



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:

11 MAY 2026

AT 11h00 AM

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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

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 - 11 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