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Location: South Africa

Application Deadline: 16 October 2020

Category:

Type of Contract: Local Consultant, Individual Contract

Assignment Type:

Languages Required: English

Starting Date: (date when the selected candidate is expected to start): Immediate

Expected Duration of Assignment: 5 to maximum 6 months

Title: Development of an Integrated Management Plan (IMP) for the Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape World Heritage Site (RWHS)

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

The Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape World Heritage Site was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2007 at the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), on the basis of the cultural criteria (iv) and (v).

The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the RWHS is as follows: The 160,000 ha Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape of dramatic mountainous desert in north-western South Africa constitutes a cultural landscape communally owned and managed. This site sustains the semi-nomadic pastoral livelihood of the Nama people, reflecting seasonal patterns that may have persisted for as much as two millennia in Southern Africa. It is the only area where the Nama still construct portable rush-mat houses (haru om) and includes seasonal migrations and grazing grounds, together with stock posts. The pastoralists collect medicinal and other plants and have a strong oral tradition associated with different places and attributes of the landscape.

One of the fundamental requirements for all World Heritage Sites as per the World Heritage Convention Act (1999) is to develop and implement an Integrated Management Plan (IMP). The Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 2019) as well as the World Heritage Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), states that "Each nominated property should have an appropriate Management Plan or other documented management system which should specify how the outstanding universal value of a property should be preserved, preferably through participatory means".

Specifically, with respect to the RWHS, the World Heritage Committee recommended on its Inscription Decision: 31 COM 8B.20, that:

- The State Party ensures the proposed tourism plan adequately recognises the vulnerable character of the cultural and natural elements of the property in any future developments and activities.
- The State Party develops the proposed management of Cultural Assets Plan in order to identify effective ways to sustain the grazing traditions of the Conservancy, to give cultural matters and even higher profile in the Management Plan, and to allow grazing and traditional management systems to underpin the management arrangements.
- The State Party allocates sufficient recurring budget for the conservation and management of the cultural aspects of the landscape to ensure an appropriate balance between management of the cultural and natural attributes of the Conservancy.

Additionally, South Africa's World Heritage Convention Act (1999) stipulates that "Every Authority must prepare and implement an integrated management plan for the World Heritage Site under its control"... and that "an Authority must conduct its affairs in accordance with an Integrated Management Plan".

A draft IMP was developed in 2009, however this was never formally adopted nor implemented. Hence neither the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and National requirements for an IMP nor the above World Heritage Committee recommendations Decision : 31 COM 8B.20 have been fulfilled to date.

The Northern Cape Department of Sports, Arts and Culture (NC-DSAC) delegated the management function of the site to the Richtersveld Sida!Hub Community Property Association (CPA). The RWHS CPA includes the communities of Lekkersing, Eksteenfontein, Kuboes and Sanddrift. The CPA in turn established the Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Association NPC which has been managing the site for the past 13 years.

There has been a significant amount of consultation with the communities, numerous studies and various government and donor projects conducted over the last two decades to try and initiate livelihood development and adequate management of the area. An outcome of some of this work has been the development of the Richtersveld World Heritage Site Proposal in 2016 (also referred to as the Tourism Infrastructure Project Proposal) for which a Tourism Infrastructure Economic Feasibility Study has recently been completed (2020).

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to develop an Integrated Management Plan for the RWHS to be approved by the Richtersveld CPA and submitted to the Minister of the Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries (DEFF) for endorsement and transmission to UNESCO and thereafter immediate implementation.

3. OBJECTIVES

The overarching objective is to provide a clear basis for the proper management of the site:

- To protect and preserve the outstanding universal value of the site; and
- To focus on management and developments necessary to protect, conserve and valorise the site for present and future generations;
- To align and guide interventions at and around the site, to improve the impact on livelihoods of the local communities through sustainable land use practices and coordinated resource allocations;
- to clarify the institutional governance and management structures for the site, that can be immediately implemented with clear resourcing strategies.
- To enable improvement and maintenance of the site's state of conservation

4. SCOPE OF WORK

Development of the IMP should follow both UNESCO operational guidelines (2019) and South Africa's World Heritage Convention Act (Act No. 49 of 1999).

According to the 2019 UNESCO Operational Guidelines, the contents or key elements of a management plan or system of every inscribed property could include:

- a thorough shared understanding of the property by all stakeholders;
- a cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and feedback;
- the involvement of partners and stakeholders;
- the allocation of necessary resources;
- capacity-building; and
- an accountable, transparent description of how the management system functions.

In terms of South Africa's World Heritage Convention Act (Act No.49 of 1999), Chapter IV, section 24, the Contents of Integrated Management Plans must contain, at least –

- a. a co-ordinated policy framework;
- b. such planning measures, controls and performance criteria as many be prescribed;
- c. a programme for the implementation of the plan;
- d. procedures for public participation;
- e. procedures for participation by nature conservation, tourism and other relevant experts;
- f. cultural or nature conservation component required by
 - a. applicable law; and
 - b. the directives of the Minister;
- g. provisions regarding the
 - a. activities allowed within a particular geographical area;
 - b. terms and conditions for conducting activities;
 - c. prohibition of activities prescribed by the Minister;
 - d. control over the frequency, size, impact or manner of conducting activities in a particular geographical area, including without limitation, the use of, or access to, structures;
 - e. a description of the World Heritage Site concerned, an assessment of its significance and an evaluation of material threats to its significance; and
 - f. alienation, lease or encumbrance of movable and immovable property referred to in section 13(1)(j) in accordance with this Act, if applicable.

Importantly, the scope of work needs to efficiently and effectively consolidate all the work done to date (including the key reference documentation listed in point five below), and developments in the landscape since inscription of the WHS, so as, to not recreate the wheel and to ensure landscape and community dynamics are appropriately included. Critical is that the focus of this work should be on gaps in previous work completed related to implementation, financial sustainability, human resourcing, and a biodiversity assessment baseline.

The project should include thorough but strategic stakeholder engagement that recognises the substantial engagement with the community conducted to date through various previous processes and projects. It must be noted from the outset, that the success of an IMP depends on the authority given to it during its preparation and after completion. Opportunities for all stakeholders, especially property owners and managers, need to therefore be clear and realistic, leading to support for and ownership of the plan.

More specifically, the contents of the IMP should at least:

- Focus on protecting the Outstanding Universal Value of the site while responding to management issues of local relevance;
- Provide baseline information on the state of the site, including an adequate description of it;
- Provide a transparent description of how the existing system functions and how it can be improved; in the context of relevant legislation and Policy;
- Outline management structures and practices at the site (those actually in force, and those proposed/required);
- Be accessible and easily understood by all stakeholders, avoiding excessive use of jargon;
- Present a vision and long-term goals for the site as well as clear actions required to achieve these goals;
- Outline the timelines, resourcing requirements and strategies for implementing activities proposed
- Outline the status of the management plan in relation to other plans (development /conservation) in and around the site;
- Take risk management into account;
- Be strategic in its approach: make use of lessons learned from past actions to anticipate the direction of management into the future;
- Describe how the plan and management system will be implemented, monitored and reviewed;

5. REFERENCE DOCUMENTATION

Key reference documentation that should inform the project process and final IMP includes, but is not limited to:

- Nomination Dossier: Application for Inclusion of the World Heritage List – The Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape, EcoAfrika
- Draft for Comment: Management Plan of The Richtersveld World Heritage Site (2009) EcoAfrika
- Feasibility Study and Business Plans for Economic Benefits that Communities can derive from their Communal Areas – Richtersveld, Northern Cape (2018), Kyle Business Projects
- Richtersveld World Heritage Site Proposal (2016) (also referred to as the Tourism Infrastructure Project Proposal Richtersveld World Heritage Site), Department of Tourism (DoT) & Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism (NC-DEDAT)
- RWHS: Tourism Infrastructure Economic Feasibility Study (2020) Taloc Projects
- Southern African Development Community (SADC) Tourism Programme 2020-2030 (2019)
- SADC/German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) Transboundary Use & Protection of Natura Resources Tourism Support: Packaging of Ai-Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park (ARTP) Tourism Offerings
- Richtersveld National Park Management Plan 2018-2028, (2018) SANParks
- Richtersveld National Park Stakeholders participation report, (2018) SANParks
- Richtersveld Local Municipality Conservation Development Framework (2019), Indego Consulting
- Conservation South Africa Rangeland Management Project, Steinkopf
- Richtersveld Spatial Development Framework (SDF)
- Richtersveld Integrated Development Plan (IDP)
- Draft Heritage Agreement between CPA and Northern Cape DSAC (outstanding since 2007)
- Various Biodiversity Assessments done to date for the Site

6. DELIVERABLES & PROTECT TIME FRAME

Deliverable	Decription, Content	Timeframe	Contract %
Deliverable 1: Inception Report	Attend an inception briefing meeting, and thereafter produce an Inception Report detailing the agreed IMP structure/framework, approach, methodology, work plan and timeline of activities and Stakeholder engagement plan	2 weeks from Inception meeting.	20
Deliverable 2: Progress Report (including site visit & stakeholder engagement report & consolidation of research)	Key Documentation review and consolidation; Strategic and targeted stakeholder engagement and site visits.	2-3 months	20
Deliverable 3: Draft IMP	A completed draft IMP for the RWHS for stakeholder review & input	2 months	30
Deliverable 2: Final IMP	A final IMP for the RWHS, approved by the RWHS CPA, and submitted to DEFF for Ministerial Approval	1 month	30

7. CONTRACT PERIOD AND EFFORT REQUIRED

The project should start as soon as the service provider is appointed and be completed by end of May 2021.

8. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Experience in project development and implementation in the Richtersveld landscape, and an understanding of the landscape's socioeconomic history and dynamics.
- Relevant environment / social/ economic management masters degree .
- Experience in integrated management and conservation planning, incorporating revenue generating activities and livelihood opportunities, with conservation, cultural heritage, and governance and management structures.
- Understanding of, and experience in, application of the World Heritage Convention and the Act.
- Understanding of, and experience in, community and participatory development.
- Understanding of, and experience in, sustainable development and resource use allocations.

9. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

The service provider will be appointed by and contracted through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) country office of South Africa, funded through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) 5 PA Project.

The service provider will report to a project steering committee consisting of GEF-UNDP Project Economist; DEFF; and the RWHS Site Manger. Additionally, a broader advisory committee also including NC-DEDAT, NC DSAC, SANParks, Northern Cape Department of Environment (DENC); Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) the ARTP and other key partners will provide strategic guidance.

10. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation of proposals will be conducted according to UNDP procurement rules. A two-stage procedure is utilised in evaluating the proposals, with evaluation of the technical proposal being

completed prior to any price proposal being opened and compared. The price proposal of the proposals will be opened only for submissions that passed the minimum technical score of 70% of the obtainable score of 100 points in the evaluation of the technical proposals. The technical proposal is evaluated on the basis of its responsiveness to the Term of Reference (TOR) and candidates may be requested to make a presentation to the Technical Evaluation committee. In the Second Stage, the price proposal of all contractors, who have attained a minimum of 70% score in the technical evaluation will be compared.

Selection will be based on a technically qualified proposal with lowest quoted financial proposal, where the approach to the work, qualifications and experience (Technical proposal) will be weighted to a maximum of 70%, and the price offer (Financial proposal) which will be weighted at a maximum of 30%.

Technical Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation criteria	Max score
Proposed Methodology (A clear methodology. The methodology must outline how the Scope of Work will be carried out according to each deliverable with an understanding of the assignment).	25
Proposed Work Plan (Detailed work plan with milestones, timelines and resources and designated responsibilities of the consultant and any support members must be indicated in the proposal for achieving of the deliverables).	25
Documented experience, knowledge and proven track record undertaking similar projects (conservation planning; integrated management plan development; cultural heritage, business planning)	30
Documented experience and knowledge of working in the Richtersveld landscape or very similar context. 5 and more yrs = 10 3-5 yrs = 8 1-3 yrs = 6	10
Experience in professional communication at workshops and stakeholder consultations	10

11. RESPONSE FORMAT

To facilitate the analysis of responses, all interested parties are required to prepare their response in accordance with the instructions outlined in this section. All proposals should be electronically generated. The vendor will be hired on a UNDP contract.

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- A Technical Proposal: Letter of Interest, stating why you consider your service suitable for the assignment and a brief methodology on the approach and implementation of the assignment;
- Evidence and examples of similar projects that have been successfully completed;
- Personal CVs highlighting qualifications and experience in similar projects;
- Work references – minimum of 3 references - contact details (e-mail addresses) of referees (organisation for whom you've produced similar assignments);
- All-inclusive financial proposal not exceeding R500,000.00, indicating consultancy fee (South African Rand) and a breakdown of expenses (unit price together with any other expenses) related to the assignment. The proposal must incorporate all the costs including travel etc. for the service provider to achieve the required deliverables.

Applicants are required to submit the following documents to bid.pretoria@undp.org on or before the 16th October 2020 with the subject line: **Job Code Title and Reference Number**.

11. CONTACT PERSON

For any enquiries regarding this call for proposal, contact the UNDP procurement.enquiries.za@undp.org or lerato.maimela@undp.org

