

Terms of Reference

COORDINATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL ROADMAP FOR ETHIOPIA

The RSB – Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials is looking for a consultant and/or a consortium of consultants and interested parties to develop a Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) roadmap for Ethiopia in close collaboration with a group of Ethiopian stakeholders, which have been organised into a SAF Steering Committee including local government, experts, and the national airline. The SAF Roadmap should follow the outline developed by the Steering Committee which is annexed to this TOR.

The ideal applicant is a consortium of at least two consultants, where an Ethiopian consultant with experience in managing multi-stakeholder roadmap development leads the project supported with an international consultant with experience in SAF production and technologies.

BACKGROUND

The international community is working towards reducing carbon emissions to limit the impacts of climate challenges across the globe. One of the measures to mitigate the carbon emissions is the use of alternative technologies that reduce the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by various sectors such as mining, industry, construction, and transport. The aviation sector is not any different and is accounting to 2% of global emissions – a figure expected to grow dramatically in the next decades. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is coordinating the climate change mitigation strategy for the international aviation sector and recommends the use of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) as a way to address the carbon footprint of the sector. Operational use of SAF is already possible, since SAF that has received technical certification to date can be blended with fossil kerosene. Ethiopia is a signatory to ICAO and the Ethiopian Airlines also abide by international commitments and directives posed to the aviation sector.

The potential for biofuel development in Ethiopia is immense. Current trends show that Ethiopia's biofuel production is focused on using sugarcane for ethanol; and jatropha, castor and palm oil for biodiesel production. Ethanol production is linked with the government-owned sugar estates and biodiesel with private investment. Ethiopia has been producing bioethanol from the sugar by-product molasses for more than a decade. Recent studies have shown the potential the country has in production of biofuels that can easily be used for SAF as well.

The Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) is a global, multi stakeholder and independent organisation that drives the development of a healthy bioeconomy through certification, innovation, advocacy and collaborative partnerships. RSB offers practical solutions to ensure the implementation of environmental and social sustainability on the ground and is the world's most trusted, peer reviewed global certification system for sustainable biomass production and conversion.

The RSB has been working in Ethiopia since 2013 to engage stakeholders and promote a multi-stakeholder initiative expected to culminate in the development of a SAF roadmap for the country by the end of 2021. The roadmap will inform on the best pathways for the development of SAF that can promote social and economic development while safeguarding food security and the environment. It is also expected to drive further funding and investment in the region.

The project to promote SAF, which is led by the RSB and sponsored by Boeing Global Engagement, has achieved the following outputs to date:

- Aviation Biofuel Summit in 2018 in Addis Ababa attended by 80+ stakeholders including relevant ministries and international SAF producers
- Signing of a MOU with government to collaborate on SAF development
- Research reports (all will be available to the consultant)

- Analysis of the Ethiopian legal and compliance gaps against the RSB Standards
- Technical assessment of feedstock potential for biofuel production
- Background research on the status of biofuels in Ethiopia
- Multi-stakeholder scenario report forecasting the future of biofuels up to 2035
- Development of a Steering Committee consisting of government, experts and the national airlines to guide and oversee a SAF Roadmap
- SAF Roadmap outline developed by the Steering Committee

OBJECTIVES

The main purpose of this call is to find a suitable consultant to develop a SAF Roadmap for Ethiopia which is expected to guide the country to:

1. identify its ideal feedstock / technology mix that adheres to the robust RSB Standards
2. inform policymakers on the necessary policy actions needed to incentivise SAF
3. develop further proposals and plans aimed at seeking further funding and investment into SAF research, development and pilot production.

Please find an outline of the proposed roadmap structure in Annex. The consultants are not obliged to limit themselves to the stated roadmap structure but can propose improvements based on the experience.

The long-term ambition is for Ethiopia to become the leading SAF producer and supplier in Africa, in so doing supporting the decarbonisation of the national airline while driving local sustainable economic development. Moreover, given the strategic positioning of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa is fast becoming a regional hub and investments into airport expansions will also allow it to host and serve international airlines.

SCOPE OF THE WORK

The consultant / consortium is expected to deliver the following:

1. Work plan – to be delivered within month 1 of consultancy
 - a. Project work plan in excel
 - b. Roadmap approach
2. SAF Committee engagement via dedicated workshops and presentations
 - a. Attend at least 3 SAF Committee workshops, including inception (month 2), draft report presentation (month 4) and final report presentation (month 6)
 - b. Regular engagement of SAF Committee members via email and calls
3. SAF Roadmap
 - a. SAF Roadmap draft report and presentation to stakeholders in English – to be delivered by end of month 4 of consultancy
 - b. SAF Roadmap final report and presentation to stakeholders in English – to be delivered by end of consultancy (end of month 6)
 - c. SAF roadmap translation to Amharic by end of month 6

We aim for the final roadmap draft, report and translation to be ready by no later than 14 May 2021.

MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION

The consultant / consortium will be working closely with the RSB Regional Representative for East Africa and international consultant. It will report to the RSB regional representative and will be collaborating and be closely supervised by the SAF Steering Committee.

QUALIFICATIONS

Mandatory

- Experience in developing multi-stakeholder national or regional roadmaps
- Experience in working in biofuels, agricultural, oil & bioenergy sectors
- Strong research, report-writing, analysis, facilitation, communication and interpersonal skills
- Experience working in multicultural environment and willingness to work with international consultant
- Excellent English writing skills

Advantage

- Knowledge of SAF production, market and technologies
- Collaboration with an international consultant that is expert in SAF production, market and technologies

APPLICATION

To apply, please submit a brief proposal that includes:

- An overview of how you would approach this project
- Details of a potential collaboration with an international SAF expert (the proposal can also be a joint proposal)
- Details about previous experience in developing multi-stakeholder roadmaps
- CVs of all consultants involved in the project
- Budget
- References

Please send the proposal to Mr Yitatek Yitbarek at the email address yitatek.yitbarek@rsb.org, by Friday 7 November 2020.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS TOR

Any questions regarding this TOR must be sent at least 3 working days before the application deadline (7 November). Please note that it is the applicant's responsibility to provide a clear proposal in accordance with this TOR. In the event of a lack of clarity in the proposal, RSB will not contact the respondent to request additional information.



ABOUT THE RSB

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RSB is recognised under the European Commission's Renewable Energy Directive, and enjoys the endorsement of the international NGO community, UN organisations and key stakeholders in the biofuel, biochemical and bioplastic industries. Aviation is a key sector for the RSB, with RSB being the preferred sustainability partner for SAF development and most of the major SAF initiatives being already RSB certified or having a public RSB commitment to certification.

For more information visit: <https://rsb.org/aviation/>

ANNEX - Proposed Outline for SAF Roadmap

1. Background

- Definition of the scope and objective of the roadmap and what needs to be achieved
- Overview of the energy sources and energy mix of the country
- Background in international regulations on emission targets
- Background on Ethiopian context including carbon reduction targets and aviation sector

2. Country situational Analysis

- Current situation in terms of fuel demand, price and opportunities and challenges at national context for SAF development
- Strategic plans of Ethiopian airlines and potential market growth
- Policy frameworks and implementation including international commitments
- Understanding competitive priorities for biofuel market(eg. Ethanol for cooking, liquor etc.)
- Feedstock availability: and land food nexus
- Availability of technology and infrastructure

3. Global best practices

- Best practice and learning on SAF development from a global perspective

4. Gap analysis

- Identify policy gaps and measures that would enable SAF development in Ethiopia
- Review of techno-logy and economic capacity
- Review of infrastructure and skills

5. SWOT Analysis

- SWOT analysis to identify most feasible pathways for SAF development
- Elaborate scenarios for most feasible SAF development pathways

6. Strategic objectives, goals and recommendations

- Proposed objectives and tools to implement the roadmap
- Finance and infrastructure required
- List of key players in the SAF development and their respective roles