

TERMS OF REFERENCE: CONSULTANCY TO UNDERTAKE A RAPID ASSESSMENT OF WATER SOURCES, USE AND PRACTICES.

PROJECT Title	Resilience through ‘Accelerating New Community-based Holistic Outcomes for Resource Sustainability (Resilience ANCHORS) Activity
Services provided	Consultancy to undertake a rapid assessment of water sources and use practices.
Type of Contract	Consultancy
Location	Ward 23, Chiredzi and Wards 25, 26 Bikita
Language required	English, Shona
Application deadline	18 February 2022

Background

The USAID Zimbabwe Resilience through Accelerating New Community-based Holistic Outcomes for Resource Sustainability (ANCHORS) Activity, is seeking proposals from eligible service providers to carry out a Rapid assessment for water Resources in the South eastern lowveld of Zimbabwe. The overarching purpose of the USAID Resilience ANCHORS Activity is to increase the capacity of communities to sustainably protect and manage community-based natural resources and the wildlife economy (based on the conviction that nature is an economic asset) in anticipation of future shocks and stresses. The activity has three main objectives:

1. Improve economic benefits from strengthened community-level governance and oversight of conservation enterprises;
2. Increase sustainable access to supplies of water of sufficient quantity and quality to meet human, economic, and ecosystem needs; and
3. Strengthen locally-led development and private sector engagement

With reference to the second objective, the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), the main implementing partner in communities around the Save Valley Consultancy landscape, seeks to engage a service provider to carry out a Rapid Assessment of water sources and use practices to promote Integrated Water

Resources Management. The outputs of this assignment will be used in the participatory development of Integrated Water Resources Management plans for all water sources in the geographical scope of the Activity.

Geographic Scope:

The USAID Resilience ANCHORS activity is being implemented in rural communities of the South East Lowveld of Zimbabwe. The activity is specifically targeting communities surrounding the Save Valley Conservancy to build their resilience through the above-mentioned objectives.

The consultancy is to be carried out in the following areas in the SEL:

- Chiredzi district - wards 1 and 23
- Bikita district - wards 25 and 26

Scope of work

Water resources form the backbone of all rural economies and have a direct impact on rural livelihoods and health. USAID Resilience ANCHORS focuses on improving community resilience in the South East Lowveld of Zimbabwe, with water being a key result area for improved resilience in the landscape.

According to USAID, **resilience** is “the ability of people, households, communities, countries, and systems to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses in a manner that reduces chronic vulnerability and facilitates inclusive growth.” This is echoed by the USAID Resilience ANCHORS activity’s drive towards increasing sustainable access to supplies of water of sufficient quantity and quality to meet human, economic, and ecosystem needs.

The overall objectives of the assessment will be to:

1. Identify and map all ground water sources in the project area; clearly noting:
 - i. *Current status of water resources at different scales, including inter- and intra-annual variability.*
2. Identify and map all surface water sources, multiple uses and users in the target wards/villages clearly noting:
 - i. *Current status of water sources at different scales*
 - ii. *Current water use practices (patterns) (including variability), and the resulting societal and environmental trade-offs.*
 - iii. *Scale related externalities, especially when patterns of water use are considered over a range of temporal and spatial scales.*

- Draft report.
- Final analysis and complete written report with annexes.
- Raw data sets.

Eligibility

The applicant must have:

1. Knowledge and understanding of conducting similar assignments for USAID projects in Zimbabwe or elsewhere in southern Africa.
2. Demonstrable experience in Integrated Water Resources Management and development of IWRM plans.
3. Relevant academic qualifications in water resources management, natural resources management, resilience, development, geography and any related fields.
4. Experience in designing and conducting Rapid Water assessments and mapping studies.
5. Geographic expertise in Zimbabwe and, ideally, in the SEL of Zimbabwe is desirable.
6. Evidence of strong downward accountability mechanisms used with project stakeholders/research participants to actively share results and learning.
7. Excellent spoken and written command of English and local languages
8. Have the ability to adhere to applicable regulations and contract terms and condition

Proposal structure and scoring criteria

The Consultant is expected to submit Technical and Financial proposals for this assessment.

Technical Proposal

The Technical Proposal should contain the following sections:

- i. **Background:** a brief background of the consulting team specifying the expertise of each team member and if the team consist of different firms clearly show how the team has collaborated in the past assignment(s).
- ii. **Proposed Approach and Work Plan** elaborating the approach that the consultant will use guided by the outline provided in these ToR. Include a Gantt or bar chart(s) detailing the duration of each task and the involvement of each member.
- iii. **Management Plan** that state different tasks to be performed by team members under this assessment. It should describe each team member's expected contribution to the analysis in

- person/days according to task.
- iv. The qualifications of each member or firm in the team. This should be accompanied by full CVs of each individual consultant who is proposed to carry out any part of this task.
- v. Sample of written reports and or papers related to the assignment (max. 3 copies).

Cost proposal

The applicant(s) should submit an all-inclusive cost proposal detailing all costs related to the activities detailed in the technical proposal. This fee should be specified in United States dollars (USD). The term “all-inclusive” implies that all costs (professional fees, accommodation, consumable and communications), that could be incurred by the consultant(s) in completing the assignment, are already factored in the technical proposal. As a guide the financial proposal should clearly show:

- i. Fee breakdown such as the daily rates, number of days by task of each member of the consulting team.
- ii. Expenses showing all meals, hotel, travel, incidentals, communication, and any other expenses anticipated for the delivery of the assignment.

Responsibility	Milestone/ Deliverable	Deadline	Payment of Total Firm fixed Price
Prepare and present inception report for the Rapid assessment	Final inception report	7 days	30% Upon signing of the contract
Implementation of the Rapid assessment	Deployment of teams; progress report on data collection	14 days	
Prepare Draft Rapid assessment report	Draft assessment report	30 days	
Present the Rapid assessment results and findings to the Project and stakeholders for validation	Rapid assessment results and findings validated	35 days	
Final Report	Final report submitted to the Project	45 days	70% on Completion

Proposal evaluation

The Technical Proposal will be evaluated using the following guidelines:

- i. Proposed approach and relevance to the work at hand and SEL in particular (20%).
- ii. The proposed Management Plan focusing of the outline of the level of effort, use of ket staff, field time, previous experience working as a team and appropriateness of assignments (15%).
- iii. Consultant team experience with relation to rapid water assessments, IWRM and CVs of the proposed members on the task (30%).
- iv. Proven experience of the team or team members working in the lowveld of Zimbabwe or dry areas of southern Africa on water related assessments and projects, evidenced by supporting document (20%).
- v. Demonstrable experience conducting similar assignments for USAID projects preferably with supporting documents (15%).

Procedures and deadline for submitting Proposal

Applications to reach LMundembe@awf.org copying EOeri@awf.org on or before 18 February 2022 at 5pm Harare time. Technical and contractual questions concerning this assignment should be submitted to Olivia Mufute on OMufute@awf.org.