



**AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

**Avenue Jean-Paul II Immeuble CCIA 01 B.P 1387**

**Abidjan 01 Côte d'Ivoire**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**Assignment Title:**

**AFRICA PORTS CONNECTIVITY PORTAL – DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION OF  
INFORMATION HIGHWAYS FOR AFRICAN PORTS SECTOR**

**Consulting Firm: DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION OF INFORMATION HIGHWAYS FOR  
AFRICAN PORTS SECTOR**

1. The African Development Bank (AfDB or the Bank) hereby invites a consulting firm to express their interest in the following assignment: *Design & Implementation of Information Highways for African Ports Sector*. The assignment aims to develop a web-based online data collection, storage, retrieval, and secure infrastructure facility.
2. The Transport and Logistics Division (PICU.1) is one of the Divisions within the Infrastructure and Urban Development Department (PICU) in the Private Sector, Infrastructure, and Industrialization Vice Presidency (PIVP) of the Bank. PICU.1 is mandated to: (i) provide technical assistance to Regional Member Countries for the formulation and implementation of policies and strategies, sector reforms, and the development of infrastructure markets; (ii) conduct sector studies and initiating policy and program dialogue, as well as develop strategies for the transport and logistics sectors; (iii) advise operational staff in the Regional Directorate on transport and logistics on trends and their implications for future project development and design.
3. The African Ports Connectivity Portal aims to provide a comprehensive platform for information sharing and collaboration among African ports. The portal will facilitate the exchange of best practices, data, and knowledge, and promote sustainable development in the African port sector. This project is characterized by a twofold objective, provide for Africa:
  - (i) Three (03) Subregional Data Collection Platforms: Ports Management Association of West and Central Africa (as PMAWCA Ports), Ports Management Association of Eastern and

Southern Africa (as PMASEA Ports), and Union of Ports Authorities of Northern Africa (as UPNA Ports), each being a one stop shop for data collection automatically and efficiently accessible in the cloud to all the subregion,

- (ii) A Regional Integrated Data Platform: A Regional system which integrates the three Subregional Data Collection Platforms to form Continental Database,
- (iii) A Port Connectivity Information Portal: Data Finder Repository, to easily explore, visualize and download raw data and insights. An API should be available for data consumption. Per subregion and for the whole Region.

4. The Bank is seeking a firm with adequate experience to assist the Transport and Logistics Division in the development of the African Ports Connectivity Portal. The services to be provided under the Assignment include:
- (i) Meeting all the stakeholders to gather their requirements.
  - (ii) Consolidate this requirement in the Business Requirement Documentation (BRS).
  - (iii) Design, prototype and implement the three (03) Subregional Data Collection Platforms to capture all port raw data from pre-designed harmonized data collection template.
  - (iv) Ensure that these platforms designed to be dynamic and scalable, allowing for the inclusion of additional elements/monitoring aspects such as environmental statistics in the future.
  - (v) Deploy the three (03) Subregional Data Collection Platforms.
  - (vi) Integrate the three (03) Subregional Data Collection Platforms to form the Regional Integrated Data Platform.
  - (vii) Deploy the Regional Integrated Data Platform.
  - (viii) Design, prototype and implement the Port Data Portal.
  - (ix) In the age of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, an AI infused Data Portal application is envisioned, so do not limit your creativity.
  - (x) Provide IT Cyber security and applicable users guidelines and methodology for managing the database by collaborating with regional ports management associations and other industry stakeholders. Confidentiality will be expected amongst the subscribing users.
  - (xi) Deploy the three (03) Subregional Data Collection Platforms for year's 2019,2020,2021,2022 and 2023 for 10 pilot ports per subregion.
  - (xii) Support digitalization of Port's statistical data for 2015,2016,2017 and 2018 from an existing port data book.
  - (xiii) Provide support to the Project and or Portal Communications requirements to ensure visibility of the initiative is amplified accordingly.
  - (xiv) Train the technical and non-technical stakeholders within the Subregions.
  - (xv) Provide support and assistance whenever required to stakeholders.
5. The Transport and Logistics Division of the Bank hereby invites the Consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the described assignment. Interested consulting firms should provide information indicating their qualifications to perform the services such as firm registration documents, firm profile/brochures, documents referencing their track record or portfolio with similar and relevant experience, availability of appropriate skills among staff relevant to the Assignment, etc.

6. **The duration of the assignment is nine months.** The consulting team will work out of own premises and will travel on mission to Abidjan or other locations for activities as may be required. **Possible starting date of this assignment is October 2024.**
7. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the **Bank’s Procurement Policy and Procedures for Recruitment of Consulting Firms**. Please note that interest expressed by a consulting firm does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include him/her in the shortlist.
8. A shortlist of three to six consulting firms will be established at the end of the request of expressions of interest. The consulting firm on the shortlist will be judged on the following criteria:

<i>a) Consultancy Firm’s Experience relevant to the Assignment:</i>	
<i>a. The firm must have proven experience and track record in designing port statistics data portal for international institutions.</i>	15%
<i>b. Prior work and experience on collecting raw data and building an AI infused portal will be a plus.</i>	10%
<i>b) Understanding of the Terms of Reference of the Assignment</i>	20%
<i>c) Experience and Qualifications of Key Personnel to the Assignment</i>	45%
<i>d) Experience with Multinational Development Banks and Development Finance Institutions, experience with the AfDB would be a plus</i>	05%
<i>e) Knowledge of the African region</i>	05%

9. **Shortlist for Transmission of RFP:** At the end of the EOI, the Shortlist will receive the ‘Request For Proposal’ (RFP), which contains both the financial and technical proposals and other details of the engagement contract. Eligibility criteria of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank’s “Rules and Procedures for the use of Consulting firms”.
10. Interested Consulting firms may obtain further information at the addresses below during the Bank’s working hours from 09:00 to 17:00 hours.
11. Expressions of Interest should not exceed a maximum of fifteen (15) pages.
12. Expressions of interest must be received by email, preferably in PDF at the addresses below no later than August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 17h00 local time (Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire) and specifically mentioning **“EOI: Consulting Firm: Design & Implementation of Information Highways for African Ports Sector”** - in the subject line of the email.

For the attention of:

**Mr. James Ng’ang’a**

**Task Manager, Africa Ports Connectivity Project, AfDB**

Email: [J.NGANGA@AFDB.ORG](mailto:J.NGANGA@AFDB.ORG)

With copy to:

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