



**national treasury**

Department:  
National Treasury  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

---

**RFI NUMBER: RT33-2026**

---

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE  
SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF DNA  
EQUIPMENT AND RELATED CONSUMABLES**

---

**CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION:**

**04 MAY 2026**

**AT 11h00 AM**

## CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION .....	3
2.	INTENDED SCOPE OF USE.....	3
3.	PURPOSE OF THE RFI .....	3
4.	SCOPE OF DNA PROCESSING SOLUTIONS .....	3
5.	INFORMATION REQUESTED FROM RESPONDENTS .....	4
6.	CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMATION GOVERNANCE.....	6
7.	SUBMISSION GUIDELINES.....	6
8.	DISCLAIMER.....	6
9.	FORMAT FOR THE RFI SUBMISSION .....	6
10.	SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS .....	7

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 National Treasury intends to explore the establishment of a Transversal Contract for the supply of DNA processing equipment, systems, consumables, software and associated services to be utilised by State institutions.
- 1.2 This Request for Information (RFI) forms part of National Treasury's market-analysis and procurement-planning process and is issued in accordance with the principles of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA). This RFI is not a tender and does not constitute an invitation to bid, a commitment to procure, or a guarantee of future contracting.

## **2. INTENDED SCOPE OF USE**

- 2.1 The envisaged transversal arrangement may be accessed by Organs of State, including but not limited to:
  - a) Criminal justice and law-enforcement institutions
  - b) Public health and pathology services
  - c) Scientific, research and analytical laboratories
  - d) Other State institutions requiring DNA processing capability
- 2.2 Solutions must therefore be scalable, interoperable, and adaptable to different institutional mandates, workloads, and infrastructure environments.

## **3. PURPOSE OF THE RFI**

- 3.1 The purpose of this RFI is to obtain market intelligence and expert input from industry participants in order to:
  - a) Understand the latest DNA processing technologies and equipment available in the market;
  - b) Identify optimal technical and workflow configurations suitable for State laboratories;
  - c) Assess appropriate procurement and rendering models (leasing vs outright purchase);
  - d) Support future development of a competitive, compliant procurement strategy.

## **4. SCOPE OF DNA PROCESSING SOLUTIONS**

- 4.1 Respondents are requested to provide non-binding, high-level information on DNA processing solutions covering the full workflow, including:

- a) DNA extraction / isolation
- b) DNA quantification
- c) DNA amplification
- d) Fragment analysis
- e) Data interpretation and reporting

4.2 The envisaged solutions must support high-throughput laboratory operations, maintain robust quality assurance, and support compliance with international laboratory and manufacturing standards, including ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 18385, where applicable.

## **5. INFORMATION REQUESTED FROM RESPONDENTS**

### **5.1 Market and Technology Landscape**

Respondents are requested to provide insight into:

- 5.1.1 Current state-of-the-art DNA processing platforms and equipment available globally and locally;
- 5.1.2 Key technology trends, including:
  - a) End-to-end automated systems
  - b) Modular or semi-automated workflows
  - c) Scalability and future upgrade paths
  - d) Open versus proprietary system architectures
- 5.1.3 Expected technology lifecycle, obsolescence risks, and vendor support horizons over a minimum five-year period.

### **5.2 Workflow Integration and Architecture**

Respondents should advise on:

- 5.2.1 Integrated DNA workflows with minimal manual intervention across all processing stages;
- 5.2.2 Integration with Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS), including:
  - a) Modern and legacy data-exchange mechanisms (API, CSV, XML);
  - b) Electronic tracking, audit trails, and data integrity controls;
- 5.2.3 Suitability of proposed architectures for multi-institution and multi-site deployment.

### **5.3 Market Structuring and Lotting Approach**

To inform National Treasury's procurement strategy, respondents must provide views on:

- 5.3.1 Structuring the market by:

- a) Individual workflow components;
- b) Direct or reference-sample processing systems;
- c) Shared amplification and fragment-analysis platforms;
- d) Fully automated end-to-end DNA solutions;

5.3.2 Advantages and disadvantages of each approach within a transversal contract environment;

5.3.3 Implications for standardisation, interoperability, validation, and institutional flexibility.

#### **5.4 Performance, Throughput and Quality**

Respondents should describe how their solutions:

- a) Increase daily DNA processing throughput and institutional capacity;
- b) Support low-level, degraded, or trace DNA samples;
- c) Incorporate contamination-prevention measures, internal controls, and calibration tools;
- d) Accommodate a broad range of biological sample types and substrates.

#### **5.5 Standards, Quality Assurance and Compliance**

Respondents must provide information on:

- a) Support for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 laboratory competence requirements;
- b) Availability of consumables manufactured under contamination-controlled conditions (e.g. ISO 18385 or equivalent);
- c) Validation documentation and audit-ready quality evidence;
- d) Approaches to maintaining continuity of laboratory quality systems during implementation or transition.

#### **5.6 Supply, Support and Sustainability**

Respondents should advise on:

- a) Local technical support and service-delivery models;
- b) Preventive maintenance, calibration, and system monitoring;
- c) Software support, cybersecurity, and data-protection measures;
- d) Risk-mitigation strategies related to delivery delays, downtime, or system integration challenges.

#### **5.7 Procurement and Contracting Advice (Core Focus of this RFI)**

Respondents are specifically requested to advise National Treasury on:

5.7.1 Suitable procurement and rendering models, including:

- a) Outright purchase

- b) Leasing or rental
  - c) Hybrid or consumption-based models
- 5.7.2 Key cost drivers and commercial considerations that should inform bid structuring and evaluation criteria.
- 5.7.3 No binding pricing is required. Responses should remain strategic, indicative, and advisory.

## **5.8 Training and Capacity Development**

Respondents should outline:

- a) Training and skills-transfer approaches suitable for State institutions;
- b) Capacity-building models over the contract lifecycle;
- c) Competency assessment or certification mechanisms aligned with good laboratory practice.

## **6. CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMATION GOVERNANCE**

- 6.1 All information submitted in response to this RFI will be treated as confidential and used solely to support National Treasury's procurement-planning processes. No operational data or biological materials will be shared.

## **7. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- a) Responses must be submitted in English.
- b) Submissions must be informational and non-commercial in nature.
- c) Respondents may include diagrams, conceptual architectures, and reference use-cases.
- d) National Treasury reserves the right to engage respondents for clarification or follow-up discussions.

## **8. DISCLAIMER**

- 8.1 This RFI is issued strictly for information-gathering and market-sounding purposes and does not constitute an invitation to tender, a commitment to procure, or an undertaking to appoint any supplier.

## **9. FORMAT FOR THE RFI SUBMISSION**

- 9.1 The following document must be submitted at the closing date and time of the RFI.

- a) Completed SBD 1 document.
- b) Company profile including current clients
- c) Item Specifications
- d) Product Brochures

9.2 Respondents are requested to submit only documents that are required.

9.3 Respondents must submit the information on E-Tenders Portal.

9.4 All enquiries must be addressed to Karabo Mmola on email: [Karabo.Mmola@treasury.gov.za](mailto:Karabo.Mmola@treasury.gov.za)

## **10. SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS**

10.1 Respondents are requested to submit all the documents via E-Tenders portal at the closing date and time of the RFI - 04 May 2026 at 11h00 AM.

10.2 No documents to be submitted via email.

10.3 No documents to be submitted to the National Treasury Physical Address.

**Kinds Regards,**



---

**MR KARABO MMOLA**  
**ACTING DIRECTOR: TRANSVERSAL CONTRACTING**  
**DATE: 17 APRIL 2026**