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The African Union Commission (AUC) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and all Embassies and Permanent Missions of the African Union Member States in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and has the honour to inform that the AUC, in collaboration with the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, is inviting Member States to submit their water investment opportunities, programmes, and/or projects for consideration towards the High-Level Panel Investment Action Plan.

The High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa is co-chaired by H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal; H.E. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia; H.E. Mark Rutte, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Netherlands and H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania. The objective of the panel is to develop actionable pathways for mobilizing at least an additional US\$30 billion annually by 2030, for implementing the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) and closing the existing water investment gap in Africa. The Panel is now developing the High-Level Investment Action Plan to support implementation of the panel's recommendations. The Investment Action Plan will be launched during the UN SDG Summit in September 2023.

It is in light of the above that the AUC is inviting Member States to submit up to 5 investment opportunities, programmes, and/or projects per country. Projects meeting selection criteria outlined on this webpage (<https://aipwater.org/submit-investment-plan/>) will be included in the High-Level Panel Investment Action Plan. Selected investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects will be promoted for further investment and financing by financial institutions and investors, as part of the high-level panel investment action plan.

It is against this background that the AUC requests the esteemed Embassies and Permanent Missions to circulate this call for proposals to their respective capitals. Submissions should be made online. Alternatively, Member States may complete the attached form and send it, along with any supporting documents, to the following address: [info@aipwater.org](mailto:info@aipwater.org), with the subject line **Investment Action Plan Project Submission**. The deadline for submissions is **15 August 2023**.

The African Union Commission avails itself of the opportunity to renew the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and all Embassies and Permanent Missions of the African Union Member States in Addis Ababa, the assurances of its highest consideration. 

Addis Ababa, 31 July 2023



- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**
- **All Member States of the African Union**  
**Addis Ababa**

## High-Level Panel Water Investment Action Plan: Call for Water Investment Opportunities

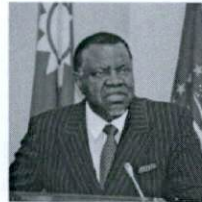
The African Union Commission (AUC), in collaboration with the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD and the High-Level Panel, is inviting African countries to submit their investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects, for consideration towards the High-Level Panel Investment Action Plan.

Countries are invited to submit up to 5 investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects. Projects that meet the following selection criteria will be included in the high-level panel investment action plan. Selected investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects will be promoted for further investment and financing by finance institutions and investors, as part of the high level panel investment action plan.

### High-Level Panel Leadership



H.E. Macky Sall  
Co-Chair  
President of the Republic  
of Senegal  
Chair: African Union



H.E. Hage Geingob  
Co-Chair  
President of the Republic  
of Namibia



H.E. Mark Rutte  
Co-Chair  
Prime Minister of the  
Netherlands



H.E. Jakaya Kikwete  
Alternate Co-Chair  
Former President of the  
United Republic of  
Tanzania

### Criteria

Investment opportunities, programmes and projects promoting implementation of the High-Level Panel five point plan below will be considered:

1. Promote cross-sectoral political leadership at the highest level, with commitment to substantially increase public budgets and investments for water security and sustainable sanitation. Water affects all economic and social sectors. Cross-sectoral leadership is critical. Make increased water security and sustainable sanitation a national and continental priority. (20 points)
2. Track progress and enhance mutual accountability for results in the mobilisation of water investments and in peer review mechanisms at continental, regional, national, sub-national, and community levels. Recommit to allocation of at least 5% of national budgets for the water and sanitation sector and 0.5% of GDP per annum for sanitation and hygiene programmes. (20 points)
3. Promote new sources of funding and innovative finance, such as institutional investors-public partnerships. Projects advancing matchmaking platforms to bring together the supply and demand for finance with a special focus on climate resilient, blended public-private finance, and gender transformative approaches. (20 points)
4. Strengthening institutional regulation for water investments, create incentives and penalties for increased water efficiency across multiple industries to lead water stewardship efforts, biodiversity, and ecosystem protection. (20 points)
5. Projects advancing use of ODA to de-risk water investments and leverage larger funding streams. Improve implementation capacity and quality of bankable projects, and strengthen international cooperation by aligning technical and financial support with regional, transboundary and national water investment programmes, strategies and plans. (20 points)

If your investment opportunity, programme, or project is selected for consideration in the High-Level Panel Investment Plan, the AUC and High-Level Panel Secretariat will contact you to request further information (outlined in Annex 1 to this document) which will incentivise investment in your proposal.

## High-Level Panel Water Investment Action Plan Project Submission Plan

1. Project name

2 (a). Project description

2 (b) Project contribution to the High Level Panel five point plan (Select as many options as applicable)

- High-level cross sectoral coordination and political leadership
- Enhancing mutual accountability, monitoring and peer review mechanisms
- Innovate finance and match-making, blend finance, public-private, and gender inclusion
- Institutional regulation for water investments, water stewardship, biodiversity and ecosystem protection
- Use ODA (public finance) to de-risk water investments and leverage larger funding from private sector

3. Project sub-sector (Select as many options as applicable)

- Irrigation and other agricultural uses
- Flood protection
- Rural WASH services
- Urban WASH services
- Mining and Bulk Industrial
- Power Generation
- Ecosystem restoration, management, and/or nature based solutions
- Water transfer and reticulation
- Bulk and raw water supply
- Water Treatment
- Water Storage
- Water Resources Development
- Remove flood protection and put disaster risk management
- Other

4. Country or countries where project is located

5. Project institution

6. Project institution contact details (email, phone number, website)

7. Implementing agents (if different from project institution)

8. Project GPS coordinates or location

9. Components/parts of the project requiring budget

10. Project rationale: what is the justification in favour of implementing the proposed project by the project owner or country? Please link to country development targets, Nationally Determined Contributions, and National Adaptation Plan as applicable.

11.1 Total cost (make sure to include currency)

11.2 Cost per Component (make sure to include currency)

11.3 Cost by timeline: please supply a project value for each year from project commencement until close (make sure to include currency)

12. Project targeting: Refers to the population groups being targeted by the project, by income status, gender, ethnicity and/or other status

13.1 Financial Net Present Value

13.2 Financial Internal Rate of Return

13.3 Financial Composite Benefit Rates

14.1 Economic Net Present Value

14.2 Economic Internal Rate of Return

14.3 Economic Composite Benefit Rates

15. Environmental analysis, if available

16. Social analysis, if available

17. Funding/finance status

Not Funded

Partially Funded

18. Proposed commercial model



19. Maximum percentage of the project value that can be taken as a loan

20. Expected sources of payment for loan

21. Constraints or bottlenecks in project finance

22. Year of project preparation

23. Last Milestone Known (Select as many options as applicable)

S1: Project definition and planning: This phase includes part of the early stage concept design work needed before the pre-feasibility phase encompassing concept note development, ToRs for Pre-feasibility study, finalizing project grant agreement, setting up a project coordination mechanism and finalizing a project information brief.

S2A: pre-feasibility study: This stage encompasses successful completion of activities focused on acquiring support for basic and technical financial modeling; conducting of due diligence and finalizing of the pre-feasibility studies

S2B: feasibility study: This phase encompasses activities focused on completing the feasibility study which covers organizational, financial, technical, social, and environmental and other aspects of the project, securing its approval; drafting and finalizing ToRs for technical advisory services; conducting detailed project engineering designs and conducting detailed financial modeling for the project.

S3A: Project Structuring: This phase involves creating the Financial Structuring Plan, outlining the appropriate commercial and technical structure for the project crucial not only for attracting finance, but also for attracting the right mix of finance, development of financing options and development of an overall commercial structure and preliminary legal structuring.

S3B: Transaction Support & Financial Close: This phase involves creating the appropriate commercial and technical structure for the project crucial not only for attracting finance, but also for attracting the right mix of finance, development of financing options and development of an overall commercial structure and preliminary legal structuring.

24. Opportunity for project bundling with other unfunded projects (please identify other projects by name and reference number)

25. Estimated number of years to completion, once finance raised

26. Estimated date/year to start operation

27. Indicate if the information provided in this form, including specific project documents uploaded, is sharable on a public website. If indicated, confidentiality will be ensured.

28.1 Name of main focal point for follow up

28.2 Main focal point for follow up - phone number with country code

28.3 Main focal point for follow up email address

29. Organisation or project website address if applicable

30. Project reference number if available

31. Source in the National Master Plan

Date completed

Email this completed form and any supporting documents relating to the project to [info@aipwater.org](mailto:info@aipwater.org)

## **Annex 1: PRELIMINARY LEGAL DUE DILIGENCE ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

*You **do not** need to provide this information with your submission. Shortlisted submissions will be contacted by the AUC and High-Level Panel Secretariat to request this further information. At this stage, this Annex is for your information only.*

### **A. Institutional Framework**

- What are the investment requirements and restrictions in your jurisdiction for foreign investors? For example, in respect of share ownership and control over local companies, holding interest over public assets, currency exchange, repatriation of profits, expropriation, and taking security.
- What types of Government support, subsidies, tax exemptions and/or incentives are available to foreign investors? Does the law allow the Government to issue guarantees to foreign investors?
- Is international arbitration available as a dispute resolution mechanism? Will your courts recognize and enforce foreign judgements? Are waivers of sovereign immunity upheld by your courts?
- Please summarise the approach to the control of fraud and corruption, and please provide a copy of the relevant legislation and regulation.

### **B. Water Sector Related Issues**

- Please describe your existing regulatory framework for water as it applies to your proposed investment opportunities, programmes, and/or projects.
- Please provide details of the entity or entities which administer that regulatory framework for water, including Government ministries. Do you have an independent water regulator?
- Where applicable to your proposed investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects, how are water tariffs and subsidies set and managed? If projects are contemplated that involve charging end users for service, is this permitted under law? Are there limits on what can be charged? What arrangements do you have in place in respect of transparency of tariff setting and the grant of subsidies?
- Where applicable to your proposed investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects, are there appropriate technical quality standards which can be applied in respect of water supply, wastewater and sewage?
- Do you have legislative controls and penalties in respect of pollution of watercourses?
- Please provide a copy of the water legislation and regulations which apply to your proposed investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects

### **C. Public Procurement**

- Please provide a copy of the public procurement legislation and regulations which apply to your proposed investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects.

### **D. PPP and Concessions**

- Please provide a copy of the PPP and concession legislation and regulations which apply to your proposed investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects.
- Where applicable to your proposed investment opportunities, programmes and/or projects, can the private sector be involved in their delivery (e.g. in the provision of water supply or waste water/sewage treatment services)? If so, what are the controls? Is there any constraint on the duration of a concession or PPP agreement? Are there regulatory obligations on the maintenance of water infrastructure?