 

**PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVING FISHERIES GOVERNANCE**

**AND BLUE ECONOMY TRADE CORRIDORS IN SADC REGION (PROFISHBLUE)**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)**

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES ON FEASIBILITY STUDY OF MARKET ANALYSES ON IMPROVING RESILIENCE AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANS IN TWO TRANSBOUNDARY WATER SYSTEMS (OKAVANGO AND ZAMBEZI)**

 ***(Firm Selection)***

**Grant Number:** 2100155041083

**Project ID Number:** P-Z1-AAF-015

**Date:** 30 January 2023

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat has received financing from the African Development Bank (AfDB), being a grant under the African Development Fund (ADF) to finance the Programme for Improving Fisheries Governance and Blue Economy Trade Corridors in SADC region (PROFISHBLUE). The Secretariat plans to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for **Consultancy Services on feasibility study of market analyses on improving resilience and watershed management plans in two transboundary water systems (Okavango and Zambezi).**

The SADC Secretariat through the PROFISHBLUE Project intends to conduct a feasibility study on market analyses on improving resilience and watershed management plans in two transboundary water systems (Okavango and Zambezi) including hotspot mapping, PES, loss and damage, and multi-user zoning framework and also capacity building in the implementation and coordination of plans and frameworks. It is envisaged that the watershed management plans should be aligned to the SADC Regional Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy and Fund (2016 – 2030) through the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Unit. Specifically, the work will involve extensive field visits in order:

1. To establish watershed functions that affect the plant, animal, and human communities within the watersheds boundaries.
2. To understand the demographics, land uses, natural resources, and natural resource users; socioeconomic data and livelihood mapping; problem analysis; and the prioritization of activities in the Okavango and Zambezi watersheds.
3. To conduct a biodiversity assessment both qualitatively and quantitatively
4. To map the biodiversity hotspots using appropriate GIS software
5. To develop the Multi-user zoning framework in all the countries involved.
6. To identify the challenges in the management of the two watershed systems
7. To recommend Ecosystem Approach methods for income-generating and livelihood improvement activities in order to counter the fishing pressure on the Okavango and Zambezi watersheds
8. To develop watershed management plans and implementation plans in line with the SADC Protocol on Fisheries and country specific legislation

Scope of Work:

This study is aimed at utilizing fisheries resources from waters of Okavango and Zambezi riverine system through an Ecosystem Approach within the blue economy paradigm as contained in the 2019 African Union Blue Economy Strategy. This will involve interacting with the beneficiaries in both pre-harvest (aquatic ecosystem management) and harvesting capacity in all the riparian states (Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) including the watersheds management Commissions.

The Consulting firm will be engaged for a period of six (06) months in which all necessary meetings, consultations data collections and write up will be completed.

The SADC Secretariat now invites eligible Consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. The shortlisting criteria are: (a) firm’s relevance to the assignment (core business); (b) number of years in business; (c) relevant experience; (d) dealing with similar project authorities; and (e) regional experience. The firm should have the following Experts among its team of Experts to carry out this assignment: (i) Lead Consultant with Master’s Degree and five years’ professional experience in feasibility studies and/or environmental studies fisheries/aquaculture/watershed management projects; (ii) GIS Expert with Bachelor of Science in GIS five years of experience working in fisheries or natural resources; (iii) Social Economist with five years’ professional experience in working with rural communities.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure of Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank’s **Procurement Framework**, which is available on the Bank’s website at <https://www.afdb.org>. Full Terms of Reference will be shared with the shortlisted firms.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Botswana time.

Expressions of interest must be submitted electronically via this LINK: <https://collab.sadc.int/s/jnCxKiBYXnR9mB7> (**by midnight Botswana time)** on **20 February 2023** and mention **“Feasibility study of market analyses on improving resilience and watershed management plans in two transboundary water systems (Okavango and Zambezi)’’**

***Attn:***

***The Procuring entity:*** *SADC Secretariat*

***Contact person:*** *Thomas Chabwera****,*** *Acting Head of Procurement*

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