

COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA



INTRA-ACP GCCA+ PROGRAMME An initiative of the ACP Group of States funded by the European Union's European Development Fund

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST/CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

LOCAL/REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION GOVERNANCE SYSTEM AND COORDINATION BODIES

Background and Context

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) became a member of the NDC Partnership in August 2019 and has since been awarded a grant to support three (3) Member States namely: Eswatini, Zambia and Zimbabwe with Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) revision and implementation processes. The NDC Partnership is a global initiative to help countries achieve their national climate commitments and to ensure that financial and technical assistance are delivered as efficiently as possible. The Partnership targets to achieve the two overarching objectives as highlighted below:

- Objective 1: Enhance NDCs, including by raising ambition, as part of the Paris Agreement's NDC update process;
- Objective 2: Fast-track implementation of NDCs, including by providing in-country technical expertise and capacity building.

The NDC Partnership, which is a coalition of partners supports NDC work in countries through the Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP). The CAEP is a new offering of the NDC Partnership designed to deliver targeted, fast-track support to countries to enhance the quality, increase the ambition, and implement NDCs. Through the CAEP, NDC Partnership supports countries to achieve the goal of the Paris Agreement which requires countries to revise their NDCs every 5 years, to continuously cut greenhouse gas emissions and limit the Earth's temperature rise as well as implement solutions to adapt to the effects of climate change. Since most countries submitted their NDCs in 2015, submission of revised NDCs is due in 2020. Hence the timing of this support under the NDC Partnership. The updating of NDCs presents countries with significant opportunities to align their climate and development agendas to promote sustainable growth but also poses challenges of accessing funding for the initiatives.

1. The Support to Eswatini

The Kingdom of Eswatini submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in

December 2015. In 2016, these became known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and were adopted as the voluntary commitment of climate action for the country. The NDC development was spearheaded by the Climate Change Unit under the Department of Meteorology within the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs (MTEA). The NDC articulates the country's ambition for climate change adaptation and mitigation. For Eswatini, under adaptation, the NDC included actions in the sectors of Biodiversity and Ecosystems; Water, Agriculture as well as Health. Under mitigation it included actions in the sectors of Energy, Transport and Substitutes for Ozone Depleting Substances.

The Eswatini NDC is currently under review and there is need to identify and prioritize nationally appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures. Through the CAEP, this consultancy, supported by COMESA (under the activity code A306). will focus on adaptation measures. This will be done in priority target sectors of the adaptation part of the NDC.

The priorities for mitigation and adaptation in the sectors need to be amplified and clarified in the revised NDC. As discussed, and agreed with Government of Eswatini, and UNEP, the mitigation component of this will be done by UNEP to avoid duplication of effort. COMESA will therefore focus only on adaptation. Therefore, local, regional or international consultants are invited to apply for this consultancy which will be managed by COMESA with oversight from the Government of Eswatini and the NDC Partnership.

2. Scope of Work

The objective of this assignment is to support the establishing of an MRV governance system that will allow Eswatini to define legal and institutional structures that will allow tracking progress of NDCs effectively. The consultancy will provide guidance and inputs in the establishment of a national MRV governance and coordination structure for transparency. It will also analyse climate change related data, provide recommendations for improvement of quality and quantity of data and information sharing, particularly related to tracking progress of NDC implementation

3. The Consultant is expected to undertake the following Terms of Reference

Deliverable 1 – Gap Analysis Report

Under this deliverable, the consultant will:

- I. Undertake assessment of current international best practices applied in domestic MRV systems and look at different options and possibilities for establishment of a robust domestic MRV system for Eswatini;
- II. Hold consultative meetings with the various stakeholders in the coordination agencies on the challenges and opportunities for a domestic MRV;
- III. Carry out a national stocktaking assessment of:
 - a. Existing Institutional arrangements for national MRV systems as per requirements stated under UNFCCC and Paris Agreement;
 - b. Current legal, policy and technical frameworks for data collection, analysis, reporting, information sharing and feedback mechanisms.
- IV. Identify all relevant stakeholders, map data collection and reporting structures, and propose scenarios for strengthened relations between MRV focal institution and line ministries and/or agencies for data collection;
- V. Analyse collection and reporting periodicity of data/information, data/information flow systems/tools, data storages and data basis and quantity of available climate change mitigation and adaptation related information.

Deliverable 2 – Legal Roadmap: A proposal for a regulatory framework to ensure the operationalisation of the institutional arrangements for MRV under the “Enhanced Transparency Framework” of the Paris Agreement.

- I. Provide recommendations on how new or modified legal requirements should support monitoring requirements and information flows for the development of the National Communications and Biennial Transparency Reports, including the national GHG inventory, information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving the NDCs, adaptation and support received and needed;
- II. Based on findings and on capacities and comparative advantages of each institution, develop a proposal for a regulatory framework that will address the key bottlenecks identified, facilitate access and collection of sectoral data needed for subsequent information and allow for a better inclusion of third-party data providers;
- III. Provide recommendations on how to optimize existing legal requirements, develop new legal requirements that support tracking of progress toward the achievement of the sectoral NDC goals;
- IV. Define the main sustainability criteria that should be considered in the regulatory framework;
- V. Prepare and conduct a stakeholder consultation/validation workshop with key stakeholders to present and complete the proposal based on participants' feedback.
- VI. Final Report.

Deliverable 3 - Capacity Building for the Coordination bodies

- I. Identify needed capacities at national and sectoral level;
- II. Conduct training on the MRV for proposed coordination structures for the MRV system, including the national climate change committee

4. Reporting

The consultant will report to the Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs on key deliverables.

5. Deliverables

The deliverables for this consultancy are:

- I. Gap Analysis Report, using international best practices to identify the gaps and what can be done to improve the MRV system in Eswatini.
- II. Institutional framework for the MRV in place, and a clear road map for operationalization agreed.
- III. Capacity building on domestic MRV.
- IV. Workshop/Consultative meeting reports.

6. Criteria for Evaluation of Consultants

Bidders must provide Technical proposals. The evaluation shall be based on the following attributes:

- (i) The overall responsiveness and quality of the proposal in clearly stating an understanding of the work to be performed;
- (ii) Technical ability of the proposer to perform the required services;
- (iii) The experience and reputation of the consultant as represented in the response and the quality of the references;
- (iv) Technical proposal detailing understanding of the task, proposed approach, the individual consultant's profile (including CVs, links/documents to attest to AT LEAST three similar assignments previously undertaken);
- (v) The consultant must also indicate his/her monthly retainer rate in case COMESA decides to retain his or her services beyond this assignment.

	Evaluation attribute	Percentage Points
1	Consultant's Understanding of Client's requirements	20
2	Approach and methodology	15
3	Specific Experience of the consultant in carrying out similar assignments. Evidence in form of reference letters, offer letters, orders or copies of contracts should be presented	40
4	Qualifications and Experience of the consultant	25
	Total	100

Please note only candidates with a pass score of seventy per cent (70%) and above shall be considered for this assignment, and the award shall be based on the highest score attained.

7. Minimum Qualification and Competences

- I. At least a Masters' degree in a relevant field such as climate change or environmental sciences, law, economic analysis or related fields;
- II. Work experience of at least 10 years on MRV systems including capacity building;
- III. Knowledge of legal and institutional frameworks processes is mandatory;
- IV. Experience of working with government agencies;
- V. Good stakeholder consultation skills and presentation skills are mandatory
- VI. Demonstrated knowledge of the national climate change developments as well as the NDC of Eswatini.

8. Duration

This consultancy will be spread over a period of 4 months, commencing from the month of September 2020.

9. Location

Eswatini

10. This consultancy is for a duration of five (4) months spread over from September to December 2020 period.

11. Fees

An all-inclusive fee of USD 15,000 will be paid to the successful consultant upon submission of satisfactory reports cleared both by COMESA and the Government of Eswatini. The payment will be broken down as follows:

	Milestone	% of Fees applicable
1	Inception Report	10%
2	Draft Gap Analysis Report and Legal Roadmap	20%

3	MRV Training Report	20%
4	Final Report	50%

Synergies with the overall CAEP

The Consultant is advised that this consultancy is part of a larger NDC revision programme, supported by the CAEP. Hence, there will be linkages and overlaps as well as information sharing requirements amongst the various activities and across implementing partners. The consultant will work in tandem with this overall programme and may from time to time be called upon to participate in the monthly CAEP coordination calls as may be deemed necessary by the partners.

The **COMESA Climate Change** now invites interested individual consultants to submit their Expressions of Interest including a detailed updated Curriculum Vitae with certified copies of academic and professional certificates and a motivation letter of not more than two pages explaining the Consultant's understanding of the various responsibilities required for this position on or before **Monday 26th October 2020** at 15:00 hours Zambian time.

The Expression of Interest must be submitted by courier or electronically clearly labelled; **Tender no: CS/PRO/CC/SC/05- EOI TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION GOVERNANCE SYSTEM AND COORDINATION BODIES**

The Chairman – Procurement Committee

COMESA Secretariat.

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Att: Procurement Unit

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