

COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

MARCHE COMMUN



السوق المشتركة للشرق
والجنوب الأفريقي

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST/CALL FOR APPLICATIONS INDIVIDUAL LOCAL CONSULTANT

**NAME OF PROJECT: 11TH EDF SMALL SCALE CROSS BORDER TRADE
INITIATIVE PROGRAMME**

Ref: TENDER NO. CS/ADMIN/PRO/JM/07.09/20.1

**CONSULTANCY SERVICE: TO CARRY OUT FEASIBILITY STUDY INCLUDING
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, GEOTECHNICAL
SURVEY, TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY, SITE SURVEY INCLUDING WATER/SEWER
RETICULATION, DRAINAGE, ELECTRICITY. EASTERN PROVINCE- CHIPATA.**

1. Introduction

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) is a regional grouping of 21 African States which have agreed to promote regional integration through trade development and transport facilitation. More information can be obtained from the COMESA website www.comesa.int.

The COMESA received funding from the European Union under the 11th European Development Fund for the implementation Cross-Border Trade initiative project: facilitating small-scale trade across project borders.

The project aims to increase formal small-scale cross-border trade flows in the COMESA region, leading to higher revenue for governments, as well as greater security and higher incomes for small-scale cross-border traders.

The COMESA Secretariat is seeking the services of an Individual Consultant with expertise in border infrastructure, particularly, border markets, that can be used by small-scale cross-border traders to trade within the vicinity of the border areas. The consultant will investigate the feasibility of the providing a border market at the specific locations as provided by the relevant Member State through their local authority or Cross Border

Trade Association. The assignment will be undertaken under the overall supervision of the Director of Trade and Customs, COMESA Secretariat and the direct supervision of the Infrastructure Expert. This consultancy will take place over a two-month period.

2. Background

The cross-border international trade is usually carried out by small scale traders who carry the goods on bicycles, pushcarts or by buses or trucks. Congestion at the borders causes delays in clearance times, pushes up the cost and reduces market time, with traders often facing long and slow passenger queues in the formal goods clearance channel. There is inadequacy of specific basic infrastructure at the border to cater for the needs of small-scale traders that compounds the overall constraints resulting from lack of access to electricity, transport, storage and telecommunications. Proper border infrastructures, such as markets, storage/warehouses, health and sanitary facilities (especially for women), decentralised SPS certification centres, accommodations, security lightings or pedestrian lanes, are often missing at border areas, making these places very chaotic and unsafe. The lack of market infrastructure near borders reduces the connection between traders and customers. In addition, poor quality, or absence of, storage facilities often result in traders selling perishable stock at losses to prevent spoilage. Women cross border traders who deal primarily with low value, perishable primary products are particularly susceptible to this occurrence. This is clearly not conducive to competitive business.

3. Purpose of the Assignment

The purpose of this contract is to carry out a feasibility study in Eastern Province - **Chipata** and develop a costed border specific activity plan for the provision of a border market as one of the tools that will be used to increase formal small-scale cross border trade. The feasibility study will inform the detailed design, construction and operation of the proposed cross border market Eastern **Province- Chipata**.

4. Scope of the Assignment

Taking into account climate change and sustainability, the feasibility study will include:

- i. **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment:** Impact analysis for the border market documenting the assessed benefits /opportunities, both economic and social (including gender). Highlight and elaborate the political, legal and environmental dynamics specific to **Eastern Province -Chipata** and its environs that are likely to affect the construction and operation of the market and (if adverse) how they are to be mitigated or what modifications need to be done to address them.
- ii. **Location and site analysis:** Carry out an assessment of the physical characteristics, infrastructure connectivity requirements for the utilities needed like power and water:
 - Proposal for solid waste material and waste water disposal,
 - Proposal for utilities supply e.g. water, electricity supply to the site and the routing,
 - Topographical survey and mapping to include roads, site access and egress, e.g. the location should be easily accessible not imposing extra

- costs on traders and customer. Also, should accommodate loading and offloading areas for goods.
 - Proposal for fire protection and prevention,
 - Prepare guidelines for implementation of master plan,
 - Regularly liaise with the focal point officers in the development.
- iii. **Market Type:** Assess and determine the type(s) of the market suitable for **Eastern Province -Chipata** border noting that it is desired that the market be integrated within the local master plan and sits on the pre-designated land.
 - iv. **Climate change and sustainability:** Identify opportunities for climate change adaptation and mitigation in the project design. Provide recommendations for green approach in the market design e.g. renewable energy options, green building design, water efficiency etc
 - v. **Risk Analysis:** A project risk analysis for the border market at **Eastern Province - Chipata** will be conducted to identify and assess potential risks specific to the project covering technical (construction and operations related), commercial (for instance market demand)
 - vi. **Preliminary Construction Costs:** based on recommended optimum market type.
 - vii. **Geology:** Site investigation including soil surveys, water-table surveys to inform detailed design of the sub-structure and super-structure.

The above list is not exhaustive. The consultant may include other aspects that may add value to the study, and these will be discussed, agreed and added to the scope of works at the inception meeting.

5. Deliverables

- i. Inception Report;
- ii. Draft Report: to include Sitework, Analysis and Recommendations;
- iii. Terms of Reference for Detailed Design;
- iv. Presentations / briefings at COMESA and related forums and
- v. Final report of standard and quality by COMESA

6. Duration of Assignment

A total of forty working days over a two months period

7. Qualifications and Experience

The successful consultant should have a minimum of the following qualifications and experience:

- a) An advanced university degree in Civil or Structures Engineering, Economics, or Trade and international development related field;
- b) Extensive knowledge and expertise in delivering infrastructure/structures feasibility and environmental impact assessments;
- c) A minimum of 10 years of relevant professional experience working for infrastructure, construction consulting or contracting firms;
- d) Proven previous working experience in developing border infrastructure.

- e) Full computer literacy, including familiarity with research and analytical tools;
- f) Adequate IT knowledge;
- g) Excellent written and spoken English. Experience of drafting documents for Governments will be an added advantage; and
- h) Demonstrated ability to work in a multicultural environment and establish harmonious and effective relationships. Experience in the COMESA region is a distinct advantage.

8. Remuneration

The consultant will be paid a lumpsum fee of USD 15,000 for the assignment payable as follows:

- 10% after submission of Inception report which is of acceptable COMESA standards
- 50% after submission of draft report
- 40% after submission of the Final Report acceptable by COMESA standards

9. How to apply:

COMESA Secretariat now invites interested individual local consultants to submit their Expressions of Interest including an updated Curriculum Vitae. The Expression of Interest should also

Contain;

- a) **Technical proposal** including a letter of motivation, methodology, initial understanding of border markets, work plan, detailed curriculum vitae;
- b) **The budget for this services is USD 15,000.** COMESA has a cost benchmark for professional services Abnormally low bids will be rejected; and
- c) **Proof of previous related work** - at least two examples of work of a similar scope and at least two traceable references.

Applications should be submitted by **courier or electronically** to COMESA Procurement:

Tender Ref: TENDER NO. CS/ADMIN/PRO/JM/07.09/20.1

The Chairman – Procurement Committee

COMESA Secretariat.

P.O. Box 30051

Lusaka, Zambia.

Email : Procurement@comesa.int.

Applications must be submitted to COMESA Procurement no later than Wednesday 30th September 2020 at 16:00hrs Zambian Time.