



Government of Malawi



PublicPrivate
Partnership
Commission

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(FIRM SELECTION)**

COUNTRY	:	MALAWI
NAME OF PROJECT	:	SHIRE VALLEY TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME
ASSIGNMENT TITLE	:	OPERATION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE IRRIGATION SCHEME
REFERENCE No.	:	PPPC/CNS/56/08-2020

The Government of Malawi (GoM) through the Ministry responsible for Irrigation, with support from the World Bank, Global Environmental Facility and African Development Bank is developing a new irrigation scheme, the Shire Valley Transformation Programme. The irrigation scheme is under construction and will be owned by the GoM.

The GoM intends to outsource the operation, management and maintenance of the irrigation scheme to a specialized private operator under an Operation, Management and Maintenance Contract (the OMM Contract). The scope of the OMM Contract will include;

- (i) operating and maintaining the irrigation infrastructure,
- (ii) administering about 20 wholesale Irrigation Water Purchase Agreements, including billing and collection of irrigation water fees, and
- (iii) liaising with local communities. The OMM contract will not involve any agribusiness activity

The irrigation scheme shall consist of:

- a. intake infrastructure located at the existing Kapichira hydropower dam (operated by the Electricity Generation Company of Malawi Limited, "EGENCO"). The intake is designed for a maximum capacity of 50 m³/s and is currently under construction;
- b. three main canals, Main Canal 1 (MC1), Main Canal 2 (MC2) and Main Canal 3 (MC3), measuring roughly 62.8 km (33.8 km, 18.4 km and 10.6 km, respectively);
- c. secondary canals, control gates and night-storage reservoirs;
- d. access roads and a drainage system; and
- e. metering and SCADA system.

The irrigation scheme is being developed in two phases:

- a. Phase I will involve the development of MC1 and MC3. A maximum of 25 m³/s will be taken from the Kapichira reservoir to supply roughly 22,280 hectares (of which over 11,250 hectares are already under commercial sugar cane production); and
- b. Phase II will involve the development of MC2. Upon its completion the irrigation scheme will supply an additional 21,090 hectares.

Detailed design for MC1 and MC2 have been finalized and procurement has commenced. The initial section of MC1 is under construction. Detailed designs for MC3 (also known as “Supuni Canal”) and for secondary and tertiary infrastructure are yet to be completed. MC3 may be designed to be a canal or a pipe.

Parts of the canals run through a wildlife reserve and the detailed design includes appropriate measures to mitigate potential impacts on environment and wildlife. Where the canal crosses rivers, siphons are used.

The OMM Contract is planned to have a ten-year term and will only cover the operation, management and maintenance of the assets created under Phase I of the irrigation scheme. The OMM contract may be extended at a later date to cover Phase II assets.

The OMM Contract is to be procured through an International Competitive Bidding process following the prevailing local Malawian procurement laws (Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Act of 2017), including the Public Private Partnership Act of 2011, and is open to all eligible bidders. International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, is the Lead Transaction Advisor to the GoM for the OMM Contract.

The Government of Malawi now invites Prospective Respondents to indicate their interest in the OMM Contract. Prospective bidders should provide information demonstrating that they have the required relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shortlisting criteria are as follows:

- a. The Prospective Bidder, or if the Prospective Bidder is a Consortium, the Technical Member, shall demonstrate that it successfully managed, operated and maintained during the last five (5) years, for a continuous period of at least three (3) years, at least one water-sector facility with the following characteristics:

either:

- (i) has a design capacity of at least 5 (5) m³/s; or
- (ii) includes pipe, sewer or canal networks of at least 10km in aggregate length;

AND

- (i) annual revenues of at least USD five (5) million;

AND

- b. the Prospective Bidder, or its Technical Member, was responsible for billing and revenue collection (either directly or indirectly on behalf of the contracting authority).

For the purpose of the above, water sector shall include any bulk potable or industrial water treatment, transmission or distribution, wastewater collection and/or treatment, irrigation and drainage.

- c. The Prospective Bidder (if it is not a Consortium) shall demonstrate that it had Net Worth of at least USD 200,000 or equivalent at all times during its last three (3) fiscal years. If the Prospective Bidder is a Consortium, the Lead Member shall demonstrate alone that it had Net Worth of at least USD 200,000 or equivalent at all times during its last three (3) fiscal years.

Interested eligible Applicants may obtain further information at the address below during working hours (08:00 hours to 16:00 hours).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below. Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, Prospective Bidders are advised to submit their expressions of interest through Electronic Mail or fax by 2:00pm local time on or before Tuesday 29th September 2020.

Attention: The Chief Executive Officer
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