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**DB Reference N°:** IDB-P787641-07/21

**Country:** Brazil

**Institution:** Inter-American Development Bank

**Sector:** Water Supply and Sanitation

**Deadline:** 2021-08-03T00:00:00.00-04:00

**Status:** Published

**Loan N°./Financing:** BR-T1448

**Project:** Support the Implementation of the Water Resources Management Plan for the Paraguay River Hydrographic Region (PRH Paraguay)

**Title:** Supporting Implementation of key activities of the Water Resources Management Plan for the Paraguay River Hydrographic Region

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**Borrower/Bid No:**

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# REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

# CONSULTING SERVICES

Selection # as assigned by e-Tool: BR-T1448-P001

Selection Method: Full Competitive Selection

Country: Brazil

*Sector:* Water and Sanitation

*Funding – TC #:* BR-T1448

*Project #:* ATN/OC-18218-BR

*TC name:* Support the Implementation of the Water Resources Management Plan for the Paraguay River Hydrographic Region (PRH Paraguay)

*Description of Services:* Supporting Implementation of key activities of the Water Resources Management Plan

for the Paraguay River Hydrographic Region

*Link to TC document: https://www.iadb.org/en/project/BR-T1448*

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is executing the above mentioned operation. For this operation, the IDB intends to contract consulting services described in this Request for Expressions of Interest. Expressions of interest must be delivered using the IDB Portal for Bank Executed Operations ( http://beoprocurement.iadb.org/home) by: August 3 (Tuesday), 2021, 5:00 P.M. (Washington D.C. Time).

The consulting services ("the Services") include supporting implementation of key activities of the Water Resources Management Plan for the Paraguay River Hydrographic Region. The estimated timeline for the implementation of "the Services" is 24 months and it is expected to start in the third quarter of 2021.

Eligible consulting firms will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: *Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting firms for Bank-executed Operational Work* - GN-2765-4. All eligible consulting firms, as defined in the Policy may express an interest. If the Consulting Firm is presented in a Consortium, it will designate one of them as a representative, and the latter will be responsible for the communications, the registration in the portal and for submitting the corresponding documents.

The IDB now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services described above in the draft summary of the intended Terms of Reference for the assignment. Interested consulting firms must provide information establishing that they are qualified to perform the Services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Eligible consulting firms may associate in a form of a Joint Venture or a sub-consultancy agreement to enhance their qualifications. Such association or Joint Venture shall appoint one of the firms as the representative.

Interested eligible consulting firms may obtain further information during office hours, 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM, (Washington D.C. Time) by sending an email to: Jihoon Lee, jihoonl@iadb.org.

Inter-American Development Bank

Division: Water and Sanitation Division (INE/WSA)

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# Draft Summary of Terms of Reference

## Supporting Implementation of Key Activities of the Water Resources Management Plan for

## the Paraguay River Hydrographic Region

The Upper Paraguay basin is highly important for water resources management for the Pantanal wetlands. It was declared National Heritage by the 1988 Brazilian Constitution, an area of international importance in 1993 by the RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands, and a Biosphere Reserve in 2000 by UNESCO. It has about 138,000 $km^2$ within Brazilian territory, and it also extends to Bolivia and Paraguay.

Between 2014 and 2017, the Brazilian National Water Agency (ANA) prepared the Water Resources Plan of the Basin (PRH-Paraguay) based on the recommendations of the 2006 SAP developed within the GEF project. The PRH-Paraguay was approved on 8th March, 2018 by the Brazilian Water Resources Council through resolution 196. It is an instrument that aims at consolidating the planning of required actions to address the main problems of the basin and to secure sustainable water use, by harmonizing the existing demands and the need for Pantanal conservation and/or multiple, rational management and protection. The PRHParaguay and supporting documents (1-Workplan;2-Diagnostic;3-Prognostic;4-Actions; 5-Insitutional Arrangements; and 6-Consolidated plan and Annex) can be found at https://www.gov.br/ana/ptbr/assuntos/gestao-das-aguas/planos-e-estudos-sobre-rec-hidricos/plano-de-recursos-hidricos-rioparaguai/processo-de-elaboracao

In 2020, the IDB started a project with UNEP and the GEF (Global Environment Facility) to consolidate the management and conservation of the Upper Paraguay River Basin. Considering that Brazil is included with an approved Plan under the National Water Agency – ANA, the Water and Sanitation Division of IDB agreed on a technical cooperation project (TC) to start the implementation of said plan, contributing to the whole goals of conserving the water resources of the watershed.

This TC is intended to advance the work proposed by the GEF for the Pantanal that is currently being developed by IDB and UNDP. By fine-tuning the studies needed before taking specific actions and interventions, it is expected to promote the sustainable development of the Pantanal and to facilitate the pre-identification of specific projects to be financed. The Brazilian part of the basin which accounts for 70- 80% of the system has great potential to positively impact the downstream in the riparian region (Bolivia and Paraguay). The transboundary nature of this work will help advance on the coordinated and integrated tri-national investment portfolio for water resources management and sustainable land management. The promotion of green infrastructure, Nature Based Solutions and other 'green' innovative financing mechanisms/instruments will be prioritized under this TC.

In this respect, IDB is seeking a consultant/firm to work with ANA of Brazil to support the implementation of the Plan of Hydrological Resources of the Paraguay River Hydrographic Region (PRH Paraguay) through implementation of priority activities in the Plan. The four main areas of support for ANA in implementation of the PRH-Paraguay include: (i) instruments for water resources governance and management (surface and groundwater), including water quality aspects; (ii) water use related conflict resolution (nexus approach); (iii) water resource conservation; and (iv) investment planning. The consultant/firm will focus on analysing existing data and information held by ANA and other sources; conduct desk research and interviews to address specific information gaps (particularly related to alternative economic instruments).

Some specific components of this project are as follows:

- Component 1: Assessment of institutional frameworks that includes a needs analysis, development of institutional alternatives, consultations, etc.
- Component 2: Proposed projects for protecting and revitalizing permanent protected areas, including identification of priority areas, development of potential revitalization projects, etc. Component 3 Studies on economic instruments.
- Component 4: Water quality management standards design that includes development of criteria, selection of pilot water bodies, development of database and roadmap for water classification, etc.
- Component 5: Multi-sectoral investment portfolio design, including identification of investment projects, concept and project outline, etc.
- Component 6: Lessons learned and dissemination of knowledge.

The estimated timeline for the implementation of “the Services” is 24 months and it is expected to start in the third quarter of 2021.