

ADVERTISEMENT

Invitation to Submit Bids



Bid No: SAMRC/KfW-AITT/2026/02

BMZ Project No: 202168730

KfW Project number: n/a

Provision of AI Technical Tools Development, Maintenance and Ongoing support for the South African Health Products and Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) under the DSTI/KfW/SAMRC Support of development and production of vaccines in South Africa Project

The Government of the Republic of South African through its Department of Science, Technology and Innovation (“DSTI”) has received grant funding support from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany through its KfW Development Bank (“KfW”) for the DSTI/KfW/SAMRC Support of development and production of vaccines in South Africa Project. The Project provides equipment and infrastructure (including construction and Information technology) support with the purpose of strengthening vaccine research, development, pre-clinical testing, pilot-scale production and regulation in South Africa.

The South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) is a national public entity as listed in Schedule 3A of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (PFMA). The SAMRC has been established through the South African Medical Research Council Act, 1991. The SAMRC’s mission is *“to improve the nation’s health and quality of life through promoting and conducting relevant and responsive health research”*. The SAMRC’s head office is in Cape Town (Western Cape Province) and it is also represented in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces through regional offices. The SAMRC has seven campuses and several satellite research sites with diverse business activities i.e. offices, biochemistry and microbiology laboratories, health research clinics, animal research centres, and tenants renting space. Further information about SAMRC can be found on the webpage, www.mrc.ac.za.

One of the conditions of the grant is that all procurement under the Project will be implemented by the SAMRC in compliance with the South African and German public sector procurement frameworks with the fundamental principles of fair, equitable, transparent, competitive, and cost-effective procurement. In this regard, **Bidders should note that the equipment and infrastructure will be procured by the SAMRC on behalf of Project Beneficiaries.** Equipment and infrastructure contracts will be paid for directly by SAMRC OR KfW to the suppliers / service providers.

The SAMRC commenced the implementation of the Project on 1 April 2024 and subsequently issued Request for Applications inviting role-players in the vaccine production, research and development, training and regulation industry to apply for equipment and infrastructure support under the Project. The RFA processes concluded in December 2024.

The SAMRC invites bids from suitably qualified, technically competent and experienced service providers for the **Provision of AI Technical Tools Development, Maintenance and Ongoing support for the South African Health Products and Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA).**

The rules of the present tender should be read with latest version of the KfW Guidelines for the Assignment of Consultants in Financial Co-operation with Developing Countries available at (www.kfw.de). Kindly note that the prerequisites for disbursements for this assignment are not yet

finalized. Any contractual commitment related to this tender procedure is subject to the readiness of disbursement of funds for this assignment by KfW.

A non-compulsory virtual briefing session will be held at 14:00 (SAST) on 14 May 2026.

Prospective supplier(s) that wish to attend the briefing session must email their Microsoft Teams credential to: tenders@mrc.ac.za prior to the meeting. Notwithstanding the above, a link for the briefing session will be provided to all suppliers that have registered and downloaded the bid document within two (2) days before the meeting date and time.

Submission of Bids

This is a **two (2) Envelope bid submission**, which can only be submitted in two ways.

1. Online through the SAMRC submission portal and
2. In hard copy in the Tender box.

In this regard, bidders must adhere to the following:

1. Online Submissions

Completed bid documents with supporting documents to be submitted in a two-envelope folder system containing as provided in the online system, envelope 1 and envelope 2 folders. **Envelope 1 should contain only the “Technical Proposal” with NO financial proposal documents. Envelope 2 should only contain the “Financial Proposal”.** Bidders to ensure that the respective folders contain all the relevant information with each document appropriately named and that all files are able to be opened.

Online submissions can be submitted through the SAMRC website <https://tenderportal.samrc.ac.za/Tenders> as per downloaded bid document before the closing date and time.

2. Hardcopy Submissions

One completed hardcopy bid document to be submitted in one package containing two sealed envelopes with one sealed envelope containing the “Technical Proposal” and one sealed envelope containing the “Financial Proposal”. The hardcopy bid documents, must be accompanied by 1 USB flash drive containing the same hardcopy tender submission documents (PDF format). The scanned bid submission on the USB flash drive shall be in two separate folders containing the “Technical Proposal” and the “Financial Proposal” respectively.

The package shall display the following information:

the address where Tenders have to be sent i.e. South African Medical Research Council, Tender Box No. 2, Francie van Zijl Drive, Parow Valley, 7500 the bid description, and number the bidder's company name and address; and the following words clearly visible: “Call for Tenders – Not to be opened”.

The closing date for the bid shall be 11:00 (SAST) on 01 June 2026.

Completed hardcopy bids must be submitted by hand-delivery to: South African Medical Research Council, Tender Box No. 2, Francie van Zijl Drive, Parow Valley, 7500, Western Cape; and must arrive before the closing date and time.

Late, faxed, or e-mailed bids will not be accepted.

NB: NO financial information must be contained in the Technical Proposal. Bidders are required

to separate the tender documents accordingly.

Responsive bids will firstly be evaluated by evaluating the Technical Proposal on functionality and thereafter the Financial Proposal on an 80/20 preference point system in terms of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (Act 5 of 2000) and Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022.

Please note that:

- This bid is valid for one hundred and twenty (120) days after the closing date for the submission of bids.
- It is **compulsory** that bidders obtain bid documents, available for downloading on the SAMRC website (<https://tenderportal.samrc.ac.za/Tenders>) from **29 April 2026 to 01 June 2026**. No hard-copy bid document will be issued by SAMRC.
- Bidders must register on the National Treasury's Central Supplier Database (CSD) prior to submitting bids, by login onto <https://secure.csd.gov.za/>. With effect from 1 July 2016, SAMRC may not award any bid to supplier not registered as prospective supplier on CSD. Submit with this bid your CSD supplier number and unique registration reference number for SAMRC to verify your company's registration on CSD.
- Negotiations for the bid award will only be concluded with the qualifying bidder(s) who is/are registered on the CSD and whom key information outlined in this bid document is in order.
- **If hard copy bids are to be submitted**, Bidder(s) are **required** to submit 1 original hard copy document and 1 USB flash drive with full information as per original hard copy (PDF format), as indicated above in this advert.
- Failure to comply with all submission requirements such as the USB for traditional submission and others will lead to disqualification of the bidder(s).
- The SAMRC is not compelled to accept the lowest or alternative bid and reserves the right to accept part or the whole of any bid or cancel the bid.
- **Bidder(s) may bid for the supply of one, some or all of the items required in terms of this tender however, bidders must ensure that they are able to meet all the bid specifications for the items for which they are bidding.**
- Documents and USB flash drives submitted on time by bidders shall not be returned.
- Appointment will be subject to the successful bidder agreeing to sign a Service Level Agreement with SAMRC to adhere to the terms and conditions set out in the bidding document.
- It is envisaged that SAMRC will conclude a once-off supply and delivery of the required equipment with the successful bidder(s).
- All tender progress/results will be updated on the SAMRC website <http://www.samrc.ac.za/tenders-or-scm/current-tenders>; therefore no regret letters will be issued.

All project and technical related queries may be directed in writing to **Sumaya Behardien** at KfWprocurement@mrc.ac.za

Any other enquiries related to the bid process may be directed in writing to Supply Chain Management at tenders@mrc.ac.za.

All technical and other related enquiries will be accepted up until the **cut off time of 16:00 (SAST) on 22 May 2026**, no enquiries will be accepted or responded to beyond this time and date.

The bid number should be quoted in all correspondence. **No telephonic enquiries will be responded to.**

POPIA COMPLIANCE

As of the 1st of July 2021, the South African Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA) came into full effect. This law is designed to protect how all juristic persons use, store and process data. You can read the full details of the Act here: <https://popia.co.za/>. The SAMRC as a responsible statutory science council complies with POPIA.

The SAMRC will receive personal information through the bids submitted to the SAMRC in response to this tender. The personal information requested in the bid documents is necessary for SAMRC to fully evaluate the bids. This information will be shared with members of the respective bid committees which may include external members, for the purpose of evaluating the bids. It may also be shared with the funders and auditors to ensure compliance. The SAMRC will process this personal information strictly in accordance with POPIA. The SAMRC undertakes specifically to process the personal information on the basis that (a) it was provided voluntarily and (b) the information will be processed only as far as may be necessary and within the limitation and ambit of the purpose of evaluating the bid and any aspects related thereto.

Bidders to take note that in South Africa, after the closing of an advertised competitive bid, the names of all bidders, and where practical, the total price and preferences claimed by each bidder, are published on the institution's website. This information is typically made public within ten (10) working days after the bid closure and remains available for at least thirty (30) days, as required by the National Treasury. Awarded tenders will be published on National Treasury's eTender Publication Portal, the SAMRC website and the German Trade and Invest (GTAI) website (if applicable). This transparency measure aims to enhance compliance monitoring, improve transparency, and promote accountability in the supply chain management process.

The SAMRC confirms that it is lawfully processing the information since the purpose of processing is to seek responsive bids which the SAMRC is mandated to do in terms of the South African public sector procurement framework. By submitting your bid to the SAMRC, you acknowledge and agree to the use of your personal information as outlined above (See Annexure C to the Technical Proposal document).