

Water Research Commission

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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A SOLICITED WRC PROJECT**

 **KEY STRATEGIC AREA 34** (Nation Siltation Management Programme)

**PROGRAMME** National Dam Siltation Management Programme

**TITLE** Review and revision of the draft National Dam Siltation Management Strategy

## **Background and rationale**

The National Dam Siltation Management (NatSilt) Programme is aimed at addressing the loss in storage capacity in dams through effective dam siltation management. The programme seeks to create and produce the required knowledge and insight to mitigate against the effects of dam siltation through deploying engineering, social, ecological and management systems.

The NatSilt programme is implemented in three phases:

Phase 1: Development of a draft Siltation Management Strategy and related tools and models

**Phase 2: Piloting the draft strategy, tools and models**

Phase 3: Review and finalise the strategy, tools and models

Through the first phase, a draft national strategy was developed to improve the management of dams across South Africa and stimulate local economies and cost recovery through an inclusive dam catchment management approach. The programme is currently in the second phase, where concepts and outcomes developed during the first phase are being piloted, validated and refined.

**The draft strategy can be found in the link below, under TOR reports to provide context:**

**<https://wrc.microsoftcrmportals.com/call-for-proposals-info/tor-reports/>**

The purpose of the National Dam Siltation Management strategy is to guide the DWS on proactive siltation management and systematic operation of dams. The strategy is also intended to address soil conservation problems, to stimulate local economies and improve cost-recovery through the selection of appropriate siltation management methodologies for dams.

**Overview of the proposed approach**

The approach to this work is to employ a consultative process with key stakeholders and the various branches within the DWS to receive their input on the draft strategy. The process will also include document review and workshops.

***Objectives:***

The aim is to revise the draft strategy and implementation plan into implementable frameworks to guide sustainable proactive siltation management. The strategy will be supported by risk management & monitoring & evaluation frameworks and entail institutional, governance and financial considerations.

The objectives of the project will be to:

* Identifying gaps in the draft strategy
* Revising the implementation plan to be more practical
* Including transboundary aspects in the strategy
* Conducting workshops on the draft strategy with DWS, stakeholders and partner organisations
* Reviewing the pilot implementation projects and other NatSilt programme documentation to align the strategy with the outcomes
* Revising the draft strategy and implementation
* Assessing which SDG’s are significant to siltation management and the impact thereof

**Project duration:** 12 months

**Time Frame: July 2023 – June 2024**

**Total Funds Available:** R 1 000 000.00