



GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe

Institutional Support Project for Customs and Public Expenditure Management (**ISP-CAPEM**)

Project ID: P-ST-KFO-004

GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

1. The Government of the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe has received a grant of UA 5.0 million from the African Development Fund (ADF) and African Development Bank (AfDB) as administrators of the Transitional Support Facility D(TSF), to finance the Institutional Administration Support Project for Customs and Public Expenditure Management (ISP-CAPEM).
2. This project aims to improve revenue collection and strengthen public expenditure management capacity, through the modernization of customs administration, improvement of public expenditure management and supervision. This will be done through: **(a)** the modernization of customs administration and the sustainable management of public debt with the aim of increasing the collection of trade revenues, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the control of legitimate business operations, and preventing the growth of public debt to unsustainable levels; and **(b)** Strengthening the management and oversight of public expenditure through the design and modernization of financial management systems and strengthening transparency and accountability in the use of public resources.
3. The project will be implemented over a period of four years. The Ministry of Planning, Finance and Blue Economy (MPFBE) is the implementing agency. The direct beneficiaries of the project include the MPFBE (Public Debt Sector Management Office, Directorate General of Customs, General Inspectorate of Finance (Internal Control), Office for the Coordination and Monitoring of the Tender System (COSSIL), the Court of Auditors (ToC) and the Financial Intelligence Unit (UIF).
4. A Project Management Unit (PMU) has been established within the Ministry to coordinate the implementation of the project. The PMU will be responsible for overseeing the implementation, day-to-day management and delivery of project results, including planning and coordination, procurement and financial management, communication, monitoring and reporting of results.

5. The project consists of the following components:

Component 1: Modernization of customs administration and sustainable management of public debt. This component aims to strengthen capacities for revenue collection and sustainable management of public debt, and will be implemented through two sub-components:

Sub-component 1.1: Modernized Customs Administration and Trade Environment. The objective of this sub-component is to modernize customs administration with a view to increasing the collection of trade revenues and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the control of legitimate trade operations. Main activities include provision of technical support from the United Nations Conference on Trade

and Development (UNCTAD) for the upgrade and migration of the ASYCUDA 2010 global system (version 4.3) to its latest Windows version, including the purchase of information technology equipment to support the upgrade of the electronic system.

Sub-component 1.2: Capacity Building and Transparency in Public Debt Management: The main objective of this sub-component is to strengthen capacity and transparency in public debt management. Main activities include provision of technical assistance to the Public Debt Management and Monitoring Office (BGSDP), for **(i) the development of a medium-term debt strategy and a debt plan**, **(ii) the review of the legal debt framework (Decree-Law 1/2014)**, **(iii) develop new regulations and clarify the objectives of loans and the roles of stakeholders** and **(iv) develop operational manuals on public debt**.

Component 2: Strengthening the management and control of public expenditure. This component aims to strengthen transparency and accountability for greater effectiveness and efficiency in the management of public expenditures, and will materialize through two sub-components, namely:

Sub-component 2.1: Strengthening the financial management information system. The main objective of this sub-component is to support the development and implementation of an improved and integrated financial management information system. Key activities under this sub-component include provision of technical assistance to design and develop an improved integrated financial management system.

Sub-component 2.2: Capacity building in public resource management. This sub-component aims to support the implementation of the new Public Procurement Law and strengthen the government's capacity to implement PFM reforms. The sub-component also aims to support interventions to strengthen PFM capacity in specific areas, including the implementation of the new public procurement reform, legislation and government capacity building in internal and external audit, public procurement management and countering illicit financial flows, and ensuring that PFM reforms take into account gender and climate change.

6. The procurement modes will be:

CONSULTING SERVICES:

- Technical Assistance for development of (a) public procurement regulations, (b) standard procurement documents for goods works and services and/or procurement procedures manual, (c) procurement training modules and training of trainers, and (d) sustainable procurement strategy – CQS (Consultant's Qualifications).
- Consultancy for undertaking training needs assessment for all project beneficiary institutions and develop training plans – ICS (Selection of Individual Consultant).
- Technical Assistance for (a) development of a National AML/CTF Strategy and Action Plan and a National AML/CTF Policy, and (b) review of various statutes (Law 3/2018 – Law against terrorism and its financing; Decree No. 60/2009 – creation of Financial Information Unit (FIU) and Decree No. 25/2012 – drafting of Internal regulation and completion of draft organic statute of the FIU – CQS (Consultant's Qualifications).
- Technical Assistance for SAFE-e quality assurance – ICS (Selection of Individual Consultant).
- Technical Assistance for the development of a medium-term debt strategy, borrowing plan including capacity building to debt management office and National Debt Management Committee, on development of public debt management, debt borrowing planning, debt sustainability and reporting. – ICS (Selection of Individual Consultant).
- Technical Assistance for stakeholder engagement, awareness, and capacity building on

implementation of public procurement law and development of regulations and other operational tools.

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS:

- Acquisition of 1 pallet scanner for non-intrusive customs control at entry of good at the airport/Port and training in operationalization by the supplier – OCB (Open Competitive Bidding)
- Acquisition of SAFE-e (integrated financial management system) application development, including, (a) supply of ICT equipment, (b) staff training and (c) system interface with core government systems - OCB (Open Competitive Bidding)
- Procurement of IT Equipment and software for customs and Procurement Authority - OCB (Open Competitive Bidding)

7. The procurement of goods and services under the project will be carried out in accordance with the Bank's Rules of Procedure for the Procurement of Goods and Services. The procurement of consultancy services will be in accordance with the Bank's Regulations on the Recruitment of Consultants. The tender documents are expected to be available in the first quarter of 2024.

8. Interested bidders may obtain more information and should confirm their interest by contacting:

The project implementation team, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Planning Directorate Building, 1st floor, Largo das Alfândegas-São Tomé-São Tomé and Príncipe. E-mail: Capemstp@gmail.com or monizfilipe@yahoo.com.; Mobile: +239 9977073; Contact person: **Manuel Filipe Moniz**.