

ADDENDUM No. 3

RFR 001.2026: ESTABLISHMENT OF A PANEL OF NON-REVENUE WATER (NRW) PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT (PBC) CONTRACTORS FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS

QUESTIONS ARISING AND RESPONSES PROVIDED DURING AND AFTER THE COMPULSORY BRIEFING MEETING OF 07 AUGUST 2026

Second Q&A Update: 17 September 2026

Item no.	Category	Question / Enquiry / Query	Answer / Response / Clarification
1.	Compliance	Some Bidders in the compulsory briefing session are unable to insert their company details in the chat box on the meeting platform. How will they go about formally registering their attendance?	The affected meeting participants need not worry because the system has already registered their participation and collated their company information.
2.	Eligibility / Technical	For the purpose of this tender, will the Tenderer's experience with non-municipal clients (e.g., Other Organs of State) in the implementation of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction projects or in the provision of services as a NRW PBC Contractor be recognized?	Yes. Experience and track record of the Tenderer with non-municipal clients (e.g., Other Organs of State) in the implementation of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction projects, or in the provision of services as a NRW PBC Contractor will be recognized.
3	Eligibility / Technical	If a Tenderer has all the requirements, can it submit a tender response as a standalone entity without going into JVs, with other companies etc.?	Yes. A Tenderer that has all the requirements is free to submit a tender response as a standalone entity.
4	Eligibility / Technical	Since the types of service expected from the NRW PBC Contractor encompasses both construction services and professional services, are all the members of the JV expected to have the minimum CIDB grading stated in the tender document?	No. All the members of a JV are not expected to have the minimum CIDB grading stated in the tender document. Only the Lead Tenderer or any of its partners in a JV, consortia or association, are expected to have the minimum CIDB grading stated in the tender document.
5	Eligibility / Technical	To qualify for admission to the proposed panel, are Tenderers expected to only achieve the minimum threshold score of 70 points overall, or are they also expected to achieve the minimum threshold score for each evaluation criteria?	Yes, Tenderers are indeed expected to also achieve the minimum threshold score for each evaluation criterion as well as the minimum overall score of 70 points. This has been made explicit in section D3.9 of the tender document which is re-issued with this Q&A document as Addendum No. 1.

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6	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(2) and Clause D.3.9 Evaluation Criterion 3; Schedule E2.2.10: Clause D.2.1(2) provides that, in the case of unincorporated joint ventures, consortia or associations, "the Lead Tenderer must meet this minimum requirement" in respect of the R300 million threshold for the construction of new, rehabilitation, refurbishment or upgrading of water supply distribution systems and networks. However, Evaluation Criterion 3 in clause D.3.9, the heading of Schedule E2.2.10, and each of the four scoring prompts for that criterion all refer to "the Lead Tenderer or any of its partners in a JV, consortia or association". Kindly confirm which provision governs, and specifically whether the completed construction projects of a consortium partner other than the Lead Tenderer may be counted towards (i) the R300 million eligibility threshold under D.2.1(2), and (ii) the R400 million and R500 million values required for the "Good" and "Very Good" ratings under Evaluation Criterion 3.	The provision that governs is the Lead Tenderer or any of its partners in a JV, consortia or association . The completed construction projects of consortium partners other than the Lead Tenderer will be counted towards the scoring of Evaluation Criterion 3.
7	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(2); Clause D.3.9: If the Employer confirms that the R300 million construction threshold at D.2.1(2) applies to the Lead Tenderer alone, would a submission in which the Lead Tenderer does not individually meet that threshold be declared ineligible and excluded from evaluation, or would it be admitted to evaluation and scored at the applicable lower band under Evaluation Criterion 3?	As per item 6 above, the Employer hereby confirms that the R300 million construction threshold cited in D.2.1(2) applies to the Lead Tenderer or any of its partners in a JV, consortia or association. Therefore a submission in which the Lead Tenderer alone does not individually meet that threshold will not automatically be declared ineligible and excluded from evaluation - provided that any of the Lead Tenderer's Partners in a JV, consortia, or association meets the stipulated construction threshold of R300 million.
8	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(1); Schedule E2.2.9; Clause D.3.9 Evaluation Criterion 2: Clause D.2.1(1), unlike clauses D.2.1(2) and D.2.1(4), contains no restriction limiting the requirement to the Lead Tenderer, and Schedule E2.2.9 provides that "For a Consortium, JV, or Association, the experience of each entity must be	Yes, it is hereby confirmed that the R200 million threshold at D.2.1(1), and the values applicable to the scoring bands under Evaluation Criterion 2, are determined by the arithmetic aggregate of the qualifying completed projects of all entities forming part of the consortium, including entities incorporated outside South Africa. <i>This is because the R200 million threshold was clearly stated in the</i>

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		submitted". Kindly confirm that the R200 million threshold at D.2.1(1), and the values applicable to the scoring bands under Evaluation Criterion 2, are determined by the arithmetic aggregate of the qualifying completed projects of all entities forming part of the consortium, including entities incorporated outside South Africa.	<i>RFR001.2026 document as applying to the Lead Tenderer and Entities in JV, Consortium, Association, etc. on the provision of services in the implementation of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction projects and initiatives, or as a Non-Revenue Water (NRW) PBC Contractor, in municipalities in South Africa or internationally.</i>
9	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(1); Schedule E2.2.9: Where a consortium partner is an international manufacturer and technology provider that has delivered non-revenue water reduction services to municipal utilities outside South Africa — including acoustic leak logging, leak localisation and correlation surveys, monitored cloud and analytics-based network monitoring, and pressure management — kindly confirm that such contracts fall within the definition of "operations and maintenance (O&M) services for NRW-reduction" at clause D.2.1(1) and are eligible for inclusion in Schedule E2.2.9.	Yes, such contracts (e.g., <i>acoustic leak logging, leak localisation and correlation surveys, monitored cloud and analytics-based network monitoring, and pressure management, etc.</i>) fall within the definition of "operations and maintenance (O&M) services for NRW-reduction" at clause D.2.1(1) and are eligible for inclusion in Schedule E2.2.9.
10	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(1); Schedule E2.2.9: Conversely, kindly confirm whether contracts under which a consortium partner supplied products, materials, fittings or equipment to a municipality or utility without an accompanying on-site service or performance obligation are excluded from Schedule E2.2.9, so that tenderers may allocate their project schedules correctly.	Contracts under which a consortium partner supplied products, materials, fittings or equipment to a municipality or utility without an accompanying on-site service or performance obligation ARE EXCLUDED from Schedule E2.2.9 and will not be counted towards the Experience of the Lead Tenderer, and Entities in JV, Consortium, Association, etc. in the provision of the qualifying services as contemplated in Schedule E2.2.9.
11	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10: Where a single completed contract comprised both NRW operations and maintenance services and water distribution network construction, and noting the instruction that a project may only be included in Schedule E2.2.9 or Schedule E2.2.10 and not duplicated in both, kindly confirm whether the Tenderer may apportion the contract value between the two schedules on a	A Tenderer may not apportion the contract value between the two schedules on a documented (or any) basis supported by the reference letter. The full contract value must be allocated to one schedule only – either Schedule E2.2.9 or Schedule E2.2.10, and not duplicated in both.

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		documented basis supported by the reference letter, or whether the full contract value must be allocated to one schedule only.	
12	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10 require that projects have been "completed at the closing date". In respect of long-duration operations and maintenance or performance-based contracts that remain in force, kindly confirm whether the value of discrete completed phases, annual service periods or task orders may be claimed, or whether only a contract that has reached final completion in its entirety is eligible.	Yes, the value of discrete completed phases, annual service periods or task orders may be claimed with the relevant supporting Reference Letter.
13	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedule E2.2.3: Kindly confirm whether the consortium or joint venture agreement must be fully executed by all members before the closing date, whether a signed electronic copy is acceptable, and whether notarisation, apostille or other authentication of the authority of signatories of foreign member entities is required for the Certificate of Authority at Schedule E2.2.3.	1. Yes, the consortium or joint venture agreement must be fully executed by all members before the closing date. Tenderers may wish to use the CIDB Joint Venture Agreement document. 2. A signed electronic copy is acceptable. 3. Notarisation, apostille or other authentication of the authority of signatories of foreign member entities is required for the Certificate of Authority at Schedule E2.2.3.
14	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10, Letter of Reference template: The Letter of Reference templates at Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10 provide for the "Stamp of Employer providing the reference". Many international utilities and municipal authorities, particularly in Europe, do not maintain or issue company stamps. Kindly confirm that a reference letter issued on the employer's official letterhead, signed and dated by a duly authorised representative and reflecting full contact details, will be accepted where no company stamp is available.	Yes, a reference letter issued on the employer's official letterhead, signed and dated by a duly authorised representative and reflecting full contact details, will be accepted where no company stamp is available.

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15	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10: The schedules state that "Existing current and valid Letters of Reference from employers may be used". Kindly confirm whether such an existing letter, issued in the employer's own format rather than on the prescribed template, will be accepted provided it contains all of the information called for by the template, and whether the Tenderer should in addition complete the prescribed template as a covering document.	Yes, existing current and valid Letters of Reference from employers, issued in the employer's own format rather than on the prescribed template will be accepted provided it contains all of the information called for by the template. The Tenderer should write "Refer to the attached Letter of Reference" in the fields provided in the Reference Letter Template for "Description of services provided by the Tenderer..." and sign the signature page (page 50) before submission.
16	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10: Where an existing letter of reference is in a language other than English, the schedules require that it be translated and attached. Kindly confirm whether the translation must be certified or sworn, and if so by whom, or whether a translation accompanied by the original document is sufficient.	All documents that are not in English must be translated into English before they are submitted on this tender. The English translations of existing letter of reference (accompanying the original document) or of any document to be submitted on this tender, must be sworn by a translator registered with a High Court (or equivalent National Authority), or by a recognized Translation Agency that is a member of a recognized professional body of Translators such as the American Translators Association (ATA) or those accredited by it.
17	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10: The schedules require that a separate letter of reference be submitted for each project. Where a single employer engaged the Tenderer or a consortium partner on several distinct completed projects, kindly confirm whether a separate letter is required for each project, or whether one letter from that employer addressing each project individually and in full is acceptable.	Where a single employer engaged the Tenderer or a consortium partner on several distinct completed projects, one letter from that employer addressing each project individually and in full is acceptable for this Tender.
18	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10: Kindly confirm whether a letter of reference may be signed by an official who is currently in the employ of the employer but was not personally involved in the project, where the responsible project official is no longer employed by that organisation.	Yes, a letter of reference may be signed by an official who is currently in the employ of the employer but was not personally involved in the project, where the responsible project official is no longer employed by that organisation.

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19	Administration	Reference: Clause D.3.9(7)(xii) and (xiii): Clause D.3.9(7)(xii) reserves the right to require documented evidence independent of the bidder within 48 hours, and clause D.3.9(7)(xiii) reserves the right to contact referees directly. In respect of international referees in different time zones and with different working calendars, kindly confirm the procedure the Employer will follow and whether the Tenderer will be notified of any verification request so that it may assist in facilitating a response within the stipulated period.	In respect of international referees in different time zones and with different working calendars, DBSA SCM typically contacts the referees in writing (e.g., email) and telephonically. DBSA SCM may, or may not, notify the Tenderer of any verification request, on a case by case basis.
20	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.10(8): Clause D.2.10(8) provides that project amounts in international currencies will be converted to South African Rand using the applicable average exchange rate in the year the project was completed. Kindly confirm (i) the published exchange rate source that will be applied, for example the South African Reserve Bank average annual rate; (ii) whether "the year the project was completed" refers to the calendar year; and (iii) whether the Tenderer should present its own conversion calculation with the rate and source cited, or submit values in the original currency only	1. The published exchange rate source that will be applied will be the published South African Reserve Bank (SARB) Average Historical Exchange Rates. 2. Yes, the "year" the project was completed refers to the calendar year. 3. The Tenderer must submit values in the original currency cited in the letter of reference for the project. The Tenderer is NOT required to present his own conversion calculation with the rate and source cited.
21	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(3); Schedule E2.2.6: Kindly confirm that a 7CE designation held by the Lead Tenderer satisfies clause D.2.1(3) in full at this registration stage, irrespective of the aggregate Rand value of the experience claimed under Schedules E2.2.9 and E2.2.10, and that no higher grading is required in order to be admitted to the panel.	Due to the different values and sizes expected of the PBC projects prepared during Bankable Feasibility Studies, the 7CE CIDB designation (<i>held by the Lead Tenderer or any of its partners in a JV, consortia or association, or the capability of being registered with the CIDB within 12 months of the closing date of this tender in a contractor grading designation of 7CE or higher</i>) is the minimum (threshold) CIDB contractor grading required at this registration stage to be admitted to the Panel. The specification of the Tender is "7CE or higher", hence higher grading above 7CE (e.g., 8CE, or 9CE) will also be considered for admission to the Panel.

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22	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause E1.1; Clause D.2.1(3); Clause E2.1(8); Schedule E2.2.6: Clause E1.1 and clause D.2.1(3) refer to the capability of being registered with the CIDB in a grading designation of 7CE or higher "within 21 working days of the closing date of this tender", whereas item 8 of the List of Returnable Documents at E2.1 and Schedule E2.2.6 both refer to "within 12 months of the closing date of this tender". Kindly confirm which period applies.	The specification in the Submission Data of the RFR001.2026 document prevails. Accordingly, the applicable period is within 21 working days of the closing date of this tender.
23	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(3): Clause D.2.1(3) refers to "The Lead Tenderer or any of its partners in a JV, consortia or association". Kindly confirm that the requirement is satisfied where the 7CE designation is held by any one member of the consortium, and that it is not necessary for every member to hold a CIDB registration.	Yes, as stated in the Submission Data, the requirement is satisfied where the 7CE designation is held by any one member of the consortium. It is not necessary for every member to hold a CIDB registration.
24	Administration	Reference: Clauses D.2.10(5) and D.2.10(6): Clauses D.2.10(5)(ii) and D.2.10(6)(ii) provide that the order of members on the panel will be based on "Alphabetical order and CIDB Level". Kindly clarify how CIDB level operates in the rotation, and specifically whether a panel member holding a higher grading designation will receive priority in the issue of tender invitations over a member holding 7CE.	Once appointments and awards are to the panel this will be communicated with the bidders on how the panel rotation will be applied in line with DBSA policies and procedures.
25	Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.10(4)(vi); Clause D.2.10(7): At the subsequent project-level Request for Proposals (RFP) stage, kindly confirm whether the CIDB grading designation required will be determined by the value of the individual NRW PBC project concerned, and whether a panel member may register a joint venture grading with the CIDB in order to tender for a project exceeding its individual grading.	Yes, at the subsequent project-level RFP stage, the CIDB grading designation required will be determined by the value of the individual NRW PBC project concerned. A Panel member may register a joint venture grading with the CIDB in order to tender for a project exceeding its individual grading.

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26	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.3.9 Responsiveness, Pre-Qualifier 2; Clause D.2.1(6): The pre-qualifying criteria require "Proof of Registration of the Key Experts by a recognized professional registering body / institution in line with the Submission Data", and clause D.2.1(6) permits "equivalent professional registrations of civil engineering practitioners in South Africa or internationally... by the relevant legislated professional registering bodies". A number of European jurisdictions, including Switzerland and Norway, do not operate a compulsory statutory register for professional engineers equivalent to the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA). Kindly confirm whether registration or chartered membership of a recognised national professional engineering body in such a jurisdiction satisfies the pre-qualifying criterion, and if possible identify the bodies the Employer will accept.	Yes, registration or chartered membership of a recognised national professional engineering body in such a jurisdiction (i.e. jurisdictions that do not operate a compulsory statutory register for professional engineers equivalent to ECSA) satisfies the pre-qualifying criterion. Examples of professional registering bodies the Employer will accept include the following: <table><tr><th>COUNTRY / COUNTRIES</th><th>PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION</th><th>REGISTERING BODY</th></tr><tr><td>Europe</td><td>Eur Ing</td><td>Engineers Europe (Formerly FEANI)</td></tr><tr><td>United Kingdom</td><td>Eur Ing or Chartered Engineer</td><td>Engineers Europe / Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)</td></tr><tr><td>Ireland</td><td>Eur Ing or Chartered Engineer</td><td>Engineers Europe / Engineers Ireland</td></tr><tr><td>Germany</td><td>Eur Ing or <i>Ingenieur</i></td><td>Engineers Europe / <i>Ingenieurkammern</i> (State level)</td></tr><tr><td>France</td><td>Eur Ing or <i>Ingénieur Diplômé</i></td><td>Engineers Eurpoe / <i>Ingénieurs et Scientifiques de France (IESF)</i></td></tr><tr><td>Italy</td><td>Eur Ing or <i>Ingegnere Senior</i></td><td>Engineers Europe / <i>Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri (CNI)</i></td></tr><tr><td>Spain</td><td>Eur Ing or Senior Professional Engineer certified by <i>Asociación de Ingenieros Profesionales de Espana (AIPE)</i> or by <i>AQPE (Agency</i></td><td>Engineers Europe / <i>Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos</i></td></tr></table>	COUNTRY / COUNTRIES	PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION	REGISTERING BODY	Europe	Eur Ing	Engineers Europe (Formerly FEANI)	United Kingdom	Eur Ing or Chartered Engineer	Engineers Europe / Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)	Ireland	Eur Ing or Chartered Engineer	Engineers Europe / Engineers Ireland	Germany	Eur Ing or <i>Ingenieur</i>	Engineers Europe / <i>Ingenieurkammern</i> (State level)	France	Eur Ing or <i>Ingénieur Diplômé</i>	Engineers Eurpoe / <i>Ingénieurs et Scientifiques de France (IESF)</i>	Italy	Eur Ing or <i>Ingegnere Senior</i>	Engineers Europe / <i>Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri (CNI)</i>	Spain	Eur Ing or Senior Professional Engineer certified by <i>Asociación de Ingenieros Profesionales de Espana (AIPE)</i> or by <i>AQPE (Agency</i>	Engineers Europe / <i>Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos</i>
COUNTRY / COUNTRIES	PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION	REGISTERING BODY																									
Europe	Eur Ing	Engineers Europe (Formerly FEANI)																									
United Kingdom	Eur Ing or Chartered Engineer	Engineers Europe / Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)																									
Ireland	Eur Ing or Chartered Engineer	Engineers Europe / Engineers Ireland																									
Germany	Eur Ing or <i>Ingenieur</i>	Engineers Europe / <i>Ingenieurkammern</i> (State level)																									
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				<i>for Qualifications of Professional Engineers)</i>	
			Netherlands	Eur Ing or Chartered Engineer.	Engineers Europe / Royal Netherlands Society of Engineers (KIVI)
			Switzerland	Eur Ing, or Member of SIA.	Engineers Europe / Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects (SIA)
			Norway	Eur Ing, or Member of NITO.	Engineers Europe / NITO - The Norwegian Association of Engineers and Technologists
			Denmark	Eur Ing or Member of IDA.	Engineers Europe / IDA, The Danish Society of Engineers
			Finland	Eur Ing, or Member of TEK.	Engineers Europe / Academic Engineers and Architects in Finland (TEK)
			Belgium	Eur Ing	Engineers Europe
			Sweden	Eur Ing or member of Sveriges Ingenjörer (Engineers of Sweden)	Engineers Europe / Sveriges Ingenjörer (Engineers of Sweden)
			United States of America	Licensed Professional Engineer (PE)	Respective State Boards of Licensure
			Australia	Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng)	Engineers Australia

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			New Zealand	Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng)	Engineering New Zealand
27	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(6); Schedule E2.2.11: Clause D.2.1(6) permits the Tenderer to have "obtained a firm undertaking from professional service providers who have in their employ registered professionals that are capable of providing such services". Kindly confirm that the three key experts may be provided by an independent professional services firm under the Availability Statement in Schedule E2.2.11, and that no scoring disadvantage attaches relative to experts directly employed by the Tenderer.	The three key experts may be provided by an independent professional services firm under the Availability Statement in Schedule E2.2.11. It is also confirmed that no scoring disadvantage attaches relative to experts directly employed by the Tenderer.		
28	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(6); Schedule E2.2.11: Kindly confirm that a key expert may be an employee of a consortium partner rather than of the Lead Tenderer, and that in such a case the Availability Statement in Schedule E2.2.11 need not be completed since the expert is employed within the tendering entity.	Yes, a key expert may be an employee of a consortium partner rather than of the Lead Tenderer. In such a case the Availability Statement in Schedule E2.2.11 need not be completed since the expert is employed within the tendering entity.		
29	Eligibility / Technical	Reference: Clause D.3.9 Evaluation Criterion 4; Schedule E2.2.11: Kindly confirm that "post-registration experience" for scoring purposes under Evaluation Criterion 4 is measured from the date of first professional registration to the closing date of this tender, and that qualifying experience gained outside South Africa is counted in full.	The "post-registration experience" for scoring purposes under Evaluation Criterion 4 is measured from the date of first professional registration to the closing date of this tender. Qualifying experience gained outside South Africa is counted in full and the required experience is stated in the Submission Data to be <i>in South Africa or internationally</i> .		
30	Compliance / Technical	Reference: Schedule E2.2.11: Schedule E2.2.11 provides that where a professional registration document does not indicate the year of first registration or the validity period, a supplementary document from the same regulatory body including a website screenshot, is acceptable. For international registers that are not publicly	The acceptable alternative evidence is a formal letter from the professional registering body addressed to the DBSA, confirming <i>inter alia</i> the year of first registration, the registration number, and that that the Key Expert is still in good standing with the professional registering body. English translations of the letter (accompanying the original document) must be sworn by a translator registered with a		

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		accessible online or are not available in English, kindly confirm what alternative evidence the Employer will accept	High Court (or equivalent National Authority), or by a recognized Translation Agency that is a member of a recognized professional body of Translators such as the American Translators Association (ATA) or those accredited by it. Furthermore, since the submissions on this tender are electronic, the letter and its English translation must be accompanied by an Apostille Certificate issued by the designated competent authority of the country of origin, or notarized by a local public notary or authorized official. For letters originating from non-Hague Convention Countries, the letter may be authenticated by a South African diplomatic or consular representative (ambassador, consul-general, or trade office official) in that foreign country, or by a designated government authority of that country.
31	Technical	Reference: Clause D.2.1(6); Schedule E2.2.11: Kindly confirm whether the same individual may be nominated for more than one of the three key expert positions where that individual holds the professional registration and experience required for each, or whether three separate individuals must be nominated.	For risk management purposes, the same individual cannot be nominated for more than one of the three key expert positions regardless of professional registrations and experience. Three separate individuals must be nominated.
32	Technical	Reference: Schedule E2.2.11, Curriculum Vitae template: Noting that the CV template at Schedule E2.2.11 requires a declaration bearing a Commissioner of Oaths stamp, kindly confirm what form of attestation is acceptable for key experts resident outside South Africa, for example a notarial certificate or the equivalent local attestation.	For Key Experts resident outside South Africa, the CVs and related documents must be notarized in the country of origin by a local public notary or authorized official. Alternatively, they may be authenticated by a South African diplomatic or consular representative (ambassador, consul-general, or trade office official) in that foreign country, or by a designated government authority of that country.
33	Technical / Financial	Reference: Clause D.2.1(4); Schedule E2.2.13; Clause D.3.9 Evaluation Criterion 6: Kindly confirm whether written undertakings from more than one financial institution may be aggregated in order to establish the Lead Tenderer's access to financial resources for the purposes of clause D.2.1(4), Schedule E2.2.13 and	No. The written undertakings from more than one financial institution will not be aggregated in order to establish the Lead Tenderer's access to financial resources for the purposes of clause D.2.1(4), Schedule E2.2.13 and Evaluation Criterion 6. However, in determining the applicable scoring band, Tenderers own retained

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		Evaluation Criterion 6, and whether the Lead Tenderer's own retained earnings may be combined with such institutional undertakings in determining the applicable scoring band.	earnings will be combined with such institutional undertakings from financial institutions.
34	Technical / Financial	Reference: Clause D.2.1(4); Schedule E2.2.13: Kindly confirm whether a development finance institution, whether bilateral, multilateral or state-owned, constitutes a "financial institution" for the purposes of clause D.2.1(4) and Schedule E2.2.13.	Yes, a development finance institution, whether bilateral, multilateral or state-owned, does indeed constitute a "financial institution" for the purposes of clause D.2.1(4) and Schedule E2.2.13.
35	Technical / Financial	Reference: Schedule E2.2.13: Kindly confirm whether a written undertaking issued by a financial institution incorporated outside South Africa and denominated in a foreign currency is acceptable, and confirm the exchange rate source that will be applied at the closing date for conversion to South African Rand in terms of Schedule E2.2.13.	Yes, a written undertaking issued by a financial institution incorporated outside South Africa and denominated in a foreign currency is acceptable. The exchange rate source that will be applied at the closing date for conversion to South African Rand is the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) Daily Rates .
36	Technical / Financial	Reference: Clause D.2.1(4); Schedule E2.2.13: Clause D.2.1(4) and Schedule E2.2.13 both contemplate written undertakings that are "subject to the financial institutions further due diligence". Kindly confirm that an undertaking expressed as conditional upon the institution's further due diligence and credit approval will be accepted at full stated value for scoring purposes under Evaluation Criterion 6.	Yes, such an undertaking expressed as conditional upon the institution's further due diligence and credit approval will be accepted at full stated value for scoring purposes under Evaluation Criterion 6. For this tender, the acceptable financial resources of the Lead Tenderer are the Lead Tenderer's own resources (e.g., retained earnings), or undertakings by financial institutions which are conditional upon the financial institution's further due diligence and credit approval.
37	Technical / Financial	Reference: Schedule E2.2.13: Kindly confirm whether a written undertaking or balance sheet support letter issued in favour of the Lead Tenderer by the parent company or shareholder of a consortium partner may be submitted in support of Schedule E2.2.13	In the interest of objectivity, and ensuring adequate risk management: 1. A written undertaking or balance sheet support letter issued in favour of the Lead Tenderer by the Lead Tenderer's parent company may be submitted with clear indication of the amount (quantum) of financial resources to be made available to the Lead Tenderer for the balance sheet support.

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			2. However, such written undertakings by a parent company or shareholder of a consortium partner may not be submitted, and will not be accepted for this tender.
38	Technical / Financial	Reference: Clause D.2.1(4); Schedule E2.2.3; Schedule E2.2.13: Where a consortium partner other than the Lead Tenderer holds financial resources and has undertaken within the consortium agreement to make those resources available for investment in NRW PBC projects, kindly confirm whether such resources may be counted towards the requirement at clause D.2.1(4), which is expressed as an obligation of the Lead Tenderer.	No. Such resources held by a consortium partner (instead of the Lead Tenderer) will not be counted. This is in the interest of objectivity, ensuring “ <i>arm’s length transactions</i> ”, and risk management in the event that the JV, or consortium, or association, unravels at a later stage.
39	Administration / Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.13: Schedule E2.2.13 requires “certified proof” of financial resources. Kindly confirm the form of certification required, and specifically whether an original letter issued by the institution on its letterhead is sufficient or whether certification by a Commissioner of Oaths or notary is additionally required.	Since the submissions on this tender are electronic, documents prepared or issued outside South Africa (including original letters issued by financial institutions) are deemed to be sufficiently authenticated for use if they are signed or certified by: a) Apostille Certificate: If the foreign country is a member of the Hague Apostille Convention, an official Apostille certificate issued by the competent authority of that country is accepted to verify the origin and signatures on the documents issued by the financial institution. b) Foreign Local Authorities: Any person in that foreign country who is authorized under their local laws to authenticate the document (such as a local notary public, magistrate, or designated government official), whose signature may be further verified if required. c) South African Diplomatic Officials: A person in the administrative or professional division of the public service serving at a South African diplomatic, consular, or trade office abroad in the country where the document was executed.

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40	Technical / Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.1(7); Schedule E2.2.7: Kindly confirm whether the contractors' all-risk policy required by clause D.2.1(7) must name the Lead Tenderer as the insured entity, or whether a policy issued in the name of the joint venture, consortium or association and naming the Lead Tenderer as an insured party satisfies the requirement.	The contractor's all-risk insurance policy applies specifically to the Lead Tenderer and not to the joint venture, consortium or association. Accordingly, the contractors' all-risk policy required by clause D.2.1(7) must name the Lead Tenderer as the insured entity.
41	Eligibility / Technical / Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.1(7); Schedule E2.2.7: Kindly confirm that the requirement for cover "in the amount of not less than R100 million without limit to the number of claims" is to be understood as a limit of indemnity of not less than R100 million in respect of each and every claim with no annual aggregate limit, and that a policy subject to an annual aggregate cap would be regarded as non-compliant.	Yes, the requirement for cover "in the amount of not less than R100 million without limit to the number of claims" is to be understood as a limit of indemnity of not less than R100 million in respect of each and every claim with no annual aggregate limit. Therefore a policy subject to an annual aggregate cap would be regarded as non-compliant.
42	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.7: Schedule E2.2.7 provides that "Proof of insurance or confirmation from a reputable Insurance Broker that the Tenderer has in place a relevant all-risk insurance cover must be appended". Kindly confirm whether a broker's written confirmation on its letterhead is sufficient on its own, or whether the policy schedule must also be attached.	A broker's certified written confirmation on its letterhead is sufficient on its own. The confirmation letter must include salient details such as <i>inter alia</i> ; the insured entity, the policy number, the insured amount (of not less than R100 million without limit to the number of claims), the period covered by the insurance policy, and that the policy is enforceable or claimable in South Africa.
43	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.1(7); Schedule E2.2.7: Kindly confirm whether cover placed with an insurer incorporated outside South Africa, but fronted by or reinsured through a South African licensed insurer, satisfies the requirement that the all-risk insurance be "enforceable or claimable in South Africa".	To satisfy the requirement in this instance, the South African licensed insurer (which fronted or reinsured the cover placed with an insurer incorporated outside South Africa), or the relevant Broker, must provide certified written confirmation on its letterhead that the all-risk insurance is enforceable or claimable in South Africa.
44	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.4; Clause E2.1(6): Schedule E2.2.4 requires that the Tax Compliance Status PIN of the main joint venture partner "as well as those of ALL the Joint Venture Partners must be appended". For consortium members incorporated outside South Africa	DOUBLE-TAXATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN COUNTRIES: Companies and consortium members incorporated in countries with Double-Taxation Agreements with South Africa DO NOT need to register with SARS for Tax. For the purpose of this tender, a letter from the Tendering entity in its letterhead indicating that it does not

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		that have no South African taxable presence and are not registered with SARS, kindly confirm that proof of submission of an application for registration with SARS for tax purposes is accepted in lieu of a TCS PIN, and confirm the documentary form of such proof that the Employer requires.	have a tax presence in South Africa due to the Double-Taxation Agreement concluded between South Africa and its country of origin will suffice. For consortium members incorporated outside South Africa in countries that do not have Double-Taxation Agreements with South Africa, who currently have no South African taxable presence and are not registered with SARS, then proof of submission of an application for registration with SARS for tax purposes (i.e., a Tax Reference Number issued by SARS is accepted in lieu of a TCS PIN). To register a company for tax purposes with the South African Revenue Service (SARS), you must first register the business with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) via its BizPortal - https://www.bizportal.gov.za/. SARS automatically generates an Income Tax reference number for your company once the CIPC registration is complete. After registering a company with the CIPC (Companies and Intellectual Property Commission), you will receive a welcome email with key registration documents attached as PDFs – including the SARS Income Tax Reference Number. This document is the documentary form of such proof to be submitted on this tender.
45	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.3.9 Responsiveness item 3; Schedule E2.2.2 Section 4: The Responsiveness table at clause D.3.9 lists registration with the National Treasury Central Supplier Database as a matter on which clarification may be requested within 48 hours. Kindly confirm whether CSD registration is required of every member of a consortium, or of the Lead Tenderer only.	Yes, CSD registration is required of every member (including the Lead Tenderer) of a consortium, JV or Association. The top row in Schedule E2.2.2 states expressly that <i>in the case of a joint venture, consortium or association, separate enterprise questionnaires (which includes the CSD number required in Section 4) in respect of each partner must be completed and submitted.</i> Entities can register for free on the Central Supplier Database managed by the South African National Treasury (https://secure.csd.gov.za/)

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46	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.1(5); Schedule E2.2.5: Clause D.2.1(5) requires financial statements from "the Lead Tenderer as well as the individual companies providing services on the NRW reduction projects". Kindly confirm whether a consortium member whose role is confined to the supply of technology, equipment, software and technical support, and which does not itself perform services within the municipal project areas, is required to submit audited financial statements under Schedule E2.2.5.	To be consistent with the response provided on item 10 above, a consortium member whose role is confined to the supply of technology, equipment, software and technical support, and which does not itself perform services within the municipal project areas, is NOT required to submit audited financial statements under Schedule E2.2.5.
47	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.1(5); Schedule E2.2.5: For consortium members incorporated outside South Africa, kindly confirm that audited financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS or the applicable national financial reporting framework, and signed by the statutory auditor of that jurisdiction and by a director, satisfy Schedule E2.2.5, and confirm whether an English translation must be certified and by whom.	Yes, audited financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS or the applicable national financial reporting framework, and signed by the statutory auditor of that jurisdiction and by a director, satisfy Schedule E2.2.5. As stated in the response provided on item 16 above, English translations (accompanying the original document) of any document to be submitted on this tender, must be sworn by a translator registered with a High Court (or equivalent National Authority), or by a recognized Translation Agency that is a member of a recognized professional body of Translators such as the American Translators Association (ATA) or those accredited by it.
48	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.5: Where a consortium member is a subsidiary within a larger group and does not prepare standalone audited financial statements, kindly confirm whether audited consolidated group financial statements accompanied by a letter from the auditor confirming the position of the subsidiary will be accepted.	Yes, the audited consolidated group financial statements accompanied by a letter from the auditor confirming the position of the subsidiary will be accepted.
49	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.2; SBD4: Kindly confirm whether the SBD4 Bidder's Disclosure form and the Compulsory Enterprise Questionnaire at Schedule E2.2.2 must be completed by consortium members incorporated outside South Africa, noting that several of the	Yes, the SBD4 Bidder's Disclosure form and the Compulsory Enterprise Questionnaire at Schedule E2.2.2 must be completed by consortium members incorporated outside South Africa. For completing the fields that are not applicable to consortium members, where none of any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members

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		declarations refer to employment by the South African state, South African identity numbers and South African tax reference numbers, and confirm how such members should complete fields that are not applicable to them.	/ partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise are employed by the South African State, the following clarifications are apply: 1. <u>Fields in Section 5 of the Compulsory Enterprise Questionnaire:</u> Passport numbers of the individuals should be provided in the fields for (i.e., in the place of) "<i>Identity number</i>". Furthermore, the word "Not Applicable" should written in the fields under "<i>Personal income tax number</i>" 2. Section 2: Bidder's declaration: The answer to be provided to Section 2.1 should be "NO". 3. The entire Table under Section 2.1.1 should be crossed out diagonally with a line containing the wording "NOT APPLICABLE" above it.
50	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.2 Section 8; SBD6.1; Clause D.3.9: Schedule E2.2.2 requires that SBD6.1 be completed and attached. The SBD6.1 form as issued reflects "N/A" against both Price and Specific Goals, and clause D.2.10(2) records that tender validity is not applicable as no price is included. Kindly confirm whether preference points for B-BBEE status or other specific goals are awarded at this registration stage, and if not, whether B-BBEE status and specific goals will form part of the evaluation at the subsequent project-level Request for Proposals stage.	Preference points for B-BBEE status or other specific goals are NOT awarded at this registration stage. Yes, B-BBEE status and specific goals will form part of the evaluation at the subsequent project-level Request for Proposals stage.
51	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.12; Clause D.3.9 Evaluation Criterion 5: Kindly confirm that Schedule E2.2.12 is assessed solely in respect of the Lead Tenderer, and whether ISO 9001 or equivalent certification held by other consortium members may be submitted in support of the Lead Tenderer's policy in relation to aspect 7, supplier and vendor quality management.	Schedule E2.2.12 is assessed solely in respect of the Lead Tenderer. The ISO 9001 or equivalent certification held by other consortium members may NOT be submitted in support of the Lead Tenderer's policy in relation to aspect 7, supplier and vendor quality management.

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52	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.8: Kindly confirm whether there is a page limit or prescribed format for the methodology and approach paper submitted under Schedule E2.2.8, and whether technical annexures, equipment specifications, software descriptions and international case studies provided by consortium partners may be attached in addition to the approach paper without prejudice to its assessment.	There is no limit to the number of pages for the methodology and approach paper in Schedule E2.2.8. The contents of the methodology and approach paper should clearly, directly, and sufficiently articulate all the critical aspects of the project methodology and approach listed in the schedule. Technical annexures, equipment specifications, software descriptions and international case studies provided by consortium partners are not required to be attached in addition to the methodology and approach paper.
53	Compliance	Reference: Schedule E2.2.8; Clause D.3.9 Evaluation Criterion 1: Schedule E2.2.8 and the scoring prompt for the "Very Good" rating encourage tenderers to demonstrate innovative technologies, software and digital innovations. Kindly confirm that technologies, monitoring platforms and analytics software owned by consortium partners and made available to the Tenderer for the execution of NRW PBC projects will be credited to the Tenderer in the assessment of Evaluation Criterion 1.	Technologies, monitoring platforms and analytics software owned by consortium partners and made available to the Tenderer for the execution of NRW PBC projects will be credited to the Tenderer in the assessment of Evaluation Criterion 1. The core capabilities, innovative features, value-add, etc., of such technologies, monitoring platforms and analytics software owned by consortium partners and made available to the Tenderer for the execution of NRW PBC projects should be concisely described and captured in the methodology and approach paper.
54	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.7.2: Clause D.2.7.2 requires electronic submission as one folder via the OneDrive link. Kindly confirm whether there is a maximum file size or aggregate folder size, whether the submission may be organised into numbered sub-folders corresponding to the returnable schedules within that single folder, and whether the Employer will issue written confirmation of successful receipt of the upload.	1. There is no prescribed maximum file size or aggregate folder size. 2. The submission may be organised by Tenderers into numbered sub-folders corresponding to the returnable schedules within that single folder. 3. The Employer will issue written confirmation of successful receipt of the upload.
55	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.3.9: The evaluation table at clause D.3.9 sets out both a maximum and a minimum number of points for each of the six criteria, and those minima total exactly 70, being the stated threshold for admission to the panel. Kindly confirm whether the per-criterion minima	Yes, the per-criterion minima operate as absolute thresholds, such that a tenderer scoring below the minimum on any single criterion is excluded notwithstanding an aggregate score of 70 or more.

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		operate as absolute thresholds, such that a tenderer scoring below the minimum on any single criterion is excluded notwithstanding an aggregate score of 70 or more, or whether only the aggregate threshold of 70 applies	
56	Administration	Reference: Clause D.3.9(3): Clause D.3.9(3) provides that "a limited number of the highest ranked responsive Tenderers" who achieve the minimum threshold will be admitted to the panel. Kindly confirm the maximum number of contractors the Employer intends to admit.	There is no maximum number of contractors the Employer intends to admit. All responsive Tenderers who achieve the minimum threshold score (70 points) will be admitted to the panel.
57	Administration	Reference: Clause D.2.5; Schedule E2.2.1: Clause D.2.5 provides that addenda will be issued to the enquirer and to all tenderers appearing on the electronic attendance list. Kindly confirm the e-mail address from which addenda will be issued and the frequency with which the DBSA tender website should be monitored, so that the Record of Addenda at Schedule E2.2.1 may be completed accurately.	All addenda are uploaded to the procurement page of the DBSA website and to National Treasury's e-Tender website. While there is no email address from which addenda will be issued, queries related to the issues of addenda may be addressed to Mr. Vusi Kunene on email: VusiSCM@dbsa.org The DBSA tender website should be monitored as frequently as possible by Tenderers until the closing date of the Tender. The frequency of monitoring depends entirely on the Tenderer. The frequency should not be too low as to prevent the Tenderer from getting important information and responding to it in a timely manner. It should also not be too high as to impose excessive administrative burden on the Tenderer.
58	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.10(18)(i): Clause D.2.10(18)(i) provides that contractors are required to support and develop an SMME through subcontracting a minimum of 30% of the works if requested. Kindly confirm that this obligation arises only at the project-level Request for Proposals stage and that no evidence of SMME subcontracting arrangements is required as part of this registration submission.	This obligation arises only at the project-level Request for Proposals (RFP) stage. Consequently, no evidence of SMME subcontracting arrangements is required as part of this registration submission.

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59	Compliance	Reference: Clause D.2.10(14): Clause D.2.10(14) requires that bidders secure the Employer's written approval prior to the release of any information pertaining to the potential work to which this RFR relates. Kindly confirm that engagement by a tenderer with prospective consortium partners, professional service providers, insurers and financial institutions for the purpose of preparing its submission does not require prior written approval.	Engagements by a tenderer with prospective consortium partners, professional service providers, insurers and financial institutions for the purpose of preparing its submission does NOT require prior written approval from the Employer.
60	Compliance	The bidder has structured Technical Partner Agreements with three companies that support our NRW offering. None of these three are construction companies. Their role is to supply product, provide credit terms, and deliver technical training and support, for example two of the companies specifically act as international OEM manufacturers of the leak detection and pipe fitting technology involved, not as contractors performing works. To support this, we already have Technical Partner Agreements and Letters of Authorisation in place with each of them. Historically, DBSA has accepted Letters of Authorisation and reference letters with proof of work or projects completed as sufficient evidence when including this kind of technical partner in a bid. The RFR001.2026 documentation, however, appears to require full South African compliance registration for all consortium, JV, or association members, including a Compulsory Enterprise Questionnaire (Schedule E2.2.2), Tax Compliance PIN (Schedule E2.2.4), CIDB registration, and audited financial statements (Schedule E2.2.5). For large international OEMs of this kind, registering as a South African compliant entity and producing financial statements in this format is genuinely difficult, and not something they would ordinarily be in a position to do.	For the purpose of this tender, the DBSA will accept the Technical Partner Agreements, Letters of Authorisation, and reference letters already in place for these partners as sufficient evidence of their role and experience. Please refer to the response provided in item 44 above in relation to Tenderers from countries that have Double-Taxation Agreements with South Africa, and in relation to Tenderers from countries that do not have Double-Taxation Agreements with South Africa. Attention should be paid to the responses provided in item 4 and item 21 above regarding the issue of CIDB registration. The conversion of project values denominated in foreign currencies into South African Rand has been clarified as per the responses provided in item 20 above. Translation into English, certification (authentication), and submission of financial statements are dealt with in the responses to item 16 and item 47 above.

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		1. Will DBSA accept the Technical Partner Agreements, Letters of Authorisation, and reference letters already in place for these partners as sufficient evidence of their role and experience, without requiring them to separately register as compliant South African entities and submit local financial statements? 2. We are also still waiting for feedback on our earlier clarification questions letter, attached again for easier reference. On the point above, and Questions 1 to 6 in that letter on how our partners' experience counts toward the R200 million and R300 million thresholds, these are now the ones we most urgently need answered, as they will determine how we finalise the submission.	
61	Technical	Professional Registration of Engineers: The tender permits the use of internationally registered engineering professionals and refers to "Professional Engineer, Chartered Civil Engineer, or equivalent professional registrations" issued by relevant legislated professional bodies. Please confirm what evidence will be accepted for engineers from European countries where statutory professional registration bodies equivalent to ECSA do not exist, to demonstrate compliance with the professional registration requirements	Refer to the responses provided to item 26 and item 30 above.
62	Administration	Acceptance of Digital Signatures: Given that tender submissions are required to be submitted electronically via the DBSA OneDrive platform, please confirm whether digital/electronic signatures will be accepted on all returnable schedules, declarations, SBD forms, JV/Consortium documents and supporting submissions, in lieu of wet-ink signatures	Yes, that is correct. Electronic signatures will be accepted.

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63	Compliance	SBD4 Form: Clause 2.3: The wording and sentence construction of SBD4 Clause 2.3 is unclear, and it is not evident what information is required to be disclosed in response to this question. Please clarify the intent of Clause 2.3 and provide guidance on the specific information that bidders are required to disclose under this section.	The intent of Clause 2.3 is to know whether the bidder (Tenderer) or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise <i>also have any interest in any other related enterprise - whether or not they (that other related enterprise) are bidding for this contract?</i>
64	Administration	Future Procurement Scope: Please provide further clarity on the anticipated scope, contract structure, and delivery model of the project-specific tenders that will be issued to panel members following panel appointment.	In general, these will depend on the recommendations of the Bankable Feasibility Studies and will vary from municipality to municipality. For indication purposes only: a) The PBC Contract values will range from R50 million in smaller municipalities to more than R1 billion in metropolitan municipalities and secondary cities. b) Contract structure: The PBC Contractor will enter into a PBC Contract with the municipality over a period of between five years and more than 10 years. PBC Contractor is expected to provide the bulk of resources and expertise for operations (OPEX). An independent verifications consultant (IVC) will be appointed with support from the Water Partnerships Office (WPO) to verify the reductions achieved in NRW and validate the payments to the PBC Contractor. A FIDIC-based PBC Contract is envisaged.
65	Administration	Panel Procurement Process: Please clarify the process that will be followed for inviting, evaluating, and selecting panel members for future NRW PBC project tenders.	This will be communicated to the bidders that are awarded to the panel in line with the procurement process and procedures of DBSA
66	Administration	Pipeline and Timing: Please provide an indicative outlook on the expected number, timing, and geographic distribution of NRW PBC tenders anticipated to be issued through the panel over the next two years.	As stated in the RFR001.2026 document, there is no guarantee on the number of municipalities that will make use of this panel and work generated from it. However, the WPO is supporting more than 12 municipalities with Bankable Feasibility Studies which will inform the design of the PBC Contracts to be implemented by municipalities as from the next 12 months.

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67	Compliance	Reference letters: Please confirm whether reference letters that bidders already have from previous clients may be submitted in their existing format, or whether all reference letters must be completed using the DBSA reference template provided in the tender document. We would appreciate confirmation on this point to ensure that our submission is fully compliant with the tender requirements.	As per the response provided in item 15 above, existing current and valid Letters of Reference from employers, issued in the employer's own format rather than on the prescribed template will be accepted provided it contains all of the information called for by the template. The Tenderer should write " Refer to the attached Letter of Reference " in the fields provided in the Reference Letter Template for " Description of services provided by the Tenderer... " and sign the signature page (page 50) before submission. Where the letters of reference are not in English, the clarifications provided on item 16 above should be followed.
68	Eligibility	Clause D.2.1: We kindly request clarification regarding Clause D.2.1 of Tender RFR001.2026. The clause states that "Only those Tenderers who are unincorporated joint ventures (JV), consortia, or associations..." are eligible to have their submissions evaluated. Could you please confirm whether this means that only Joint Ventures, Consortia or Associations are eligible to submit a tender, and that a single company tendering on its own would not be eligible?	A single company tendering on its own, and meeting all the requirements will be eligible. It is not only Joint Ventures, Consortia or Associations that are eligible to submit a tender – as per the response provided in item 3 above.
69	Compliance	Briefing attendance: Will attendance by any member be sufficient to satisfy the compulsory briefing session requirement, even though the bidder will not be the lead entity in the submission?	Yes, as long the bidder clearly indicates which bidder in the consortium or JV attended.
70	Administration	Extension of closing date: We would like to kindly request a two-month extension of the tender closing date, from the current 18 September 2026 to 17 November 2026, due to the complexity of the tender requirements and the additional time required to coordinate with our international partner.	The request for extension of the tender closing date is duly noted. The Employer will make a determination and advice accordingly via an addendum.
71	Compliance	Contractor's All-Risk Insurance: We refer to clause D.2.1(7) of the Submission Data and to Schedule E2.2.7, which require the Lead Tenderer to submit proof of existing and valid contractors' all risk insurance in an	The Employer will accept, as proof in satisfaction of clause D.2.1(7) and Schedule E2.2.7, written confirmation from a reputable insurance broker or insurer that the Lead Tenderer holds a standing (existing) annual contractors' all risk policy in the name of the Lead Tenderer,

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		amount of not less than R100 million, without limit to the number of claims, issued by a reputable insurer, enforceable or claimable in South Africa, and valid at the closing date of this tender. We should be grateful for the Employer's clarification on the following point. At this Request for Registration stage no works have been awarded, and no project scope, contract value or period of works has been established. Contractors' all risk cover is ordinarily placed either on a project-specific basis once a contract is awarded, or under an annual policy whose limit is set with reference to the contract values held at the time. A standing R100 million any-one-claim policy, maintained against no awarded contract, is therefore unusual in the market and would attract a premium unrelated to any works being performed. We note in this regard that clause D.2.10(4)(iii) confirms that admission to the Panel is neither a binding contract nor an obligation on the DBSA to procure services from a panel member. Against that background, please confirm whether the Employer will accept, in satisfaction of clause D.2.1(7) and Schedule E2.2.7, written confirmation from a reputable insurance broker or insurer that the Lead Tenderer holds the facility and underwriting capacity to place contractors' all risk cover of not less than R100 million, without limit to the number of claims and enforceable or claimable in South Africa, upon a task order appointment under this Panel. Should such confirmation not be acceptable, we should be grateful if the Employer would confirm that a standing annual contractors' all risk policy in the name of the Lead Tenderer, in force at the closing date of this tender, is the	in force at the closing date of this tender, of not less than R100 million, without limit to the number of claims and enforceable or claimable in South Africa. It is confirmed that in Schedule E2.2.7, the cross-reference to clause D.2.1(8) of the Submission Data is incorrect. The cross-reference should in actual fact be to clause D.2.1(7). As stated in the response to item 70 above, the request for extension of the tender closing date (submission deadline) is duly noted. The Employer will make a determination and advice accordingly via an addendum.

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		only form of proof that will be accepted for purposes of this eligibility criterion. We would further point out that Schedule E2.2.7 cross-references clause D.2.1(8) of the Submission Data, whereas the all risk insurance requirement appears at clause D.2.1(7), clause D.2.1(8) dealing with the Register of Tender Defaulters. We assume the intended reference is to clause D.2.1(7) and would appreciate confirmation. Given the size and complexity of the submission, as well as the coordination required within the bidding entity to compile the required information and supporting documentation, we would like to kindly request consideration of a two-week extension to the submission deadline.	
72	Administration	Participation in RFPs at Project Stage: From our understanding the first phase of this is the current RFR (Request for Registration) in that once the adjudication has been done certain contractors that have made the qualification criteria will be allocated to the panel of contractors. The next phase would be specific tenders that will be issued to the panel of contractors to fund/price etc. as and when these tenders become available. It is only as this stage would a panel contractor be aware of the scope as well as the appropriate funding structure and their full obligations. The questions are : 1. Does the contractor have the right to withdraw from the panel that he has now been allocated into to, due to possible unfavorable tender conditions that he might envisage from the tender advertised to the panel?	A contractor admitted to the Panel may wish to refrain from responding to any request for proposals (RFPs) that it has been invited to submit from time to time – due to possible unfavorable tender conditions that he might envisage from the tender advertised to the panel?. However, if a contractor wants to be DE-REGISTERED (i.e. REMOVED) from the Panel, it must submit a written request to the DBSA SCM. There are no consequences for a contractor when it elects not to respond to a request for proposals (RFP), or when it requests to be DE-REGISTERED from the Panel.

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		2. Secondly if this is allowed, what is any or all the consequences that the contractor will bear due to this withdrawal? This can be in the form of not tendering that specific package or withdrawing from the panel all together.	
73	Eligibility	Eligibility of single entity Tenderers: In the case of a single entity tenderer (i.e., not an association or joint venture), is the Tenderer required to have acted as the Contractor for the construction of water supply distribution systems and networks, with a combined project value of no less than R300 million over the last seven (7) years? In the case of a single entity tenderer (i.e., not an association or joint venture), is the Tenderer required to be registered with the CIDB with a minimum grading designation of 7CE, or, if not yet registered, be capable of obtaining such registration within twenty-one (21) working days after the RFR closing date, and submit proof thereof through the CIDB Register of Contractors (RoC) system?	Yes, a single entity tenderer (i.e., not an association or joint venture) is required to have acted as the Contractor for the construction of water supply distribution systems and networks, with a combined project value of no less than R300 million over the last seven (7) years. Furthermore, a single entity tenderer (i.e., not an association or joint venture) is required to be registered with the CIDB with a minimum grading designation of 7CE, or, if not yet registered, be capable of obtaining such registration within twenty-one (21) working days after the RFR closing date, and submit proof thereof through the CIDB Register of Contractors (RoC) system.
74	Compliance	Reference letters: Kindly clarify whether we may submit existing reference letters issued on our clients' official letterheads and duly signed, instead of completing the reference template provided in the tender document. Please also confirm whether reference letters without a company stamp will be accepted, provided they are on the client's official letterhead and signed.	Yes, existing reference letters issued on our clients' official letterheads and duly signed, instead of completing the reference template provided in the tender document. Furthermore, reference letters without a company stamp will be accepted, provided they are on the client's official letterhead and signed. However, please note that all reference letters must be certified before submission.
75	Administration	Section: General information Page ii (Item 8): Kindly confirm the date on which the panel of successful tenderers will be published on the DBSA website?	The list of successful tenderers is expected to be uploaded to the DBSA website and National Treasury e-tender portal by 31 March 2027.

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76	Compliance	E1.2 Submission data Page 5 Clause No. D2,1 (Item 3): The tender specifies that respondents (Lead Tenderer or any partner in a JV/consortium/association) must hold a CIDB contractor grading designation of 7CE or higher. Kindly confirm whether compliance will be deemed acceptable if the Lead Tenderer itself does not hold the required grading, provided that at least one JV/consortium partner possesses the 7CE or higher designation?	Compliance will be deemed acceptable if the Lead Tenderer itself does not hold the required grading, provided that at least one JV/consortium partner possesses the 7CE or higher designation.
77	Eligibility	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 6 Clause No. D2.1: It is stated that, for the Infrastructure Finance Expert role, professional registration in South Africa or an internationally recognized equivalent is acceptable. Kindly clarify whether a professional registration as a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) or holding a Master's in Finance or Economics be considered acceptable under this requirement ?	Professional registration as a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) will be considered acceptable with the proof of professional registration attached (submitted). Academic qualifications alone, regardless of the level of such qualifications, will not be acceptable under this requirement.
78	Eligibility	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 6 Clause No. D2.1 (Item 7): Kindly confirm whether a letter of intent or undertaking from a reputable insurer would be considered sufficient proof of insurance at the submission stage?	A letter of intent or undertaking from a reputable insurer would NOT be considered sufficient proof of insurance at the submission stage. The requirement is that at the closing of the tender, the insurance in the amount of not less than R100 million without limit to the number of claims, must be in existence, and must be enforceable or claimable in South Africa.
79	Eligibility	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 6 Clause No. D2.1: Kindly confirm whether the requirement for the Infrastructure Finance Expert — namely, at least 10 years' post registration experience in areas such as Financial Management, Investment Analysis, Project Finance, Financial Planning, and Financial Analysis — may be satisfied through relevant private sector experience, or if the experience must be limited to public sector projects.?	Yes, private sector experience in areas such as Financial Management, Investment Analysis, Project Finance, Financial Planning, and Financial Analysis will be acceptable. Proof of professional registration as a Chartered Accountant, or Chartered Public Accountant, or Accounting Expert, or equivalents thereof in South Africa or internationally, must be provided.

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80	Eligibility	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 12 Clause No. D3.9 (Section 1 - Item 2): Kindly clarify whether reference projects executed for treatment and bulk water supply to water boards or other state owned entities will be deemed acceptable, provided that the bidder can substantiate that such projects were directly related to the expansion or improvement of a country's public infrastructure?	As per the response in item 2 above, experience with non-municipal clients (e.g., Water Boards, Other Organs of State) in the implementation of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction projects or in the provision of services as a NRW PBC Contractor will be recognized
81	Eligibility	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 12 Clause No. D3.9 (Section 1 - Item 2): The tender requires experience of the Tenderer (Lead Tenderer and Entities in JV, Consortium, Association, etc.) in NRW projects. Please clarify whether it is acceptable for reference projects to be provided solely by any of the Consortium/JV members, provided the collective submission demonstrates sufficient relevant experience?	It is acceptable for reference projects to be provided by any of the Consortium/JV members, provided the collective submission demonstrates sufficient relevant experience.
82	Compliance	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 13 Clause No. D3.9 (Item 3): During the tender briefing, it was mentioned that bidders must achieve the minimum number of points in each evaluation section, and that failure to meet the minimum in any section would result in automatic disqualification, even if the overall score is 70 points or higher. Kindly confirm whether this requirement still applies, and whether an addendum will be issued to formally reflect this rule in the tender documentation?	Yes, bidders must achieve the minimum number of points in each evaluation criterion, and that failure to meet the minimum in any criterion would result in automatic disqualification, even if the overall score is 70 points or higher. The necessary addendum (Addendum No 1) has already been issued by the Employer to reflect this rule.
83	Eligibility & Compliance	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 14 & 15 Clause No. D3.9 (Section 1 - Item 2): The tender specifies minimum project value thresholds under evaluation sections 2 and 3. Kindly confirm whether compliance may be satisfied through the cumulative value of multiple projects undertaken by the Lead Tenderer and/or JV partners (for example, JV Partner 1 with a R200 million project and JV Partner 2 with a R150 million project,	Yes, compliance may be satisfied through the cumulative value of multiple projects undertaken by the Lead Tenderer and/or JV partners.

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		submitted together as a consortium with a cumulative value of R350 million). Alternatively, please clarify if a single project meeting the specified value is required?	
84	Eligibility / Compliance	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 17 Clause No. D3.9 (Item 6): Please clarify if the R100 million financial capacity must be met solely by the lead tenderer, or if combined JV resources are acceptable.	Yes, this must be met solely by the lead tenderer only.
85	Compliance	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 17 Clause No. D3.9 (Item 5): The tender specifies that the Lead Tenderer must be SANS 9000 / ISO 9001 or equivalent certified, with proof of certification submitted in the Lead Tenderer's name. We respectfully request clarification on whether compliance may be satisfied if any JV partner holds ISO 9001 certification, provided that the Consortium/JV formally undertakes to adhere to the ISO compliant quality management policies?	This requirement must be met by the Lead Tenderer only, without the contributions of the other members of the consortium or JV.
86	Compliance	SBD 6,1 Page 33: Kindly clarify at this stage of the tender if BBBEE certificates are to be provided as part of the tender submission?	It not a requirement that BBBEE certificates should be provided as they will not be a price and preference evaluation for this tender since it is a panel. But we do encourage that bidders must try to submit their BBBEE certificates, non-submission will not result to any compliance issues.
87	Compliance	SCHEDULE E2.2.9: EXPERIENCE OF THE TENDERER Page 46: Kindly clarify if Referral letter provided by clients are also acceptable as a letter of reference for SCHEDULE E2.2.9 and SCHEDULE E2.2.10.; provided that these letters are in the English Language?	No. Referral letters by clients will not be acceptable, even if they are in English language.
88	Compliance	Section: E1.2 Submission data Page 6 Clause No. D2.1 (Item 7): The tender requires proof of existing and valid all risk insurance of not less than R100 million, enforceable in South Africa. Kindly confirm whether compliance will be deemed acceptable if the insurance cover is issued under	No. The insurance must be in the name of the Lead Tenderer (i.e. the Lead Tenderer in a Joint Venture, Consortium, or Association) and not in the name of a subsidiary company within the bidder's corporate group – unless if the said subsidiary company is the Lead Tenderer.

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		a subsidiary company within the bidder's corporate group?	