

538130-2026 - Competition

Germany – Foreign economic-aid-related services – 10025199-Applying the Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation approach to strengthen governance in the water sector in Lesotho
OJ S 148/2026 04/08/2026
Contract or concession notice – standard regime
Services

1. Buyer

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Email: eva.theis@giz.de

Legal type of the buyer: Public undertaking, controlled by a central government authority

Activity of the contracting authority: General public services

2. Procedure

2.1. Procedure

Title: 10025199-Applying the Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation approach to strengthen governance in the water sector in Lesotho

Description: Description of project: Lesotho faces significant socio-economic challenges, including poverty, unemployment, food insecurity, and high HIV/AIDS prevalence. Thanks to its geographical location, Lesotho - the "Water Tower" of Southern Africa - plays a critical role in regional water security, supplying water to South Africa, with additional regional transfer schemes under consideration. Protecting and sustainably managing Lesotho's water resources is therefore a national and regional priority. However, Lesotho's catchments have been heavily degraded due to settlement in sensitive areas, overgrazing and unsustainable land use, causing erosion, soil fertility loss, sedimentation and hydrological instability. Climate change intensifies these impacts with erratic rainfall, floods and droughts. Despite numerous sustainable natural resource management efforts over the past 50 years, impacts and sustainability have often fallen short, largely due to insufficient coordination among ministries and institutions. Strengthened cooperation, knowledge and data sharing, and aligned action among key actors at national, river basin, and SADC levels are essential. Against this backdrop, the Government of Lesotho, supported by the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), has launched ReNOKA, a national Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) programme. ReNOKA aims to restore and sustainably manage Lesotho's catchments-critical for water, land, energy, and food security across the Orange-Senqu basin and the Gauteng economic hub. For the continued support to ReNOKA, GIZ has been commissioned to implement the "Support to ReNOKA" joint action funded under the EU Multi-Donor Action "Metsi a Lesotho" and the BMZ-funded "Transboundary Water Management in the SADC Region" (TWM) project. The overall objective of "Metsi a Lesotho" is to "ensure access to sustainable water and sanitation for all as a means for green and resilient growth and promoting peace and security in Lesotho and the region". The specific objectives are: - Specific Objective 2: "Lesotho sustainably manages its water and land resources comprising the water-energy-natural resources nexus and advances its climate resilience with an inclusive approach" - Specific Objective 3: "Capacities of national water institutions to improve services and cooperation at community, catchment and transboundary levels are strengthened". To achieve these objectives, the Action will

deliver five interlinked outputs, with the following output being relevant to this service: - Output 3.1: Enhancement of capacities of government staff for sustainable water management. Despite earlier support that improved technical water management, coordination and communication across key institutions-from the Prime Minister"s Office to community authorities-remain weak. To address this, GIZ intends to contract a service provider to implement Output 3.1 by applying the Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation (PDIA) approach in the water sector in Lesotho to address the underlying complex challenges and bottlenecks that hinder effective cooperation.

Procedure identifier: b7697081-5983-4f53-994e-720720efbc11

Internal identifier: 10025199

Type of procedure: Open

The procedure is accelerated: no

2.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 75211200 Foreign economic-aid-related services

Additional classification (cpv): 79411100 Business development consultancy services

2.1.2. Place of performance

Country: Lesotho

Additional information: See tender documents

2.1.4. General information

Additional information: #Bekanntmachungs-ID: CXTRY6YTTB43JSW# All communication takes place in English via communication tool in the project area of the procurement portal.

Legal basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

vgv -

2.1.6. Grounds for exclusion

Sources of grounds for exclusion: Notice

Breaching of obligations set under purely national exclusion grounds: In accordance with §§ 123,124 GWB, § 22 LkSG

Participation in a criminal organisation:

Terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities:

Money laundering or terrorist financing:

Fraud:

Corruption:

Child labour and including other forms of trafficking in human beings:

Breaching obligation relating to payment of taxes:

Breaching obligation relating to payment of social security contributions:

Breaching of obligations in the fields of environmental law:

Breaching of obligations in the fields of social law:

Breaching of obligations in the fields of labour law:

Insolvency:

Assets being administered by liquidator:

Business activities are suspended:

Analogous situation like bankruptcy, insolvency or arrangement with creditors under national law:

Grave professional misconduct:

Agreements with other economic operators aimed at distorting competition:

Conflict of interest due to its participation in the procurement procedure:
Direct or indirect involvement in the preparation of this procurement procedure:
Early termination, damages, or other comparable sanctions:
Misrepresentation, withheld information, unable to provide required documents or obtained confidential information of this procedure:

5. Lot

5.1. Lot: LOT-0001

Title: 10025199-Applying the Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation approach to strengthen governance in the water sector in Lesotho

Description: Description of required services: This tendered assignment contributes to BMZ-funded TWM's overall objective of improving transboundary, climate-resilient water management in Southern Africa, with a focus on sustainable, high-performing governance structures. It also supports the specific objective of the "Support to ReNOKA" joint action to strengthen national water sector capacities to improve services and cooperation at community, catchment, and transboundary levels-specifically Output 3.1. The contractor shall be responsible for achieving the expected results of Output 3.1. of the "Support to ReNOKA".

Output 3.1. Enhancement of capacities of government staff for sustainable water management. The objective focuses on strengthening individual and institutional capacities and collaboration for more sustainable water management in Lesotho. Using participatory methods, cooperation among Output 3.1 implementing partners, the Commission of Water as the lead implementing partner for Output 3, key institutions (e.g., the National ICM Coordination Unit) and stakeholders at national, River Basin Organisations, and SADC levels, is enhanced. Key activities for Output 3.1. - Develop a PDIA implementation plan and identify the core team. - Identify and analyse core problems in the water sector. - Conduct root cause analysis for selected problems. - Identify entry points and define the sequencing to tackle various causes. - Design and implement iterative "small bets", including structured learning cycles after each iteration. - Document quick wins and lessons learned, including closure notes where problems are resolved. - Implement an exit and handover process to responsible institutions to ensure sustainability. Most of the assignment will be carried out in Maseru, Lesotho, with only a small portion of services by the team leader delivered from their home bases. Only a limited number of trips by the core experts within Lesotho will be required.

Internal identifier: 10025199

5.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 75211200 Foreign economic-aid-related services

Additional classification (cpv): 79411100 Business development consultancy services

Options:

Description of the options: GIZ may optionally commission contract amendments and/or increases based on the criteria in the tender documents to the successful bidder of this tender. For details, please see the terms of reference.

5.1.2. Place of performance

Country: Lesotho

Additional information: See tender documents

5.1.3. Estimated duration

Duration: 36 Months

5.1.4. Renewal

Maximum renewals: 2

Other information about renewals: GIZ may optionally commission contract amendments and /or increases based on the criteria in the tender documents to the successful bidder of this tender. For details, please see the terms of reference.

5.1.6. General information

Reserved participation:

Participation is not reserved.

The names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to perform the contract must be given: Not required

Procurement Project not financed with EU Funds.

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): yes

This procurement is also suitable for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs): yes

Additional information: #Besonders auch geeignet für:other-sme#

5.1.7. Strategic procurement

Aim of strategic procurement: Reduction of environmental impacts

Description: refer to tender documents

Aim of strategic procurement: Fulfilment of social objectives

Description: refer to tender documents

Approach to reducing environmental impacts: The transition to a circular economy, Climate change mitigation, Pollution prevention and control

Social objective promoted: Ethnic equality, Gender equality, Human rights due diligence in global supply chains, Fair working conditions, Other

5.1.9. Selection criteria

Sources of selection criteria: Notice

Criterion: Other economic or financial requirements

Description of selection criterion: EN-A1: Principles for the execution of orders (Mit dem Angebot; Mittels Eigenerklärung): The eligibility criteria are not from the same category as stipulated above, as there is no suitable category. 1. Self-declaration: name of company and address, tax ID, registration and commercial register number or equivalent register in accordance with the legal provisions of the country of origin. 2. No grounds for exclusion pursuant to § 123, § 124 GWB, § 22 LkSG, EU-Russia sanctions 3. Declaration of bidding consortium and/or declaration of subcontractors (if applicable)

Criterion: References on specified services

Description of selection criterion: EN-B1: Technical and professional ability (Mit dem Angebot; Mittels Eigenerklärung): 1. The technical assessment is only based on reference projects with a minimum commission value of 50,000 EUR (net, in words: fifty thousand euros). 2. At least 2 reference projects in the technical field "using participatory governance approaches in the water sector" and at least 1 reference project in any of the following countries: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe; all of which in the last 36 months

Criterion: Average yearly turnover

Description of selection criterion: EN-C1: Economic and financial standing (Mit dem Angebot; Mittels Eigenerklärung): Average annual turnover for the last three years (last-but-four financial year can be included in case of tenders held within 6 months of end of last financial year), at least: 1,3 million EUR (net, in words: one point three million euros).

Criterion: Other economic or financial requirements

Description of selection criterion: EN-C2: Economic and financial standing (Mit dem Angebot; Mittels Eigenerklärung): Average number of employees and managers in the last three calendar years, at least 30 persons.

5.1.11. Procurement documents

Languages in which the procurement documents are officially available: English

Deadline for requesting additional information: 26/08/2026 23:59:59 (UTC+02:00) Eastern European Time, Central European Summer Time

Address of the procurement documents: <https://ausschreibungen.giz.de/Satellite/notice/CXTRYY6YTTB43JSW/documents>

Ad hoc communication channel:

URL: <https://ausschreibungen.giz.de/Satellite/notice/CXTRYY6YTTB43JSW>

5.1.12. Terms of procurement

Terms of submission:

Electronic submission: Required

Address for submission: <https://ausschreibungen.giz.de/Satellite/notice/CXTRYY6YTTB43JSW>

Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted: English

Electronic catalogue: Not allowed

Variants: Not allowed

Tenderers may submit more than one tender: Not allowed

Deadline for receipt of tenders: 07/09/2026 12:00:00 (UTC+02:00) Eastern European Time, Central European Summer Time

Duration during which the tender must remain valid: 115 Days

Information that can be supplemented after the submission deadline:

At the discretion of the buyer, some missing tenderer-related documents may be submitted later.

Additional information: GIZ asks the applicant or bidder to submit, complete or correct documents, within the framework laid down by law.

Terms of contract:

The execution of the contract must be performed within the framework of sheltered employment programmes: No

Conditions relating to the performance of the contract: The execution conditions result from the information given in the contract notice and the tender documents.

Electronic invoicing: Required

Electronic ordering will be used: yes

Electronic payment will be used: yes

5.1.15. Techniques

Framework agreement:

No framework agreement

Information about the dynamic purchasing system:

No dynamic purchase system

5.1.16. Further information, mediation and review

Review organisation: Vergabekammern des Bundes

Information about review deadlines: According to Article 160, Section 3 of the German Act Against Restraint of Competition (GWB), application for review is not permissible insofar as 1. the applicant has identified the claimed infringement of the procurement rules before submitting the application for review and has not submitted a complaint to the contracting authority within a period of 10 calendar days; the expiry of the period pursuant to Article 134, Section 2 remains unaffected, 2. complaints of infringements of procurement rules that are evident in the tender notice are not submitted to the contracting authority at the latest by the expiry of the deadline for the application or by the deadline for the submission of bids, specified in the tender notice. 3. complaints of infringements of procurement rules that first become evident in the tender documents are not submitted to the contracting authority at the latest by the expiry of the deadline for application or by the deadline for the submission of bids, 4. more than 15 calendar days have expired since receipt of notification from the contracting authority that it is unwilling to redress the complaint. Sentence 1 does not apply in the case of an application to determine the invalidity of the contract in accordance with Article 135, Section 1 (2). Article 134, Section 1, Sentence 2 remains unaffected.

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Organisation receiving requests to participate: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

8. Organisations

8.1. ORG-0001

Official name: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registration number: 993-80072-52

Postal address: Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1 - 5

Town: Eschborn

Postcode: 65760

Country subdivision (NUTS): Main-Taunus-Kreis (DE71A)

Country: Germany

Email: eva.theis@giz.de

Telephone: +49 619679

Fax: +49 6196791115

Internet address: <https://www.giz.de>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure

Organisation receiving requests to participate

8.1. ORG-0002

Official name: Vergabekammern des Bundes

Registration number: 022894990

Postal address: Kaiser-Friedrich-Straße 16

Town: Bonn

Postcode: 53113

Country subdivision (NUTS): Bonn, Kreisfreie Stadt (DEA22)

Country: Germany

Email: vk@bundeskartellamt.bund.de

Telephone: +49 2289499-0

Fax: +49 2289499-163

Internet address: <https://www.bundeskartellamt.de>

Roles of this organisation:

Review organisation

8.1. ORG-0003

Official name: Datenservice Öffentlicher Einkauf (in Verantwortung des Beschaffungsamts des BMI)

Registration number: 0204:994-DOEVD-83

Town: Bonn

Postcode: 53119

Country subdivision (NUTS): Bonn, Kreisfreie Stadt (DEA22)

Country: Germany

Email: noreply.esender_hub@bescha.bund.de

Telephone: +49228996100

Roles of this organisation:

TED eSender

Notice information

Notice identifier/version: 283d7e54-9f11-41bd-9ea0-48d723e9efc8 - 01

Form type: Competition

Notice type: Contract or concession notice – standard regime

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