

INVITATION TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST-FOR AUDIT SERVICES

1. The National Business Initiative for Growth Development and Democracy NPC (hereinafter called “Recipient”) has received financing from the German Government through KfW Development Bank (“KfW”) in the form of a financial grant (hereinafter called Financial Contribution - FC) for the Skills and Employment Program in support of the NBI led Installation, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) initiative.
2. The Recipient now invites Proposals from bidders for the provision of audit services of the disposition account for the duration of Phases I and II of “the Project”. Currently, only Phase I has been contracted for however it is envisaged that the program may be expanded in future, with funding phase II, to further locations. Accordingly, the project period and the associated consultancy services will be extended to cover Phase II. More details on the Services that are to be provided are in the Terms of Reference.
3. The “Project”:
 - I. Is part of the wider Project in the priority area “Skills development & Employment” of the cooperation between the governments of South Africa and the Federal Republic of Germany.
 - II. concerns the promotion of youth employment in the artisanal sector of installation, repair, and maintenance (IRM) facilitated by the National Business Initiative (NBI). The purpose of the Project is to establish artisanal IRM hubs offering skills and business development services for entrepreneurs, micro enterprises and IRM trainees from targeted local communities. This is to contribute to the objective of the IRM initiative to develop township economies through supporting micro township enterprises to grow their businesses and thereby create employment opportunities for young people from these communities.
 - III. aims to support the transition & development of the green economy and to unlock related business opportunities for the target groups.
4. Within the project, NBI will design, construct, and equip IRM hubs at selected TVET colleges in close cooperation with neighbouring industrial / economic development zones. The IRM hubs will serve as interfaces between supply and demand of labour and support all facets of job creation throughout the value chain in different kinds of installation, repair, and maintenance businesses.
5. The Grant amount which has already been contracted for is EUR 11m and an additional phase for the same contract amount is in the process of being negotiated, which will bring the total project value to EUR 22m. Phase I will be implemented over a period of 5 years until end of 2028. Phase II is expected to run parallel to Phase I as one integrated program but is envisaged to extend the currently contracted overall project period until end of 2029.

6. As part of the current grant funding phase (Phase I), the NBI will build IRM Township hubs over the next 5 years in the following locations:
 - Mamelodi, Gauteng – At the Mamelodi Campus of the Tshwane North TVET College
 - Katlehong, Gauteng – At the Kathorus Campus of the Ekurhuleni West TVET College
 - Khayelitsha, Western Cape – At the Khayelitsha Campus of the False Bay TVET College
 - Atlantis, Western Cape – At the Atlantis Campus of the West Coast TVET College
 - Mandeni, KwaZulu-Natal – At the Mandeni Campus of the Umfolozi TVET College
7. For Phase II the intention is to expand the IRM programme to several locations as a mechanism to support South Africa's Just Energy Transition Skilling Program which is aligned to the Just Energy Transition Framework and the Investment Plan. This phase will specifically target locations in the coal belt of Mpumalanga (which is at the heart of decarbonisation efforts) and relevant hotspots for the development of green industries such as the Industrial Zones of Saldanha Bay (which is an integral part of the Western SADC Hydrogen Corridor) and Kariega (Uitenhage) in the Eastern Cape (which is an integral role player in the transition towards New Electric Vehicles [NEVs]).
8. The following Project activities will be financed from the Grant:
 - a) Design, construction and equipment of IRM hubs,
 - b) Business support to selected small and micro enterprises, and
 - c) Program management incl. IRM ecosystem development.

Most of the grant for both Phase I and II will be utilised for construction related costs. The number of transactions for the first audit period is approximately 220 and comprises mainly of program management costs, including staff salaries and travel costs. Although construction related costs and SME support costs have not yet been incurred, it is not expected that the number of transactions for future audit periods will vary more than 50% from the first-year numbers. Additional program management staff will be appointed as part of the Phase extension. The number of supplier contracts over the period should be less than twenty (20) until 2029 for both Phases.

Bidders must submit a financial proposal for Phase I audit services, which is what will be contracted for and another proposal for both Phase I and Phase II, to inform the incorporation of an option for contract extension.

9. Project and Audit Details:

Project name	Skills and Employment Program
Project ID	BMZ ref. no: 2020 68 096
Phase I Project start date	Q3 2023
Phase I Project end date	end of 2028
Phase II envisaged Project dates	Q3 2025 – end of 2029
Phase I project funding	€11 million
Phase II estimated project funding	€11 million
Duration of the audit contract	Audit services to cover the Phase I until end of 2028 and possible extension to cover Phase II until end of 2029. Contract to end 3 months after the last audit period as stated in the ToR.
1st period to be audited	01 November 2023 to 31 December 2024
Subsequent audit periods	Calendar years 2025-2028, possible extension to 2029

10. The RFP includes the following Sections:

Section I – Instructions to Consultants (ITC)

Section II – Data Sheet

Section III – Eligibility Criteria

Section IV – KfW Policy – Sanctionable Practice – Social and Environmental Responsibility

Section V – Terms of Reference

Section VI – Terms and Conditions

11. The tender should include a technical proposal in the form of expert CVs and a financial proposal. The technical proposal should include a duly signed Declaration of Undertaking. Standard Technical and Financial forms to be utilised have been provided separately.
12. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures described in the KfW Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries (Document version Jan. 2019, 3rd update as of July 2024), which can be found on the website www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de.
13. Prospective bidders are required to submit an expression of interest indicating their intention to submit proposals. As part of this submission (of the expression of interest), prospective bidders are requested to nominate **one dedicated contact person** (name, email address and phone number) who will be the primary channel of correspondence.

The final date for the submission of the expression of interest shall be **7** days before submission deadline.
14. The RFP document will be available for download at no cost on 16 July 2025 at 12h00 (Noon) from the NBI website: <https://www.nbi.org.za/contact-us/#proposals> under the "Contact Us" page. Additionally, copies of the RFP and relevant forms will be e-mailed to those that submit an Expression of Interest.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Neil Kohler', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Neil Kohler

Head of Finance