

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO SUBMIT A BID TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SOUTHERN AFRICA LIMITED	
BID NUMBER:	RFP142/2026
COMPULSORY BRIEFING SESSION DETAILS:	Tender briefing will be done online via Microsoft teams. Bidders are advised to use the link below to join the briefing session. Click on the link to join the meeting. Bidders must complete their details fully in order to have access to the briefing session. The link will only be accessible 15 minutes before the meeting. Compulsory Briefing Session - RFP142.2026 Link: 31 August 2026 @09H00 AM (Johannesburg time)
CLOSING DATE:	10 September 2026
CLOSING TIME:	23H55 (Midnight)
PERIOD FOR WHICH BIDS ARE REQUIRED TO REMAIN OPEN FOR ACCEPTANCE:	The tender offer validity period is 120 calendar days from the closing time for submission of Tenders. Tenderers non-acceptance of subsequent validity extensions will result in tenderers exclusion from process, whilst the process will continue to conclude
DESCRIPTION OF BID:	APPOINTMENT OF A QUALIFIED CONSULTANT OR CONSORTIUM TO UNDERTAKE ECONOMIC COMPLEXITY STUDIES AND COMPREHENSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS TO INFORM ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, INVESTMENT PRIORITISATION, POLICY FORMULATION AND JUST TRANSITION PLANNING
BID DOCUMENTS ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION:	1. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS <u>INSTRUCTIONS:</u> ➤ Bidders are required to submit written requests for clarification via e-mail to yusiscm@dbsa.org ONLY, quoting the RFP Number on the subject of the e-mail. This must be done three (3) working days before submission day.

	➤ Bidders will thereafter receive a OneDrive Link to upload their submission documents electronically. ➤ Written requests for clarification will be considered up to and including 04 September 2026 16:30 Johannesburg time. Requests received after this date may not be attended to. ➤ Any requests after the stipulated date and time may be disregarded. NB: Electronic submission is encouraged for all bidders interested in this tender Closing date of this 10/09/2026 is before 23:55. No physical bids will be received or accepted at the DBSA offices
NAME OF BIDDER:	
CONTACT PERSON:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:	
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	
FAX NUMBER:	
BIDDER'S STAMP OR SIGNATURE	



The Development Bank of Southern Africa has a Zero Tolerance on Fraud and Corruption. Report any incidents of Fraud and Corruption to Whistle Blowers on any of the following:

TollFree : 0800 20 49 33
 Email : dbsa@whistleblowing.co.za
 Free Post : Free Post KZN 665 | Musgrave | 4062
 SMS : 33490

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**PART A
INVITATION TO BID**

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BID FOR REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SOUTHERN AFRICA LIMITED ("DBSA")

BID NUMBER: RFP142/2026

DESCRIPTION: APPOINTMENT OF A QUALIFIED CONSULTANT OR CONSORTIUM TO UNDERTAKE ECONOMIC COMPLEXITY STUDIES AND COMPREHENSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS TO INFORM ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, INVESTMENT PRIORITISATION, POLICY FORMULATION AND JUST TRANSITION PLANNING

COMPULSORY BRIEFING: 31 August 2026 - Tender briefing will be done online via Microsoft teams.

COMPULSORY BRIEFING LINK:

Time: 09H00 AM Johannesburg time (Microsoft Teams)

[Compulsory Briefing Session - RFP142.2026](#)

Closing time for the OneDrive Link submissions - 23h55 on the 10 September 2026 (Telkom Time)

CLOSING DATE: 10 September 2026

CLOSING TIME: 23H55

Name

 Bidder Name

Name

 Folder 1_Financial Proposal

 Folder 2_Technical Proposal

- a) It remains the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the bid submission is uploaded using the correct bidder document and tender link.
- b) Should a bidder encounter an issue with the system, the bidder must provide sufficient evidence as proof of attempting to upload their submission before the cut-off time and the error received.
- c) Faxed, emailed bids will not be accepted, only an electronic submission received via the link will be accepted.
- d) It is therefore the responsibility of the bidder to request for a link to participate.
- e) The DBSA assumes no responsibility if a Bidder's designated email address is not correct, or if there are technical challenges, including those with the Bidders computer, network, or internet service provider (ISP).

BID SUBMISSION LINK REQUESTS:

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THE OFFICIAL FORMS – (NOT TO BE RE-TYPED)

THIS BID IS SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT (GCC) AND, IF APPLICABLE, ANY OTHER SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT, WHICH ARE SET OUT IN PART C OF THIS DOCUMENT.

THE FOLLOWING PARTICULARS MUST BE FURNISHED (FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN YOUR BID BEING DISQUALIFIED).

BIDDERS THAT ARE UNINCORPORATED CONSORTIA CONSISTING OF MORE THAN ONE LEGAL ENTITY MUST SELECT A LEAD ENTITY AND FURNISH THE DETAILS OF THE LEAD ENTITY, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

NAME OF BIDDER AND EACH ENTITY IN CONSORTIUM:				
POSTAL ADDRESS:				
STREET ADDRESS:				
CONTACT PERSON (FULL NAME):				
EMAIL ADDRESS:				
TELEPHONE NUMBER:				
FAX NUMBER:				
BIDDER REGISTRATION NUMBER OR REGISTRATION NUMBER OF EACH ENTITY IN CONSORTIUM				
BIDDER VAT REGISTRATION NUMBER OR VAT REGISTRATION NUMBER OF EACH ENTITY IN CONSORTIUM				
BBBEE STATUS LEVEL VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE /BBBEE STATUS LEVEL SWORN AFFIDAVIT SUBMITTED?	YES		NO	
[TICK APPLICABLE BOX]				

1..1.1	ARE YOU THE ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES/WORKS OFFERED?	☐ Yes ☐ No [IF YES ENCLOSE PROOF]			
1..1.2	ARE YOU A FOREIGN BASED SUPPLIER FOR THE GOODS /SERVICES/WORKS OFFERED?	☐ Yes ☐ No [IF YES ANSWER PART B:3 BELOW]			
1..1.3	SIGNATURE OF BIDDER				
1..1.4	DATE				
1..1.5	FULL NAME OF AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE				
1..1.6	CAPACITY UNDER WHICH THIS BID IS SIGNED (Attach proof of authority to sign this bid; e.g. resolution of directors, etc.)				
IF YES, WHO ISSUED THE CERTIFICATE?					
REGISTERED WITH THE NATIONAL TREASURY CSD [TICK APPLICABLE BOX]		YES		NO	
CSD REGISTRATION NUMBER					
TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS PIN (TCS) NUMBER ISSUED BY SARS					

PART B TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR BIDDING

1. BID SUBMISSION:
1.1. BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY BY THE STIPULATED TIME TO THE LINK PROVIDED. LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR CONSIDERATION. 1.2. ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THE OFFICIAL FORMS PROVIDED – (NOT TO BE RE-TYPED) 1.3. SOUTH AFRICAN BIDDERS MUST REGISTER ON THE CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD) TO UPLOAD MANDATORY INFORMATION NAMELY: (BUSINESS REGISTRATION/ DIRECTORSHIP/ MEMBERSHIP/IDENTITY NUMBERS; TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS; AND BANKING INFORMATION FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES). B-BBEE CERTIFICATE OR SWORN AFFIDAVIT FOR B-BBEE MUST BE SUBMITTED BY BIDDING INSTITUTION. 1.4. WHERE A BIDDER IS NOT REGISTERED ON THE CSD, MANDATORY INFORMATION NAMELY: (BUSINESS REGISTRATION/ DIRECTORSHIP/ MEMBERSHIP/IDENTITY NUMBERS; TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID DOCUMENTATION. B-BBEE CERTIFICATE OR SWORN AFFIDAVIT FOR B-BBEE MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BIDDING INSTITUTION.
2. TAX COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS
2.1 ALL BIDDERS MUST ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR TAX OBLIGATIONS IN THEIR COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE. 2.2 SOUTH AFRICAN BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THEIR UNIQUE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN) ISSUED BY SARS TO ENABLE THE ORGAN OF STATE TO VIEW THE TAXPAYER'S PROFILE AND TAX STATUS. 2.3 SOUTH AFRICAN BIDDERS CAN APPLY FOR TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS (TCS) OR PIN MAY ALSO BE MADE VIA E-FILING. IN ORDER TO USE THIS PROVISION, TAXPAYERS WILL NEED TO REGISTER WITH SARS AS E-FILERS THROUGH THE WEBSITE WWW.SARS.GOV.ZA. 2.4 SA BIDDERS' MAY ALSO SUBMIT A PRINTED TCS TOGETHER WITH THE BID. 2.5 IN BIDS WHERE CONSORTIA / JOINT VENTURES / SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE INVOLVED; EACH PARTY MUST SUBMIT A SEPARATE PROOF OF TCS / PIN / CSD NUMBER (TAX COMPLIANCE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE LEGISLATION IN THEIR COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE. 2.6 WHERE SA BIDDERS HAVE NO TCS AVAILABLE BUT ARE REGISTERED ON THE CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD), A CSD NUMBER MUST BE PROVIDED.
3. QUESTIONNAIRE TO BIDDING FOREIGN SUPPLIERS
3.1. IS THE BIDDER A RESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (RSA)? ☐ YES ☐ NO 3.2. DOES THE BIDDER HAVE A BRANCH IN THE RSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO 3.3. DOES THE BIDDER HAVE A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT IN THE RSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO 3.4. DOES THE BIDDER HAVE ANY SOURCE OF INCOME IN THE RSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO IF THE ANSWER IS "NO" TO ALL OF THE ABOVE, THEN, IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN A TAX COMPLIANCE STATUS / TAX COMPLIANCE SYSTEM PIN CODE FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE (SARS) AND IF NOT REGISTER AS PER 2.3 ABOVE.

NB: FAILURE TO PROVIDE ANY OF THE ABOVE PARTICULARS MAY RENDER THE BID INVALID

PART C

CHECKLIST OF RETURNABLE SCHEDULES AND DOCUMENTS

Please adhere to the following instructions:

- Tick in the relevant block below;
- Ensure that the following documents are completed and signed where applicable; and
- Use the prescribed sequence in attaching the annexes that complete the Bid Document

NB: Should all these documents not be included, the Bidder may be disqualified on the basis of non-compliance

YES **NO**

☐	☐	One original Bid document in separate folders; Folder 1 - for Pre-Qualifying Criteria and Functional Evaluation and Folder 2 - Price / Financial Proposal – Electronic submission
☐	☐	Part A: Invitation to Bid
☐	☐	Part B: Terms and Conditions of Bidding
☐	☐	Part C: Checklist of Compulsory Returnable Schedules and Documents
☐	☐	Part D: Conditions of Tendering and Undertakings by Bidders
☐	☐	Part E: Specifications/Terms of Reference and Project Brief
☐	☐	Annexure A: Price Proposal Requirement
☐	☐	Annexure B: SBD4 Declaration of Interest
☐	☐	Annexure C: SBD6.1 and B-BBEE status level certificate
☐	☐	Annexure F: Certified copies of your CIPC company registration documents listing all members with percentages, in case of a lose corporation
☐	☐	Annexure G: Certified copies of latest share certificates, in case of a company.
☐	☐	Annexure H: (if applicable): A breakdown of how fees and work will be spread between members of the bidding consortium.
☐	☐	Annexure I: Supporting documents to responses to Pre-Qualifying Criteria and Functional Evaluation Criteria.

☐☐

Annexure J: General Condition of Contract

☐☐

Annexure K: CSD Tax Compliance Status and Registration Requirements Report

PART D

CONDITIONS OF TENDERING AND UNDERTAKINGS BY BIDDER

1. DEFINITIONS

In this Request for Proposals, unless a contrary intention is apparent:

- 1.1 **B-BBEE** means broad-based black economic empowerment as defined in section 1 of the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, 2003;
- 1.2 **B-BBEE Act** means the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, 2003;
- 1.3 **B-BBEE status level of contributor** means the B-BBEE status received by a measured entity based on its overall performance used to claim points in terms of regulation 6 and 7 of the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022.
- 1.4 **Business Day** means a day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in South Africa.
- 1.5 **Bid** means a written offer in the prescribed or stipulated form lodged by a Bidder in response to an invitation in this Request for Proposal, containing an offer to provide goods, works or services in accordance with the Specification as provided in this RFP.
- 1.6 **Bidder** means a person or legal entity, or an unincorporated group of persons or legal entities that submit a Bid.
- 1.7 **Companies Act** means the Companies Act, 2008.
- 1.8 **Compulsory Documents** means the list of compulsory schedules and documents set out in Part B.
- 1.9 **Closing Time** means the time, specified as such under the clause (Bid Timetable) in Part C, by which Tenders must be received.
- 1.10 **DBSA** means the Development Bank of Southern Africa Limited.
- 1.11 **DFI** means Development Finance Institution.
- 1.12 **Evaluation Criteria** means the criteria set out under the clause 26 (Evaluation Process) of this Part C, which includes the Qualifying Criteria, Functional Criteria and Price and Preferential Points Assessment (where applicable).
- 1.13 **Functional Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 27 of this Part C.
- 1.14 **Intellectual Property Rights** includes copyright and neighbouring rights, and all proprietary rights in relation to inventions (including patents) registered and unregistered trademarks (including service marks), registered designs, confidential information (including trade secrets and know how) and circuit layouts, and all other proprietary rights resulting from intellectual activity in the industrial, scientific, literary or artistic fields.
- 1.15 **PFMA** means the Public Finance Management Act, 1999.
- 1.16 **PPPFA** means the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000.

- 1.17 **PPPFA Regulations** means the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022 published in terms of the PPPFA.
- 1.18 **Pre-Qualifying Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 26.3 of this Part C.
- 1.19 **Price and Preferential Points Assessment** means the process described in clause 26.5 of this Part C, as prescribed by the PPPFA.
- 1.20 **Proposed Contract** means the agreement including any other terms and conditions contained in or referred to in this RFP that may be executed between the DBSA and the successful Bidder.
- 1.21 **Request for Proposal** or **RFP** means this document (comprising each of the parts identified under Part A, Part B, Part C and Part D) including all annexures and any other documents so designated by the DBSA.
- 1.22 **SARS** means the South African Revenue Service.
- 1.23 **Services** means the services required by the DBSA, as specified in this RFP Part D.
- 1.24 **SLA** means Service Level Agreement.
- 1.25 **SOE** means State Owned Enterprise, as defined by the Companies' Act.
- 1.26 **Specification** means the conditions of tender set and any specification or description of the DBSA's requirements contained in this RFP.
- 1.27 **State** means the Republic of South Africa.
- 1.28 **Statement of Compliance** means the statement forming part of a Tender indicating the Bidders compliance with the Specification.
- 1.29 **Tendering Process** means the process commenced by the issuing of this Request for Proposals and concluding upon formal announcement by the DBSA of the selection of a successful Bidder(s) or upon the earlier termination of the process.
- 1.30 **Website** means a website administered by DBSA under its name with web address www.dbsa.org

2. INTERPRETATIONS

In this RFP, unless expressly provided otherwise a reference to:

- 2.1 "includes" or "including" means includes or including without limitation; and
- 2.2 "R" or "Rand" is a reference to the lawful currency of the Republic of South Africa.

3. TENDER TECHNICAL AND GENERAL QUERIES

Queries pertaining to this tender must be directed to:-

DBSA Supply Chain Management Unit

Email: vusiscm@dbsa.org

No questions will be answered telephonically

4. SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

COMPULSORY BRIEFING: **31st August 2026** - Tender briefing will be done online via Microsoft teams.

Click on the link to join the meeting. Bidders must complete their details fully in order to have access to the briefing session. The link will only be accessible 15 minutes before the meeting.

[Compulsory Briefing Session - RFP142.2026](#)

Link: 31 August 2026 @09H00 AM (Johannesburg time) Time: 09H00 AM Johannesburg time
(Microsoft Teams)

LINK REQUESTS: Bidders are asked to nominate one dedicated contact person (name, email address and phone number.

Link Request DATE By: **04 September 2026**

Link Request TIME By: 16H30

5. RULES GOVERNING THIS RFP AND THE TENDERING PROCESS

- 5.1 Participation in the tender process is subject to compliance with the rules contained in this RFP Part C.
- 5.2 All persons (whether a participant in this tender process or not) having obtained or received this RFP may only use it, and the information contained herein, in compliance with the rules contained in this RFP.
- 5.3 All Bidders are deemed to accept the rules contained in this RFP Part C.
- 5.4 The rules contained in this RFP Part C apply to:
 - 5.4.1 The RFP and any other information given, received or made available in connection with this RFP, and any revisions or annexure.
 - 5.4.2 the Tendering Process; and
 - 5.4.3 any communications (including any briefings, presentations, meetings and negotiations) relating to the RFP or the Tendering Process.

6. STATUS OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

- 6.1 This RFP is an invitation for person(s) to submit a proposal(s) for the provision of the services as set out in the Specification contained in this RFP. Accordingly, this RFP must not be construed, interpreted, or relied upon, whether expressly or implicitly, as an offer capable of acceptance by any person(s), or as creating any form of contractual, promissory or other rights. No binding contract or other understanding for the supply of services will exist between the DBSA and any Bidder unless and until the DBSA has executed a formal written contract with the successful Bidder.

7. ACCURACY OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

- 7.1 Whilst all due care has been taken in connection with the preparation of this RFP, the DBSA makes no representations or warranties that the content in this RFP or any information communicated to or provided to Bidders during the Tendering Process is, or will be, accurate, current or complete. The DBSA, and its officers, employees and advisors will not be liable with respect to any information communicated which is not accurate, current or complete.
- 7.2 If a Bidder finds or reasonably believes it has found any discrepancy, ambiguity, error or inconsistency in this RFP or any other information provided by the DBSA (other than minor clerical matters), the Bidder must promptly notify the DBSA in writing of such discrepancy, ambiguity, error or inconsistency in order to afford the DBSA an opportunity to consider what corrective action is necessary (if any).
- 7.3 Any actual discrepancy, ambiguity, error or inconsistency in this RFP or any other information provided by the DBSA will, if possible, be corrected and provided to all Bidders without attribution to the Bidder who provided the written notice.

8. ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE RFP

- 8.1 The DBSA reserves the right to change any information in, or to issue any addendum to this RFP before the Closing Time. The DBSA and its officers, employees and advisors will not be liable in connection with either the exercise of, or failure to exercise this right.

- 8.2 If the DBSA exercises its right to change information in terms of clause 8.1, it may seek amended Tenders from all Bidders.

9. REPRESENTATIONS

No representations made by or on behalf of the DBSA in relation to this RFP will be binding on the DBSA unless that representation is expressly incorporated into the contract ultimately entered between the DBSA and the successful Bidder.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 10.1 All persons (including all Bidders) obtaining or receiving this RFP and any other information in connection with this RFP or the Tendering Process must keep the contents of the RFP and other such information confidential, and not disclose or use the information except as required for the purpose of developing a proposal in response to this RFP.

11. REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION

- 11.1 All communications relating to this RFP and the Tendering Process must be directed to the Tender Officer.
- 11.2 All questions or requests for further information or clarification of this RFP or any other document issued in connection with the Tendering Process must be submitted to the Tender Officer in writing, and most preferably by e-mail to vusiscm@dbsa.org
- 11.3 Any communication by a Bidder to the DBSA will be effective upon receipt by the Tender Officer (provided such communication is in the required format).
- 11.4 The DBSA has restricted the period during which it will accept questions or requests for further information or clarification and reserves the right not to respond to any enquiry or request, irrespective of when such enquiry or request is received.
- 11.5 Except where the DBSA is of the opinion that issues raised apply only to an individual Bidder, questions submitted and answers provided will be made available to all Bidders by e-mail, as well as on the DBSA's website without identifying the person or organisation which submitted the question.
- 11.6 In all other instances, the DBSA may directly provide any written notification or response to a Bidder by email to the address of the Bidder (as notified by the Bidder to the Tender Manager).
- 11.7 A Bidder may, by notifying the Tender Officer in writing, withdraw a question submitted in accordance with clause 12, in circumstances where the Bidder does not wish the DBSA to publish its response to the question to all Bidders.

12. UNAUTHORISED COMMUNICATIONS

- 12.1 Communications (including promotional or advertising activities) with staff of the DBSA or their advisors assisting with the Tendering Process are not permitted during the Tendering Process, or otherwise with the prior consent of the Tender Officer. Nothing in this clause 12 is intended to prevent communications with staff of, or advisors to, the DBSA to the extent that such communications do not relate to this RFP or the Tendering Process.
- 12.2 Bidders must not otherwise engage in any activities that may be perceived as, or that may have the effect of, influencing the outcomes of the Tendering Process in any way.

13. IMPROPER ASSISTANCE, FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

- 13.1 Bidders may not seek or obtain the assistance of employees of the DBSA in the preparation of their tender responses.
- 13.2 The DBSA may in its absolute discretion, immediately disqualify a Bidder that it believes has sought or obtained such improper assistance.
- 13.3 Bidders are to be familiar with the implications of contravening the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 and any other relevant legislation.

14. ANTI-COMPETITIVE CONDUCT

- 14.1 Bidders and their respective officers, employees, agents and advisors must not engage in any collusion, anti-competitive conduct or any other similar conduct in respect of this Tendering Process with any other Bidder or any other person(s) in relation to:
 - 14.1.1 the preparation or lodgement of their Bid
 - 14.1.2 the evaluation and clarification of their Bid; and
 - 14.1.3 the conduct of negotiations with the DBSA.
- 14.2 For the purposes of this clause 14, collusion, anti-competitive conduct or any other similar conduct may include disclosure, exchange and clarification of information whether or not such information is confidential to the DBSA or any other Bidder or any other person or organisation.
- 14.3 In addition to any other remedies available to it under law or contract, the DBSA may, in its absolute discretion, immediately disqualify a Bidder that it believes has engaged in any collusive, anti-competitive conduct or any other similar conduct during or before the Tendering Process.

15. COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE TENDERING PROCESS

- 15.1 Any complaint about the RFP or the Tendering Process must be submitted to the Supply Chain Management Unit in writing, by email, immediately upon the cause of the complaint arising or becoming known to the Bidder, (tenders@dbsa.org)
- 15.2 The written complaint must set out:
- 15.2.1 the basis for the complaint, specifying the issues involved;
 - 15.2.2 how the subject of the complaint affects the organisation or person making the complaint;
 - 15.2.3 any relevant background information; and
 - 15.2.4 the outcome desired by the person or organisation making the complaint.
- 15.3 If the matter relates to the conduct of an employee of the DBSA, the complaint should be addressed in writing marked for the attention of the Chief Executive Officer of the DBSA, and delivered to the physical address of the DBSA, as notified.

16. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 16.1 A Bidder must not, and must ensure that its officers, employees, agents and advisors do not place themselves in a position that may give rise to actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest between the interests of the DBSA and the Bidder's interests during the Tender Process.
- 16.2 The Bidder is required to provide details of any interests, relationships or clients which may or do give rise to a conflict of interest in relation to the supply of the services under any contract that may result from this RFP. If the Bidder submits its Bid and a subsequent conflict of interest arises, or is likely to arise, which was not disclosed in the Bid, the Bidder must notify the DBSA immediately in writing of that conflict.
- 16.3 The DBSA may immediately disqualify a Bidder from the Tendering Process if the Bidder fails to notify the DBSA of the conflict as required.

17. LATE BIDS

- 17.1 Bids must be delivered by the Closing Time. The Closing Time may be extended by the DBSA in its absolute discretion by providing written notice to Bidders.
- 17.2 Bids delivered after the Closing Time or lodged at a location or in a manner that is contrary to that specified in this RFP will be disqualified from the Tendering Process and will be ineligible for consideration. However, a late Bid may be accepted where the Bidder can

clearly demonstrate (to the satisfaction of the DBSA, in its sole discretion) that late lodgement of the Bid was caused by the DBSA; that access was denied or hindered in relation to the physical tender box; or that a major/critical incident hindered the delivery of the Bid and, in all cases, that the integrity of the Tendering Process will not be compromised by accepting a Bid after the Closing Time.

- 17.3 The determination of the DBSA as to the actual time that a Bid is lodged is final. Subject to clause 17.2, all Bids lodged after the Closing Time will be recorded by the DBSA and will only be opened for the purposes of identifying a business name and address of the Bidder. The DBSA will inform a Bidder whose Bid was lodged after the Closing Time of its ineligibility for consideration. The general operating practice is for the late Bid to be returned within 5 (five) working days of receipt or within 5 (five) working days after determination not to accept a late Bid.

18. BIDDER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 18.1 Bidders are responsible for:

- 18.1.1 examining this RFP and any documents referenced or attached to this RFP and any other information made or to be made available by the DBSA to Bidders in connection with this RFP;
- 18.1.2 fully informing themselves in relation to all matters arising from this RFP, including all matters regarding the DBSA's requirements for the provision of the Services;
- 18.1.3 ensuring that their Bids are accurate and complete;
- 18.1.4 making their own enquiries and assessing all risks regarding this RFP, and fully considering and incorporating the impact of any known and unknown risks into their Bid;
- 18.1.5 ensuring that they comply with all applicable laws in regard to the Tendering Process particularly as specified by National Treasury Regulations, Guidelines, Instruction Notes and Practice Notes and other relevant legislation as published from time to time in the Government Gazette; and
- 18.1.6 submitting all Compulsory Documents.

- 18.2 South African bidders with annual total revenue of ZAR10 million or less qualify as Exempted Micro Enterprises (EMEs) in terms of the B-BBEE Act must submit a certificate issued by a registered, independent auditor (who or which is not the Bidder or a part of the Bidder) or an accredited verification agency.

- 18.3 South African bidders other than EMEs must submit their original and valid B-BBEE status level verification certificate or a certified copy, or a sworn affidavit thereof, substantiating their B-BBEE status. The submission of such certificates must comply with the requirements of instructions and guidelines issued by National Treasury and be in accordance with the applicable notices published by the Department of Trade and Industry in the Government Gazette.
- 18.4 The DBSA reserves the right to require of a Bidder, either before a Bid is adjudicated or at any time subsequently, to substantiate any claim in regard to preferences, in any manner required by the DBSA.
- 18.5 Failure to provide the required information may result in disqualification of the Bidder.

19. PREPARATION OF BIDS

- 19.1 Bidders must ensure that:
- 19.1.1 their Bid is submitted in the required format as stipulated in this RFP; and
 - 19.1.2 all the required information fields in the Bid are completed in full and contain the information requested by the DBSA.
- 19.2 The DBSA may in its absolute discretion reject a Bid that does not include the information requested or is not in the format required.
- 19.3 Unnecessarily elaborate responses or other representations beyond that which is sufficient to present a complete and effective tender proposal are not desired or required. Elaborate and expensive visual and other presentation aids are not necessary.
- 19.4 Where the Bidder is unwilling to accept a specified condition, the non-acceptance must be clearly and expressly stated. Prominence must be given to the statement detailing the non-acceptance. It is not sufficient that the statement appears only as part of an attachment to the Bid or be included in a general statement of the Bidders usual operating conditions.
- 19.5 An incomplete Bid may be disqualified or assessed solely on the information completed or received with the Bid.

20. ILLEGIBLE CONTENT, ALTERATION AND ERASURES

- 20.1 Incomplete Bids may be disqualified or evaluated solely on information contained in the Bid.
- 20.2 The DBSA may disregard any content in a Tender that is illegible and will be under no obligation whatsoever to seek clarification from the Bidder.

- 20.3 The DBSA may permit a Bidder to correct an unintentional error in its Bid where that error becomes known or apparent after the Closing Time, but in no event will any correction be permitted if the DBSA reasonably considers that the correction would materially alter the substance of the Bid or effect the fairness of the Tendering Process.

21. OBLIGATION TO NOTIFY ERRORS

If, after a Bidder's Response has been submitted, the Bidder becomes aware of an error in the Bidders Response (including an error in pricing but excluding clerical errors which would have no bearing on the evaluation of the Bid), the Bidder must promptly notify the DBSA of such error.

22. RESPONSIBILITY FOR BIDDING COSTS

- 22.1 The Bidders participation or involvement in any stage of the Tendering Process is at the Bidders sole risk, cost and expense. The DBSA will not be held responsible for, or pay for, any expense or loss that may be incurred by Bidders in relation to the preparation or lodgement of their Bid.
- 22.2 The DBSA is not liable to the Bidder for any costs on the basis of any contractual, promissory or restitutionary grounds whatsoever as a consequence of any matter relating to the Bidders participation in the Tendering Process, including without limitation, instances where:
- 22.2.1 the Bidder is not engaged to perform under any contract; or
 - 22.2.2 the DBSA exercises any right under this RFP or at law.

23. DISCLOSURE OF BID CONTENTS AND BID INFORMATION

- 23.1 All Bids received by the DBSA will be treated as confidential. The DBSA will not disclose contents of any Bid and Bid information, except:
- 23.1.1 as required by law;
 - 23.1.2 for the purpose of investigations by other government authorities having relevant jurisdiction;
 - 23.1.3 to external consultants and advisors of the DBSA engaged to assist with the Tendering Process; or for the general information of Bidders required to be disclosed as per National Treasury Regulations, Guidelines, Instruction Notes or Practice Notes.

24. USE OF BIDS

- 24.1 Upon submission in accordance with the requirements relating to the submission of Bids, all Bids submitted become the property of the DBSA. Bidders will retain all ownership rights in any intellectual property contained in the Bids.
- 24.2 Each Bidder, by submission of their Bid, is deemed to have licensed the DBSA to reproduce the whole, or any portion, of their Bid for the sole purposes of enabling the DBSA to evaluate the Bid.

25. BID ACCEPTANCE

All Bids received must remain open for acceptance for a minimum period of 90 (Ninety) days from the Closing Time. This period may be extended by written mutual agreement between the DBSA and the Bidder.

26. EVALUATION PROCESS

- 26.1 The Bids will be evaluated and adjudicated as follows:

26.1.1 First Stage – Test for administrative Responsiveness

The test for administrative responsiveness will include the following:

Stage 1: Responsiveness

The Tenderer should be able to provide all the relevant information required in the Supplier Information Form (SIF) which will include but not limited to;

- A. Tenderers who do not adhere to those criteria listed a PRE-QUALIFIER, will be disqualified immediately.**

Responsiveness Criteria		Prequalifying Criteria	Applicable to this Tender (Y/N)
1	Adherence to submitting Tender as a two-folder tender. Folder 1: Functionality and returnable submission separate from Folder 2: Pricing proposal submission	Pre-Qualifier	Y
2	Attendance of the compulsory briefing session	Pre-Qualifier	Y

- B.** Tenderers who do not adhere to the indicated response time for clarifications requested by the Employer will be deemed to be non-responsive and their submissions will not be evaluated further.

Responsiveness Criteria		Clarification Time	Applicable to this Tender (Y/N)
1	Standard conditions of tender as required.	48 hours	Y
2	Returnable documents completed and signed.	48 hours	Y
3	Submission of Registration with National Treasury Central Supplier Database (CSD) Summary Report: - Bidder must be registered to do business with the DBSA	48 hours	Y
4	A Tax Pin issued by SARS.	48 hours	Y

Only those Bidders which satisfy all the Pre-Qualifying Criteria of the First Stage will be eligible to participate in the Tendering Process further. Bids which do not satisfy all the Pre-Qualifying Criteria of the First Stage will not be evaluated further.

26.1.2 Second Stage – Functional evaluation criteria

- 26.1.1 Only those Bidders that meet the minimum threshold of **70%** for functional evaluation criteria during the Second Stage will be evaluated further. Bidders are required to submit supporting documentation evidencing their compliance with each requirement, where applicable.

Bidders will be assessed on the functional evaluation criteria (Second Stage) as set out in this RFP. Only those Bidders that meet the minimum threshold of **70%** for functional evaluation criteria will proceed to the Third Stage.

26.1.2 Third Stage – price

- 26.1.2.1 Those Bidders which have passed the First Stage (Responsiveness Test) and Second Stage (Functional Evaluation) of the tender process will be eligible to be evaluated on the Third Stage, based on price, in accordance with the PPPFA regulations.
- 26.1.2.2 The recommended preferred Bidder will be the Bidder with the lowest overall price in the Third Stage of the Bid evaluation, unless the DBSA exercises its right to cancel the RFP, in line with the PPPFA Regulations.

26.2 **NB: Bidders are required to submit, as Annexure J to their Bids, any documentation which supports the responses provided in respect of the Functional Evaluation Criteria below**

26.3 **First Stage: Pre-Qualifying Criteria**

Only those Bidders which satisfy all the Pre-Qualifying Criteria will be eligible to participate in the Tendering Process further. Bids which do not satisfy all the Pre-Qualifying Criteria will not be evaluated further. Please refer to the table above

Note: A tender that fails to meet any Pre-Qualifying Criteria stipulated herein in the tender documents is an unacceptable tender. Please refer to the table above

26.4 **Second Stage: Functional Evaluation Criteria**

Only bidders who obtain a minimum score of 70 out of 100 points during the functional evaluation will proceed to the Price and Preference Points evaluation stage. The functional evaluation will be based on the criteria below.

Bidders must provide verifiable evidence, including project descriptions, reference letters, CVs, and methodology.

Table 1: Evaluation criteria

TECHNICAL SCORECARD				
No.	Evaluation Criteria	Description	Scoring Method	Max Points

1	Company or consortium experience	Demonstrated experience in undertaking economic complexity studies, socio-economic analysis, economic diversification, industrial policy, regional development, labour market analysis, quantitative economic modelling, stakeholder engagement and Just Transition-related assignments. Annexure A must be followed in completing the project list. Reference letters must be submitted for all projects claimed.	a) Economic Complexity, Economic Diversification and Industrial Development Experience (15 Points): - Five (5) or more comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 15; - Three (3) to Four (4) comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 10; - One (1) to Two (2) comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 5; - No relevant experience submitted = 0. b) Socio-Economic Analysis, and Just Transition Experience (15 Points): - Five (5) or more comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 15; - Three (3) to Four (4) comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 10; - One (1) to Two (2) comparable assignments successfully completed	30
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			and supported by reference letters = 5; - No relevant experience submitted = 0.	
2	Key Personnel, Qualifications and Experience	Qualifications and relevant experience of the proposed Project Director/Team Leader and multidisciplinary team, including economists, economic complexity specialists, socio-economic specialists, statisticians/data analysts, GIS specialists (where applicable), and stakeholder engagement specialists. Relevant qualifications should be NQF Level 8 or higher, with demonstrated experience on similar assignments. Annexure B must be followed in completing the CV Template	1. Team Leader (10 Points) - Holds a minimum NQF Level 10 qualification in Economics, Development Economics, Public Policy, Economic Development or a related field, with five (5) or more years demonstrated experience leading economic complexity studies, socio-economic analysis, economic diversification, regional development, or related assignments of similar scope and complexity = 10; - Minimum NQF Level 9 qualification and at least three (3) to (4) years of demonstrated experience = 7;	30

			- Less than three (3) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0. 2. Economic Complexity / Economist Specialist (5 Points) - Holds a minimum NQF Level 10 qualification in Economics, Development Economics or a related field and at least seven (5) years of demonstrated experience in economic complexity analysis, product space analysis, economic modelling, industrial diversification and related assignments = 5; - Minimum NQF Level 9 qualification and at least three (3) to four (4) years of demonstrated relevant experience = 3; - Less than three (3) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0 3. Socio-economic Specialist (5 Points) - Holds a minimum NQF Level 9 qualification in Economics, Development Studies, Social Sciences or a related field and at	
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			least five (5) or more years of demonstrated experience in socio-economic analysis, labour market analysis, poverty and inequality studies, regional development, and related assignments = 5; - Minimum NQF Level 8 qualification and at least three (3) to four (4) years of demonstrated relevant experience = 3; - Less than five (5) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0 4. Just Transition Facilitation Specialist (5 Points) - Minimum NQF Level 8 qualification in Development Studies, Social Sciences, Public Policy, Community Development, Economics or related field with five (5) or more years of demonstrated experience in Just Transition programmes, community development, stakeholder engagement, participatory planning, livelihood development, socio-economic development	
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			programmes, or inclusive development initiatives = 5; - At least three (3) to four (4) years of demonstrated experience = 3; - Less than three (3) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0. 5. Other Team Members (5 Points) - The proposed multidisciplinary team includes at least three (3) appropriately qualified specialists (e.g. Statistician/Data Analyst, GIS Specialist, Research Specialist) with NQF Level 7 qualifications or higher with five (5) or more years of demonstrated experience supporting similar assignments = 5; - The proposed multidisciplinary team includes appropriately qualified specialists with at least three (3) years of demonstrated experience supporting similar assignments = 3; - Team composition is inadequate, does not	
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			meet the minimum requirements, or no information is submitted = 0	
3	Methodology, Technical Approach and Work Plan	A detailed methodology demonstrating an understanding of the following key aspects of the assignment: 1. Economic complexity analytical framework, product space analysis methodology, economic modelling approach (e.g., Harvard economic complexity), and economic diversification assessment = 10; 2. Socio-economic analysis methodology, labour market assessment, data collection, validation, and quality control approach = 10; 3. Stakeholder engagement methodology, consultation approach, and integration of stakeholder inputs into the analysis and recommendations = 10; 4. Project implementation plan, work plan, quality assurance arrangements, reporting framework, and risk management approach = 10.	Each element carries a maximum score of 7.5 points. The score awarded will be multiplied by the applicable weighting as follows: 0.5 = Element addressed in a generic, vague, incomplete, or unclear manner. 1.0 = Element clearly, adequately, and comprehensively addressed. Final Score per Element = Points Awarded × Applicable Weighting.	40
Total technical score				100
Minimum technical threshold				70

26.5 Third Stage: Price

26.5.1 The Third Stage of evaluation of the Bids will be in respect of price and preference.

27. Risk Analysis and Objective Criteria

(This must only be included in the tender document if it is applicable, ensure that the list is specific as to what your objective criteria are)

The DBSA reserves the right to award the tender to the tenderer who scores the highest number of points overall in line with Section (2) (1) (f) of the PPPFA, unless there are objective criteria which will justify the award of the tender to another tenderer.

The objective criteria that the DBSA may apply in this bid process includes:

- I. Any bidder that has a cumulative order book totalling 5 Awards with outstanding value, may be excluded from further evaluation.
- II. Where a bidder has 5 active Awards with an outstanding value and the outstanding value is 10% or less, indicating the project is nearing completion, the bidder may be included for further evaluation and/or recommendation for award.
- III. Where a bidder has 5 active Awards with an outstanding value and at least one of the projects has stalled for a period of 6 months or more, or the client has placed the project on hold indefinitely, the bidder may be included for further evaluation and/or recommendation for award.
- IV. The DBSA has the discretion to apply an objective criterion.

28. Due Diligence

DBSA shall perform a due diligence exercise on the preferred bidder to determine its risk profile. The due diligence exercise may take the following factors into account inter alia.

a. Judgements and criminal convictions

DBSA may consider previous civil judgements against the preferred bidder as part of its risk assessment. DBSA may also consider whether the preferred bidder or any of its directors have been convicted of a serious offence.

b. Pending litigation/liquidation/business rescue (distinct from Working Capital)

DBSA may consider any pending litigation in a court of law or administrative tribunal as part of its risk assessment.

c. Performance

DBSA will not consider the Service provider having a history of poor performance on any task orders/purchase orders or contracts, including poor performance in respect of compliance with policies or procedures regarding safety, health, quality control or environment, or having committed a serious

and

gross breach of contract.

d. Reputational harm

If DBSA is likely to suffer substantial reputational harm because of doing business with the preferred service provider, it may take this into account as part of its risk assessment.

e. Restricted/Blacklisted

Is not under restrictions, or has principals who are under restrictions, preventing participating in the employer's procurement.

f. **Vetting**

The DBSA reserves the right to conduct vetting on the tenderer or any of its directors.

g. PEP Checks for both Companies and Individual directors, as well as Procure Check and or any other systems that the DBSA may choose to utilize (which may be conducted by an authorized third party) that would be done to assess all risks, including but not limited to

- a. Financial stability of the bidder based on key ratio analysis ;
- b. Efficiency ;
- c. Profitability ;
- d. Financial Risk;
- e. Liquidity ;
- f. Acid Test ;
- g. Solvency; and
- h. Commercial relationship with a politically exposed and brand risk

i. The DBSA reserves the right to award the scope in full or part thereof, subject to budget availability.

ii. The DBSA reserves the right to negotiate to ensure the value for money principle is not compromised.

29. Generally, suppliers have their own business standards and regulations. Although DBSA cannot control the actions of our suppliers, we will not tolerate any Illegal activities. These include, but are not limited to:

- Misrepresentation of any kind (e.g. origin of manufacture, specifications, intellectual property rights, etc.);
- Collusion;
- Failure to disclose accurate information required during the sourcing activity (ownership, financial situation, BBBEE status, etc.);
- Corrupt activities listed above; and
- Harassment, intimidation or other aggressive actions towards DBSA's employees.

30. STATUS OF BID

30.1 Each Bid constitutes an irrevocable offer by the Bidder to the DBSA to provide the Services required and otherwise to satisfy the requirements of the Specification as set out in this RFP.

30.2 A Bid must not be conditional on:

30.2.1 the Board approval of the Bidder or any related governing body of the Bidder being obtained.

30.2.2 the Bidder conducting due diligence or any other form of enquiry or investigation.

30.2.3 the Bidder (or any other party) obtaining any regulatory approval or consent.

30.2.4 the Bidder obtaining the consent or approval of any third party; or

30.2.5 the Bidder stating that it wishes to discuss or negotiate any commercial terms of the contract.

- 30.3 The DBSA may, in its absolute discretion, disregard any Bid that is, or is stated to be, subject to any one or more of the conditions detailed above (or any other relevant conditions).
- 30.4 The DBSA reserves the right to accept a Bid in part or in whole or to negotiate with a Bidder in accordance with the provisions of this RFP and the applicable laws and regulations.

31. CLARIFICATION OF BIDS

- 31.1 The DBSA may seek clarification from and enter into discussions with any or all of the Bidders in relation to their Bid. The DBSA may use the information obtained when clarification is sought or discussions are held in interpreting the Bid and evaluating the cost and risk of accepting the Bid. Failure to supply clarification to the satisfaction of the DBSA may render the Bid liable to disqualification.
- 31.2 The DBSA is under no obligation to seek clarification of anything in a Bid and reserves the right to disregard any clarification that the DBSA considers to be unsolicited or otherwise impermissible or irrelevant in accordance with the rules set out in this RFP.

32. DISCUSSION WITH BIDDERS

- 32.1 The DBSA may elect to engage in detailed discussions with any one or more Bidder(s), with a view to maximising the benefits of this RFP as measured against the evaluation criteria and in fully understanding a Bidder's offer.
- 32.2 Where applicable, the DBSA will invite Bidders to give a presentation to the DBSA in relation to their submissions.
- 32.3 The DBSA is under no obligation to undertake discussions with, and Bidders.
- 32.4 In addition to presentations and discussions, the DBSA may request some or all Bidders to:
- 32.4.1 conduct a site visit, if applicable.
 - 32.4.2 provide references or additional information; and/or
 - 32.4.3 make themselves available for panel interviews.

33. SUCCESSFUL BIDS

- 33.1 Selection as a successful Bidder does not give rise to a contract (express or implied) between the successful Bidder and the DBSA for the supply of the Services. No legal relationship will exist between the DBSA and a successful Bidder for the supply of the Services until such time as a binding contract is executed by them.
- 33.2 The DBSA may, in its absolute discretion, decide not to enter into pre-contractual negotiations with a successful Bidder.

- 33.3 A Bidder is bound by its Bid and all other documents forming part of the Bidder's Response and, if selected as a successful Bidder, must enter into a contract on the basis of the Bid with or without further negotiation.

34. NO OBLIGATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT

- 34.1 The DBSA is under no obligation to appoint a successful Bidder or Bidders (as the case may be), or to enter into a contract with a successful Bidder or any other person, if it is unable to identify a Bid that complies in all relevant respects with the requirements of the DBSA, or if due to changed circumstances, there is no longer a need for the Services requested, or if funds are no longer available to cover the total envisaged expenditure. For the avoidance of any doubt, in these circumstances the DBSA will be free to proceed via any alternative process.
- 34.2 The DBSA may conduct a debriefing session for all Bidders (successful and unsuccessful). Attendance at such debriefing session is optional.

35. BIDDER WARRANTIES

- 35.1 By submitting a Bid, a Bidder warrants that:
- 35.1.1 it did not rely on any express or implied statement, warranty or representation, whether oral, written, or otherwise made by or on behalf of the DBSA, its officers, employees, or advisers other than any statement, warranty or representation expressly contained in the RFP;
 - 35.1.2 it did not use the improper assistance of DBSA's employees or information unlawfully obtained from them in compiling its Bid;
 - 35.1.3 it is responsible for all costs and expenses related to the preparation and lodgement of its Bid, any subsequent negotiation, and any future process connected with or relating to the Tendering Process;
 - 35.1.4 it accepts and will comply with the terms set out in this RFP; and
 - 35.1.5 it will provide additional information in a timely manner as requested by the DBSA to clarify any matters contained in the Bid.

36. DBSA'S RIGHTS

- 36.1 Notwithstanding anything else in this RFP, and without limiting its rights at law or otherwise, the DBSA reserves the right, in its absolute discretion at any time, to:
- 36.1.1 cease to proceed with or suspend the Tendering Process prior to the execution of a formal written contract.
 - 36.1.2 alter the structure and/or the timing of this RFP or the Tendering Process;

- 36.1.3 vary or extend any time or date specified in this RFP
- 36.1.4 terminate the participation of any Bidder or any other person in the Tendering Process.
- 36.1.5 require additional information or clarification from any Bidder or any other person;
- 36.1.6 provide additional information or clarification.
- 36.1.7 negotiate with any one or more Bidder;
- 36.1.8 call for new Bid.
- 36.1.9 reject any Bid received after the Closing Time; or
- 36.1.10 reject any Bid that does not comply with the requirements of this RFP.

37. GOVERNING LAWS

- 37.1 This RFP and the Tendering Process are governed by the laws of the Republic of South Africa.
- 37.2 Each Bidder must comply with all relevant laws in preparing and lodging its Bid and in taking part in the Tendering Process.
- 37.3 All Bids must be completed using the English language and all costing must be in South African Rand (ZAR).

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

APPOINTMENT OF A QUALIFIED CONSULTANT OR CONSORTIUM TO UNDERTAKE ECONOMIC COMPLEXITY STUDIES AND COMPREHENSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS TO INFORM ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, INVESTMENT PRIORITISATION, POLICY FORMULATION AND JUST TRANSITION PLANNING

1. PURPOSE

This document sets out the Terms of Reference (“ToR”) for the recruitment of a qualified and experienced consultant or consortium to undertake economic complexity studies and perform comprehensive socio-economic analysis to inform economic diversification, investment prioritisation, policy formulation, and Just Transition planning.

2. INTRODUCTION

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), in partnership with the Presidential Climate Commission (PCC), is implementing the Advancing an Inclusive Just Transition Financing Mechanism (JTfM) programme with financial support from the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Government of Germany. The JTfM seeks to accelerate South Africa’s Just Transition by strengthening institutional capacity, promoting collaborative planning, and supporting the identification, preparation and implementation of catalytic interventions that advance economic diversification, climate resilience, social inclusion and sustainable livelihoods, particularly in municipalities and regions affected by the energy transition.

The DBSA is South Africa’s development finance institution (DFI), mandated to promote sustainable economic development and regional integration through infrastructure financing, project preparation, development finance and institutional support. The PCC is an independent multi-stakeholder advisory body established to provide strategic advice on South Africa’s climate change response and the implementation of a Just Transition. Together, the DBSA and PCC are working to strengthen institutional collaboration, support evidence-based planning, and facilitate the implementation of initiatives that contribute to an inclusive and resilient economy.

Within this context, the DBSA, in partnership with the PCC, seeks to appoint a qualified and experienced consultant or consortium to undertake economic complexity studies and comprehensive socio-economic analysis across selected provinces. The assignment will provide an evidence base to support economic diversification strategies, regional development planning, priority project identification, and alignment with the Partnering Implementation Model (PIM).

Importantly, the Economic Complexity Analysis and Comprehensive Socio-Economic Analysis should not be viewed as separate or standalone analytical exercises. These two workstreams form an integral part of the broader Partnering Implementation Model (PIM) and are intended to strengthen the development of a coherent, evidence-based pipeline of projects from identification through to pre-feasibility and investment readiness. The analyses will therefore be undertaken to directly support the PIM process and inform the prioritisation and preparation of projects emerging from stakeholder-led engagements.

The PIM begins with extensive stakeholder engagement to identify a broad pipeline of potential projects from government, industry, labour, communities, municipalities, development finance institutions and other social partners. The Economic Complexity and Socio-Economic analyses will provide the evidence base that enables this pipeline to be assessed, refined and prioritised. Specifically, the analyses will identify sectors with the greatest growth and diversification potential, existing productive capabilities and comparative advantages, community development needs, labour market dynamics, infrastructure constraints, spatial disparities, skills gaps and other factors that influence the feasibility and inclusiveness of potential interventions.

The findings from these two analytical workstreams will therefore feed directly into the PIM project pipeline, enabling stakeholders to objectively assess and prioritise opportunities that are economically viable, socially responsive, spatially appropriate and aligned with provincial development potential. The evidence generated will also strengthen the subsequent pre-feasibility stage by providing a robust economic, social and spatial rationale for priority projects. This will contribute to improved project conceptualisation and design, investment readiness, implementation planning, risk assessment and the identification of appropriate financing and delivery mechanisms.

The assignment comprises two complementary analytical components. The Economic Complexity Analysis, which assesses productive capabilities and the sophistication and diversification of an economy to identify potential growth and diversification opportunities, will be undertaken in the Eastern Cape and Northern Cape Provinces over a 10-month period. The Comprehensive Socio-Economic Analysis will be undertaken in the Northern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces over a 4-month period. The appointed consultant or consortium will be required to produce province-specific outputs for each component in accordance with the agreed methodology, implementation schedule and reporting requirements.

The assignment will combine economic complexity analysis with socio-economic profiling to identify productive capabilities, sectoral opportunities, labour market dynamics, spatial disparities, development constraints and inclusive growth pathways. Together, these complementary analyses will provide the economic and socio-economic intelligence required to move from a broad pipeline of identified opportunities towards a more focused pipeline of priority projects suitable for further development through the PIM.

Ultimately, the assignment is intended to strengthen the full PIM project development pipeline. It will help ensure that projects emerging from stakeholder engagements are grounded in provincial comparative advantages, informed by local development needs and supported by credible economic, social and spatial evidence. This will improve the quality and prioritisation of projects

entering pre-feasibility and enhance their prospects of becoming investment-ready and attracting public and private financing for implementation.

The outputs will support DBSA, PCC, government institutions, municipalities, development finance institutions, private sector actors, communities, labour and other social partners in strengthening evidence-based planning, investment prioritisation and implementation of Just Transition-aligned programmes and projects. The assignment will therefore serve as an enabling analytical foundation for the PIM, linking stakeholder-identified opportunities to evidence-based prioritisation, project preparation and ultimately the development of a pipeline of implementable and investable projects

3. BACKGROUND

South Africa is undergoing a structural transition toward a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy. This transition presents significant socio-economic challenges and opportunities for provinces and municipalities affected by poverty, unemployment, inequality, limited industrial diversification, uneven spatial development, and climate-related risks.

Economic complexity analysis provides a framework for understanding the productive capabilities embedded within local and regional economies and identifying feasible pathways into more sophisticated, higher-value, and employment-generating activities. When combined with socio-economic analysis, it can support targeted policy, investment, skills, infrastructure, and project preparation decisions.

The socio-economic analysis will provide a detailed understanding of demographic dynamics, labour market trends, sectoral performance, income and poverty patterns, education and skills profiles, spatial disparities, and development opportunities. This will strengthen the evidence base for inclusive economic planning and Just Transition interventions.

This assignment integrates economic complexity studies and socio-economic analysis into one consolidated scope. The consultant or consortium will develop analytical outputs, validate findings through stakeholder engagement, identify priority diversification pathways and socio-economic interventions, and provide actionable recommendations for policy, investment, and implementation.

- Undertake economic complexity studies to identify productive capabilities and feasible diversification pathways.
- Perform comprehensive socio-economic analysis covering demographics, labour markets, poverty, inequality, skills, sectoral performance, and spatial development dynamics.

- Develop evidence-based recommendations to inform policy, investment prioritisation, PIM alignment, and Just Transition implementation.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

The appointed consultant or consortium will undertake integrated economic complexity studies and comprehensive socio-economic analysis. The scope of work includes the following components:

1.4.1. Inception, Data Framework, and Project Mobilisation

1. Participate in a DBSA convened inception meeting and thereafter prepare an inception report setting out the agreed methodology, analytical framework, data sources, stakeholder engagement approach, workplan, governance arrangements, risk assessment, and quality assurance approach.

2.4.2. Economic Complexity Analysis

1. Construct a granular sub-national dataset to support economic complexity and productive capability analysis.
2. Develop and apply an economic complexity model using internationally recognised methodologies (i.e., Havard Economic Complexity) to generate economic complexity indicators, product space analysis, and related analytical outputs that identify existing productive capabilities, competitiveness, structural transformation, available infrastructure and adjacent diversification opportunities. Identify feasible industrial diversification pathways, priority value chains, sectoral opportunities, and quick-win interventions aligned with Just Transition objectives.

3.4.3. Comprehensive Socio-Economic Analysis

1. Analyse demographic trends, population dynamics, migration patterns, education and skills profiles, health and social wellbeing indicators, access to infrastructure and household-level socio-economic conditions.
2. Assess labour market conditions, employment trends, unemployment, labour force participation, income distribution, poverty, inequality, and vulnerable groups.
3. Develop provincial, municipal, or district-level socio-economic profiles to identify spatial disparities, map economic activity and infrastructure distribution, assess development constraints and infrastructure gaps, and identify targeted intervention areas.

4. Integrate quantitative datasets with qualitative evidence obtained through stakeholder and community consultations, key informant interviews, and secondary research to provide a comprehensive socio-economic assessment

4.4.4. Sectoral, Value Chain, and Development Pathway Analysis

1. Analyse the structure and performance of key sectors, including sectoral contribution to output, employment, trade, value chains, and local economic development.
2. Identify dominant and emerging sectors, competitive advantages, constraints, vulnerabilities, and opportunities for inclusive growth.
3. Assess alignment with Just Transition opportunities, including green industrialisation, renewable energy, manufacturing, agriculture, mining and beneficiation, logistics, tourism, and other relevant sectors including the skills requirements needed to support emerging industries.

5.4.5. PIM Alignment, Stakeholder Engagement, and Recommendations

1. Facilitate stakeholder engagements, key informant interviews, consultations, workshops, and validation sessions to test and refine findings.
2. Develop actionable recommendations covering policy, institutional arrangements, investment priorities, skills development, infrastructure needs, financing mechanisms, and implementation pathways.

6.4.6. Data Management, Quality Assurance, and Ethics

1. Develop and apply a data management protocol covering data sources, validation, assumptions, limitations, metadata, version control, confidentiality, and secure storage of datasets and analytical outputs.
2. Apply a quality assurance process to ensure that datasets, modelling outputs, stakeholder inputs, analysis, findings, and recommendations are internally consistent, evidence-based, and suitable for decision-making.
3. Ensure that all stakeholder engagement and data collection activities are conducted ethically, with appropriate consent, protection of personal information, and sensitivity to vulnerable groups and affected communities.

7.4.7. Implementation Roadmap and Knowledge Transfer

1. Translate analytical findings into a practical implementation roadmap that identifies priority interventions, sequencing, responsible role-players, enabling conditions, risks, dependencies, and potential financing or project preparation requirements.

2. Prepare stakeholder-ready knowledge products, including presentations, summary briefs, data visualisations, and decision-support materials that can be used by DBSA, PCC, government institutions, municipalities, and social partners.
3. Conduct a close-out knowledge transfer session with DBSA and PCC to explain the methodology, datasets, assumptions, analytical tools, findings, and recommended pathways.

5. DBSA AND PCC ENGAGEMENT

The appointed consultant or consortium must engage with DBSA and PCC to develop a shared understanding of the assignment, including:

1. The objectives, scope, outputs, and intended outcomes of the economic complexity and socio-economic analysis assignment.
2. The selected provinces, municipalities, stakeholders, data requirements, engagement processes, and reporting expectations.
3. The coordination arrangements, reporting lines, approval processes, steering committee requirements, and timelines for implementation.

5.1. Access to Information and Stakeholders:

The DBSA and PCC may, where available and deemed appropriate, facilitate access to relevant information, documentation, and stakeholder contacts to support the execution of the assignment. Such support may include, but is not limited to:

2. Provincial, municipal, district, and sectoral planning documents.
3. Available socio-economic datasets, policy reports, investment plans, and development strategies.
4. PIM background documents, stakeholder outputs, and priority project information, where applicable.
5. Relevant project pipeline information, investment prioritisation criteria, Just Transition Financing Mechanism documentation, and available outputs from related DBSA and PCC workstreams, where applicable.
6. Relevant Just Transition, economic diversification, industrial policy, and regional development documentation.
7. Any other documents deemed necessary by DBSA or PCC.

The consultant or consortium will remain responsible for identifying, obtaining, validating, and analysing all information required to successfully complete the assignment.

5.2. Reporting and Governance Arrangements

The consultant or consortium will report to DBSA, with strategic and technical inputs from PCC as required. Progress will be managed through scheduled check-in meetings, review of deliverables, written feedback, and approval of outputs against agreed milestones. DBSA and PCC may establish a small technical review team or steering committee arrangement to guide the assignment, validate emerging findings, and support alignment with the PIM, Just Transition priorities, and investment planning processes.

The consultant or consortium must submit concise progress updates at agreed intervals, highlighting activities completed, emerging issues, data gaps, stakeholder engagement progress, risks, mitigation actions, and decisions required from DBSA or PCC. All deliverables will be subject to review and written approval before payment milestones are processed.

5.3. Submission Requirements

Bidders must submit a technical proposal, financial proposal, company or consortium profile, relevant project experience, proposed methodology and workplan, team structure, curriculum vitae of key personnel, availability statement, risk management approach, and any other supporting documentation requested by DBSA. The technical proposal should clearly demonstrate how the bidder will deliver the economic complexity analysis, socio-economic analysis, stakeholder engagement, reporting, and knowledge transfer requirements set out in this ToR.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

8.6.1. Compliance Requirements

The bidder must provide a valid proof of Professional Indemnity Insurance with a coverage value that is equal to or greater than the total value of the bidder's submitted financial offer. Documentary evidence of the Professional Indemnity Insurance or certificate confirming the level of cover must be submitted prior to appointment.

All international qualifications proposed for this assignment must be subjected to verification by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) prior to any appointment being made. Bidders proposing resources with international qualifications must submit proof that the relevant qualifications have been submitted to SAQA for evaluation and verification. Such proof may include an acknowledgement of receipt, application reference number, or any other documentary evidence issued by SAQA confirming that the qualification evaluation process is underway. Failure

to provide evidence of a SAQA evaluation application for international qualifications may impact the evaluation of the proposed resource and the bidder's compliance with the tender requirements.

9.6.2. Evaluation criteria

Only bidders who obtain a minimum score of 70 out of 100 points during the functional evaluation will proceed to the Price and Preference Points evaluation stage. The functional evaluation will be based on the criteria below.

Bidders must provide verifiable evidence, including project descriptions, reference letters, CVs, and methodology.

Table 1: Evaluation criteria

TECHNICAL SCORECARD				
No.	Evaluation Criteria	Description	Scoring Method	Max Points
1	Company or consortium experience	Demonstrated experience in undertaking economic complexity studies, socio-economic analysis, economic diversification, industrial policy, regional development, labour market analysis, quantitative economic modelling, stakeholder engagement and Just Transition-related assignments. Annexure A must be followed in completing the project list. Reference letters must be submitted for all projects claimed.	c) Economic Complexity, Economic Diversification and Industrial Development Experience (15 Points): - Five (5) or more comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 15; - Three (3) to Four (4) comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 10; - One (1) to Two (2) comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 5; - No relevant experience submitted = 0.	30

			d) Socio-Economic Analysis, and Just Transition Experience (15 Points): - Five (5) or more comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 15; - Three (3) to Four (4) comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 10; - One (1) to Two (2) comparable assignments successfully completed and supported by reference letters = 5; - No relevant experience submitted = 0.	
2	Key Personnel, Qualifications and Experience	Qualifications and relevant experience of the proposed Project Director/Team Leader and multidisciplinary team, including economists, economic complexity specialists, socio-economic specialists, statisticians/data analysts, GIS specialists (where applicable), and stakeholder engagement specialists. Relevant qualifications should be NQF Level 8 or higher, with demonstrated experience on similar assignments. Annexure B must be followed in completing the CV Template	6. Team Leader (10 Points) - Holds a minimum NQF Level 10 qualification in Economics, Development Economics, Public Policy, Economic Development or a related field, with five (5) or more years demonstrated experience leading economic complexity studies, socio-economic analysis, economic diversification, regional development, or related assignments of similar scope and complexity = 10;	30

			- Minimum NQF Level 9 qualification and at least three (3) to (4) years of demonstrated experience = 7; - Less than three (3) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0. 7. Economic Complexity / Economist Specialist (5 Points) - Holds a minimum NQF Level 10 qualification in Economics, Development Economics or a related field and at least seven (5) years of demonstrated experience in economic complexity analysis, product space analysis, economic modelling, industrial diversification and related assignments = 5; - Minimum NQF Level 9 qualification and at least three (3) to four (4) years of demonstrated relevant experience = 3; - Less than three (3) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0 8. Socio-economic Specialist (5 Points)	
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			- Holds a minimum NQF Level 9 qualification in Economics, Development Studies, Social Sciences or a related field and at least five (5) or more years of demonstrated experience in socio-economic analysis, labour market analysis, poverty and inequality studies, regional development, and related assignments = 5; - Minimum NQF Level 8 qualification and at least three (3) to four (4) years of demonstrated relevant experience = 3; - Less than five (5) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0 9. Just Transition Facilitation Specialist (5 Points) - Minimum NQF Level 8 qualification in Development Studies, Social Sciences, Public Policy, Community Development, Economics or related field with five (5) or more years of demonstrated experience in Just Transition programmes, community development,	
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			stakeholder engagement, participatory planning, livelihood development, socio-economic development programmes, or inclusive development initiatives = 5; - At least three (3) to four (4) years of demonstrated experience = 3; - Less than three (3) years of demonstrated experience or does not meet qualification requirements = 0. 10. Other Team Members (5 Points) - The proposed multidisciplinary team includes at least three (3) appropriately qualified specialists (e.g. Statistician/Data Analyst, GIS Specialist, Research Specialist) with NQF Level 7 qualifications or higher with five (5) or more years of demonstrated experience supporting similar assignments = 5; - The proposed multidisciplinary team includes appropriately qualified specialists with at least three (3) years of	
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			demonstrated experience supporting similar assignments = 3; - Team composition is inadequate, does not meet the minimum requirements, or no information is submitted = 0	
3	Methodology, Technical Approach and Work Plan	A detailed methodology demonstrating an understanding of the following key aspects of the assignment: 1. Economic complexity analytical framework, product space analysis methodology, economic modelling approach (e.g., Harvard economic complexity), and economic diversification assessment = 10; 2. Socio-economic analysis methodology, labour market assessment, data collection, validation, and quality control approach = 10; 3. Stakeholder engagement methodology, consultation approach, and integration of stakeholder inputs into the analysis and recommendations = 10; 4. Project implementation plan, work plan, quality assurance arrangements, reporting framework, and risk management approach = 10.	Each element carries a maximum score of 7.5 points. The score awarded will be multiplied by the applicable weighting as follows: 0.5 = Element addressed in a generic, vague, incomplete, or unclear manner. 1.0 = Element clearly, adequately, and comprehensively addressed. Final Score per Element = Points Awarded × Applicable Weighting.	40
Total technical score				100
Minimum technical threshold				70

7. COMPETENCIES

The consultant or consortium and proposed team members are expected to demonstrate the following competencies:

- Demonstrable experience in economic complexity analysis, product space analysis, quantitative economic modelling, and regional economic development studies.
- Strong capability in socio-economic analysis, demographic profiling, labour market analysis, poverty and inequality assessment, and district or municipal-level profiling.
- Experience in sectoral analysis, value chain analysis, industrial policy, investment prioritisation, and economic diversification strategy development.
- Ability to work with large datasets, national and provincial statistics, administrative data, qualitative evidence, and spatial or sub-national economic data.
- Experience facilitating stakeholder engagements, workshops, interviews, and validation sessions with government, business, labour, communities, academia, and development partners.
- Ability to produce high-quality analytical reports, policy recommendations, implementation pathways, data visualisations, and stakeholder-ready outputs.

10. DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAMES

The consultant or consortium will be required to deliver the assignment within a total project duration of 18 months, unless otherwise agreed by the Project Steering Committee (PSC).

Table 2: Deliverables and timelines

Economic Complexity Analysis (12 Months)	Socio-Economic Analysis (6 Months)
Month 1: Inception Report & Project Initiation - Finalisation of methodology, analytical framework, workplan, stakeholder engagement plan, governance arrangements, risk framework, and initiation of data collection and stakeholder mapping.	Month 1: Inception Report & Project Mobilisation - Finalisation of methodology, analytical framework, workplan, stakeholder engagement plan, data requirements framework, governance arrangements, and risk assessment.

Months 2–5: Economic Model Development, Dataset Construction & Product Space Tool - Development of granular sub-national dataset; construction of economic complexity model; development of indicators; product space analysis; and interactive product space mapping tool/dashboard.	Months 2–3: Socio-Economic Baseline Analysis & Stakeholder Engagements - Collection and analysis of demographic, labour market, poverty, inequality, education, skills, health, and sectoral data, supported by provincial consultations, workshops, and validation sessions.
Months 4–7: Stakeholder Engagements, Validation & Refinement - Provincial consultations, key informant interviews, workshops, and validation sessions to refine model outputs, assumptions, and diversification insights.	Months 3–5: District-Level Socio-Economic Profiles & Draft Report - Development of district/municipal profiles covering spatial disparities, infrastructure distribution, development constraints, vulnerabilities, and opportunities; preparation of draft socio-economic report with preliminary recommendations.
Months 7–10: Diversification Pathways, Value Chain Mapping & PIM Alignment - Identification and refinement of priority sectors and value chains; development of industrial diversification pathways aligned with Just Transition; integration of PIM priority projects and identification of quick-win interventions.	Month 5-6: Final Socio-Economic Report - Incorporation of stakeholder feedback, refinement of analysis, and submission of final report with consolidated findings, policy recommendations, and development interventions.
Months 11–12: Final Report & Technical Package - Draft and final Economic Complexity Report, consolidation of findings, datasets, model outputs, product space tool/dashboard, and analytical visualisations.	

8. REMUNERATION SCHEDULE

Payments for services rendered under this TOR will be made in South African Rand on a fixed-price basis, subject to Project Steering Committee approval of completed deliverables and milestones.

1. Only bidders who meet and pass Step(s) 1 and 2 above will proceed to this phase: the Price Proposal.
2. Price proposals will be scrutinized to verify the absence of arithmetical errors, omissions, and inconsistencies. Bidders will be notified of all errors or omissions that are identified in the tender offer and either confirm the bid offer as tendered or accept the corrected total of prices.
3. Bidders are kindly cautioned that the pricing proposal should be submitted in A SEPARATE FOLDER clearly marked “pricing proposal”. The proposal should not be combined with any of

the other submissions, including the resource matrix, CVs, project reference list, methodology and approach proposal because these qualitative and other criteria are sought to be assessed independently of the pricing proposal.

BIDDERS WHO FAIL TO SUBMIT THEIR PRICING PROPOSAL IN A SEPARATE FOLDER MAY FACE DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE PROCESS.

1. This assignment will be a fixed-price contract, notwithstanding that cost components may be based on hourly rates. Accordingly, the consultant is required to propose pricing on a lump sum basis, broken down by stages (detailed in Table above). The pricing per stage must be split per deliverable in that stage.
2. A comprehensive rate card must be included covering all categories of resources proposed for the project, including specialists and any other relevant expertise. In addition, bidders must submit for each deliverable: Resource(s), Rate per resource, Hours required and Total cost.
3. The scope of work will require the successful bidder to travel or engage key stakeholders of the project. Therefore, the price offer should be all-inclusive.
4. All prices and rates should include associated disbursements and exclude VAT. Bidders must account for discounts and inflation in their pricing, as no price escalation will be permitted during implementation. All rates agreed with shall be fixed and final. Bidders must ensure that all disbursements are accurately priced and clearly itemised in their submissions. Any omission, understatement, overstatement, or incorrect pricing of disbursements shall be at the bidder's risk and may not constitute grounds for a claim for additional compensation after contract award. **The Total tendered amount at the bottom shall include 15% VAT.**
5. Should bidders require any additional information to complete their quotations, all queries must be submitted via email. Responses to such queries will be provided in writing and copies of replies will be circulated to all bidders to ensure fairness and transparency.

Table 3: Remuneration and Pricing Schedule Economic Complexity Analysis

Milestone	Deliverable(s)	Payment (%)	Bid Price (ZAR)
1	Approved Inception Report & Project Initiation	10%	
2	Approved Socio-Economic Baseline Analysis & Stakeholder Engagements	10%	
3	Approved Stakeholder Engagements, Validation & Refinement	15%	
4	Approved Diversification Pathways, Value Chain Mapping & PIM Alignment	50%	
5	Approved Final Report & Technical Package	15%	
Sub total			

VAT 15%		
Total	100%	

Table 4: Remuneration and Pricing Schedule Socio-Economic Analysis

Milestone	Deliverable(s)	Payment (%)	Bid Price (ZAR)
1	Approved Inception Report & Project Mobilisation	20%	
2	Approved Project Concept Review	30%	
3	Approved District-Level Socio-Economic Profiles & Draft Report	30%	
4	Approved Final Socio-Economic Report	20%	
Sub total			
VAT 15%			
Total		100%	

Table 5: Summary Remuneration and Pricing Schedule for both Economic Complexity Analysis and Socio-Economic Analysis

Milestone	Deliverable(s)	Payment (%)	Bid Price (ZAR)
1	Inception Report and Project Mobilisation	10%	
2	Data Collection and Socio-Economic Baseline	20%	
3	Economic Complexity Model and Product Space Analysis	25%	
4	Sectoral, Value Chain, and District-Level Analysis	15%	
5	Stakeholder Engagement, Draft Report, and Validation	15%	
6	Final Report and Close-Out	15%	
Sub total			
VAT 15%			
Total		100%	

Payments: Payments will comprise professional fees and approved disbursements per deliverable or milestone, subject to Project Steering Committee approval. The quoted price must be inclusive of all costs required to deliver the economic complexity and socio-economic analysis assignment, including professional fees, data acquisition where required, travel and subsistence, stakeholder engagement costs, analysis, reporting, validation workshops, and any other related costs.

9. GOVERNING LAW

This consultancy contract shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of South Africa.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

Any confidential information obtained by either party, or arising from the implementation of this project, shall be treated as confidential by the receiving party and shall not be used, disclosed, or permitted to be disclosed to any person who is not a party to this project without the prior written consent of the other party.

Fees and Assumptions

(Note: This page must be separated from the pre-qualifying and functional proposal. Failure to separate this, will lead to disqualification of the bid)

FORM OF OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE (AGREEMENT)

FORM OF OFFER

THE CONSULTANT IS TO COMPLETE AND SIGN THE FORM OF OFFER

The Employer, identified in the Acceptance signature block, has solicited offers to enter into a contract in respect of the following services:

RFP142/2026 APPOINTMENT OF A QUALIFIED CONSULTANT OR CONSORTIUM TO UNDERTAKE ECONOMIC COMPLEXITY STUDIES AND COMPREHENSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS TO INFORM ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, INVESTMENT PRIORITISATION, POLICY FORMULATION AND JUST TRANSITION PLANNING

The Tenderer, identified in the Offer signature block below, has examined the documents listed in the Tender Data and addenda thereto as listed in the Tender Schedules, and by submitting this Offer has accepted the Conditions of Tender.

By the representative of the Tenderer, deemed to be duly authorised, signing this part of this Form of Offer and Acceptance, the Tenderer offers to perform all of the obligations and liabilities of the consultant under the Contract including compliance with all its terms and conditions according to their true intent and meaning for an amount to be determined in accordance with the Conditions of Contract identified in the Contract Data.

THE OFFERED TOTAL OF THE PRICES INCLUSIVE OF ALL TAXES IS

.....

(in words);	ZAR	(in
.....		figures),

This offer may be accepted by the Employer by signing the Acceptance part of this Form of Offer and Acceptance and returning one copy of this document to the Tenderer before the end

of the period of validity stated in the Tender Data, whereupon the Tenderer becomes the party named as the consultant in the Conditions of Contract identified in the Contract Data.

Signature(s)

Name(s)

Capacity

**For the
Tenderer**

(Name and address of organisation)

**Name and
signature of
witness**

Date

Price proposal

(Note: This page must be separated from the pre-qualifying and functional proposal. Failure to separate this, will lead to disqualification of the bid)

Payments for services rendered under this TOR will be made in South African Rand on a fixed-price basis, subject to Project Steering Committee approval of completed deliverables and milestones.

4. Only bidders who meet and pass Step(s) 1 and 2 above will proceed to this phase: the Price Proposal.
5. Price proposals will be scrutinized to verify the absence of arithmetical errors, omissions, and inconsistencies. Bidders will be notified of all errors or omissions that are identified in the tender offer and either confirm the bid offer as tendered or accept the corrected total of prices.
6. Bidders are kindly cautioned that the pricing proposal should be submitted in A SEPARATE FOLDER clearly marked "pricing proposal". The proposal should not be combined with any of the other submissions, including the resource matrix, CVs, project reference list, methodology and approach proposal because these qualitative and other criteria are sought to be assessed independently of the pricing proposal.

BIDDERS WHO FAIL TO SUBMIT THEIR PRICING PROPOSAL IN A SEPARATE FOLDER MAY FACE DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE PROCESS.

6. This assignment will be a fixed-price contract, notwithstanding that cost components may be based on hourly rates. Accordingly, the consultant is required to propose pricing on a lump sum basis, broken down by stages (detailed in Table above). The pricing per stage must be split per deliverable in that stage.
7. A comprehensive rate card must be included covering all categories of resources proposed for the project, including specialists and any other relevant expertise. In addition, bidders must submit for each deliverable: Resource(s), Rate per resource, Hours required and Total cost.
8. The scope of work will require the successful bidder to travel or engage key stakeholders of the project. Therefore, the price offer should be all-inclusive.
9. All prices and rates should include associated disbursements and exclude VAT. Bidders must account for discounts and inflation in their pricing, as no price escalation will be permitted during implementation. All rates agreed with shall be fixed and final. Bidders must ensure that all disbursements are accurately priced and clearly itemised in their submissions. Any omission, understatement, overstatement, or incorrect pricing of disbursements shall be at the

bidder's risk and may not constitute grounds for a claim for additional compensation after contract award. **The Total tendered amount at the bottom shall include 15% VAT.**

10. Should bidders require any additional information to complete their quotations, all queries must be submitted via email. Responses to such queries will be provided in writing and copies of replies will be circulated to all bidders to ensure fairness and transparency.

Table 3: Remuneration and Pricing Schedule Economic Complexity Analysis

Milestone	Deliverable(s)	Payment (%)	Bid Price (ZAR)
1	Approved Inception Report & Project Initiation	10%	
2	Approved Socio-Economic Baseline Analysis & Stakeholder Engagements	10%	
3	Approved Stakeholder Engagements, Validation & Refinement	15%	
4	Approved Diversification Pathways, Value Chain Mapping & PIM Alignment	50%	
5	Approved Final Report & Technical Package	15%	
Sub total			
VAT 15%			
Total		100%	

Table 4: Remuneration and Pricing Schedule Socio-Economic Analysis

Milestone	Deliverable(s)	Payment (%)	Bid Price (ZAR)
1	Approved Inception Report & Project Mobilisation	20%	
2	Approved Project Concept Review	30%	
3	Approved District-Level Socio-Economic Profiles & Draft Report	30%	
4	Approved Final Socio-Economic Report	20%	
Sub total			
VAT 15%			
Total		100%	

Table 5: Summary Remuneration and Pricing Schedule for both Economic Complexity Analysis and Socio-Economic Analysis

Milestone	Deliverable(s)	Payment (%)	Bid Price (ZAR)
1	Inception Report and Project Mobilisation	10%	
2	Data Collection and Socio-Economic Baseline	20%	

3	Economic Complexity Model and Product Space Analysis	25%	
4	Sectoral, Value Chain, and District-Level Analysis	15%	
5	Stakeholder Engagement, Draft Report, and Validation	15%	
6	Final Report and Close-Out	15%	
Sub total			
VAT 15%			
Total		100%	

Payments: Payments will comprise professional fees and approved disbursements per deliverable or milestone, subject to Project Steering Committee approval. The quoted price must be inclusive of all costs required to deliver the economic complexity and socio-economic analysis assignment, including professional fees, data acquisition where required, travel and subsistence, stakeholder engagement costs, analysis, reporting, validation workshops, and any other related costs.

ANNEXURE A: COMPANY EXPERIENCE AND TRACK RECORD

No.	Client Name	Project/Assignment Title	Nature of Assignment	Country	Year Completed	Duration	Reference Provided (Yes/No)

[Note to the Bidder: The Bidder may provide this information in a separate page provided it includes the information required per the template and it is clearly marked that it's responding to the Technical Evaluation Criteria.]

ANNEXURE B: KEY PERSONNEL

No.	Name of Resource	Role in Assignment	Highest Qualification	Years of Relevant Experience	Details of experience

[Note to the Bidder: The Bidder may provide this information in a separate page provided it includes the information required per the template and it is clearly marked that it's responding to the Technical Evaluation Criteria.]

ANNEXURE B: STANDARD CV TEMPLATE

CV Template		
Proposed resource Information		
Proposed Position as per the TOR		
Name of the Firm		
Date of Employment		
Name of the staff member		
Date of birth		
Nationality		
Education		
Date Obtained	Institution	Degrees Obtained and National Qualification Level

Experience				
Employment History Date	Position Held	Company Name	Detail description in line with the criteria	Sector Experience

Project list for projects undertaken

Key Projects Undertaken 1	
Name of the Assignment/Project	
Period in full dates	
Location	
Client	
Sector	
Positions Held	
Project Value in ZAR	
Activities Performed	
Key Deliverables	
Contactable reference: Name and contacts	
Key Projects Undertaken 2	
Name of the Assignment/Project	
Period in full dates	
Location	
Client	
Sector	
Positions Held	
Project Value in ZAR	
Activities Performed	
Key Deliverables	
Contactable reference: Name and contacts	

BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE

1. PURPOSE OF THE FORM

Any person (natural or juristic) may make an offer or offers in terms of this invitation to bid. In line with the principles of transparency, accountability, impartiality, and ethics as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and further expressed in various pieces of legislation, it is required for the bidder to make this declaration in respect of the details required hereunder.

Where a person/s are listed in the Register for Tender Defaulters and / or the List of Restricted Suppliers, that person will automatically be disqualified from the bid process.

2. Bidder's declaration

2.1 Is the bidder, or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest¹ in the enterprise, employed by the state? **YES/NO**

2.1.1 If so, furnish particulars of the names, individual identity numbers, and, if applicable, state employee numbers of sole proprietor/ directors / trustees / shareholders / members/ partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise, in table below.

Full Name	Identity Number	Name of State institution

¹ the power, by one person or a group of persons holding the majority of the equity of an enterprise, alternatively, the person/s having the deciding vote or power to influence or to direct the course and decisions of the enterprise.

2.2 Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have a relationship with any person who is employed by the procuring institution? **YES/NO**

2.2.1 If so, furnish particulars:
.....
.....

2.3 Does the bidder or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise have any interest in any other related enterprise whether or not they are bidding for this contract?**YES/NO**

2.3.1 If so, furnish particulars:
.....
.....

3 DECLARATION

I, _____ the _____ undersigned, (name)..... in submitting the accompanying bid, do hereby make the following statements that I certify to be true and complete in every respect:

- 3.1 I have read and I understand the contents of this disclosure;
- 3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found not to be true and complete in every respect;
- 3.3 The bidder has arrived at the accompanying bid independently from, and without consultation, communication, agreement or arrangement with any competitor. However, communication between partners in a joint venture or consortium² will not be construed as collusive bidding.
- 3.4 In addition, there have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements with any competitor regarding the quality, quantity, specifications, prices, including methods, factors or formulas used to calculate prices, market allocation, the intention or decision to submit or not to submit the bid, bidding with the intention not to win the bid and conditions or delivery particulars of the products or services to which this bid invitation relates.
- 3.4 The terms of the accompanying bid have not been, and will not be, disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, to any competitor, prior to the date and time of the official bid opening or of the awarding of the contract.

² Joint venture or Consortium means an association of persons for the purpose of combining their expertise, property, capital, efforts, skill and knowledge in an activity for the execution of a contract.

- 3.5 There have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements made by the bidder with any official of the procuring institution in relation to this procurement process prior to and during the bidding process except to provide clarification on the bid submitted where so required by the institution; and the bidder was not involved in the drafting of the specifications or terms of reference for this bid.

SBD 4

- 3.6 I am aware that, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided to combat any restrictive practices related to bids and contracts, bids that are suspicious will be reported to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties in terms of section 59 of the Competition Act No 89 of 1998 and or may be reported to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for criminal investigation and or may be restricted from conducting business with the public sector for a period not exceeding ten (10) years in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act No 12 of 2004 or any other applicable legislation.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION FURNISHED IN PARAGRAPHS 1, 2 and 3 ABOVE IS CORRECT.

I ACCEPT THAT THE STATE MAY REJECT THE BID OR ACT AGAINST ME IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 6 OF PFMA SCM INSTRUCTION 03 OF 2021/22 ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING ABUSE IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SHOULD THIS DECLARATION PROVE TO BE FALSE.

.....
Signature Date

.....
Position Name of bidder

PREFERENCE POINTS CLAIM FORM IN TERMS OF THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS 2022

This preference form must form part of all tenders invited. It contains general information and serves as a claim form for preference points for specific goals.

NB: BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM, TENDERERS MUST STUDY THE GENERAL CONDITIONS, DEFINITIONS AND DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE IN RESPECT OF THE TENDER AND PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, 2022

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1 The following preference point systems are applicable to invitations to tender:

- the 80/20 system for requirements with a Rand value of up to R50 000 000 (all applicable taxes included); and
- the 90/10 system for requirements with a Rand value above R50 000 000 (all applicable taxes included).

1.2 To be completed by the organ of state

(delete whichever is not applicable for this tender).

- a) The applicable preference point system for this tender is the **80/20** preference point system.

1.3 Points for this tender (even in the case of a tender for income-generating contracts) shall be awarded for:

- (a) Price; and
(b) Specific Goals (namely, BBBEE status level of contributor).

1.4 To be completed by the organ of state:

The maximum points for this tender are allocated as follows:

	POINTS
PRICE	80
SPECIFIC GOALS (BBBEE)	20
Total points for Price and SPECIFIC GOALS	100

- 1.5 Failure on the part of a tenderer to submit proof or documentation required in terms of this tender to claim points for specific goals with the tender, will be interpreted to mean that preference points for specific goals are not claimed.
- 1.6 The organ of state reserves the right to require of a tenderer, either before a tender is adjudicated or at any time subsequently, to substantiate any claim in regard to preferences, in any manner required by the organ of state.

2. DEFINITIONS

- (a) **“tender”** means a written offer in the form determined by an organ of state in response to an invitation to provide goods or services through price quotations, competitive tendering process or any other method envisaged in legislation;
- (b) **“price”** means an amount of money tendered for goods or services, and includes all applicable taxes less all unconditional discounts;
- (c) **“rand value”** means the total estimated value of a contract in Rand, calculated at the time of bid invitation, and includes all applicable taxes;
- (d) **“tender for income-generating contracts”** means a written offer in the form determined by an organ of state in response to an invitation for the origination of income-generating contracts through any method envisaged in legislation that will result in a legal agreement between the organ of state and a third party that produces revenue for the organ of state, and includes, but is not limited to, leasing and disposal of assets and concession contracts, excluding direct sales and disposal of assets through public auctions; and
- (e) **“the Act”** means the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 (Act No. 5 of 2000).

3. FORMULAE FOR PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

3.1. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

3.1.1 THE 80/20 OR 90/10 PREFERENCE POINT SYSTEMS

A maximum of 80 or 90 points is allocated for price on the following basis:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{80/20} & \mathbf{or} & \mathbf{90/10} \\
 \\
 \mathbf{Ps = 80 \left(1 - \frac{Pt - P_{min}}{P_{min}} \right)} & \mathbf{or} & \mathbf{Ps = 90 \left(1 - \frac{Pt - P_{min}}{P_{min}} \right)}
 \end{array}$$

Where

- Ps = Points scored for price of tender under consideration
Pt = Price of tender under consideration
Pmin = Price of lowest acceptable tender

3.2. FORMULAE FOR DISPOSAL OR LEASING OF STATE ASSETS AND INCOME GENERATING PROCUREMENT

3.2.1. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

A maximum of 80 or 90 points is allocated for price on the following basis:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{80/20} & \mathbf{or} & \mathbf{90/10} \\ \\ \mathbf{Ps = 80 \left(1 + \frac{Pt - P_{max}}{P_{max}} \right)} & \mathbf{or} & \mathbf{Ps = 90 \left(1 + \frac{Pt - P_{max}}{P_{max}} \right)} \end{array}$$

Where

- Ps = Points scored for price of tender under consideration
Pt = Price of tender under consideration
Pmax = Price of highest acceptable tender

4. POINTS AWARDED FOR SPECIFIC GOALS

- 4.1. In terms of Regulation 4(2); 5(2); 6(2) and 7(2) of the Preferential Procurement Regulations, preference points must be awarded for specific goals stated in the tender. For the purposes of this tender the tenderer will be allocated points based on the goals stated in table 1 below as may be supported by proof/ documentation stated in the conditions of this tender:
- 4.2. In cases where organs of state intend to use Regulation 3(2) of the Regulations, which states that, if it is unclear whether the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system applies, an organ of state must, in the tender documents, stipulate in the case of—
- (a) an invitation for tender for income-generating contracts, that either the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system will apply and that the highest acceptable tender will be used to determine the applicable preference point system; or
 - (b) any other invitation for tender, that either the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system will apply and that the lowest acceptable tender will be used to determine the applicable preference point system,
- then the organ of state must indicate the points allocated for specific goals for both the 90/10 and 80/20 preference point system.

Table 1: Specific goals for the tender and points claimed are indicated per the table below.

(Note to organs of state: Where either the 90/10 or 80/20 preference point system is applicable, corresponding points must also be indicated as such.)

Note to tenderers: The tenderer must indicate how they claim points for each preference point system.)

The specific goals allocated points in terms of this tender	Number of points allocated (90/10 system) (To be completed by the organ of state)	Number of points allocated (80/20 system) (To be completed by the organ of state)	Number of points claimed (90/10 system) (To be completed by the tenderer)	Number of points claimed (80/20 system) (To be completed by the tenderer)
1	10	20		
2	9	18		
3	6	14		
4	5	12		
5	4	8		
6	3	6		
7	2	4		
8	1	2		
Non-compliant contributor	0	0		

(Note: Bidders are required to submit their BBBEE certificates or sworn affidavits (in the case of EMEs/QSEs) in order to be eligible to claim points)

DECLARATION WITH REGARD TO COMPANY/FIRM

4.3. Name of company/firm.....

4.4. Company registration number:

4.5. TYPE OF COMPANY/ FIRM

- ☐ Partnership/Joint Venture / Consortium
- ☐ One-person business/sole propriety
- ☐ Close corporation
- ☐ Public Company
- ☐ Personal Liability Company
- ☐ (Pty) Limited

- ☐ Non-Profit Company
☐ State Owned Company
[TICK APPLICABLE BOX]

4.6. I, the undersigned, who is duly authorised to do so on behalf of the company/firm, certify that the points claimed, based on the specific goals as advised in the tender, qualifies the company/ firm for the preference(s) shown and I acknowledge that:

- i) The information furnished is true and correct;
- ii) The preference points claimed are in accordance with the General Conditions as indicated in paragraph 1 of this form;
- iii) In the event of a contract being awarded as a result of points claimed as shown in paragraphs 1.4 and 4.2, the contractor may be required to furnish documentary proof to the satisfaction of the organ of state that the claims are correct;
- iv) If the specific goals have been claimed or obtained on a fraudulent basis or any of the conditions of contract have not been fulfilled, the organ of state may, in addition to any other remedy it may have –
 - (a) disqualify the person from the tendering process;
 - (b) recover costs, losses or damages it has incurred or suffered as a result of that person's conduct;
 - (c) cancel the contract and claim any damages which it has suffered as a result of having to make less favourable arrangements due to such cancellation;
 - (d) recommend that the tenderer or contractor, its shareholders and directors, or only the shareholders and directors who acted on a fraudulent basis, be restricted from obtaining business from any organ of state for a period not exceeding 10 years, after the *audi alteram partem* (hear the other side) rule has been applied; and
 - (e) forward the matter for criminal prosecution, if deemed necessary

.....
SIGNATURE(S) OF TENDERER(S)

SURNAME AND NAME:

DATE:.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....

.....

.....

- 1 In order to give effect to the above, the following questionnaire must be completed and submitted with the bid.

Item	Question	Yes	No
4.1	Is the bidder or any of its directors listed on the National Treasury's Database of Restricted Suppliers as companies or persons prohibited from doing business with the public sector? (Companies or persons who are listed on this Database were informed in writing of this restriction by the Accounting Officer/Authority of the institution that imposed the restriction after the <i>audi alteram partem</i> rule was applied). The Database of Restricted Suppliers now resides on the National Treasury's website(www.treasury.gov.za) and can be accessed by clicking on its link at the bottom of the home page.	Yes ☐	No ☐
4.1.1	If so, furnish particulars:		
4.2	Is the bidder or any of its directors listed on the Register for Tender Defaulters in terms of section 29 of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act (No 12 of 2004)? The Register for Tender Defaulters can be accessed on the National Treasury's website (www.treasury.gov.za) by clicking on its link at the bottom of the home page.	Yes ☐	No ☐
4.2.1	If so, furnish particulars:		
4.3	Was the bidder or any of its directors convicted by a court of law (including a court outside of the Republic of South Africa) for fraud or corruption during the past five years?	Yes ☐	No ☐
4.3.1	If so, furnish particulars:		
4.4	Was any contract between the bidder and any organ of state terminated during the past five years on account of failure to perform on or comply with the contract?	Yes ☐	No ☐
4.4.1	If so, furnish particulars:		

Annexure F

Certified copies of your CIPC company registration documents listing all members with percentages, in case of a lose corporation

Annexure G

Certified copies of latest share certificates, in case of a company.

Annexure H

(if applicable): A breakdown of how fees and work will be spread between members of the bidding consortium.

Annexure I

Supporting documents to responses to Pre-Qualifying Criteria and Functional Evaluation Criteria.

Annexure J

[General Conditions of Contract]

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO READ THROUGH THE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT PRESCRIBED BY THE NATIONAL TREASURY. SUCH GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT CAN BE ACCESSED ON THE NATIONAL TREASURY WEBSITE.

PLEASE NOTE FURTHER THAT ALL BIDDERS MUST ENSURE THAT THEY ARE WELL ACQUAINTED WITH THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN DOING BUSINESS WITH GOVERNMENT.

NOTE: All Bidders are required to confirm (*Tick applicable box*) below:

Item	YES	NO
Is the Bidder familiar with the General Conditions of Contract prescribed by the National Treasury?		

Annexure K

Tax Compliant Status and CSD Registration Requirements

ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS MUST HAVE A TAX COMPLIANT STATUS EITHER ON THE CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD) OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY OR SARS E FILING PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT/AWARD OF THE BID.

REGISTRATION ON THE CSD SITE OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY IS A COMPULSORY REQUIREMENT FOR A BIDDER TO BE APPOINTED, TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITH THE DBSA. THE ONUS IS ON THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER TO REGISTER ON THE CSD SITE AND PROVIDE PROOF OF SUCH REGISTRATION PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT/AWARD OF THE BID.

CSD Registration Number:



The Development Bank of Southern Africa has a Zero Tolerance on Fraud and Corruption.
Report any incidents of Fraud and Corruption to Whistle Blowers on any of the following:

TollFree : 0800 20 49 33
Email : dbsa@whistleblowing.co.za
Free Post : Free Post KZN 665 | Musgrave | 4062
SMS : 33490