

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### **EOI 001/2021- REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FROM RELEVANT INSTITUTIONS FOR SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION AND MAINTANANCE OF ALTERNATIVE SANITATION TECHNOLOGIES (Flushing Toilets) FOR UPGRADING OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS AND BUCKET ERADICATION FOR THREE (3) YEARS AS AND WHEN REQUIRED**

1. What is the expected sample / test size (number of households) – this is very important as it will determine the size and type of the package plant to be installed.

**Answer:** There is no prescribed sample size, expect that we would like all proposals to be focus on the test site (Bekkersdal). It is up to the proposer to decide on the size of the plant.

2. What is the current and future planned water supply? Current helps to understand potential behaviour pattern for usage and the future? helps to quantify load.

**Answer:** The test site current has water supply. It would also be important to under if and how your solution will be implemented in areas where there is scarcity of water.

3. What annual budget is set aside for this work, both on the test sites as well as for the overall projects?

**Answer:** There is not set budget as we do not know what the financial requirements of the proposed solution would be. However, there is budget to redirect from other services that will potentially be eradicated by a proper solution.

4. What is the general densification of the development with respect to the number of household occupants?

**Answer:** We do not have this data.

5. What is the expected time frame/s of the project?

**Answer:** The solution is urgently required; therefore the time frame will be dictated by the conclusion of the solution and applicable time lines for the implementation.

6. Will the Department of Water and Sanitation give special privilege to the project with regards to fast tracking approvals needed for the chosen sanitation system?

**Answer:** The project will receive the utmost attention from all relevant stakeholder to ensure that all required approvals are obtained in record time.

7. Will the treated water from the effluent of the toilet facilities be required for drinking? Or only for feeding back into an outfall either to a river / stream or dam?

**Answer:** Water is a scarce resource; recycling water for human consumption would ordinarily be first prize barring the associated costs with the production water to the highest standards. The solution should clearly indicate what it can produce, as well as, demonstrated creativity.

8. Delays in EIA and WULA'S which will be triggered in projects of this nature (who will be responsible for the application)

**Answer:** We envisage going for a Turnkey Solution therefore the appointed service provider will have to lead in the sourcing the required approvals. The Department will assist extensively in fast tracking where required.

9. Community/ leadership consultation who's responsibility mainly category B incremental upgrade – mainly if relocation is required for installation of infrastructure

**Answer:** Community facilitation will be dealt with in other work streams, however, during the implementation of the solution, there will be a requirement to reengage with the communities.

10. Densities and terrain may vary with costs implications if any pumping is required also impacts on maintenance costs – is any pumping expected or will gravitation feeds be the only requirement?

**Answer:** We expect this to be covered in the solution following the due diligence that would have been undertaken.

11. From our initial site inspection it was found that there are water supply to the households, would any additional water supply networks be required? This hasn't been made very clear in the EOI.

**Answer:** No, unless the solution requires such, in that case this should be highlighted or qualified.

12. How is grey water going to be dealt whether you provide stand pipes or communal facilities with toilets grey water from bathing and washing clothes etc are always a major problems within settlements

**Answer:** If the solution has the capability of recycling water, then let this come out in the proposal.

13. Any current data around water resources ? ground conditions

**Answer:** Not at our disposal.

14. Data around existing sanitation systems ie VIP and structural integrity.

**Answer:** Please consult with the relevant authority. Also, we expect that this will form part of the due diligence exercise.

15. What type of contract are they envisaging PPP BOT BOM service level agreement?

**Answer:** We are not certain now.

16. Current status around energy supply risks around illegal connections and impact of treatment systems and monitoring equipment even if alternative energy is considered who carries burden of costs ? will contingencies be allowed to factor this in these are realities no matter what security detail and level of sophistication you put in .

**Answer:** Valid and fair comment: adequate securities and insurances will have to be in place to cover such eventualities.

17. National bid regs are still outdated how will innovative technologies be considered?

**Answer:** This will have to be dealt with at intergovernmental level.

18. The level of complexity around services required requires many different expertise ( they will not find all of the expertise in consultancy or organization ) pooling all the resources will need much more time and deadline is very tight for submission ...would considering experts providing submission to their area of interest eg sanitation ? this will apply specifically for category B

**Answer:** We hope that the information submitted will at least give us enough information to understand what is out there. Please try your level best to do as much as possible and provide qualification where necessary.

19. Provision of communal facility o/m will it include provisions of caretaker and consumables eg detergents, toilet paper soap etc...

**Answer:** Please detail what is required by the proposed solution and a decision will have to be take around the provided requirements.

20. Security for facility ?

**Answer:** If it is a build operate and maintain, the operator will have to put in place all the necessary and required security.

21. Should our main focus be on the wastewater treatment plant or do we also have to consider, in depth, the bulk distribution network of the whole area to and from the stands.

**Answer:** Considering that in some areas there is not available bulk hence this call for expression of interest to propose in the main an Off-grid solution. Should it be part of the proposed solution that in the near future the wastewater treatment plant can be integrated to available bulk, please do highlight this in your proposal.

22. Do you have any specific technology in mind such as the package plants mentioned or is it Carte Blanche for offerings that will best address the needs expressed within a limited budget.

**Answer:** We do not have any specific technology in mind, so we welcome any proposal.

23. Will the eventual bid go out as one to be awarded to one service provider?

**Answer:** We are likely to go for a turnkey solution but the bid will likely go out to the respondents to this EOI. The decision of the number of service providers to appoint has not been made as this will depend on the preferred solution and the practicality of implementation.

24. Is the technology required to be suitable to new toilet structures, upgrading of existing VIP toilets and RDP house connections alike?

**Answer:** Yes

25. How important will it be if the offered solution can function using no additional water per household but rather rely on existing grey water?

**Answer:** This is the level of ingenuity and value add we are looking for.

26. Does it matter if the technology does not have any directly re-usable potable water as a by-product?

**Answer:** No, however, please bare in mind that water is a scarce resource.

27. How important is wide spread job creation within the effected communities during implementation phase and thereafter?

**Answer:** Extremely important.

28. How important is simplicity and the ability of the community to maintain and service the proposed infrastructure themselves or via trained local SMME business people?

**Answer:** This will resonate well with any community.

29. What is the expected roll out period / tempo?

**Answer:** This is urgently required to close an exist gap. The period/tempo will depend on the complexity of the solution.

30. Is there a budget expectation / indication, i.e.: R 30,000 per household limitation etc.?

**Answer:** No there is no expected budget per household.

31. The document doesn't state **CIDB grading** are you looking for this tender and also want to know the **functional evaluation criteria** of the tender on document they didn't specify

**Answer:** There is no applicable CIDB grading as this Expression of Interest is issued purely for information gathering purposes. Further, there will be no evaluation criteria applicable as all submissions will be considered that meet the minimum administrative compliance requirements.

32. Must the Alternative Sanitary Technologies (AST) have flushing system is GPF open to AST's that do not have flushing systems but are equally efficient, effective and offer other benefits.

**Answer:** At this moment we are open to all proposed solutions. Scarcity of water and availability of bulk is a reality to many Human Settlements projects so you are encouraged to be creative.

33. I would like to find out on the Test site, Bekkersdal 13612 households on the formal structures are there any connected to an existing municipal sewer line? How many of the informal settlements are there?

**Answer:** We do not have that information but can only assume that is the case.

34. For EOI 001/2021, please advise how many portable toilets are currently in the area to be used as test site information (coordinates: 26°16'59.8"S; 27°42'17.2"E) Coordinates?

**Answer:** Based on the information at our disposal the test site is currently serviced by VIP toilets which are in turn being serviced by honey sucker trucks.

35. Is this Request for Expression of Interest or Request for Proposal? The information required is confusing and suggesting that the submission is of proposals and not EOI. Please clarify.

**Answer:** This is an Expression of Interest – For information gathering purposes. Apologies for the confusion.

36. Why do we need to submit pricing and compliance information at this stage? It is stated in the document that there will be subsequent tender processes, what will that stage be for if pricing, tax clearances, BBBEE certificates are required now?

**Answer:** On the pricing, at this stage we just want to get a sense of associated costs with the implementation of the proposed solution. BBBEE certificates are required in order to gather information on the BBBEE status contributors who will be interested. Tax clearances will be required during the tender process, at this stage it does not make any difference.

37. It is also stated on page 4 that “failure to submit this EOI will not disqualify any person from subsequent tender process”. Why are pricing and compliance information required now then?

**Answer:** On the pricing, at this stage we just want to get a sense of associated costs with the implementation of the proposed solution. BBBEE certificates are required in order to gather information on the BBBEE status contributors who will be interested. Tax clearances will be required during the tender process, at this stage it does not make any difference.

38. How is the client planning to pay for this? If we get funding, how are we to recover what was invested in the project?

**Answer:** At this stage the department will fund the selected solution, however, if there is a proposal on the table by the bidder to fund the solution and recoup costs later, that conversation can take place.

39. The statement in paragraph 2 under **1. PURPOSE OF THIS EOI** that reads “*The alternative sewer technology that will eventually be solution that will ultimately be selected*” appears to be incomplete. How was it supposed to read?

**Answer:** Apologies for this, it seems this was copied in error, please ignore the statement as it does not have any bearing to the EOI.

40. Does the number of structures of 13612 referred to on page 13 mean the number of toilets, number of shacks or number of yards?

**Answer:** Number of shacks.

41. A bulk sewer line was seen at the Test Site. Where is it flowing to?

**Answer:** As part of the due diligence please verify this with the local municipality Is there a treatment plant? Please verify with the municipality.

42. How is a package plant or an off-grid waste water treatment facility to be implemented in this set up in the view of the client?

**Answer:** We are open to the proposal.

43. From our knowledge of various informal settlement, the solution cannot be the same for all of them because of their different levels of development/formalisation. Is it acceptable to offer different solutions for various scenarios or are we expected to submit one solution that can be used in any informal settlement?

**Answer:** Please propose what you see fit based on your experience.

44. The table of informal settlements on page 10 has combined both categories of settlements. Is it possible to split these settlements by category because we believe that the same solution cannot be provided for both categories?

**Answer:** Please proceed and split them bases on what you are proposing.