



**TERMS OF REFERENCE (TORs)
CONSULTANT TO REVIEW/EDIT DRAFT CHAPTERS OF SOB 2018**

INTRODUCTION

The Nile Basin Initiative (**NBI**) is an inter-governmental organization initiated and led by the Nile riparian countries to promote joint development, protection and management of the common Nile Basin water resources. NBI has a Shared Vision: *'to promote sustainable socioeconomic development through equitable utilization of, and benefit from, the common Nile Basin water resources'*. A wide range of programs and projects are currently under varying stages of identification, preparation and implementation under NBI designed to contribute towards the realization of the NBI Shared Vision.

The NBI, among others, promotes the use of science–evidence-based information and knowledge in decision making to ensure water and related natural resources sustainability, efficient and rational use.

CONTEXT

As the Nile basin Partner States move up the rising development ladder, they will require more water to grow food, produce energy, and provide services to growing cities and more vulnerable rural populations. The per capita water availability and storage among the Nile Partner states is decreasing, due to rapid population growth, urbanization and inadequate investment in hydraulic infrastructure over the last four decades. The difficulties associated with hydrological control and management experienced by the partner states, illustrated by the low per-capita water storage in the Nile partner states, exposes Nile basin populations to flood and drought risks and these affect NBI Member States' economies and pace of growth. Understanding the basin dynamics is therefore essential.

In response, the NBI is currently developing a second State of the Nile River Basin Report (SOB-2018). The first State of River Nile Basin report (SOB 2012) was published in 2012 whose primary purpose was to present information on the general health of the Nile Basin in order to raise awareness and improve understanding of the biophysical, demographic, socio-cultural and economic conditions within the basin. SOB 2012 highlighted water related hotspots and hope-spots and emphasized that cooperation amongst the riparian states is crucial for solving the basins multiple environmental and socio-economic problems.

However, the conceptual framework of SOB 2018 is following a Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) as its causal chain framework for understanding how the Nile Basin is evolving and what would be the most effective strategic actions to sustainably manage the basin's water and related resources.

PURPOSE

NBI Member States are parts of many regional initiatives and international programs. Consequently, they commit to universal goals; such as SDGs, to report the progress made at national level to regional organizations; e.g. AMCOW, AU PIDA, etc. Building on the already existing culture of regular reporting on the pre-defined sets of indicators that are associated with the universal development goals and targets, SOB (2018) will be used as a vehicle to reach the ambition of a firmly established basin monitoring and reporting basin-wide system. Considerable part of the SOB (2018) indicators is compatible with those currently used by NBI riparian states to report regionally and internationally. This will alleviate the extra burden on the countries and boost the Nile Basin Monitoring and Reporting platform, ensure consistency and significance, cross-checking of preciseness and validity of information.

SOB (2018) is prepared at such a time when the basin is starting to experience large-scale development of the river. With reflections from the 2012-2016 NBI strategic plan, the SOB reflects and monitors NBI's contribution towards overcoming the main Basin Development challenges and contribution towards achieving the shared vision. Reflection on areas where real change on the ground has taken place over the last five years is presented; with thorough analyses and solid recommended courses of actions.

SOB (2018) aims at enhancing a shared understanding of biophysical trends and characteristics of the Nile Basin, Identify basin wide development opportunities and Challenges, and Identify potentially feasible joint course of action and strategic measures to be undertaken by member states.

Similar to the NBI 10-year Strategy (2027), SOB (2018) focuses on Water Security, Energy Security, Food Security, Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change adaptation, and strengthening Transboundary Water Governance as the sub-themes to be addressed under the main theme of *Water Security*.

The NBI therefore seeks to hire the services of a suitable **Technical Reviewer/ Editor** to review and edit the draft chapters of the State of River Nile Basin Report (2018) before the document is finalized and printed.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this consultancy is to provide professional review and editing of the draft chapters of the State of River Nile Basin Report (2018) to ensure completeness, clarity of key messages, accuracy of indicators, quality of data and methods used, among others. The Technical reviewer will be responsible for ensuring document consistency, presentation and illustration of facts and findings, harmonization of indicators across the chapters in the draft SOB (2018) document as well as consistency and alignment with international indicators, national and regional reporting requirements. SOB document overall integrity, relevance, flow of ideas and cross-citations, uniformity of contents (chapters, sections, presentations, illustrations, messages, conclusions, etc.), and meeting the international norms and standards. The consultant shall be responsible for ensuring that a final SOB 2018 is ready for printing

SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work of this assignment shall include thorough review of all the draft SOB 2018 chapters including the introduction, key messages and foreword messages. The scope of work shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- a) Review all SOB (2018) draft chapters for its coherence, completeness, logical flow, accuracy and style, providing comments and recommendations for improving the draft chapters.
- b) Review key messages for each chapter to ensure clarity and accuracy of information in the draft chapters as well as overall consistency and progressive building up the thematic high-level message.
- c) Review of all indicators used for correctness of format and wording to ensure consistency and harmonization with international standards and regional reporting requirements.
- d) Identify gaps and errors in the content of the storylines and provide recommendations to address the gaps so as to improve all the draft chapters; both generic and specific comments are required.
- e) Review all illustrations used in the draft chapters to ensure relevance and avoid redundancy.
- f) Review all conclusions with respect to NBI agenda and NBI 10-year strategy highlighting the role of NBI in promoting transboundary good governance and facing the basin challenges.
- g) Review citation of reference material and ensure that all is included and checked against international standards.
- h) Review SOB (2018) document for grammatical errors, technical writing standards, and specs.
- i) Check the SOB (2018) document for politically sensitive content and advise accordingly.
- j) Provide support to NBI SOB2018 Core Team in processing revisions, updates etc., until final approval is provided by the key stakeholders.

DELIVERABLES

A write up of Comments and recommendations on contents, illustrations, conclusions, key messages, grammatical error, politically sensitive matters, and proposed enhancement for all SOB 2018 chapters.

All comments, paraphrases, recommendations will be cited to show page number for easy follow up.

QUALIFICATIONS

The consultant should have the following minimum profile:

- Advanced University degree in Natural Resources Management, Water Resources Management, Environmental Sciences, climate sciences or other technically related field.
- Specialized training or experience of transboundary water resources governance
- Atleast 15 years' experience in water resources related assignments.
- Knowledge of climate and hydrology of the Nile.
- Knowledge of SDG indicators, AMCOW, or PIDA indicators and national reporting requirements.
- Experience of socio economic analysis, export/ import trade, hydropower trade and related aspects with in the Nile Basin Countries
- Proven experience in editorial or review work of scientific documents, especially within a transboundary context.
- Proven writing skills (publications).
- Fluency in English

- Knowledge of the Nile Basin countries is an added advantage

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

- (a) The assignment will be a short-term lump-sum consultancy of not more than 15 man-days. The assignment duration will run for one calendar month.
- (b) The Consultant shall sign a lump-sum contract with the Nile-Sec under the supervision of the Deputy Executive Director, NBI. However, the consultant will work closely with Nile-SEC Policy Specialist on a day-to-day basis. Where necessary, the consultant will be required to consult the other involved stakeholders (NBI Task Team, adelphi consultants, NBI specialists, selected resources persons, etc.

Interested candidates should send their detailed resume and links to samples of their work to nbisec@nilebasin.org and cc embonye@nilebasin.org clearly indicating vacancy of interest.