Transboundary Use and Protection of Natural Resources

SADC SUPPORT PROGRAMME ON REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION (REDD+);

REDD+ TRAINING INSTITUTE

Call for Expression of Interest

April 2014
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Invitation

In the frame of the BMZ programme “Transboundary Use and Protection of Natural Resources” - SADC Support Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)”, implemented by GIZ, GIZ and SADC jointly launch this Call for Expression of Interest (EOI) for private, parastatal or governmental Training Institutions and Training Organisations (in the following TI).

The objective of this EOI is to solicit expressions of interest of above mentioned institutions to become a SADC REDD+ Training Institute within the SADC Region. This Invitation for EOI intends to provide details with respect to scope of the partnership and services required as well as support offered to the selected TI by GIZ.

1.2 Authority Issuing the Call for Expression of Interest

The call for EOI is issued jointly by Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), represented by the project office “Transboundary Use and Protection of Natural Resources” in Gaborone/Botswana and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) represented by the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone/Botswana and is intended to select one TI from within SADC member states to become a ”SADC REDD+ Training Institute”.

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2 BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

2.1 Project Background

Approximately 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions result from deforestation and forest degradation. In order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from forest cover, the concept of “Reducing Emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD)+” was initiated under the Bali Action Plan of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and shall be part of the Post Kyoto Agreement on Climate Protection which is currently being negotiated.

The envisaged mechanism shall provide incentives for the following:

- Avoided deforestation,
• Forest degradation,
• Promotion of sustainable forest management,
• Conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

The region of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is home to almost 375 million hectares of forest and forest-like formations. Most widespread forest ecosystems in the region are Miombo woodlands, followed by Lowland forest, Mopane woodlands and Baikiea woodlands. According to FAO, annual net forest loss in the region amounts up to 0.46% per year during the period 2005-2012.

It is estimated that SADC is responsible for half of biomass carbon losses in Africa due to deforestation. In order to participate in a future REDD+ mechanism, the countries and the region have to address and meet a number of requirements. Consequently, a SADC support programme on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation was developed, addressing amongst others issues, matters of policy harmonisation, international engagement in the climate change negotiations, and capacities to manage regional and national REDD programmes. The development of monitoring systems to measure, report and verify changes in forest cover and related carbon emissions - so-called MRV systems - is among the key preparatory measures.

Although the REDD+ approach, including the distribution of benefits, is still a national concept, high potential for synergies exist at the regional level. For example with view to the transboundary nature of the ecosystems, capacity building and the development of regional standards for monitoring were put in place. This underlines the important and innovative role SADC is playing in the international climate negotiations and provides the basis for the support of the German Government to support the implementation for the SADC REDD+ support programme “Development of integrated Monitoring-Systems for REDD-Plus in SADC” with the development of integrated MRV systems in selected pilot sites.

Up to now, most SADC countries have only limited technical, institutional and human resource capacities to make REDD+ work in practice. (e.g. but by no means limited to collecting measurable and reliable data on forest areas and its changes as well as to develop a monitoring system).

2.2 Project Objectives

The joint SADC/GIZ initiative aims at:

“A concept for REDD+ training modules and their implementation and monitoring is developed and sustainably offered with a selected regional training centre within SADC”
In order to achieve this project objective, SADC – assisted by GIZ - are seeking to select a TI that will become their main partner in achieving the project objective and that will in future offer REDD+ related trainings to interested parties, individual participants and organisations in a self-sustained basis.

3 SCOPE OF PARTNERSHIP

GIZ and SADC aim at establishing capacity building opportunities within the SADC region on REDD+ related topics on a sustainable basis. GIZ and SADC thus aim at identifying and enabling an existing training institution within the SADC member countries to serve as REDD+ Training Institute in future.

The intervention will enable the selected training institute to act as the REDD+ training institution in the SADC Region. In detail, the training institute will have at hand a ready-made, jointly with SADC/GIZ developed and piloted training course that it can offer in the following years, as well as a SADC/GIZ supported reputation. GIZ/SADC will in addition offer organisational development and marketing support measures and further capacitate selected trainers of the institution. The piloted course can be implemented in other training programmes offered by the training institute.

In order to achieve this, GIZ/SADC expect the potential training institute to be selected to:

- within the frame of the initiative
  o actively participate in the development of at least one training module “Introduction to REDD+” by:
    ▪ providing professional feedback on a training-needs analysis GIZ is conducting
    ▪ providing professional feedback on recommendations regarding the training programme (objective and contents)
    ▪ participating in a one week training module development workshop with at least three professional trainers in Gaborone/Botswana
    ▪ actively (with support by GIZ) develop training material (participants’ handbook, presentations, etc.) based on the training curriculum and methodology developed in the workshop.
  o make available at least three trainers for a one week training-of-trainers workshop. These trainers are to implement the training later on.
  o Implement the training module developed as pilot training for at least one full group of participants.
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- Undergo a coaching process regarding the pilot training implementation for future improvement.
- Actively adapt the training curriculum, training methodology and training material based on the results of the pilot training.
  - *after the initiative has ended*
    - implement the training course (other REDD+ related training modules) as outlined in your sustainability concept.

GIZ will offer the following services and contributions within the frame of the joint initiative:

- conduct a training needs analysis as basis for training development (already being implemented in parallel to this call for expression of interest)
- develop recommendations regarding the training modules development
- make available two regional and one international expert for the training module development workshop (subject matter experts and training methodology experts)
- actively support the partner in developing the training material and content quality control
- implement a training-of-trainers workshop for the selected trainers of the partner
- Support the implementation of the pilot trainings with coaches
- Assist the training institution in organisational development, marketing of the training modules (and other training offers)
- Constant support through the GIZ offices and consultants

In addition GIZ will make available financial funds for the above mentioned activities of the training institute and other related cost items in the frame of the initiative. While in-kind contributions of the TI are expected, it is up to the training institute to apply for the available funds in the frame of the EOI (for details see questionnaire).

4 ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

4.1 Eligibility Criteria

Applicants expressing interest must comply with the following eligibility criteria:

- private, parastatal or governmental corporations, organisations, NGO registered for the last three years on the date of application in one of the SADC member states.
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- should have a total annual turnover of €100,000 in long-term training programmes (minimum duration four weeks full time).
- at least 3 permanent professional staff involved in training development and training delivery.
- should be willing to jointly with GIZ and SADC develop REDD+ training modules and offer these as pilot trainings in the frame of the project and later on sustainably at least for one year.
- have the required facilities in terms of space, equipment, tools and trainers for organising and implementing training modules with a minimum of 25 participants from all over SADC.
- provide documentary proof of conducting training courses for high-level and operational level participants for a minimum of one year.
- offer courses in English language

Candidates will be excluded if:

- they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations
- they have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of 'res judicata'
- they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify
- they have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed
- they have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of 'res judicata' for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity
- they are blacklisted by any donor agency/State Government

4.2 Selection Criteria

The joint GIZ / SADC initiative will evaluate all expressions of interest against the following criteria:

- professional background in REDD+, forestry, environmental protection, (forest) land use planning or related topics
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- professional training experience in REDD+, forestry, environmental protection, (forest) land use planning or related topics
- overall training experience in the SADC region
- facilities for training implementation
- general reputation and image of the institution
- cooperation with research institute and other training organisation
- experience of key experts in training, forestry, REDD+, environmental topics etc.
- funds requested by the applicant for the initiative concept
- sustainability concept
- intercultural and international team work competencies
- project management competencies
- cooperation with SADC and/or GIZ in the past
- motivation and sustainable/green vision

5 APPLICATION AND EVALUATION

5.1 Application Documents

Interested training institutes are to submit the following:

- Cover letter on original letterhead indicating all annexes to the cover letter
- Motivation letter (Annex 1 to cover letter)
- Filled questionnaire (Annex 2 to cover letter)
- Prove of eligibility according to the eligibility criteria (Annex 3 to cover letter)
- Sworn statement that none of the grounds for exclusion apply for the applicant (Annex 4 to cover letter)
- CVs of key experts (at least one programme manager and two trainers to be included in the initiative (Annex 5 to cover letter)

Applicants are free to submit additional information as additional (numbered) annexes to the cover letter.

5.2 Application Process

The expression of interest and selection process will follow the following process:

(1) Evaluation of expression of interest

All applications will first be evaluated against the eligibility criteria (see above). Only applicants that fulfil the eligibility criteria will further be eval-
uated. All remaining applications will then be evaluated against the selec-
tion criteria and will be ranked.

(2) Evaluation visits by GIZ and/or partners
The first best ranked applicants will be visited by GIZ / SADC or a partner for further evaluation, interviews and on-site evaluation of the premises. All applicants must be prepared to make available key staff, trainers and management personnel for the on-site evaluation.

(3) Selection
The evaluation committee will select the best ranked applicant after the on-site visits and will inform the first rated applicant.

(4) Planning workshop, signing of MoU, financial agreement
GIZ, SADC and partners will jointly conduct a planning workshop to plan the future steps and will sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the partnership as well as a possible financial agreement. Should the planning workshop fail, the next ranked applicant will be invited for a planning workshop.

(5) Information of all applicants
After having entered into written agreement with the selected applicant, all other applicants will be informed about the result.

5.3 Timetable
The expression of interest and selection process will follow the following timetable:

- Deadline for submission of filled expression of interest: 20th May 2014
- Evaluation of expression of interest: 21st to 23rd May 2014
- Evaluation visits by GIZ and/or partners: during 26th May to 6th June 2014
- Selection: 9th June 2014
- Planning workshop, signing of MoU, financial agreement: 2nd week of June 2014
- Information to all applicants: Midst of June 2014