

Request for Proposals:

South Africa: The National Climate Change Information System Improvement and Development of One Province Climate Change Information System

March 2024

ABOUT THE NDC PARTNERSHIP

The NDC Partnership is a global coalition of countries and institutions working to mobilize support and achieve ambitious climate goals while enhancing sustainable development. Through the Partnership, country members leverage their resources and expertise to provide countries with the tools they need to implement their NDCs and combat climate change to build a better future. Hosted by WRI, the UNFCCC Secretariat, and the UN Office for Project Services, the NDC Partnership has members in all regions of the world, with staff in Washington DC and Bonn, Germany.

Through the collective support of its members, the NDC Partnership has engaged with South Africa on the update and enhancement of its NDC, NDC implementation, mobilization of climate finance and mainstreaming NDC action to national planning and budgeting. Through its engagement with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, as its focal point institution, the Partnership supports the Government of South Africa on priority needs for implementation under the framework of the Paris Agreement. In this context, the Partnership issues this Request for Proposal for the development of the National Climate Change Adaptation Investment Plan.

BACKGROUND

South Africa has since published the National Climate Change Response White Paper in 2011 to guide the country's transition into a lower carbon and climate resilient society. Section 12 of the policy charged for the development of an effective Monitoring and Evaluation System which will track and measure the effectiveness of the climate response actions being undertaken by various stakeholders. The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework therefore details the overall design of the system which comprise of the Monitoring component and an evaluation component which is inclusive of data and information network, the web-based system as well as the component where the output and impact indicators are assessed. South Africa has developed a range of policy instruments to transition towards a climate resilient society and a lower carbon economy.

In 2020 the government approved the country's National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS) in August 2020. The NCCAS calls for a multi-sectoral response to climate change that brings together government (national and provincial level), the private sector, civil society organizations and communities. The country has committed to a low carbon trajectory that encompasses both its

contribution to the international effort to reduce global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; and its ambitions toward development and poverty eradication (DEA, 2011a). The “peak, plateau and decline (PPD) trajectory” is used as a benchmark against which South Africa mitigation efforts are measured.

Furthermore, South Africa has developed the National Climate Change Information System (NCCIS) that is aimed at tracking progress in implementation of adaptation responses and assessing the effectiveness of adaptation and mitigation responses in terms of reducing climate change impacts, enhancing resilience and reducing the emissions. The NCCIS is considered as the monitoring and evaluation system and has been developed by Department of Environment, Fisheries and Forestry (DEFF). The platform collates climate related data and information from a range of sources for the purposes of providing insights into the country’s progress in responding to climate change and achieving national and international goals, commitments and targets including the National Determined Contributions (NDC).

Transparency and reporting of progress on climate change response, enabled by the National Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System/framework, are key to the effective implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP), 2030, National Climate Change Response Policy (NCCRP), National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS), Climate Change Bill, National Emissions Trajectory, Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS) and other guiding policies. In the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Climate change transparency is at the heart of the Paris Agreement and as such South Africa, along with other countries will need to enhance reporting on climate adaptation and mitigation actions and their effects amongst other things.

SCOPE OF WORK AND ACTIVITIES

Objective of the Assignment

The overall objective is to improve the National Climate Change Information System of South Africa and develop the Free State province sub-system which will be linked to the NCCIS for a period of 7.5 months.

Activities

- Collation and mapping of projects that contribute to both climate change adaptation and mitigation in all key sectors as prioritized in the Free State Region Over-Arching Climate Change Response Strategy. This will include the determination of impact and effectiveness of such projects.
- Modelling of outputs of climate risks in Free State Province. The geospatial profiling of climate risks and return periods of extreme weather events will be factored in.
- Updating of the NCCIS. This module will load the information obtained from the two activities above in the NCCIS. The aesthetics (“look and feel”) of the NCCIS will also be improved.
- Development of a Climate Change Reporting Framework (as per domestic and international reporting requirements)
- Setting up/development of the provincial climate change sub-system that is interoperable with the NCCIS.

Key Deliverables

- A Climate Change Reporting Framework (as per domestic and international reporting requirements).
- A provincial climate change sub-system (that is interoperable with the NCCIS)
- Uploaded (bulk) climate change projects into the National Climate Change Response Database (NCCRD) from the Free State Climate Register.
- Developed project analysis criteria
- Project impact profiling on the NCCIS
- Modelled climate risks in relation to various extreme weather-related events.
- Functionality improvements of the NCCRD
- Updated “Look and Feel” of the NCCIS

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

This assignment will be managed closely by a project steering committee comprised of points of contact in DFFE and the NDC Partnership Support Unit. For policy alignment across sectors, additional departments in the Government of South Africa will likewise be engaged throughout this assignment, where related Article 6 initiatives are anticipated to originate from. These include:

- Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) - UNFCCC focal point
- Department of Science and Innovation (SAEON)
- Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (Free State)
- South African Weather Service (SAWS)

CONTRACT TERMS

- Estimated start date: 1 April 2024
- Estimated end date: 15 November 2024

TEAM OF EXPERTS REQUIREMENTS

Academic Qualifications/Education

Team Leader

- Hold at least an MSc degree or equivalent in Climate Science and modelling and supplementary competency in Project Management Course, or related fields.
- Have an extensive understanding of Climate Projections and Risk profiling.
- Proven experience in assessing vulnerabilities to the impact of climate change and development of climate response strategies.
- Familiar with National and International reporting protocols under the UNFCCC.
- Experience in the development of Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Systems.

Other Team Members

The project team lead to determine the other team members in line with the competencies described above to be inclusive of a System/Web developer/Programmer.

RFP PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Prospective vendors should submit:

- Description of proposed project management structure (lead team/project manager, sub-contracted organizations, local experts, etc.)
- CVs of team members
- Examples of and references for similar previous work (with URLs and contact details)
- Proposed implementation approach/project monitoring plan
- A proposed budget with a breakdown of costs sufficient to assess reasonableness and compliance with our funder requirements.
- A proposed schedule for deliverables
- Advanced degree in any discipline, preferably in climate science, programming, public policy (climate/environment), sustainable development, or a similar subject
- At least 10 years of experience in issues related to climate finance, climate/environment, sustainable development, project management, or monitoring in any of the NDC sectors.
- Demonstrable experience working in the field of climate change, database management, vulnerability assessments and risk profiling and climate change instruments (both mitigation and adaptation) in South Africa and/or sub-Saharan Africa.
- Demonstrated skills in managing and aligning diverse stakeholder groups, including development agencies, non-state actors / civil society, financial institutions, the private sector, and others.
- Excellent writing, editing, digital and oral communication skills.
- Fluency in English.
- Priority will be given to South Africa based entities.

SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

Please send your proposal documents to:

- Margaret Barihaihi, Regional Manager for Anglophone and Lusophone Africa, NDC Partnership Support Unit: margaret.barihaihi@ndcpartnership.org
- Christine Luttmer, Program Specialist for Country Engagement Support, NDC Partnership Support Unit: christine.luttmer@ndcpartnership.org
- Gabriel Malunga, Regional Project Officer for Anglophone Africa, NDC Partnership Support Unit: gabriel.malunga.5@ndcpartnership.org

All proposals must be received **by 5:00pm EST on Friday, 15 March 2024** in electronic format to the contacts listed above.