

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES (Firms Selection)

Subject	Feasibility Study and Environment & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Proposed Rufaro Solar Project
Brief Description	Engagement of Consultants for Feasibility Study and Environment & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Proposed Rufaro Solar Project
Proposal Reference Number	IDBZ 30 of 2019

- a) The Infrastructure Development Bank of Zimbabwe (“IDBZ/the Bank”) was formed on the 31st of August 2005 and was primarily set up as a vehicle for the promotion of economic development and growth, and improvement of the living standards of Zimbabweans through the development of infrastructure, which includes but not limited to energy, transport, water and sanitation, information communication technology (ICT) and housing. The Bank is also enjoined to develop institutional capacity in undertakings and enterprises involved in infrastructure development in Zimbabwe (IDBZ Act (Chapter 24:14). The Bank, therefore, operates primarily as an infrastructure Development Finance Institution (DFI).
- b) Rufaro Solar Farm One (Private) Limited is a Special Purpose Vehicle (“SPV/the Promoter”) incorporated under the laws of Zimbabwe. The SPV is licensed as an Independent Power Producer (“IPP”) by the Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority (“ZERA”).
- c) The IDBZ in partnership with the project promoter, Rufaro Solar Farm One (Private) Limited intend to undertake a detailed Feasibility Study and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (“ESIA”) for establishing a 50MW solar energy plant in Marondera Town, Zimbabwe.
- d) The project is located at Longlands Farm measuring about 300 hectares in Marondera Town, Mashonaland East Province in Zimbabwe, and will be implemented in phases. The first phase will be carried out on a 100-hectare piece of land and is expected to generate 50MW which will be fed into the national grid.
- e) The 50MW Plant will comprise individual solar panels connected into several strings. These strings will be connected in parallel into an inverter. The inverter then optimizes the energy yield of the solar field, converts to alternate current and stabilizes the voltage. On the AC side, an inverter will deliver a low voltage of approximately 600V, which is transformed to medium voltage (MC) at 33kV. The project is expected to cost US\$71 million. The project is currently at preparatory stage.
- f) The purpose of the consultancy assignment is to conduct a Full Feasibility Study covering preliminary technical designs, analysing the legal and regulatory environment, carrying out a detailed economic, financial and social analysis, risk analysis, gender analysis and institutional analysis in line with international best practices.
- g) Additionally, the purpose includes conducting an Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) study, including an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) as required in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Chapter 20:27) as read with Statutory Instrument 7 of 2007 (EIA and Ecosystems Protection Regulations) and in line with international best practices. The ESIA will include a gender Impact assessment as part of the assessment.
- h) The main objective of the Consulting Services is to prepare a feasibility study and ESIA for the proposed Rufaro Solar Project. This is required for the Project to be implemented in a technically feasible, financially viable as well as environmentally and socially sustainable manner, and in full compliance with both the Zimbabwe legal and regulatory requirements as well as international best practise standards applicable to solar power projects. Broadly, the selected Consultant shall:
- i. Carry out a detailed full feasibility study which will include a robust technical and financial model and risk register
  - ii. Establish environmental, social and gender baseline conditions for the site at a broad level.
  - iii. to prepare an environmental and social impact assessment study for the proposed Rufaro Solar Project.

The IDBZ now invites eligible Zimbabwean and Foreign Consulting Firms (“the Consultants”) to indicate their interest by way of an Expression of Interest (EOI) in accordance with requirements stated herein in providing the services as specified in this document. Interested Consulting Firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required experience, competences, skills, and qualifications relevant for performance of the services whether as individual firms, joint ventures or as consortia. The Consultants shall submit Company profiles, Company registration documents, Curriculum Vitae of key personnel and professional staff, brochures, description of similar assignments, experience under similar environment or conditions. The Consulting Firm must demonstrate that they have fully established business offices. Prospective Consulting Firms may constitute joint-ventures where necessary to enhance their capacity to undertake the assignment.

About IDBZ

IDBZ, is a development finance institution (DFI), established through the IDBZ Act [Chapter 24:14] to champion sustainable infrastructure development in Zimbabwe through: mobilization of resources; capacity building; and knowledge generation and sharing in support of national efforts for inclusive socio-economic development. More specifically, its statutory mandate focus is on the development of infrastructure in energy, transport, water and sanitation, information and communication technology, and housing sectors.

- The minimum criteria for short-listing of the Firm shall entail:**
- i. The Consulting Firm must be a registered entity and registered with the Procurement Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (PRAZ).
  - ii. A minimum of three (3) reference letters from traceable organisations must be submitted.
  - iii. Minimum of 10 years of experience for each individual consulting firm singularly or in the consortium in similar experience up to or at least five projects in the last 10 years.
  - iv. The following documents should also be submitted:
    - detailed company profile;
    - company registration documents;
    - detailed curriculum vitae of key personnel and professional staff (including certified educational certificates of the professional staff);
    - proof of registration with PRAZ; and
    - a summary the Firm’s experience in similar assignments, together with the names and contact details of persons connected with these assignments who will provide references.

- Key personnel of the consultant firm should have the following minimum qualifications and experience:**
- i. A Bachelor’s degree in relevant discipline.
  - ii. Track record and demonstrable experience in conducting similar assignments
  - iii. The minimum years of experience for key personnel shall be 5 years in the relevant field.

Short-listed Consultants will be invited to submit detailed technical and financial proposals, as described in Part 1 of the Request for Proposals Procedures in the Standard Request for Proposals for the Selection of Consultancy Services. The Consultant submitting the successful proposal will be engaged on the contractual terms set out in that document and in the General Conditions of Contract for Consultancy Services. Copies of the Act and Regulations and the standard documentation are available on the website of the Procurement Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe; URL <http://www.praz.gov.zw/index.php?lang=en>

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

This opportunity is open to all Consultants who meet the criteria for eligibility as stated in Section 28 of the Act and who have the nationality of an eligible country as defined in Clause 1.10 of the General Conditions of Contract for Consultancy Services.

Bidders must accompany their expressions of interest with CR14 certificates as proof of Zimbabwean nationality and equivalent company registration documents for Foreign Firms.

Consulting Firms shall be required to pay an administration fee of USD100.00 for Zimbabwean Firms and USD200.00 for Foreign Firms to the Procurement Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe’s Special Procurement Oversight Committee for certain especially sensitive or especially valuable contracts for this tender in line with Section 54 of the Act as set out in Part IV of the Fifth Schedule to the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Regulations (SI 5 of 2018).

The IDBZ will reject an expression of interest if it determines that the consultant firm has, directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices in competing for the Contract or been declared ineligible to be awarded a procurement contract under Section 99 of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (PPDPA). An expression of interest shall be rejected in this procurement process if a Consulting Firm engages in anti-competitive practices including bidding in more than one expression of interest as a joint venture or consortium partner.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 08:00 hours to 16:30 hours.

A Consultant may submit only one expression of interest. The expression of interest must be submitted in a clearly marked envelope and deposited in the tender box to the address below on or before **13 June 2019 by 1000hrs** local time and clearly labelled **“EOI Ref 30 of 2019: Feasibility Study and ESIA for the Proposed Rufaro Solar Project.”** Late expressions of interest will be rejected. Electronic submissions to the procurement e-mail below shall also be accepted and shall clearly be referenced as indicated above.



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