



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultancy for development of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Namibia component of the multinational Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse (PIDACC Zambezi)

Consultancy reference number: CCD/22/GM/C/29

Background

1. INTRODUCTION

The Government of Namibia has secured loan financing from the African Development Bank (AfDB) to support the development of the National/Country Component of the multinational Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse (PIDACC Zambezi) and intends to contract for Consultancy Services for an environment and social assessment including the development of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) wishes to engage an Individual Consultant to undertake the above-mentioned consultancy services.

2. NATIONAL PROJECT BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

2.1 PIDACC Zambezi Background: The PIDACC Zambezi was identified through the Pre-feasibility Study which was supported by the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF) and concluded in December 2021. The Programme will be achieved through the implementation of investment projects at both the Regional and National/Country levels, within the context of support, coordination, and institutional development. The Zambezi River Basin has a total drainage area of 1.4 million km² covering the east southern and west southern Africa region. It is the largest drainage basin in the region with a rich variety of natural resources which include the catchment areas, the river, and its tributaries, lakes, wetlands, islands, and the delta. The Zambezi water is essential for regional food security, hydro-power production, and support the livelihoods of more than 40 million people projected to reach 50 million by 2025. The land use and land cover is dominated by forests and bushland, with considerable areas of cropped land and grassland while a portion of the basin is covered by large water bodies, including Lake Malawi/Nyasa/Niassa, Lake Kariba, and Lake Cahora Bassa. Approximately 39% of the territory of the riparian states is classified as forest area. However, climate change and human pressure are driving considerable environmental changes across the basin. For instance, the area of forests is decreasing due to encroaching subsistence agriculture (accounts for 42% of deforestation) and large-scale commercial agriculture (32%). Other deforestation drivers include mining, infrastructure development, and urban expansion. Besides the trend in land-use change, the region also faces land degradation issues, caused by over-cultivation, deforestation, charcoaling, forest fires, inefficient irrigation practices, overgrazing, overexploitation of resources, and climate change and variability (UNEP, 2016). About 51% of land in the Zambezi Basin is moderately degraded and 14% is highly degraded with growing negative impacts on the population and on water resources, only 35% of the land area is therefore not degraded. Rural poverty and increasing population density are causing deforestation across the Basin due to high demand for land and to meet energy requirements through fuelwood and charcoal production. Biomass, chiefly wood, is the main energy source of 80% of the population in the Zambezi Riparian States with average access to the electricity grid being 18.5%. Charcoal production for rural domestic use has limited impact but production for sale to urban dwellers as a source of rural income is a threat in most Zambezi Riparian States causing extensive degradation.



2.2 The climatic condition of the river basin varied from arid in the west through semi-arid and sub-humid in the central to the eastern zone. From historical observation of 1901-2014, the basin is characterized by unstable rainfall region, high seasonality, and interannual variability due to El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) causing frequent droughts and floods (ZAMCOM, 2018). The mean annual rainfall is 950 mm, the mean annual runoff is 850 m³/s with the northern part wetter receiving more than 1250 mm per annual mostly from November to March and the southern part drier receiving 500 mm to 750 mm per annual. Meanwhile, during the same period, the basin has warmed by 0.7°C on average with mean monthly temperature for the coldest month across the basin varied from 13 °C in July for high elevation (northwest Zambia) to 23 °C for low elevation, mean daily temperature for the warmest months of October-November range from 23°C in high elevation areas to 31°C in low elevation areas. This increases water, hydropower, and agriculture climatic risks across the basin causing a significant threat to the regional socio-economic development (ZAMCOM, 2018). Furthermore, the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel in Climate Change (IPCC, 2021) across the east south and west southern Africa indicates the (i) Observed decreases in mean precipitation, (ii) Observed and projected increases in heavy precipitation and pluvial flooding, (iii) Observed and projected increase in aridity, agricultural and ecological droughts, (iv) Observed increase in meteorological drought, projected increase in meteorological droughts from 1.5°C, higher confidence at higher GWLs, and (v) Projected increases in fire weather conditions; increases in mean wind speed; increase of average tropical cyclone wind speeds and associated heavy precipitation and of the proportion of category 4-5 tropical cyclones.

2.3 The key risks predicted for the Zambezi River Basin related to climate change over the coming century are (i) The Zambezi Basin can expect a significant warming trend of 0.3 - 0.6°C per year, (ii) Temperature increases across the basin will increase open-water evaporation, (iii) Multiple studies cited by IPCC estimate that rainfall across the basin will decrease by 10–15%, (iv) Significant changes in the seasonal pattern of rainfall across the basin are predicted, including delayed onsets, with shorter and more intense rain fall events, (v) All Zambezi Basin countries will experience a significant reduction in average annual stream flow, (vi) Multiple studies estimate that the Zambezi runoff will decrease by 26–40% by 2050, (vii) Increasing water stress is a serious concern in the semi-arid parts of the Zambezi Basin, and (viii) The frequency and severity of extreme weather events (floods and droughts) will increase. The consequence of historical climate variability has been frequent, with recurrent episodes of floods and droughts which have impacted the Southern African region and the Zambezi River Basin – climate change will exacerbate these extreme events. Southern Africa is known for recurrent floods and droughts, which can span the entire Zambezi Basin. The extreme events, like the floods in 2017, which followed the 2015/2016 drought that has been linked with the ENSO climate phenomenon. To address this most recent drought, SADC has coordinated a regional humanitarian response to the emergency. The drought is said to be the worst in the past 35 years, affecting 39 million people, and also widespread loss of animal stock, impacting on poverty. Drought risk management is often handled on a large scale through reservoir storage and locally through irrigation schemes and crop varieties throughout the Basin. However, many of the larger reservoirs prioritize hydropower and are not necessarily communicating with downstream water users. Rain-fed agriculture is prevalent in the region and especially vulnerable to drought. Droughts are further complicated by the dry and rainy season timing, where reservoirs are already used to store water during the dry season, and therefore more storage is generally required to combat multi-year droughts. Most of the flood control management occurs in the operation of the two major dams, namely Kariba and Cahora Bassa.

2.4 Programme Objective: PIDACC Zambezi's development objective is to build strong communities that are resilient to climatic and economic shocks in the Zambezi Watercourse, through promoting inclusive transformative investments, job-creation, and ecosystem-based solutions. Based on a transformative approach, which ensures gender equality and social inclusion, PIDACC Zambezi specific objectives are to (i) increase feasible climate resilient community-level demand driven infrastructure that would support livelihoods, (ii) develop and improve livelihoods, including job creation, by strengthening agribusiness through investments in water, energy, social, and agriculture (food security and nutrition) sectors, (iii) strengthen and build capacity of the communities with the



view to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation and effectively manage water resources in a sustainable manner, and (iv) enhance institutional development and adaptive capacity in order to reduce vulnerabilities.

2.5 Programme Components: Based on the Pre-feasibility Study reports and in-line with Strategic Plan for the Zambezi Watercourse, PIDACC Zambezi comprises four components and associated sub-components, namely: (i) *Component 1 - Strengthening Integrated Natural Resources Management*, with 2 sub-components (1.1 Establishing an Integrative Landscape Management Approach, watercourse to sub-catchment protection and restoration, and 1.2 Promoting Integrated Water Resources Management), (ii) *Component 2 - Building Communities' Resilience to Climate Change*, with 2 sub-components (2.1 Supporting Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Emission Community-level Demand-driven Infrastructure Development; and 2.2 Reinforcing Inclusive and Diversified Climate Resilient Livelihoods Support); (iii) *Component 3 - Supporting Adaptive Capacity and Institutional Capacity Development*, with 2 sub-components (3.1 Strengthening Climate Adaptive Capacity of Communities; and 3.2 Strengthening the Institutional Foundation for Climate Resilience and Low Carbon Emission Development, Capacity Building, Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge Management and Technology Transfer); and (iii) *Component 4 - Programme Coordination*. Environmental and social safeguards requirements including gender issues are priority and have been integrated across the 4 components of PIDACC Zambezi.

2.6 Selection of microprojects at district level in the selected hotspots in the target districts, a multi-sectoral committee of the district will spearhead activities at the lowest level, supporting communities to undertake risk analysis, identify and appraise micro-projects, and once approved, help communities to implement the micro projects.

2.7 National Project Area and Beneficiaries:

Namibia Beneficiaries - National level component direct beneficiaries shall include the Ministry responsible for water and its associated departments. Direct beneficiaries from the improved water resource management systems will constitute all water users who are a subject of water permits in the country.

At regional level the main beneficiaries will comprise 1000 small-scale farmers involved in both crop and livestock farming. They will benefit from a variety of interventions entailing the introduction of sustainable livestock grazing and fodder management and sustainable irrigation initiatives (targeting 30% women), enhanced crop production and productivity by providing drought tolerant maize seed varieties, development of climate resilient insurance products to manage hydro-meteorological hazards including the introduction of weather index-based crop insurance. The project will provide further benefits by connecting farmers in the basin region to other agriculture value chain actors, such as agro-input suppliers, aggregators, financial service providers etc

Communities covering households in the immediate basin catchment area will benefit from improved pit latrines including implementation of alternative sanitation technologies, the development of a 40 km water supply pipeline network and deep boreholes connected with the pipeline network. The population, living in areas susceptible to floods and drought in the targeted catchment areas for establishment of water control and protection measures will also benefit.

In terms of capacity building, beneficiaries include national researchers who will gain capacity on seed systems (early generation/EGS production), fish fingerling production and improved livestock breeds and seed companies and seed producers on seed systems. Government technical staff and targeted small-scale farmers will also benefit from capacity building initiatives

3. E&S/ESMF REQUIREMENTS



Environmental and Social Issues: Based on the Bank's Programme Preparation Mission and in accordance with the Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures (ESAP), the Project has been classified as Category 2 requiring an environmental & social assessment and preparation of Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) which will be prepared by an Individual Consultant to be recruited by the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD on behalf of the Government. ESMF, output will aim to strengthen the positive impacts of the PIDACC Zambezi process on: the quality of the environment; the social, cultural and economic well-being of the population, particularly that of population groups most dependent on water course ecosystems and biodiversity; the respect for traditional modes of using natural resources; and the community consultation and participation process.

The justification for this category is that the National Component/Project which is part of a multinational Programme will aim to build strong communities that are resilient to climatic and economic shocks in the Zambezi Watercourse, through promoting inclusive transformative investments, job-creation, and ecosystem-based solutions. In addition, the National Component shall focus on development of community level demand driven infrastructure which shall be resilient to climate change. The expected environment and social positive impacts include improved household incomes, food and nutrition security. The negative environmental and social impacts resulting from the proposed project activities are expected to be minimal and site specific. Further, would lead to improve development activities and the state of the environment through PIDACC Zambezi's development objective as well as any associated measures adopted to counter climate change. There shall be no involuntary resettlement envisioned during Project implementation. The ESMF shall be submitted to Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, for approval, prior to disclosure on the Bank's website, at least 30 calendar days, before Board date of 30th November 2022.

Objective of consultancy

The Consultant shall produce the draft ESMF, for review by the Government, the Global Mechanism and the Bank, not later than 20 working days after signing the contract.

Based on the comments from the Government, the Global Mechanism and the Bank, the Consultant shall submit an acceptable ESMF, for clearance/approval by the national Environmental Management Agency, not later than 30 working days, after signing the contract.

Duties and Responsibilities

4.1 The consultant will ensure that National Component/Project activities are gender-sensitive and meet the priorities of both women, men and vulnerable groups. This will include identifying potential gender roles of women, men and responsibilities of other vulnerable groups in the proposed Programme, which would provide a baseline to prepare gender sensitive interventions. Proposed projects/interventions confirmed in the pre-feasibility study and also during the AfDB Preparation Mission will be screened to identify any potential environment and social negative impacts. To ensure that the environmental and social consequences of the proposed projects/interventions of the programme are fully considered, a strategic environmental and social assessment will be carried out and based on its outcomes, and ESMF will be developed to maximize and enhance environmental and social benefits and minimizing the negative effects. For such assessment, the Consultant will:

- i. review country specific legislation that is likely to be triggered in the process of project implementation.
- ii. identify the environmental, socio-economic and institutional issues and effects (both positive and negative) associated with PIDACC Zambezi, in reference to the main achievements expected in the country. This will also include review of country specific legislation that is likely to be triggered in the process of project implementation.
- iii. review and update the comprehensive list of stakeholders identified during PIDACC Zambezi development that is directly linked with the social and environmental impacts. In particular institutional framework within which the project will be implemented. The consultant should prepare a map of the stakeholder landscape including the positions and views of various stakeholders in the National Component/Project. The consultant shall identify and focus on



those stakeholders who have been most actively engaged in the process so far and critically assess if any group of stakeholders has been left out of the process due to lacking awareness and capacity to engage with PIDACC Zambezi discussions. The feedback solicited during past stakeholder consultations (as part of the PIDACC Zambezi preparation or the preparation of individual projects) should be reviewed during this analysis.

- iv. undertake broad environmental and socio-economic baseline studies including data collection, impact assessment and prepare a detailed pre-project situational analysis.
- v. carry out a social and environmental screening review of all proposed interventions focusing on negative impacts, significant risks and also positive impacts;
- vi. ensure that the ESMF will provide the in country clearances processes for specific studies after screening, that is the ESIA process, in country categorization and related clearances for different types of reports including timelines;
- vii. document lessons learnt that will guide mitigation approaches for negative impacts and aspects affecting the beneficiary and neighbouring communities, in particular, document synergetic relationships to minimise environmental and social risks throughout the entire ecosystem;
- viii. integrate environmental, socio-economic and institutional concerns in the design and implementation of the PIDACC Zambezi (National/Country Component/Project) and align to International Finance Corporation (IFC) contextual risk framework and provide a framework for analyzing the context which can be categorize risks based on different parameters;
- ix. .
- x. categorize climate related risks on the different sub-projects in the country and propose appropriate adaptation measures to improve the resilience of the populations to climate change.
- xi. ensure that the National Component/Project fully conforms to the AfDB's environmental & social safeguard policies, and assure benefits to the most vulnerable populations.
- xii. provide essential relevant elements of preparation and implementation of the PIDACC Zambezi that are consistent with the development and resilience needs of the target countries, that take environmental, socio-economic and institutional concerns into account from the outset, in-line with the sustainability perspective.
- xiii. undertake capacity building needs assessment in
 - a. natural resources conservation and assist the communities in the development of land-use plans.
 - b. implementation of ESMF and specific management plans and propose a budget to be included in the Project Appraisal Report (PAR);
- xiv. propose appropriate environmental guidelines including the ESMF for the implementation of the investment project, and
- xv. develop guidelines of an institutional development and regulatory system for the environmental and social management of the National Component/Project.

4.2 The ESMF will be prepared to ensure that sufficient guidance is available for future studies including assistance on the selection, preparation and implementation of the sub-projects in order to avoid or minimize environmental and social risks and negative impacts and also to enhance the environmental and social performance. Through consultations with national and sub-national key stakeholders, a validation process for the ESMF will be developed through research, interviews, and fieldwork whose activities will include:

- a. developing and providing guidance on environmental and social criteria to be used during the preparation and implementation of the project, based on a detailed description of the National Component/Project, its components and implementation arrangements.
- b. compiling a summary of key national legislative, regulatory and administrative regimes. Focus shall be drawn towards (i) requirements which are necessary to apply to the planning, approval and implementation of the project, and (ii) regional agreements and treaties that are relevant to the project, as well as environmental management and due diligence, if transboundary sub-projects are contemplated.



- c. establishing a clear understanding of the institutional mandate, roles and responsibilities for adopting and implementing the ESMF, within the country. This should include a thorough review of the authority and capability of institutions at different levels (e.g. local/zone/ward, District, Provincial/regional, and National) and their capacity to manage and monitor ESMF implementation. The ESMF should also consider relevant implications for management procedures and training, staffing, operation and maintenance, budgeting, and financial support.
- d. developing a screening and assessment methodology that will include an environmental and social performance criterion, allow an environmental/social risk classification and identification of appropriate safeguards instruments. All relevant potential environmental risks and social concerns that may arise as a result of the proposed project and specific investments will need to be identified.
- e. describing the required instruments and procedures for managing and monitoring environmental risks and social concerns related to priority projects, e.g. cumulative, sectorial or regional assessments, management plans, such as ESMP, Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) if applicable, Indigenous People Plan (IPP) if applicable, and respective monitoring instruments.
- f. proposing a realistic and effective scheme to develop the capacity to manage environmental and social due diligence activities in the project portfolio.
- g. proposing reporting lines, review and approval functions, identify the required resources and technical assistance measures to establish and maintain the Government's capacity for the Programme duration, including timeline, budget, organizational requirements, required trainer profiles and expertise, vital for building the capacity of the institutions responsible for implementing the ESMF.
- h. stating the requirements for technical assistance to the Government (Client), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), service providers and public sector institutions to implement, manage, supervise, observe or support the implementation of the ESMF.

Deliverables

Key deliverables are:

- ✓ submission of draft ESMF, for review by the Government, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and the Bank, not later than 20 working days after signing the contract; and
- ✓ submission of acceptable ESMF, and clearance/approval of the same by the national Environmental Management Agency, not later than 30 working days, after signing the contract.

Contractual terms

The Consultant will be answerable to the Permanent/Principal Secretary (Executive Director) or delegated Senior Official of the Government and Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) Secretariat on technical outputs. Payments will be disbursed by UNCCD on receipt of written approval by the Government.

The Government, ZAMCOM and AfDB will submit to the Consultant all available documents and relevant data necessary for smooth and timely execution of the assignment, including ZAMCOM's Zambezi Strategic Plan, National Component's Pre-feasibility Study Report, signed Aide Memoire (Bank's Preparation Mission), Bank's Country Strategy Paper (CSP), Bank's Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures (ESAP), National Environmental Guidelines, and also applicable Government/National policies and strategies.

The Consultant shall arrange for his own office, including local transport and accommodation. However, the Government and UNCCD shall cover the cost of the field trip not exceeding fourteen (14) calendar days, in terms of transport, accommodation and subsistence allowances, based on pre-agreed Government rates and also the field mission schedule.

The expected maximum duration of the assignment is **thirty (30) working days** which will be spent within the country, based on the agreed programme.

Requirements

- Masters' Degree in Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources, Sociology or related field.



- Competence in Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and related activities including project preparation and management is required.
- Considerable knowledge of rural development, water sector, agriculture sector and renewable energy, will be an advantage.
- At least 10 years-experience working in his/her area of expertise.
- Previous experience working with multilateral development institutions in environmental and social impact assessment or preparation and implementation of donor funded projects with a sound knowledge of rural development projects is required.
- Must be computer literate conversant with standard computer software (Microsoft Word, Excel, Project and Power-point).
- For this consultancy excellent writing and oral skills and fluency in English language is required.

Special notice

Only individuals who can act as independent, individual economical operators are qualified to apply. Individuals who can provide their services only on account of an institution or enterprise not in their individual capacity are not eligible under this procedure.

Individuals engaged under a consultancy or individual contract will not be considered “staff members” under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations Secretariat and will not be entitled to benefits provided therein (such as leave entitlements and medical insurance coverage). Their conditions of service will be governed by their contract and the General Conditions of Contracts for the Services of Consultants and Individual Contractors. Consultant and individual contractor is responsible for determining tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local or other applicable laws.

Submission of application

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to staffing@unccd.int with a UNCCD Personal History Form¹, CV, cover letter and education certificate, specifying the reference number: **CD/22/GM/C/29**

The deadline for applications is **14 July 2022**. Only applications submitted by the deadline and with complete documentation will be taken into consideration.

Due to the volume of applications received, receipt of applications cannot be acknowledged individually. Please address your application as indicated above and please do not address or copy your application to an individual at the Secretariat or Global Mechanism. Candidates who do not receive any feedback within three months of the deadline should consider their application as unsuccessful.

Date of issuance: 08 July 2022

¹ UNCCD P-11 form in electronic fill-in .pdf OR .docx format available: <https://www.unccd.int/convention/work-with-us/guidelines>