

Call for Expression of Interest

Operation and Maintenance of the Water Supply System and distribution of water to refugees in Mahama camp and host communities around the Camp

HCR/RWA/2024/013

1 Timeline

Posted	Jan 12, 2024
Clarification Request Deadline	Jan 22, 2024
Application Deadline	Feb 15, 2024
Notification of Results	Mar 31, 2024
Start Date	Jun 1, 2024
End Date	Dec 31, 2025

2 Locations

- A Rwanda
 - a Eastern

3 Sector(s) and area(s) of specialization

- A WASH and Environment
 - a Water

4 Issuing Agency

UNHCR

5 Project Background

The water supply in Mahama Camp is ensured through the operation of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) which is located in Munini Cell, Mahama Sector, and Kirehe District in the Eastern Province. The construction of the plant with capacity to treat 1,800 m³ of clean water per day was fully funded by DFID, in partnership with Government of Rwanda (MINEMA), UNHCR and UNICEF based on the preliminary design study conducted under consultancy provision funded by UNICEF in September 2015. The plant came as a response to a sustainable and durable solution for provision of clean water to refugees and the host community and the WTP was completed in November 2016. The type of water source is surface water from Akagera River drawn through floating/surface intake with raw water pumps. The water system in Mahama has a conventional water treatment with rapid sand filters (RSF). It is a high-tech and automated WTP system from intake to clean water pumps and no gravity process within treatment system. Currently the water treatment plant (WTP) is connected to the national power grid as its main source of power supply and has a 200 kVA diesel generator as backup power supply to treat and pump clean water. As per future plan of UNHCR greening policy,

the WTP will be solarized to reduce operation and maintenance (O&M;) costs. The infrastructure for water supply has progressively improved from the temporary water treatment plant (TWTP) with 900 m3 per day capacity to serve about 45,000 individuals to the permanent facilities including the permanent water treatment plant with 1,800m³ per day. The permanent water plant is automated with a remote-control system and has the following components (1 river floating intake structure for raw water pumps, 1 pre-sedimentation tank, 2 sedimentation tanks with laminar layers and flocculation system, 2 rapid sand filters, 2 chemical dosing units with dosing pumps and clean water storage tank, pumping system for intake, 2nd sedimentation tank to rapid sand filter, and clean pumps). The treated water is pumped from clean water tank to elevated head tank in the camp for distribution. The water is distributed within the camp and host communities through articulated pipeline network 28.4 kilometres long with pipe size ranging from 200mm to 32mm of diameter connecting the water storage facilities with 1,170 cubic meter capacity, 140 water tap stands of 6 taps each in the camp and 6 water stands with 2 taps each in host community. This Call for Expression of Interest is to solicit interest from national and/or international non-governmental Organizations (existing or prospective partners) with necessary expertise to implement the operation and maintenance of the water supply system in Mahama refugee camp, and willing to contribute on additional financial support on the running costs for WTP will be an asset. Considering the challenging resource mobilization environment, interested organizations are invited to propose any innovative initiative which will contribute to a sustainable way to operate and maintain the system in cost effective manner. In formulating their proposals, interested Organizations must take into consideration a one-month transition period for capacity building where a new partner as service provider will work together with existing operator of Mahama water system to get familiar with the system functionality.

6 **Expected Results**

Clean water provided to refugees in Mahama Camp and host communities around the Camp through: • Maintenance of water distribution system. • Operation and maintenance of raw water treatment plant. • Undertaking water quality control and management. • Distribution of water to refugees and surrounding host communities.

7 **Indicative Budget**

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8 **Other Information**

Selection Criteria for new applicant to UNHCR: 1. Sector expertise and experience (.../32): The required specific skills, sector specialists, material resources (e.g. equipment, tools), knowledge and human resources especially in management of water supply systems and treatment plants. Knowledge of relevant protection and humanitarian principles. Approach to the participation of PoC in the programme cycle. Age, Gender, and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) approach and feedback & complaints mechanism, Community-based approaches, and innovative practices for promoting sustainability of WASH systems. 2. Project Management (.../30): Ability to effectively deliver project objectives and to meet expectations of all stakeholders, project management structure for the scope of UNHCR project, participation into inter-agency coordination fora & information sharing with key stakeholders, adequate control over assets & inventory with adequate documentation, segregation of duties and integration of risk management into implementation. 3. Local experience and presence (.../8): Ongoing programme in the area of operation (Rwanda) with registered office; local knowledge with prior experience working with UNHCR with good compliance & unmodified audit opinions; engaging refugees and other persons of concern; trust from local communities; local presence; partner policy on community relations; complaint mechanisms for persons of concern; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the persons of concern and that would reduce administrative difficulties. 4. Contribution of resources (.../7.5): Evidenced and documented contribution of resources to the Project in cash or in-kind (e.g. human resources, supplies and/or equipment) by the partner that are presently available (or potentially mobilized) in order to supplement UNHCR resources. 5. Procurement Capacity (.../5): capacity and capability for undertaking procurement at the required scale may be required in accordance with the Implementing Partnership Management Guidance Note No. 4 (Revision 1) on Procurement by Partners under Partnership Agreement. Please fill procurement self-assessment check. 6. Cost effectiveness (.../10): Level of direct costs and administrative costs imposed on the Project in relation to project deliverables. Evidence of a methodology for allocation of shared costs to project activities. Evidence of procedures/systems that ensure maximum resources are directed to project outcomes while also ensuring that resources are directed to activities that ensure project risks are being appropriately managed. 7. Environmental Sustainability (.../7): Measures to integrate environmental sustainability within proposed activities. Environmental considerations are aligned to the objectives of UNHCR's Strategic Framework for Climate Action.

9 Selection Criteria

Name	Description	Weight
Sector expertise and experience	Criteria for current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years: The required specific skills, sector specialists, material resources (e.g. equipment, tools), knowledge and human resources especially in management of water supply systems and treatment plants. Knowledge of relevant protection and humanitarian principles. Approach to the participation of PoC in the programme cycle. Age, Gender, and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) approach and feedback & complaints mechanism, Community-based approaches and innovative practices for promoting sustainability of WASH systems.	35
Project management	Criteria for current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years: Ability to effectively deliver project objectives with robust management systems/processes, and meet the expectations of all stakeholders, as well as provide accountability mechanisms and sound financial management, taking into account the audit results of the previous UNHCR-funded projects, past performance and the external audit of partners' financial statements and pending open audit recommendations (accounts receivables and internal control related recommendations) where applicable. Clear segregation of duties policy, as well as the integration of risk management; adequate control over assets and inventory (if applicable).	15
Local experience and presence	Criteria for current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years: Ongoing programme in the area of operation; local knowledge; participation in inter-agency coordination fora, engaging refugees and other persons of concern in the programme cycle; trust from local communities; local presence; partner policy on community relations; feedback and complaint mechanisms for persons of concern; self-organized groups of persons of concern; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the persons of concern and that would reduce administrative difficulties.	5
Contribution of resource	Criteria for current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years: Evidenced and documented contribution of resources to the Project in cash or in-kind (e.g., human resources, supplies and/or equipment) by the partner that are presently available (or potentially mobilized by the partner) in order to supplement UNHCR resources.	10
Other	Procurement Capacity-Criteria for current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years: capacity and capability for undertaking procurement at the required scale may be required in accordance with the Implementing Partnership Management Guidance Note No. 4 (Revision 1) on Procurement by Partners under Partnership Agreement. Please fill procurement self-assessment check.	10
Cost effectiveness	Criteria for current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years: Evidence of a methodology for allocation of shared costs to project activities. Evidence of procedures/systems that ensure maximum resources are directed to project outcomes while also ensuring that resources are also directed to activities that ensure project risks are being appropriately managed.	15
Experience working with UN	Criteria for current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years: Global and/or local partnerships including knowledge of UNHCR policies, practices, and programmes, including an understanding of and ability to work within UNHCR's funding limitations and associated inherent risks. Partners that have three consecutive modified audit opinions (qualified, adverse or disclaimer) for UNHCR-funded projects may not be considered.	5
Other	Environmental Sustainability (Current or past partner to UNHCR within 2 years): Measures to integrate environmental sustainability within proposed activities. Environmental considerations are aligned to the objectives of UNHCR's Strategic Framework for Climate Action.	5

10 Attachments

Description	URL
Mandatory templates for submission	Download the document here
Mahama camp population statistics- end of November 2023	Download the document here
Selection criteria	Download the document here
Call for Expression of Interest	Download the document here

11 Concept Note Template

[Download the document here](#)

12 For more information on this partnership opportunity, and to apply, please visit

[UN Partner Portal](#)