



in the footprints ...

NELSON MANDELA MUSEUM

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07 August 2025

RFQ 38 of 2025-APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER FOR PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF OUTDOOR STATUES AT NELSON MANDELA MUSEUM

1. Purpose

The Nelson Mandela Museum is seeking to invite qualified and experienced conservators or foundries for outdoor bronze statues to provide comprehensive preservation and conservation services for its collection of two two-meter outdoor bronze statues located at Nelson Mandela Museum Sites: Bhunga Building in Mthatha & the Youth & Heritage Centre in Qunu, Eastern Cape. This RFQ aims to identify service providers capable of delivering high-quality, professional conservation treatments that ensure the long-term integrity and visual value of these important heritage assets and train the museum staff on preservation of outdoor bronze statues.

2. Background

The Nelson Mandela Museum is mandated to preserve, promote and protect Nelson Mandela Legacy. Amongst the collection that is housed at the museum, there are two two-meter statues on granite clad plinths which were unveiled on 18th July 2023 by the President of South Africa, Honourable President Cyril Ramaphosa. These metal statues depict Nelson Mandela as both a statesman and a traditionalist. These two statues are exposed to various environmental factors such as harsh weather conditions and public interaction, necessitating specialized care to prevent

deterioration, decolouration and maintain their visual appeal, historical and artistic value.

3. Scope of Work

The selected service provider will be responsible for the:

- a) Conditional assessment of the bronze statues and plinth, identify the cause for rapid decolouration of the patina, and existing damage,
- b) Undertake a minor trial to inform treatment and conservation protocols,
- c) Implement the conservation protocol ensuring the restoration of the two bronze statues.
- d) Provide a treatment report and guidelines for the basic training for museum staff to ensure continued care.

This scope of work will be undertaken in three phases and must be presented with clear timeliness to include:

3.1. Condition Assessment and Documentation:

- Conduct a thorough on-site condition assessment of each statue, identifying material condition/defects, existing damage and deterioration,
- Provide detailed written reports and high-resolution photographic documentation for each statue, outlining its condition, recommendation treatment plan, and implementation plan with timeliness.
- Present resilient treatment recommendations to ensure longevity and material integrity, thereby preventing severe deterioration and retaining artistic significance.

3.2. Preservation and Conservation Treatments:

- Cleaning – removal of surface dirt and environmental pollutants.
- Stabilization – addressing structural instability, cracks, delamination, and other physical damage on plinths and statues.
- Corrosion Mitigation – treatment of active corrosion on bronze sculptures

- Restoration – cautious application of patina or restoration of missing or damaged areas, ensuring aesthetic integration and adherence to conservation ethics international and ICOM Standards.
- Protective Coatings – Application of appropriate protective coats (wax) to safeguard against environmental exposure.
- Material-Specific Treatments – use specialized techniques for various materials and base, including:

-Bronze and metals

-Stone (Plinth granite and Concrete base)

3.3. Maintenance Plan Development:

- Develop a comprehensive long-term maintenance plan for the two statues and plinths including recommended routine care, inspection schedules, and preventive conservation strategies.
- Provide training to the Nelson Mandela Museum staff on basic maintenance and monitoring techniques.

3.4. Emergency Response:

- Ability to provide emergency stabilization or repairs in the event of unforeseen damage (severe weather).

3.4.1 Statue Details

Statue	Location	Material	Approximate Dimension
1. Statesman	Bhunga Building	Bronze with patina coating and granite clad plinth	2 meters
2.Traditionalist	Qunu Youth & Heritage Centre	Bronze with patina coating and granite clad plinth	2 meters

Images as Traditionalist: Qunu Youth & Heritage Centre



As a Statesman: Bhunga Building



RETURNABLE DOCUMENTS

Service providers are required to submit all the returnable documents together with their quotations. ***Failure to provide all the Compulsory Returnable Documents at the closing date and time of this RFQ will result in a respondent's disqualification. Respondents are therefore urged to ensure that all these Documents are returned with their Proposals. Failure to submit the Supporting documents for functionality scoring will result in a scoring of zero.***

COMPULSORY RETURNABLE DOCUMENTS

- Duly signed & completed **SBD 1** Invitation to BID
- **SBD 2** Tax Clearance Requirements
- Duly signed & completed **SBD 3.3** Pricing Schedule
- Duly signed & completed **SBD 4** Declaration of Interests form.
- Duly signed & completed **SBD 6.1** Preference points claim form
- Duly signed & completed **SBD 7.2** Contract Form (Rendering Services).
- General Conditions of Contract

- Duly signed & completed **SBD 8** Declaration of Bidder's Past Supply Chain Management Practices.
- Duly signed & completed Duly signed & completed **SBD 9** Certificate of Independent Bid Determination.
- Proof of CSD registration
- Relevant Qualification
- Detailed Methodology

COMPULSORY SITE INSPECTION

- Quotations from service providers that did not attend the compulsory site inspection will not be considered.
- Service providers **MUST** attend the compulsory site inspection to be held as follows:
 - Venue: Bhunga Building
 - Time: 09:00 am & 10:00am
 - Date: 14th August 2025

 - Venue: Qunu Youth and heritage Centre
 - Time: 11:00 am
 - Date: 14th August 2025

SUPPORTING RETURNABLE DOCUMENTS (for functionality scoring)

- Reference Letters
- CV of the Team Members
- Methodology

4.DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAMES

The below table provides a list of all project deliverables and applicable timeframes

Milestone	Item	Description	Due date
	Assessment	Detailed report and activities with costing	13/ 08/2025

	Implementation	Updated Report in each implementation site and implementation plan	18/08/2025
	Training	Training pf NMM staff on the preservation of two Statues	2/09/2025
	Close out Report	Comprehensive report detailing all treatments performed, materials used, post-treatment condition, and before-and-after photographic documentation.	7/09/2025

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTENT OF THE PROJECT PROPOSAL/METHODOLOGY

All proposals must be structured as follows;

Section:1 Introduction

- **Detailed Site Inspection:** Conduct a thorough, individual assessment of each outdoor statue. This includes examining the statue itself, its plinth/base, and the immediate surrounding environment.
- **Material Identification:** Confirm the primary and secondary materials of each statue and any previous repair materials.
- **Condition Survey:** Prepare a comprehensive condition report for each statue, detailing all forms of deterioration (cracks, spalling, biological growth and previous interventions, structural issues).
- **Cause of Deterioration Analysis:** Identify the probable causes of deterioration, considering local environmental factors (e.g., high humidity leading to biological growth, UV exposure, acid rain from pollution, etc.).
- **Photographic Documentation:** Capture high-resolution digital photographs (overall, detail, and raking light) of each statue from multiple angles, clearly

illustrating existing conditions, damages, and environmental context, *before* any treatment commences.

- **Written Documentation:** Compile detailed written descriptions, observations, and recommendations for each statue.
- **Proposed Treatment Plan:** Submit a detailed, itemized treatment proposal for each statue, outlining the recommended conservation methodologies, materials, estimated timeframes, and costs. The proposal must adhere strictly to international and national conservation ethics.

4.2. Section 2: Cleaning

- **Removal of Loose Debris:** Gentle clearing of surface dust, dirt, leaves, bird droppings, and other superficial accretions using appropriate non-abrasive tools
- **Biological Growth Remediation:** Application of appropriate, environmentally safe biocides to treat and remove active biological growth (algae, moss, lichen, fungi), followed by gentle mechanical removal and thorough rinsing.
- **Soiling and Pollutant Removal:**
 - **General Soiling:** Careful washing with deionized or potable water and pH-neutral, non-ionic detergents, followed by comprehensive rinsing to remove all residues.
 - **Targeted Stain Removal:** Specific treatments for ingrained dirt, pollution crusts, metal run-off stains on stone, or efflorescence using appropriate conservation-grade poultices, chemical solutions, or controlled mechanical methods, tested on inconspicuous areas first.
 - **Graffiti Removal:** Safe and effective removal of graffiti using specialized products and techniques that do not damage the original surface, tested for compatibility.

4.3. Section 3: Repairs and Stabilization

- **Structural Consolidation:** Stabilization of structural weaknesses, including re-attachment of detached fragments using compatible, durable, and reversible adhesives/pinning.
- **Crack Repair:** Repair of cracks in stone, concrete, or metal using appropriate conservation-grade grouts, resins, or mortars that match the original material's properties and appearance.
- **Material Consolidation:** Application of consolidates to strengthen friable or weakened material (e.g., powdery stone), ensuring deep penetration and compatibility.
- **Loss Compensation/Filling:** Filling of minor losses and voids with conservation-grade materials that are visually integrated but distinguishable from the original upon close inspection, using techniques that ensure durability and compatibility.
- **Corrosion Treatment (for metals):** Arresting active corrosion (e.g., "bronze disease") and stabilizing the metal surface to prevent recurrence. This may involve localized mechanical cleaning and chemical treatment.
- **Re-patination / Artistic Integration (for bronze):** Careful and ethical re-patination of areas with significant patina loss, aiming for visual continuity and protective qualities. This highly specialized work requires demonstrable expertise.
- **Plinth Base Repair:** Assessment and repair of the statue's plinth/base as required, including mortar repairs, crack filling, and ensuring proper drainage.

4.4. Section 4: Protective Treatments

- **Surface Protection:** Application of appropriate, durable, and reversible protective coatings tailored to the specific material of each statue.
 - **For Bronze:** Application of microcrystalline waxes (often hot-applied) or stable, clear lacquers/coatings to provide a barrier against moisture, UV radiation, and atmospheric pollutants.
 - **For Stone/Concrete:** Application of breathable, water-repellent treatments (e.g., silane/siloxane-based) that prevent water ingress while

allowing trapped moisture to escape, thereby reducing biological growth and erosion.

- **Anti-Graffiti Coating:** As per mutual agreement with the Museum, application of a sacrificial or non-sacrificial anti-graffiti coating where deemed necessary, considering the statue's material and artistic.
- **Drainage Improvement:** Recommendations and potential implementation of minor adjustments to improve water runoff from the statue and its base, preventing pooling and prolonged moisture exposure.
- **Duration of treatment:** the restoration should come with a warranty of 10 years and any deterioration while implementing strict treatment protocols is observed within the 10-year period, the service provider is to be recall at no extra costs to the museum.

Section 5: Costs

- A detailed cost is to be inclusive of travel and accommodation in Mthatha (both sites). The service provider must reflect a detailed account of the fees inclusive of VAT in the methodology and quotation.

5 DECLARATION

5.1 NMM reserves the right to waive deficiencies in project methodology. The decision as to whether a deficiency will be waived or will require the rejection of a project methodology will be solely within the discretion of NMM.

5.2 NMM reserves the right to request new or additional information regarding each service provider and any individual or other persons associated with its project proposal/methodology.

5.3 NMM reserves the right not to make any appointment from the proposals submitted.

5.4 NMM reserves the right to award, or not award the proposal to the service provider that scores the highest points.

5.5 NMM reserves the right to revise any aspect of these timeframes at any stage, and to amend the process at any stage.

6 EVALUATION CRITERIA

6.1 All proposal (planned & methodology) offers received shall be evaluated based on the following phase out approach:

- Phase one: Compliance to the terms of reference and conditions of the proposal. Failure to meet any of the conditions of the proposal will automatically disqualify your proposal on this phase.
- Phase two: Prequalification criteria (Obtaining the minimum threshold for functionality as set out below)
- Phase three: preference points for specific goals

6.1 Price (VAT included)

80 Points for price will be awarded with reference to the total fixed proposal amount inclusive of VAT. The service provider with the lowest price shall score the maximum 80 points.

6.2 The adjudication and evaluation of proposals will be conducted in terms of the following Scoring System:

- a) Relevant Qualifications
- b) **Team CVs:** Curriculum Vitae of all key personnel who will be directly involved in the project, highlighting their relevant qualifications and experience.
- c) Project implementation Plan/Methodology
- d) Company/Individual reference letter on similar work previously
- e) Registration with the relevant conservators' body (compulsory)

Bidders must score a minimum of 65 points in total for functionality in order to be evaluated for "Phase 2: Price and Preferential Procurement".

Proposals (plan/methodology) will be evaluated by NMM on a scale of 0-30 in accordance with the functionality criteria below. The rating will be as follows:

2 = Poor, 5 = Good, 10 = required level, 15= Excellent level

Criteria	Weight	Value	Actual Score
Reference Letters	25	5 Letters (25Points)	
		4 Letters (20 Points)	

Bidders must furnish the NMM with signed reference letter(s) confirming bidders past performance and experience in related conservation practices. The recommendation letters must be in the recommending company's official letterhead.		3 Letters (15Points)	
		2 Letters (10Points)	
		1 Letters (5Points)	
		0 Letters (0Points)	
Qualifications and CVs Experience of the key personnel who will be assigned to the project, relevance and depth of conservators' experience and academic qualifications.	20	Key Staff member: PHD and/or 20 years' relevant experience (20 Points)	
		Masters and/or 15 years' relevant experience (15 points)	
		P/Graduate/Degree and/or 10 years' relevant experience (10Points)	
		Diploma/Training Certificate and/or relevant 5 years' relevant experience (5Points)	
		No qualification and/or less than 5 years;' relevant experience (0 Points)	
	30	Excellent (40Points)	

Detailed project plan and Methodology Clearly stating how the project under consideration will be implemented		Very good (30Points)	
		Good (20Points)	
		Average (15Points)	
		Poor (10Points)	
Proof of registration with a conservator's body Service providers must submit proof of registration with conservation bodies such as SAHRA, Heritage SA, SAMA or PHRA	25	(25Points)	
Total	100		

APPLICABLE PREFERENCE POINTS ALLOCATION SYSTEM

(1) Points for this shall be awarded for:

- (a) Price; and
- (b) Specific Goals.
- (c) Where 80 points will be allocated for price and 20 points allocated for specific goals

(2) The following specific goals are applicable to all procurements of a transaction value above R2 000 and up to R50 000 000

a. The NMM will utilize the following preference criteria;

- i. Service providers within the OR Tambo region & Eastern Cape

- ii. Historically Disadvantaged Individuals (Women, Youth and People living with disabilities)
- iii. SMMEs

Specific Goals

Category		Sub-categories	Specific goals points	Verification documents
Local Supplier	5	OR Tambo supplier	5	CIPC Registration Certificate (CK) or Proof of residence
		Eastern Cape Supplier	4	
		Anywhere in South Africa	3	
		Non-South African	0	
Women-owned supplier	4	Black African Women	4	CIPC Registration Certificate (CK) and CSD Report
		Non-Black African Women	2	
Youth Owned Supplier	4	Youth Owned (< 35-year-old persons)	4	CIPC Registration Certificate (CK) and CSD Report
		Non-Youth Ownership (> 35-year-old persons)	2	
People living with disabilities	3	People living with disabilities	3	CSD Report
Small Micro, Medium & Enterprises	4	SME – Owned by people with disability	4	CSD Report

		SME – Black owned	3	Sworn Affidavit (BBBEE Affidavit)
		SME – Other	2	

RFQ SUBMISSION

- All quotations and accompanying documents must be forwarded to:
supplychain@nelsonmandelamuseum.org.za
- NO FAXED OR HAND-DELIVERED QUOTATIONS SHALL BE ACCEPTED.
- Closing date for the submission of quotations is **21 August 2025** at 12H00.

All communications and enquiries/requests for clarification relating to this proposal should be directed to the contact person:

Administrative & SCM related Enquiries: SPECIFICATIONS	
Ms P. Mfundisi	
Tel: 047 501 9528	
Email: phakama@nelsonmandelamuseum.org.za	
Supply Chain	
Technical Enquiries:	
Ms. L. Tyali	
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Email: Lungisani@nelsonmandelamuseum.org.za	
Manager: Collections& Exhibitions	

NB: The NMM reserves the right to amend, modify or withdraw this RFQ at any time, without prior notice and without liability to compensate and/or reimburse any party.



Mrs Nontlahla Tandwa-Dalindyebo
Acting Chief Executive Officer