



## AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Immeuble du Centre de commerce international d'Abidjan CCIA  
Avenue Jean-Paul II 01 BP 1387 Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

Energy, Financial Solutions, Policy & Regulation (PESR) Department  
E-mail: f.opoku@afdb.org

### RECRUITMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT TO SUPPORT THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE MAURITANIA GREEN HYDROGEN SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

1. **Assignment:** The African Development Bank (“The Bank”) hereby invites individual consultants to express their interest in the following services: *Consultancy Services to Support Mauritania Green Hydrogen (GH) Sector Development Program*, as part of the recently approved Bank-funded “*Africa Energy Transition Catalyst Program (AETC) Addendum*”. Under the AETC umbrella, the Bank has provided a grant to the Government of Mauritania (GOM) through the Ministry of Petroleum, Mines and Energy (MPME) to implement the three following activities: (i) Land Planning and Assessment, (ii) Development of a pre-feasibility study on a one-stop window for green hydrogen administrative processes and, (iii) Development of an auction procedure for GH projects.
2. **Objectives:** The aim of this assignment is to engage an individual consultant to provide general support, program management and coordination, expert advice, and technical advisory to the GOM and MPME on their Green Hydrogen Development Program. Accordingly, the selected individual consultant (“the Consultant”) will be expected to provide both technical and program support to delivering the activities outlined, as well as on MPME’s broader donor-funded GH programs.
3. **Qualification to perform the consulting services:** Interested Consultants shall provide information on their qualifications and experience demonstrating their ability to undertake this assignment (documents, reference to similar services, CVs, experience in similar assignments, etc.). Detailed required experience and qualifications are outlined in the Terms of Reference (TOR) in annex 2 of this document.
4. **Eligibility**  
The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the Bank’s Rules and Procedure for the Use of Consultants. Please, note that interest expressed by a consultant does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include him/her in the shortlist.
5. **Duration of the assignment:** The duration of the assignment is 12 months extendable for 6 more months, over an overall period of 36 months subject to satisfactory

performance of the consultant and availability of the budget. The commencement date is anticipated to be 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

6. **Procurement Process:**

-Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the “**Rules and Procedures for the use of Consultants**”.

-Please note that interest expressed by a consultant does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include them in the shortlist. Adherence to the Bank’s Code of Ethics and Core Values is an essential requirement for this Assignment. The Bank reserves the right to cancel or postpone this procurement process should that be deemed necessary.

7. **Deadline and contact:**

– Interested consultants **may** obtain further information at the email addresses below during office hours: 08:00 – 17:00 GMT.

– Request for clarifications must be sent to the Bank via email, no later than **Monday, January 15, 2024, at 17:00 GMT.**

– Expressions of **interest** must be received in soft copy to the email addresses below no later than **Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 17:00 GMT** and specifically mentioning: **“Expression of Interest – Consultancy Services to Support Mauritania Green Hydrogen (GH) Sector Development Program”.**

– For the attention of Ms. FRED A KYEABEA OPOKU: [F.OPOKU@AFDB.ORG](mailto:F.OPOKU@AFDB.ORG) with copy to Mr. CARLOS MOLLINEDO : [C.MOLLINEDO@AFDB.ORG](mailto:C.MOLLINEDO@AFDB.ORG) , Ms. ETIDEL LABIDI: [E.LABIDI@AFDB.ORG](mailto:E.LABIDI@AFDB.ORG) , Ms. SANA ESSABER: [S.ESSABER@AFDB.ORG](mailto:S.ESSABER@AFDB.ORG)

– **Expressions of Interest should be submitted in English following the format shared in Annex 1.**

8. **Establishment of the Short List (Evaluation Process)**

– A shortlist of three to six individual consultants will be established at the end of the request of expressions of interest. The expressions of interests will be assessed based on the following criteria.

#	Criteria	Score
1	General qualifications and adequacy for the assignment to be undertaken	30
2	Similar experience in the area of expertise of the assignment	40
3	Language Proficiency	10
4	Experience with MDBs and DFIs in project management and coordination	20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**ANNEXES:**

**ANNEX 1: Model Curriculum Vitae (CV)**

**ANNEX 2: Terms of Reference (TOR)**

## ANNEX 1: MODEL CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)

Title of the Assignment:

Department:

Surname:

First Name:

Birth Date:

Nationality:

Address:

Country:

Telephone:

E-mail:

<b>Are any of your family members (spouse/partner, father/mother, Brother/sister, Son/daughter, etc.° employed in the African Development Bank?</b>			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If « Yes », the following data must be provided
Name	Relationship	Organisation Unit	Place of Assignment

Language Level	Read	Written	Spoken
English	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent
French	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent

### Key Qualifications:

Please provide (i) a summary of your experience and training highlighting the most relevant for the proposed assignment, and (ii) the responsibilities which you exercised. Utilize one half-page maximum.

### Education (University Level and above only):

Name of University - City - Country	Period		Diploma Obtained	Main Topic / Major
	From	To		

**Professional Training:**

Name of Training Institution- City - Country	Type of Training	Period		Certificates or Diploma Obtained
		From	To	

**Employment Record:**

Begin with your most recent employment. For each job since your master's degree achievement, please indicate:

- Name of the Employer
- Type of Activity/Business of the Employer
- Title / Function
- Place of Employment
- Brief Description (three lines maximum) of main accomplishments and responsibilities

**Adequacy for the Assignment:**

Detailed Tasks Assigned	Reference to Prior Work/Assignments that Best Illustrates Capability to Handle the Assigned Tasks
<i>{List all deliverables/tasks as described in the TORs}</i>	

**Reference:**

Please indicate the name and address of three persons with no family relationship with yourself, familiar with your character and titles.

I hereby certify that the responses which I provided above are all, to the best of my knowledge, true, complete and accurate. I acknowledge that an inaccurate statement or essential omission in a personal declaration or another document required by the African Development Bank might result in the rejection of my application, termination of my

Contract or any other administrative sanction by the Bank. The African Development Bank may verify any statements which I made in this application.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature:*

## **ANNEX 2: TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **MAURITANIA'S GREEN HYDROGEN SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SELECTION OF AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT TO SUPPORT THE GREEN HYDROGEN TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Fossil fuel dominates the Mauritanian electricity generation mix with the power system fragmented into several isolated networks powered mainly by diesel generators. However renewable energy generation is increasing rapidly in the past few years. They accounted for around 30% of total power generation in 2020 (solar 15% and wind 13%).

As part of the government's energy policy statement 2021-2030 is the ambitious plan to develop Green Hydrogen as a key element for exchanges between Europe, North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa and as an enabler to decarbonize the country's booming mining sector. With their abundant resources (RE resources, vast land, availability of sea water to desalinate and a huge deposit of iron ore resources), the country is poised to become one of the leading producers of green hydrogen and green steel on the continent.

The donor partner working group on green hydrogen established and chaired by GoM, including the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) has elaborated a matrix of priority activities to be undertaken by each partner. AfDB as a strategic partner of Mauritania, will support the country in its quest to develop a thriving green hydrogen sector through the implementation of a Technical Assistance Program. In particular, the AfDB has approved a program to support the development of a land planning assessment, develop a pre-feasibility study for a one-stop window for administrative processes, and the development of an auction process for green hydrogen in Mauritania.

#### **2. OBJECTIVE**

As part of the overall project management of the various donor funded green hydrogen initiatives, including this TA program in Mauritania, an independent and highly qualified consultant will be recruited to assist the Mauritanian Ministry of Petroleum, Mines, and Energy. They will among others coordinate the different development partner efforts on green hydrogen, prepare the terms of reference (ToRs) relating to the selection of the individual consultant and consulting firms, who will be responsible for carrying out the three aforementioned activity components, as well as evaluate the deliverables of the various studies and activities which will be carried out as part of this project.

#### **3. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The individual consultant will be responsible for carrying out the following activities:

- ❖ **ACTIVITY 1:** Develop the Terms of Reference for the selection of two consulting firms and one individual consultant who will develop (i) the land planning assessment

(ii) the development of an auction process for green hydrogen and (iii) the pre-feasibility studies for the development of a one-stop shop to simplify green hydrogen administrative processes respectively (coordination with the TAF team of EU working on a manual of procedure is needed).

The consultant must develop the three ToRs in collaboration with the working Group of the Ministry and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). He must therefore define and specify the various studies, deliverables, and activities to be carried out as part of the three activity components (Annex I specifies details of the three activities to be carried out)

- ❖ **ACTIVITY 2:** Evaluate deliverables and activities carried out as part of the three activity components as stated above through:
  - Analysis of the methodologies used to carry out the different phases of the study,
  - Critical reading, examination and evaluation of the deliverables developed in these studies, through the production of notes and/or evaluation reports for each deliverable produced in which he must analyze the results, formulate recommendations, and identify weaknesses possible and areas for improvement.

It is important that the individual consultant maintains a high level of professional integrity and transparency in the study evaluation process. He must be impartial and objective in his assessment, avoiding any conflict of interest and ensuring that his conclusions are based on solid and reliable evidence.

- ❖ **ACTIVITY 3:** Project Management Activities:
  - The consultant will provide the Ministry and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with the reports and documents necessary for monitoring the project, including in particular:
    - Quarterly reports on the progress of the project also including monitoring of billing statements, Minutes and records of work meetings held with the Ministry and the technical committee and/or the AfDB.
  - **ACTIVITY 4:** Assist the Ministry of Petroleum Mines and Energy in coordinating the supports all donor-funded initiatives related to green hydrogen.
  - Support MPME on negotiation processes with the potential operators to assess their proposals if needed, especially on technical issues.

#### 4. CONSULTANT QUALIFICATIONS

The consultant should have high-level expertise and work experience in the areas to be carried out within the framework of this study as mentioned previously in activity 1. The tasks are of a multidisciplinary nature from project management, the preparation of the ToRs to the evaluation of the deliverables and activities that will be carried out as part of the three main activity components. The tender evaluation criteria make it possible to ensure that the necessary know-how, skills, and experience are present in the selected Consultant.

Specifically, the consultant should have the following experience and qualifications:

- A master's degree in energy or renewable energy engineering, electrical engineering, energy economics or equivalent.
- At least 10 years of professional experience in overseeing successful development, management and reporting multi-donor funded projects.

This should be complimented by experience in donor coordination, mobilization, and supervision of experts and good managerial skills.

- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in the field of Green Hydrogen will be prioritized, with consideration for experience in projects related to renewable energy.
- Experience working with national and regional public sector institutions; international financial institutions (IFIs), multilateral development banks (MDBs) and/or official development agencies (ODAs); Experience with the African Development Bank will be an added advantage.
- Relevant experience in at least three (3) African countries, experience in Mauritania will be an added advantage.
- Proficiency in computer applications, notably MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English.

## 5. DURATION

The duration of the T.A program is 12 months extendable for 6 more months over an overall period of 36 months, subject to satisfactory performance of the consultant and availability of the budget. The consultant will provide in his offer the required man-days across the duration of the program for the execution of the requested services. He must also provide, to the TAC, in addition to the ToRs for the choice of the consulting firm responsible for carrying out the studies and activities, notes and/or evaluation reports for each deliverable/activity within a period not exceeding 15 days from receipt of the deliverable concerned.

## 6. LOCATION

The selected Consultant may work physically within the Ministry of Petroleum, Mines and Energy of Mauritania or otherwise as agreed with the Ministry.

## 7. REPORT LANGUAGE

All reports and notes must be written in both English and French.

## 8. ACTIVITIES

- ❖ **ACTIVITY 1:** Develop the Terms of Reference for the selection of two consulting firms and one individual consultant who will develop (i) the land planning assessment (ii) the development of an auction process for green hydrogen and (iii) the pre-feasibility studies for the development of a one-stop shop to simplify green hydrogen administrative processes respectively.

The consultant must develop the three ToRs in collaboration with the working group of the Ministry and the TAC. He must therefore define and specify the various studies, deliverables, and activities to be carried out as part of the three activity components, including among others:

### i. **land planning assessment:**

- Identification, Assessment, and pre-determination of physical and technical specifications of the land eligible and suitable for the construction of GH plants and sites.
- Determining the land rights (including if the land is covered by other permitting like mining ones or others), and land related procedures legal, regulatory, and administrative frameworks that governs land and water usage in Mauritania. The ongoing study for a cadaster of wind and solar will be taken in account.
- Assessment of interruptions to livelihoods of surrounding communities, and if



resettlement plans will be applied during the acquisition of the lands.

- Undertaking the benchmark study of how the other countries plan land for green hydrogen projects.

**ii. the pre-feasibility studies for the development of a one-stop shop to simplify green hydrogen administrative processes:**

- Determining what administrative processes are needed for the Green Hydrogen value chain including best practices around the world, the key procedures, documentations, criteria, and modalities that are pre-requisite to operationalize a one-stop window for H<sub>2</sub>. The ongoing process for establishing a Green Hydrogen Code and Manual of Procedure must be used as input.

**iii. the development of an auction process for green hydrogen:**

- Determining the objectives from the auction process.
- Reviewing the complete set of existing frameworks to establish a modern, transparent and competitive GH procurement framework in Mauritania.
- Assess the country fulfillment of sustainability criteria, to ensure eligible hydrogen products to consider as part of the auction criteria (the criteria can include ricing for instance).
- Assess the environmental aspects and social impacts of hydrogen production, deemed acceptable for a product to pass the auction procedure.
- Assessment of the risk sharing level (including risk bearer) between production costs and willingness of demanders to pay.
- An assessment of potential markets targeted once the auction procedure is in place.
- An assessment of the capacity (and skill needs) to administer the auctions for hydrogen once established) invitation, evaluation, acceptance of bids.
- Definition and proposal of tariffs to be applied to the identified GH projects, whenever applicable segmented by ranges for each GH technology.
- Development of the types of auction method and procedures to be applied with its conditions/modalities for implementation.
- Determining the legal basis for the auction process and outlining the processes to go through for each auction type.
- Production of a complete written set of documents, technical, economic, and legal, that all together might configure a comprehensive Request for Proposal (RfP). Technical component of RfP, among others. For the Expression of Interest (EoI) and/or Request for Qualification (RfQ) step, propose required pre-qualification conditions.
- Assessment of 2 pilot cases on the conduction of tender processes in initial multiple stages, including Expression of Interest (EoI) and/or Request for Qualification (RfQ), Request for Information (RfI) and Request for Proposals (RfP).
- Ascertain and address any risks that may negatively impact the functioning of the auction framework.
- Produce a report containing a clear roadmap for the operationalization of the Mauritanian GH auction framework.
- Training, capacity building and awareness activities to government officials for guiding of tariffs definition and methodology calculation as well as on the proposed auction framework.
- The ongoing process for establishing a Green Hydrogen Code and Manual of Procedure must be used as input.