

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix - Travail - Patrie

MINISTERE DES MINES, DE L'INDUSTRIE ET DU
DÉVELOPPEMENT TECHNOLOGIQUE

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DIRECTION DU DEVELOPPEMENT TECHNOLOGIQUE
ET DE LA PROPRIETE INTELLECTUELLE

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace - Work - Fatherland

MINISTRY OF MINES, INDUSTRY AND
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGICAL
DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

PUBLIC CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

No. 0000001 /APMI/MINMIDT of 8 JUL 2023

**FOR THE DESIGN, THE CONSTRUCTION, THE
FINANCING, THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF
THE OUASSA-BABOUTE AGRO-INDUSTRIAL
TECHNOPOLE PROJECT (TAIP)**

AND

**FOR CAMEROON GOVERNMENT *THROUGH THE
MINISTRY OF MINES, INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGICAL
DEVELOPMENT (MINMIDT)***

**NOTICE TO BE
PUBLISHED**

web address: www.minmidt.cm

1 Introduction

1.1 A Business Opportunity

MINMIDT is planning to achieve the Ouassa-Babouté Agro-Industrial Technopole (TAIP) project. This project, the parameters of which are described in this document, will be the preferred response to the need for innovation in the processing of local products, and will equally contribute to rebalancing the trade deficit by reducing the import of raw material by industries and that of standardised household food products. MINMIDT advocates for a PPP approach as concerns the said Project in order to make good use of the private sector's expertise. It expects a significant participation of the private sector in the sharing of responsibilities and risks, and in the financing of the project. In addition, MINMIDT seeks to speed up the implementation of the Project through private sector's technological input and management.

Thus, MINMIDT is considering an approach whereby a company or group of companies will, as Private Partner, design, construct, finance, operate and maintain the Project.

For the purposes of awarding the Partnership Agreement, MINMIDT shall keep with the principles of transparency, fairness and competition throughout the selection process.

MINMIDT has examined different scenarios for the implementation of this project which have led to a PPP as the best option. The PPP involves a long-term agreement between MINMIDT and the Private Partner who will share the risks and benefits associated with the Partnership. The Private Partner will be responsible for the design, the construction, the operation, maintenance and financing¹ of the project¹

1.2 Purpose of the Invitation to Tender

This Invitation to tender aims to identify and select potential partners for Partnership with MINMIDT. Given that this is a major project, MINMIDT seeks to entrust its implementation to a partner that has proven interest, experience, expertise, resources and potential, as well as all the other qualities required to successfully carry out the Partnership.

In order to facilitate the evaluation, Bidders shall submit their bids following the format set out in Exhibit 1. MINMIDT will select five Bidders¹ on the basis of an evaluation carried out in accordance with the criteria described in Section 4. Qualified Bidders will then be invited

¹ It is a list of some tasks to be entrusted to the private partner. The public entity will choose and/or add the tasks that fit the project

to submit a bid in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the subsequent Restricted Call for Tenders.

1.3 Context

- Growth in Cameroon has been stagnant at less than 4% for several years.
- Trade balance in desperate deficit.
- Old-fashioned industrial fabric, difficult to modernize and lacking in technological know-how.
- Country's poor capacity to design new products, and to define and acquire technologies to manufacture them industrially.
- Cameroon consumes what it does not produce and produces what it does not consume.
- **NDS 30** : - "for the NDS 30, the Government opted for the import substitution policy and the export promotion policy by relying on the comparative benefits of the national economy";
- "for the implementation of the NDS 30, the Government intends to resort to the private sector, both national and international, for the financing of some projects".
- **Role of the technopole**: Organising an economic fabric and an employment niche where innovative companies find the solutions to their needs.
- **Condition for the emergence of Cameroon**: Becoming a technology hub by setting up technopoles.
- Mission assigned to MINMIDT.
- **Vision of the projet**: Creating an innovation ecosystem in the agro-industrial sector in Cameroon.

1.4 Description of the Project

The Ouassa-Babouté agro-industrial technopole project, with its main site located in the Centre Region, Upper Sanaga Division, Nkoteng Subdivision, is designed around a nucleus which is a research and technological development centre (RC&DT) whose role is the design and development of competitive products on the various local and international markets, an industrial zone which will have to meet the needs of the local, regional and international markets, and a structural zone which is that of services to companies.

Its design integrates the entire agro-industrial value chain, from the production of raw materials to the final components before marketing. This is a particularity that highlights the other essential aspect which is the development of the territory along this chain.

In the long term, two types of industry will be developed within the technology park:

1st type: The agricultural sectors

- Seeds and cereals;
- Tubers and plantains;
- Fruit and vegetables;
- Essential oils and spices;
- Meat and fish products;
- Milk and by-products;
- Cocoa processing

2nd type : Support logistics

- The cold and packaging chain;
- Packages and agro industry materials;
- Renewable energies;
- Agro-industrial metrology;
- Agro-industry by-products and equipment.

The objectives of the project are the following:

The overall objective of the project is to establish a sustainable and competitive production and processing ecosystem in the agro-industrial sector by valuing agricultural outputs from agropoles and secular production. Specifically, the project aims at:

- Bringing about an efficient organisation and better productivity of the agricultural production sector.
- Bringing about the training of competitive human resources in the various trades.
- Spreading and expanding technology in each segment of the value chain.
- Bringing local resources and values into their modern form and exporting them.
- Encouraging entrepreneurship as well as good management and business practices.

These objectives should be achieved through:

- The establishment of a world-class high-tech processing industrial zone.
- The establishment of a high-level research and development area able to host world-class researchers.
- The establishment of a commercial and business service zone.

- The setting up of a support infrastructure for companies and raw material producers.
- The setting up of an inclusive development system integrating rural areas and based on innovation accelerators.
- The establishment of 128 companies (up to 300 SMEs) that will process and produce about two million tons of competitive products using a cutting-edge technology.

1.5 Responsibilities entrusted to the private partner

To achieve the expected results, MINMIDT, which will be referred to in the Partnership Contract as the "Public Partner", intends to entrust the following responsibilities to the Private Partner:

- **Permits and authorisations:** The Private Partner should obtain all necessary permits and authorizations to carry out its work under the Partnership;
- **Design:** The Private Partner shall design the Partnership Works in accordance with the outcomes sought by the Public Partner while meeting all requirements, including environmental and social requirements.
- **Construction:** The Private Partner shall construct the works under the Partnership. They shall ensure that they comply at all times with all requirements, including environmental and social requirements, and that they achieve all the results sought for under the Project. The Private Partner will be required to obtain all necessary construction permits and authorisations.
- **Financing:** The Private Partner shall be responsible for developing and implementing the financial package for the Partnership under his/her full responsibility;
- **Operation and maintenance:** The Private Partner shall be responsible for the operation, and the regular and major maintenance of the Partnership for the term of the Partnership Agreement. This responsibility includes the operation and maintenance of the works carried out by the Private Partner and those entrusted to him/her by the Public Partner, as well as the collection of any revenues arising from this operation.
- **Conditions for handing over the assets at the end of the Partnership:** the Infrastructure shall be handed over to MINMIDT under the conditions to be defined in the Partnership contract. The Infrastructure shall be subject to an inspection and correction

mechanism to ensure that it is handed over in accordance with the pre-established contractual conditions.

Bidders should be mindful that they must provide for all administrative and technical requirements of the Partnership that would normally be taken on by MINMIDT for the implementation of the Project under a conventional implementation approach. MINMIDT shall not be liable to the Partnership other than as provided in the Partnership Agreement.

By way of example, but not exhaustively, the Private Partner's responsibilities shall include the following: coordination with third parties including other authorities, compliance with Project schedules and costs. In addition, Bidders must commit to carry out all their obligations, in particular with respect to the design, construction, commissioning, quality control, operation and maintenance of the Infrastructure under the Partnership, for the entire term of the Partnership Agreement, including compliance with the conditions relating to the handover of the Infrastructure.

1.6 Remuneration of the private partner

The private partner shall be refunded for his/her investments and remunerated on the basis of the profits of the project he/she manages according to the terms to be set out in the Partnership Agreement.

2 Guidelines for Bidders

2.1 Date and place of submission

Bids must be deposited against receipt at the central mailing office of MINMIDT, located at the pink building, Yaoundé-Cameroon, as soon as this notice is published and no later than 15 June 2023 at 3:30 p.m. They must be contained in a sealed envelope bearing the following label:

Public Call for Expressions of Interest
N° _____/APMI/MINMIDT of _____ FOR THE DESIGN, THE
CONSTRUCTION, THE FINANCING, THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF
THE OUASSA-BABOUTE AGRO-INDUSTRIAL TECHNOPOLE PROJECT (TAIP)
TO BE OPENED ONLY DURING THE OPENING SESSION

All tender files submitted after the deadline shall be returned to the tenderer at his/her expense. It is the responsibility of the Bidder to make sure that his/her tender file is submitted at the time and place indicated above.

MINMIDT shall establish and maintain a list of Bidders with their contact details provided upon withdrawing the tender file. Files submitted electronically or by fax shall not be accepted.

2.2 Representatives of MINMIDT

In order to ensure uniformity in the interpretation of the Public Call for Expressions of Interest documents and to facilitate the sharing of information, MINMIDT has appointed the following persons as its representatives:

Representatives of MINMIDT

1) Full Name and Title: **Mr BAP DOM Gaspard Eugène, Director of Technological Development and Industrial Property (DDTPI)**

- Address: (+237) 677 225 681
- Town of residence: **Yaoundé-Cameroun**
- Email address: *eugènegaspard@yahoo.fr*

2) Full Name and Title: **Mr KAMSU MELIPHE Hervice, Sub-director of Technological Development (SDDT)**

- Address: (+237) 675400482
- Town of Residence: **Yaoundé-Cameroun**
- Email address: **melipheelvis@yahoo.fr**

All enquiries must be made in writing. MINMIDT's representatives shall be the only persons with whom Potential Bidders may communicate in relation to this Call. Any information provided by a person other than the representative of MINMIDT shall not be binding on that person and Bidders must not rely on such information.

3 General Conditions

3.1 Eligibility

Due to their involvement in the Project, companies that have participated in previous development phases of the Project, including the preparation of feasibility studies, as well as companies affiliated with these companies, shall not be eligible to participate, be it as a member of a Bidder's team or in any other capacity.

3.2 Communication

Under penalty of rejection of their offer, Bidders must refrain from any communication in relation to this Call and the Project with MINMIDT and CARPA staff, or with any person associated with the Project in any way, except for MINMIDT representatives referred to in Section 2.2.

3.3 Costs and Expenses incurred by Bidders

MINMIDT shall not refund any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders within the context of this Call for Expressions of Interest.

3.4 MINMIDT's Rights

MINMIDT reserves the right to conduct an independent audit of the information relating to a Bidder.

MINMIDT reserves the right to change the dates, deadlines, limits and scope of the Project or Partnership, reject any or all bids, cancel this Call for Tenders or the Partnership, launch a new Call for Tenders in relation with the Partnership, modify the selection process, without incurring liability for costs and damages suffered by any Bidder.

MINMIDT reserves the right to exclude or allow the correction of any irregularities that it considers minor or obvious in an offer and to seek clarification or additional information concerning any offer.

MINMIDT reserves the right to disqualify any bid that it considers to contain false or misleading information.

No legal action shall be founded against the State of Cameroon, MINMIDT or their representatives and advisers for any reason whatsoever arising from the exercise, if at all, on the rights and powers described in this section 3.4.

3.5 Withdrawal of main document from APMI

From the date of publication of this International Public Call for Expression of Interest, any interested candidate may withdraw, free of charge, his main document which includes more details, from the representatives of MINMIDT designated above. They will establish and update the list of candidates with the contact details that they will have declared when withdrawing the file from APMI.