



## CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: SELECTION OF SUB-EXECUTING AGENCIES FOR THE GEF-8 AND GBFF MEGA LIVING LANDSCAPES PROGRAMME

**Issued by: South African National Parks (SANParks)**

**Submission Deadline:** 30 January 2026

**Submissions to:** SANPARKS HEAD OFFICE, 643 LEYDS STREET, MUCKLENEUK, PRETORIA (MAIN GATE: TENDER BOX), 0002

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### 1. Background and Context

In February 2024, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council approved a Project Preparation Grant (PPG) for the **GEF-8 project** titled *“Reimagining National Parks for People and Nature – Mega Living Landscapes Project”* (GEF ID 11347). In April 2024, a PPG for the **GBFF project** *“Reimagining National Parks for People and Nature – Leveraging Durable Financing for Mega Living Landscapes (MLL) to achieve Target 3 in South Africa”* (GEF ID 11588) was also approved. These projects form part of a unified **Mega Living Landscapes (MLL) Programme**, underpinned by SANParks' **Vision 2040** strategy.

The detailed design of both projects and the development of their CEO Endorsement Documents and Annexes (CEODoc) were carried out as part of a single programmatic effort. SANParks acts as the **Lead Executing Agency**, with WWF-US as the **GEF Accredited Implementing Agency**. In January 2025, SANParks' Board approved the final draft CEO Endorsement Documents for submission to the GEF. On 19 May 2025, SANParks received confirmation of **final approval of the GEF-8 project**. Approval of the GBFF project is anticipated in the coming months.

Project implementation will commence following the conclusion of grant agreements between SANParks and WWF-US and is expected to run over a **six-year period**. A dedicated **Project Management Unit (PMU)**, housed in SANParks' Vision 2040 Lead Unit, will coordinate and oversee project execution.

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### 2. The Role of Sub-Executing Agencies (Sub-Grantees)

In line with the project preparation process, SANParks now seeks to appoint **four Sub-Executing Agencies (SEAs)** through a transparent, inclusive process. These SEAs will be critical delivery partners, responsible for the **day-to-day execution of project activities** in targeted landscapes or across landscapes.

The envisaged sub-executing agencies are:

- **Greater Kruger (Barberton) MLL Sub-Executing Agency**
- **Grasslands MLL Sub-Executing Agency**
- **Addo MLL Sub-Executing Agency**
- **Cross-cutting Sub-Executing Agency** (responsible for the development and coordination of three Framework Plans and Investment Strategies across all landscapes)

Each SEA will work in close coordination with the SANParks PMU to implement project interventions, build local capacity, and contribute to the overall sustainability and impact of the MLL programme. SEAs will also play a central role in ensuring compliance with the projects' **Environmental and Social Safeguards Frameworks (ESMF)** and associated plans including:

- Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEPs)
- Process Frameworks
- Social Inclusion Plans
- Gender Action Plans

The program will establish **three MLL Hubs**, one in each landscape, as the operational base for project implementation. These hubs will serve as strategic centres of coordination and delivery, staffed by core project teams and linked directly with their respective SEAs.

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### 3. Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

SANParks invites Expressions of Interest from eligible organisations who meet the mandatory criteria as outlined in the EOI document which is to be obtained from:

- SANParks Website (<https://www.sanparks.org>)
  - eTender portals (<https://www.etenders.gov.za>)
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### 4. Submission Requirements


Interested organisations are invited to submit an EOI that includes:


- Expression of Interest cover submission outlining suitability for the role, as well as the MLLs and/or crosscutting roles desired.
  - Organisational profile and proof of legal registration (example: CIPC registration)
  - Demonstrate a minimum of 10 years of experience in biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods, including the implementation of community-based, inclusive conservation and socio-economic interventions.
  - In addition, demonstrate project management experience with a cumulative value of at least R10 million, managed over the same ten-year period, involving donor-funded, grant-funded or comparable multi-stakeholder projects.
  - Demonstration of financial controls in place to ensure sound financial management.
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### 5. Submission Process

Submissions to: SANPARKS HEAD OFFICE, 643 LEYDS STREET, MUCKLENEUK, PRETORIA (MAIN GATE: TENDER BOX), 0002:

For additional information, please contact:

 Jill Bunding: 012 426 5237

 [Jill.Bunding@sanparks.org](mailto:Jill.Bunding@sanparks.org)

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**SANParks reserves the right** to withdraw this call, reject any submission, or invite only selected applicants to the next stage. Submission of an EOI does not constitute an award or commitment to fund.

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- Please see more information on [https://publicpartnershipdata.azureedge.net/gef/GEFProjectVersions/7760b3fc-ae67-ee11-9ae7-00224803ab65\\_CEOEndorsement.pdf](https://publicpartnershipdata.azureedge.net/gef/GEFProjectVersions/7760b3fc-ae67-ee11-9ae7-00224803ab65_CEOEndorsement.pdf)
- Further information can be requested via email as above.