INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

LOGISTICS SUPPORT CENTRE

NAIROBI

LON26/00058: Call for Expressions of Interest

Production and Water treatment solution for borehole water in Goma (DRC) - 7200 m3/day (scalable at 18000 m3/day)

APPLICANT: International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

A- BACKGROUND

As part of its assistance program in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), an international, impartial, neutral and independent humanitarian organization through its Water and Housing department (WatHab) is launching a technical pre-consultation (Call for Expression of Interest).

The objective consists in selecting construction companies working in the field of design/construction of water treatment units likely to be interested in at least the implementation of a Design and Build type solution, and having the experience, expertise, knowledge of the terrain and its constraints and the financial capabilities required to carry out construction work.

The targeted work is located in the so-called “Munigi” sector, Nyiragongo Territory (northern part of Goma), DRC, and aims for a treatment capacity of 7,200 m3/d, expandable over time to 18,000 m3/d.

The characteristics of the water to be treated are briefly explained below. They present a high level of hardness, and WHO guidance values in terms of Fluorides and Manganese being exceeded.

The short list of companies or joint ventures admitted competing will be made on the basis of a technical file linked to the essential characteristics of the project as described below.

Only the selected companies or joint ventures will then be consulted as part of a Call for Tenders which will be launched subsequently.

B- Main Characteristics of the Call for Expression of Interest

Project Title: Production and Water Treatment Solution for Borehole Water in Goma (DRC) - 7200 m³/day (scalable to 18000 m³/day)

Project: Design and Build of a production unit consisting of two drilling sites (drilled to the final operating diameter and equipped with 12" internal diameter steel casing, with a unit operating flow rate of 200 m³/h) on a 2000 m² plot of land, located 400 m and 800 m respectively from the 1 ha water treatment unit site, planned to be scaled at an ultimate capacity of 18,000 m³/day. The first phase, the subject of this call for expressions of interest, should be sized at 7,200 m³/day.

Location: Nyiragongo Territory, Munigi District, North Kivu Province, Democratic Republic of Congo (northern sector of the city of Goma https://maps.app.goo.gl/MHgPgXXLhNTybT8V6)

Access: 3 km track suitable for heavy vehicles from the paved road

Treatment Plot Area: 1 ha

Boreholes Plots Areas: Approximately 2000 m² each (x2)

Distance from Boreholes to Treatment Site: 400 m and 800 m respectively

Project Implementation Duration: Maximum 2 years

Subsequent Tendering process (Only for a company/joint venture is selected following the Call for Expression of Interest): FIDIC Yellow

Type of Subsequent contract: Design and Build (see details in the following table, chapter C)

Subsequent allotment: not planned

Site visit as part of this Call for Expression of Interest**:** not mandatory, but recommended

Deadline for submission of the Call for Expression of Interest dossier: **16/07/2026** at **12.00 (Noon) Nairobi, Kenya Time**

Tender launch date foreseen: August 2026 (subject to approval by the donor)

Date of notification of the selected company /joint venture: September 2026

Special requirement: implementation of a pilot phase and associated treatment tests, which will determine the final design and the construction phase.

Supply of materials and equipment: to be provided by the selected company

Joint bid: it is strongly recommended to submit a joint bid to ensure a strong local presence capable of carrying out not only part of the work, but also the operational aspects over a longer or shorter period, as well as understanding the local context and providing a strong guarantee of stability within that context. Therefore, the documents requested for response to this call for expressions of interest apply not only to the lead company, if it is responding alone, but also to each company within the joint bid.

C- MAIN CHARACTERISTICSOF THE PROJECT

Refer to the appendices for:

1. Project location
2. Excerpt from the Preliminary Design Study (Raw water characteristics and types of treatment considered)
3. Excerpt from the Detailed Design Study (Data taken into account, feedback on treatment tests and preferred scenario), typical borehole equipment diagram

Note that the second borehole is not yet completed (aquifer level reached at 200m, final phase with a target of 350m underway).

Therefore, the exact characteristics of this second borehole are currently assumed.

They should be close to those of borehole 1 (used for the preparation of the feasibility and detailed studies), but must be confirmed during the pumping tests planned for July 2026. The potential interaction between these two boreholes will also be evaluated during these pumping tests.

The treatment design is based on the current WHO guideline values.

As mentioned above, the key characteristics to consider in raw water are primarily its hardness and its ability to achieve calcium carbonate equilibrium (taste and network management), as well as exceedances of fluoride and manganese concentrations.

The solutions developed at the preliminary design stage incorporate local constraints (relative difficulties in sourcing certain reagents, technical requirements, etc.), aiming for the best possible technical and economic compromise between sustainable and economically acceptable treatment solutions (limiting the impact on tariffs).

The upcoming tender is planned as a Yellow FIDIC (Design/Build) project.

As such, it does not restrict the consultation to the process proposed in the detailed design phase, which will serve as a basis for further consideration.

A minimum post-construction support phase of six (6) months to one (1) year must be offered before final handover to the operator, along with the provision (remotely or in person) of a qualified technical representative from the company selected for construction.

Each company/ Joint venture is eligible to apply to the Call for Expression of Interest (EOI) with its core solution.

If selected to proceed to the tender stage, it will have to demonstrate its effectiveness and sustainability, which must be confirmed at the pilot stage (effectiveness/CAPEX/OPEX ratio/operational constraints).

Furthermore, it is specified that the tender will include the equipment for deep wells (static depth approximately -200 m, 200 m³/h per well, with all pumping, electrical, electromechanical, remote management/monitoring and communication equipment with the treatment unit, and hydraulic equipment), the transfer to the treatment site, the treatment itself, and storage (2800 m3) before distribution, and will end at this stage.

The services to be considered are, in summary, the following:

Studies	The well equipment, transfers, and 2800 m³ storage were previously studied technically for a Red FIDIC tender. As such, the studies are thorough and should not be revised beyond possible adjustments, unlike the treatment process, which was studied for a Yellow FIDIC tender. For **wells:** review of detailed technical studies and possible adjustments, particularly regarding remote management (communication between wells and the Treatment Unit), and implementation studies. For **transfers** from wells to the treatment facility: review of detailed technical studies and possible adjustments, and implementation studies. For the **treatment process**: design and implementation studies for the pilot phase and treatment. For **final storage** after treatment: review of detailed technical studies and possible adjustments, particularly regarding remote management (communication between wells and the Treatment Unit), and implementation studies.
Boreholes	Supply and installation of equipment for two boreholes, each with a capacity of 200 m³/h, enabling the treatment of a flow rate of up to 7,200 m³/day, including power supply, hydraulic equipment, and remote monitoring.
Raw water transfer pipes	Supply and installation of 1385 meters of DN250 FD pipes to transfer water from boreholes to the UTE (Water Treatment Unit). The ICRC could potentially cover the direct purchasing and shipping of the pipes (this option will be defined in the tender).
Water Treatment Unit	Implementation of a pilot phase, flow rate and conditioning to be proposed by the company Construction of a 7,200 m³/day water treatment unit including energy supply, remote management, by-product treatment, and all infrastructure and superstructures related to the process, as well as the necessary provisions for future expansion of the process, from 7,200 to 18,000 m³/day.
Reservoir	Construction (Civil engineering and equipment) of the WTU storage tank in reinforced concrete consisting of two compartments, with a total volume of 2,800 m³ and provisions for the pumping station, sized to accommodate the future pumps towards Mudja and Bushagara, as well as the start of the pipeline towards Bushara.

The company consulted in this call for Expressions of Interest (EoI) will be asked to address the following questions:

1. What type of technical processing solution (without detail) would it prefer?
2. How would this type of solution meet the context (please cite references or a brief explanation)?
3. What would be the approximate implementation and testing timelines for a pilot solution, and what would be the appropriate sizing for this pilot?
4. If a joint venture setup is preferred, what are its advantages and strengths

D- RETURNABLE PROPOSAL SCHEDULE

Companies interested in this preliminary consultation must submit the following:

1. A letter indicating:

- Their interest in bidding on this project, and answers to the previous questions
- Any comments or reservations regarding the proper execution of the work (construction conditions, project scope, necessary equipment, etc.).

Please note that the responses to this letter will not be part of the selection criteria; companies are free to choose their own answers.

2. A list of specific references demonstrating the company's capacity to carry out this project:

- Name and location of the project
- Contact information for the project owner/client
- Date/period
- Budget
- Main characteristics
- Duration

3. Key characteristics/information of the company:

   • Head office address

   • Annual turnover for the last 5 years

   • ITP accreditation

   • Permanent staff (number per category)

   • List of the company's construction equipment

   • Engineering capacity or design offices typically associated with this sector

4. 2026 workload plan
5. Mobilization capacity in Goma

These documents are required for each company in any proposed consortium.

Furthermore, in the case of a consortium, the planned distribution of roles among each company must be proposed.

E- SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Companies are invited to submit their complete application by email to: lon_tender_services@icrc.org by **16/07/2026** at **12.00 (Noon) Nairobi, Kenya Time**

Note: Email files must not exceed 5 MB. If your email exceeds this size, please send it in multiple emails with the same subject line.

No applications will be accepted after the specified date and time.

The email subject line should read: **"Call for Expressions of Interest – Production and Water treatment solution for borehole water in Goma (DRC) - 7200 m³/day (scalable to 18000 m³/day)".**

Applications will be rejected if they do not follow the instructions provided or if any required documents are missing.

Questions should be addressed to: **lon_tender_services@icrc.org**

On behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross,

Benoit Couaillier

Head of Procurement Africa – LSC Nairobi