation was required to submit a formal motivation for

approval. You are therefore advised to identify a suitably qualified and experienced specialist (i.e. task leader) who is registered with a relevant professional body to lead the specialist study, in order to avoid any potential loss of evaluation marks. Supporting team members are not required to be registered. Please note, however, that this is not a mandatory requirement and your bid will not be disqualified should you elect not to comply. = With regard to the requirement for registration of the Social Impact Assessment specialist, please take note that the Terms of Reference (ToR), Table 3.2, provides for registration with any equivalent professional body. From our previous engagements with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), EIA specialists were required to hold professional registration with a recognised professional body in addition to having relevant experience. In cases where a specialist was not registered, the Department of Water and Sanitation was required to submit a formal motivation for approval. You are therefore advised to identify a suitably qualified and experienced specialist (i.e. task leader) who is registered with a relevant professional body to lead the specialist study, in order to avoid any potential loss of evaluation marks. Supporting team members are not required to be registered. Please note, however, that this is not a mandatory requirement and your bid will not be disqualified should you elect not to comply.

11. The bid documents states that the 2021 Post Feasibility Bridging Study was only partially completed. Is it possible to have a copy of the work that was completed on this study? Otherwise, it poses an unfair advantage to the PSP who previously undertook this work, as they may not have to pre price the whole study, knowing that elements have already been done. This would also include any rainfall data that they did have access to for the study and hence would not need to include the additional cost to procure now. = The 2021 partially completed Post Feasibility Bridging Study progressed only through the Inception Phase and had barely commenced the Water Resources Assessment Task when the contract lapsed. The Department of Water and Sanitation will provide all bidders with a copy of the Close-Out Report, which summarises the limited assessment undertaken. This report represents the only work produced during the previous attempt to undertake the bridging study. In addition, the Department will make available to all bidders the rainfall data procured from the South African Weather Service. However, this dataset does not fully cover the extended study area, and additional rainfall data will therefore need to be sourced. The above information will be made available on the DWS website in due course, prior to the bid closing date.
12. Table 8.2: Functionality Evaluation Criteria: Team Capability: Study Leader: Please would you clarify if the Study Lead must be a Pr Eng or can a Pr Tech Eng with 30 years' experience and a Pr CPM (Professional Construction Project Manager), with suitable water resource experience be considered? Would zero points be allocated for such a Pr Tech Eng, or would the points be reduced as per the scoring table at the end of that section, i.e. satisfies only 3 criteria? Is there a specification for the accuracy of the topographic survey required? = Study Leader qualifications and registration As clearly stated in the Terms of Reference, the Study Leader must hold either a BSc or BEng degree in Civil Engineering and must be registered with ECSA as a Professional Engineer (PrEng). Please note that Pr Tech Eng and Pr CPM registrations do not comply with the ToR requirements. A bidder will therefore lose marks if such a person is proposed for the Study Leader role. Relevant experience will only be considered valid where the proposed team member meets both the qualification and registration criteria. Topographical survey accuracy for the purpose of bid pricing, bidders should assume the accuracy adopted in the 2012 topographical survey (refer to Section 6.7).