



Public Call for Tender No. 002-2026

CONTRACTING OF SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL SERVICES TO CONSOLIDATE AND IMPLEMENT AN INTEGRATED NETWORK-BASED MONITORING SYSTEM FOR WATER RESOURCES IN THE AMAZON BASIN/REGION

The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), an international organization with headquarters in Asa Norte, Brasilia-DF, Brazil, Postal Code 70.750-521, announces that on March 11, 2026, at 09:00 a.m. (Brasilia time) it is publishing this Tender Document. The award criterion will be the Best Technical and Economic Proposal and Administration Expenses, under the fixed price modality. The process will be governed by the ACTO Contracting Procedure in its current version and, complementarily and by analogy, taking as reference the Administrative and Financial Instrument (IAF), as well as by the other conditions and specifications contained in this Bidding Document and its annexes.

Bidding details

1. **Opening Date:** March 30, 2026
2. **Time:** 09:00 (Brasília time)
3. **Modality:** Public bidding according to the Best Technical and Economic Proposal and Administration Expenses, under the fixed price modality.
4. **Deadline for receipt of proposals:** April 30, 2026
5. **Sending proposals by email:** compras@otca.org
6. Inquiries and/or additional information can be sent to the same e mail : compras@otca.org only from April 13th to 25th.
7. Subject of the email when sending the proposals: ***Proposal _ Name of the company _ Public call 002-2026 _ Integrated Water Monitoring System Amazon_ GEF Amazon Basin Strategic Action Programme (SAP) Implementation Project***

1. General Instructions to Bidders

1.1. Objective of the bidding

To contract specialized consulting services to consolidate and implement an integrated network-based monitoring system for water resources in the Amazon basin/region, the objectives of which are listed in Annex 1 - Terms of Reference, an integral part of this bidding document.

1.2. Conditions for Participation

Any institution/company/institute accredited/registered in one of the 8 PMs of the ACTO with proven experience in the design and implementation of integrated water resources monitoring systems at the basin scale may participate in the bidding process. 10 years of experience related to the subject matter of the consultancy.

1.3. Submission of proposals

Institutions/companies interested in providing the services described in the specifications, presented in Annex 1, an integral part of this RFP, shall submit their bids in three separate and duly identified files or folders, as follows: (a) file with the legal and tax qualification documents; (b) file with the technical qualification documents; and (c) file with the financial bid. The file or folder with the legal and tax qualification documents, as well as the technical qualification documents, shall not contain any financial information.

The package of files or folders must be sent to the e-mail address: compras@otca.org, and the subject line should be identified as: "*Tender for Services to consolidate and implement an integrated network-based monitoring system for water resources in the Amazon basin/region*".

Bids must be submitted by April 30, 2026 at 18:00 (**Brasilia time**). For purposes of timely delivery, only the date and time of receipt of the e-mail will be considered. After receipt of the proposal, the SP/OTCA will reply to the email with confirmation of receipt.

1.4. Validity of bids

Bids must be valid for 30 calendar days from the day after the deadline for submission of proposals.

1.5. Request for additional information

Interested parties may request additional information related to the Bidding Documents and Technical Specifications. Inquiries should be made in writing from April 13 to April 25, 2026 to the e-mail compras@otca.org, with the subject: "*Inquiry - Tender for Services to consolidate and implement an integrated network-based monitoring system for water resources in the Amazon Basin/Region*".

2. Content of the proposals

Each file or digital folder must contain the original scanned document (or with digital signature, when applicable) and two simple copies.

2.1. File or folder 1: Legal and fiscal qualification documents

The scanned "original" documents related to the legal and fiscal qualification of the entity/company must be submitted in original or in notarized copy. The letter of presentation of the entity/company must be duly signed by the legal representative or by proxy. If signed by an attorney-in-fact, it will be necessary to submit the power of attorney.

The file or folder with the documents required for legal, fiscal, financial and technical qualification must contain:

- a. Bidder's letter of introduction;
- b. Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation and their amendments in force, duly registered with the competent body, in the case of a Commercial Company,

and, in the case of a Joint Stock Company, accompanied by the minutes of election of its Administrators;

- c. Decree of authorization duly filed, in the case of a foreign company or corporation operating in the country, and act of registration or authorization for operation issued by the competent body, when the activity so requires;
- d. Proof of registration in the National Registry (according to the regulations of each country);
- e. Proof of regularity with the Federal, State and Municipal Treasury, when applicable, of the bidder's domicile or headquarters or other equivalent in accordance with the law, issued within 90 days;
- f. Proof of regularity with Social Security, demonstrating compliance with legally established social obligations, issued with less than 90 days;
- g. Certificates of Labor Fiscal Regularity or its analogous according to the regulations of each country, issued with less than 90 days;
- h. Negative bankruptcy certificate, issued by the distributors of the bidder's headquarters, issued no more than 90 days prior to the date of submission of proposals;
- i. Positive certificates with negative effect will be accepted.

2.2.File or Folder 2: Technical Qualification Documents

a) Statement(s), certificate(s) or certificate(s) issued by legal entity(ies) of public or private law, certifying that the bidder has provided to the declarant(s) products and services compatible with the object of this bid, in accordance with Annex 1 of this RFP, within the last 36 (thirty-six) months.

a1) The declarations, certificates or statements mentioned in item 'a' must be submitted on letterhead of at least 3 (three) different clients, signed and with the contact telephone number of the representatives of the respective declarants.

a2) To comply with this requirement, the bidder must demonstrate a minimum of 10 years of experience in the performance of the Services contemplated in Annex 1 of this Folder, and may accumulate certificates to meet the requirement.

b) Proof of having in its permanent staff, on the date foreseen for the delivery of the Qualification Documents and the Technical and Price Proposals, a professional with higher education or another duly recognized by a competent entity, related to the object of the bidding.

b1) The adequacy of the professional training to the object of the contracting must be demonstrated by the bidder through the description of the experience of the professional indicated, for the evaluation of the Special Contracting Committee and, in case of doubt, of the technical area related to the bidding.

b2) The professional indicated by the bidder shall coordinate the execution of the services object of the bidding, exceptionally allowing its substitution by another professional with equivalent or superior experience, prior approval of the contractor.

b3) The technical managers and/or members of the base technical team must be part of the bidder's permanent staff on the date foreseen for the delivery of the proposal. For the purposes of this Term of Reference, the following shall be understood as such: the partner that proves its relationship through a corporate contract or bylaws; the administrator or director; the

employee duly registered in the Labor and Social Security Book; and the individual service provider with a written contract with the bidder, in the event that the bidder is the winner of the bidding.

2.3. File or Folder 3: Financial Proposal and Administrative Expenses

The financial proposal shall be submitted with the cost composition and price formation of the services to be rendered, including all its cycles and contemplating all expenses, such as: direct and indirect costs, applicable taxes, administrative fee, services, social charges, labor, insurance, training, travel, lodging, transportation and/or others necessary for the integral fulfillment of the objectives and expected products, which shall be considered included, regardless of the bidder's express statement.

3. Disqualification

Any proposal that does not comply with the provisions of this RFP, that contradicts any legal provision in force or that indicates values that are incompatible with the market price, either because of excess or because they are manifestly unfeasible, will be disqualified.

4. Processing and Evaluation

For the evaluation of the proposals, the SP/OTCA will constitute a Bidding Committee that will proceed with the evaluations corresponding to the qualification within the term of validity of the bids. All files or folders related to the legal and tax qualification will be opened at the same time, with the order of opening per bidder being randomly defined. The Commission will proceed in the same manner with the technical qualification and financial proposal documents.

The Commission will verify whether all bidders submitted the documentation required for qualification. The opening of the technical qualification documents and financial proposals will be done only for the bidders that have been qualified in the legal and fiscal aspects. The SP/OTCA will return the financial proposals of bidders not qualified in the first stage.

Irrelevant material errors may be corrected by a reasoned act of the Tender Committee.

The Bidding Committee may, up to the signing of the contract, exclude a bidder, if it becomes aware of any fact or circumstance, prior or subsequent to the bid award, that reveals inadequacy or lack of technical or financial capacity.

The proposal of the bidder that, having complied with all the conditions of this **PUBLIC TENDER**, obtains the highest qualification will be considered the winner. The remaining qualified bidders will be ranked in descending order of qualification.

In the event of a tie, the tie-breaking criteria will be the following, in order:

- 1st Highest score in the Technical Proposal, economic and administration expenses;
- 2nd lowest price;
- 3rd Company with the highest score in the items of Technical Qualification of Equipment, General Experience and Specific Experience;
- 4º Drawing of lots in public session.

Bidders who fail to submit any of the documents required for qualification in this bidding, or who submit them in disagreement with the provisions of this RFP, will be disqualified.

Proposals with technical or operational aspects not specified in this RFP or in its Terms of Reference will be disqualified; bidders must adhere to the terms described in the specifications of the products and services requested.

If any bidder is not qualified in the legal and fiscal aspects, the SP/OTCA Administration may, at its sole discretion, set a period of six (6) working days for the presentation of the missing documents. Once the causes for disqualification or disqualification have been remedied, the process will be resumed.

Once the proposal evaluation process is concluded, the SP/OTCA will inform the selected bidder of the result, and contract negotiations will begin. Once the negotiation is completed, the SP/OTCA will inform the other bidders of the result of the evaluation process.

5. Signing of the Contract

The deadline for the winning bidder to sign the contract will be 10 (ten) business days after the SP/OTCA's notification of the proposal selection.

6. Duration of Contract

The contract to be signed will be valid for up to 15 months after the signing of the contract (model contract in Annex 2).

7. Terms of payment

Payments due for services rendered by the contracted entity/company will be made as specified in the technical qualification documents according to the payment schedule as expressed in the TORs.

8. Cancellation of the bidding process

The bidding process may be declared void in the following cases:

- Fewer than 3 (three) proposals have been received;
- No bidder has been qualified;
- There is evidence of bids with prices well below market prices or discounts well above those practiced in the market.

In case of cancellation of the process, the SP/OTCA will inform the bidders without the need to justify the reasons. Bidders shall not be entitled to any compensation.

In the event of termination of the corresponding contract, the contracted company will only receive payment for services actually rendered to the SP/OTCA.

PROJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM OF STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO GUARANTEE THE INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES IN THE AMAZON RIVER BASIN, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONTRACTING OF A CONSULTING FIRM/INSTITUTION TO CONSOLIDATE AND IMPLEMENT THE INTEGRATED MONITORING SYSTEM FOR WATER RESOURCES IN THE AMAZON REGION.

Funding Agency: Global Environment Facility (GEF)
Executing agency: United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
Executing agency: Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)
Project duration: 5 years



Brasilia, 2026

1. BACKGROUND

The Amazon Basin faces numerous challenges for integrated water resources management (IWRM), especially transboundary resources, in the context of its socioeconomic development and in the face of anthropogenic and climatic impacts. The basin constitutes a unique hydrological system that extends beyond the national borders of eight countries - Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela - which consider the need to establish a regional framework for IWRM and thus meet the needs of the population and promote the sustainable development of the Amazon region.

The eight countries of the basin signed the Amazon Cooperation Treaty in 1978 and subsequently created the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) as a regional forum for political dialogue and regional cooperation, institutionally strengthening the process of cooperation, coordination and joint actions of the Member Countries to promote the sustainable development of the Amazon.

The main functions and attributions of ACTO, with its Permanent Secretariat (PS/ACTO), are to facilitate exchange, knowledge, cooperation and joint outreach among member countries (MC) to fulfill the mandates of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. In this way, it seeks to generate consensus among Member Countries to enable the implementation of activities, programs and projects, establishing spaces for political and technical dialogue between these and other actions of regional relevance.

In this context and within its framework for action on water resources, ACTO has been implementing the Project *for the Implementation of the Strategic Actions Program to Ensure the Integrated and Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources in the Amazon River Basin, Taking into Account Climate Variability and Change*, which is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) as executing agency and the PS/ACTO as executing agency.

The main objective of this project is to advance the implementation of the Strategic Actions Program (SAP), promoting Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The regional initiative promoted previous agreements between Amazonian countries that resulted in a shared vision and a common strategy to implement IWRM contained in the SAP. In this context, the project seeks to support countries to strengthen national capacity and regional governance for IWRM, as well as increase adaptive capacity to climate change and ensure robust regional data to improve decision making and coordination on the water resources of the Amazon River, from the Andes to the delta in the Atlantic, for a healthier Amazon ecosystem.

Project activities are expected to benefit more than 7.8 million people, corresponding to 20% of the basin's population (ACTO and UNEP, 2020).

The project is implemented in four components:

- 1) *Innovative community-government governance model of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Amazon Basin;*
- 2) *Strengthening community resilience and protection of aquatic ecosystems to cope with the effects of climate variability and change in the Amazon Basin;*

- 3) *Integrated environmental monitoring and reporting based on responses to indicators of relevant international conventions and agreements.*
- 4) *Comprehensive model for monitoring, evaluating and communicating progress in the overall implementation of the Amazon Basin SAP.*

While project components 1 and 4 are cross-cutting and provide an enabling and catalytic political, institutional and social environment for SAP implementation, the interrelated components 2 and 3 form the basis for SAP implementation, with basin-wide interventions and providing comprehensive monitoring data that directly feed and support the two cross-cutting components.

Component 3 focuses on the consolidation of an integrated environmental monitoring and reporting system based on the response to the indicators of relevant international conventions and agreements. This will be the fundamental tool to assess the status and dynamics in time and space of the basin's water resources and associated environmental services. The monitoring will also provide information to understand trends in current and future changes and dynamics through statistical models and will provide early warnings of threats, evidence of changes and information, for sustainable and efficient management oriented to the concepts and principles of water security in the region.

This consultancy, included in Component 3 of the Amazon Basin Project - Implementation of the ACTO Strategic Action Program, seeks to consolidate actions within the scope of the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA) for the construction of an Integrated Regional Platform oriented to the Integrated Management of Water Resources in the Amazon Basin. In this context, following a theoretical framework, it is necessary to involve different operational monitoring systems, compatible and articulated with agreed protocols for their operation throughout the basin, in order to allow ACTO member countries to have data for decision-making. In this way, the aim is to deepen south-south cooperation and integrated environmental monitoring at the basin level. To this end, this cooperation is based on international agreements and conventions, as well as on production indicators relevant to the issues to be discussed.

2. Context and scope of the consultancy execution

Currently, there are several institutions and organizations, as well as different sources of information, engaged in the collection of hydrological and environmental data, as well as other knowledge systems related to water resources management in the Amazon Basin that can be a potential source of information to feed monitoring systems within the scope of ACTO. However, when using information from different sources and for the information generated to have technical and scientific rigor, there are two essential elements: a) Procedures for information management and integration (protocols agreed upon in minimum and internationally accepted standards) that ensure the necessary robustness throughout the data and its comparison; and b) Transparency in the generation of data and protocols used. Both elements are fundamental for the different actors and users involved in the systems (producers and users of data and information), especially when monitoring is oriented to the articulation of science and decision making in processes and changes that occur at global, continental, regional and even local levels.

In this sense, and in the context of the participatory Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and the development of the Strategic Action Program (SAP), ACTO member countries identified as a priority the need to promote and consolidate: a) A regional system for monitoring and surveillance of water resources focused on the consolidation of two monitoring networks: the Amazon

Hydrometeorological Network (RHA) and a Water Quality Network (RCA), as well as the development of a program to monitor the processes of water erosion, sediment transport and sedimentation (ETS); and b) Build an Integrated Water Resources Information System.

Effective systems require the involvement, participation and commitment of public, private and civil society entities to promote research, information flow and knowledge generation for water resources management in transboundary basins. Thus, within the framework of the SAP and its implementation, the MCs also agreed to develop, based on their own technical-operational realities, protocols, procedures, techniques and agreements for the exchange of information related to monitoring and surveillance systems aimed at the implementation and application of the Integrated Information System for Water Resources Management in the Amazon Basin.

2.1. Progress in regional monitoring of water resources in the Amazon Basin

The countries of the Amazon Basin have made significant progress in environmental monitoring, including the implementation of ACTO's Regional Observatory of the Amazon (ORA) and the results of the Amazon Project: Regional Action in the Area of Water Resources (ANA-ABC-ACTO). There are also data from other initiatives, such as those of the Amazon Basin Water Resources Observation Service (SO-HYBAM; www.hybam.org) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Global Hydrological Cycle Observing System (WHYCOS) project.

Although advances have been made in the field of water resources that provide information with a significant impact on the environmental health of the basin, until now there was no operational integrated regional system. In this sense, ACTO, within the framework of the implementation of the SAP, has worked on the coordination and consolidation of the implementation of an integrated regional monitoring system based on existing initiatives that have achieved substantial progress. In this context, the following initiatives are worth mentioning:

Amazonas Project 2.1.1.

The Amazonas Project: Regional Action in the Area of Water Resources, in operation since 2012, is an initiative of the Brazilian National Water and Basic Sanitation Agency (ANA/Brazil), the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the Department of South America (DAS) of the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO). It carries out technical cooperation actions aimed at strengthening the institutions responsible for water management in ACTO member countries. Develops technical cooperation among Amazonian countries to support integrated water resources management, especially with regard to:

- (a) Networking of regional monitoring systems and their protocols for hydrometric and water quality monitoring of the Amazon Basin;
- b) Development of the Water Resources module in the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA) of ACTO, to provide tabular and documented information on the status of the water situation in the basin;
- c) Development of the Amazon Networks module, which provides real-time hydrometric information; and
- d) Creation of the Water Resources Situation Room in the ACTO, as part of the ORA, with the preparation of a proposal for an operational manual defining its functions and scope so that it can be subsequently implemented in the MC/ACTO.

2.1.2. Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA)

The Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA), inaugurated in October 2021, is a Regional Reference Center of Information on the Amazon that promotes the flow and exchange of information between institutions, government authorities, the scientific community, academia and civil society of the Member Countries/ACTO. The ORA is supported by an IT structure, accessed through a web portal equipped with a modular architecture that allows the acquisition, storage and publication of information on the various topics established by the ACT and updated in the Declaration of Belém (2023).

The ORA information comes from MC/ACTO governmental entities and also from external sources, regional and international organizations, which enjoy a high level of recognition for their performance in the Amazon Region.

2.1.3. The PRI-GRH conceptual framework

The proposed macro-process for IWRM and PRI-IWRM consists of seven processes, as well as a set of outputs to be generated at a unified regional scale. The seven processes are:

- 1) Laboratory intercalibration process monitoring;
- 2) Water quality monitoring process;
- 3) Water quantity monitoring process;
- 4) ETS monitoring process follow-up;
- 5) Regional data and information management process;
- 6) Follow-up of the pilot project intervention process; and
- 7) Education, communication and social participation process.

These processes will be carried out under the supervision of a Technical Follow-up Group composed of technical members designated by the MC/ACTO, as well as members of ACTO's own technical staff.

The PRI-IWRM products are technically important to provide the necessary support for decision making. They are based on three pillars:

- 1) Calculations of specific balances and indices;
- 2) Operationalization of the monitoring system (ORA), and
- 3) Training meetings and exchange of data and information.

The results of these pillars will be incorporated into the products of subsequent activities, i.e., the process of preparing the Regional Models and Scenarios Report. In addition, the intervention pilot projects will serve, with their products, to support prospects for new implementations and/or investments in actions that are consistent with regional demands or that aim to address the specificities of the areas considered as priorities, both geographically and thematically.

Basically, what is needed is a set of nine (9) reports at the end of each cycle of the process, as follows:

- 1) Laboratory validation and certification report;

- 2) Variability and mass balance (QA) report;
- 3) Releases vs. Releases Reports Demand and reference values for P (rainfall) and Q (flow);
- 4) ETS (erosion, sediment transport and deposition) reports with in situ and satellite data, as well as the appropriate QS (solid discharge) calculation;
- 5) Reports on data processed (received, processed and made available), as well as accesses made to the data by users;
- 6) Report on the performance of monitoring operations (situation rooms);
- 7) PRI/IWRM diagnostic reports (indices) based on seminar/training compilations, as well as on existing socio-economic demands;
- 8) Pilot project status reports; and finally,
- 9) IWRM reports using TWAP and/or SDG 6 indices.

Each of these reports should take into account an approach presenting a diagnosis of the current situation, an analysis of the situation in relation to the reference operational protocols or a reference time horizon, an indication of the rate of progress according to quantifiable targets, a list of areas for improvement to be proposed so that new targets can be proposed within the framework of the same indicators assessed, which are likely to be achieved.

The PRI/IWRM should not be presented as a computer platform and not as a data accumulator, but as a regional mechanism for evaluation and knowledge production based on a collaborative architecture. It is important to clarify that the TWAP methodology for watersheds is not limited to accumulating data; its purpose is to build a comparable assessment based on indicators, organized by clusters, with methodological structure, aggregation of national data to the regional level, scoring systems and analytical reports. The approach used in the TWAP methodology is "indicator based", which seeks to produce databases, maps, comparative tables and assessment reports, and that the selection of indicators is based on a Pressure State type framework applied to water quantity, water quality, ecosystems, governance and socioeconomics.



Figure 2. PIGRH organization chart with emphasis on decision support products and grants.

3. Objectives of the consultancy

Operationalize and consolidate ACTO's Integrated Regional Information Platform on Integrated Water Resources Management (PRI/IWRM) supported by water quality and quantity monitoring networks, aimed at generating regional products under the TWAP methodology, assessing the environmental status and transboundary water resources of the Amazon basin in the framework of SDG 6 indicators.

3.1. Specific Objectives

Specific Objective 1. Design and operationalize the methodological and operational framework of the PRI/IWRM for the production of TWAP indicators, through the integral definition of the methodological, operational and institutional architecture of its processes, based on a regional diagnosis built from the technical inputs of the Amazon Project and the specialized information provided by the national consultants.

Specific Objective 2. Consolidate, with the participation of the Regional Monitoring Group, the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network in the Amazon Basin as a basis for the generation of TWAP indicators related to water quality, through an operational network covering at least 12 main tributaries (with physical stations and satellite support), the annual measurement of up to 10 harmonized water quality parameters, the execution of intercalibration exercises in national laboratories and the systematic application of regional protocols in force for sampling, analysis and exchange of information.

Specific Objective 3. Fully operationalize, with the participation of the Regional Monitoring Group, the Regional Hydrometeorological Monitoring Network of the Amazon Basin as a basis for the generation of TWAP indicators related to water quantity, through the consolidation of a regional network of at least 70 hydrometeorological stations in at least 4 member countries, the harmonization of data transmission procedures, the consolidation of information flows and the application of regional protocols for the monitoring and exchange of hydrological information.

Specific Objective 4. Integrate and operationalize, within the framework of the PRI/IWRM and with the ORA as a regional means for the reception, organization, processing, analysis and availability of data and information generated by the regional water quality and quantity monitoring networks, so that the Regional Monitoring Group, through collaborative processes that consolidate and aggregate information at the basin scale, generate products based on TWAP indicators (including indices, comparative analysis and the regional environmental status report) and SDG 6, strengthen its technical capacities and ensure the operational continuity of the monitoring system, the assessment of water resources in the Amazon Basin and the operation of the platform.

3.2. Activities and products by objectives.

3.2.1. Reference activities to achieve specific objective 1 (operational sequence). *Design and operationalize the methodological and operational framework of the IP/IWRM.*

1. Carry out the technical translation of the PRI-IWRM Conceptual Framework into a set of verifiable operational requirements for each of its macro-processes and integral processes,

identifying the technical, operational, programmatic and methodological requirements necessary for the Platform's regional operation.

2. Propose and define the scales of analysis and their aggregation mechanisms (it is recommended to use the scale of the Water Quality Panorama study) considering the requirements for regional analysis, information comparability and application of TWAP indicators.
3. Integrate as an initial reference the information from the interim and final reports of the Amazon Phase I and II Project, the progress of the ORA and the results of the Amazon Basin Project, incorporating them in the definition of the technical, operational, programmatic and methodological requirements of the macro-processes and processes for the regional operation of the Platform.
4. Develop an initial methodological approach and the necessary information requirements for the application of the TWAP index metrics, evaluating the current availability of data, its consistency, comparability and spatial coverage in the Amazon Basin.
5. To continue feeding the diagnosis and the operational part of the platform based on the information generated by the national consultants.
6. Update the regional diagnosis through a gap analysis matrix classified by technical, methodological, institutional, technological, regulatory and financial dimensions, evaluating the current scope of the system, the regional products that can be generated and the capacity to execute the reports foreseen in each operational cycle of the PRI-IWRM.
7. Consolidate the above results in a strategic situational diagnosis that describes the actual state of regional preparedness for the implementation of the PRI-IWRM Conceptual Framework, identifying priorities for adjustment, minimum conditions for the operational phase and strategic recommendations for its implementation.
8. Based on the analysis carried out, develop the methodological proposal for the application of TWAP indicators in the Amazon Basin, including the definition of minimum required variables, calculation procedures, aggregation methods at the basin scale, updating periodicity and technical validation mechanisms.
9. Define the regional TWAP indicator system applicable to the Amazon Basin, including the selection of relevant indicators, the standardization and aggregation methods, the calculation structure based on the Pressure State Response /TWAP approach and the generation of comparable regional analytical products.
10. Design the data and information integration architecture between national monitoring systems, ORA and PRI-IWRM, defining data structures, exchange protocols, information ingestion mechanisms and analytical requirements for the generation of regional products.
11. Propose an annotated index and methodological structure for the regional report on the environmental status of water resources (quantity and quality) in the Amazon Basin, including contents, indicators, technical validation mechanisms, regional review processes and periodicity of publication. This activity with full participation of the Regional Monitoring Group.
12. Prepare the routine plan and operational responsibility of the Regional Monitoring Group and the PS/ACTO for the operation of the PRI-IWRM, including operational schedule, technical responsibilities, capacity building needs, periodic review mechanisms and alignment with the reporting cycles and institutional sustainability of the system.

Deliverables 1.

1) **Proposed document *in extenso* detailing methodologically and operationally the IWRP/IWRM elaborated under an updated regional diagnosis.** This document should contain:

- The definition of the scales of analysis and territorial aggregation (basin, sub-basin, micro-basin, administrative units or other relevant ones). As an input, this product should integrate relevant information from the Amazonas Phase I and II Project, the progress of the ORA and other relevant information.
- Comparative diagnosis of the water quality and quantity information systems operating in the MPs. This diagnosis should incorporate governance, regulatory, technical, methodological and technological aspects.
- Based on the diagnosis of the quality and quantity information systems, propose the IT architecture for integration between the national databases and the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA) (through API or Web Service). This architecture will be discussed through technical tables of database interoperability led by the Regional Monitoring Group.
- A regional gap analysis matrix classified by technical, methodological, institutional, technological, regulatory and financial dimensions, evaluating the current state of regional preparedness for the implementation of the Platform and the capacity to generate regional products.
- A methodological proposal that identifies the regional system of TWAP indicators applicable to the Amazon Basin and the SDG6, including the selection of relevant indicators, minimum required variables and their demand for data and information (national and satellite), calculation procedures/metrics, standardization and aggregation methods according to defined scale, updating periodicity and technical validation mechanisms.
- In addition, include substantiated recommendations on the use of analytical tools for data and information processing and the generation of regional products based on TWAP indicators.
- Operational plan for the ERP/IWRM that establishes the technical routines and responsibilities of the Regional Monitoring Group and the SP/OTCA. The plan will also include the methodology for the preparation of the regional report on the environmental status of water resources in the Amazon Basin.

3.2.2. Reference activities to achieve specific objective 2. *Consolidate the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network as a basis for the generation of TWAP indicators.*

- 1) Applying the PRI/IWRM operational plan, hold a first virtual meeting with the Regional Monitoring Group to agree on the regional products to be generated from the water quality monitoring system, consistent with the TWAP methodology and the IP/IWRM environmental reporting scheme.
- 2) Facilitate discussion with the Regional Monitoring Group to identify the TWAP indicators to be used in water quality that will be applicable, considering the availability of regional data and information available in the MPs and comparability between countries. The discussion in these activities should be focused on the consolidation of the Regional Information Network.
- 3) Define the variables and physicochemical and biological parameters necessary for the construction of TWAP water quality indicators, ensuring consistency with existing regional protocols.
- 4) Analyze, together with the Regional Monitoring Group, the current availability of data in the national water quality monitoring networks, in order to determine the level of coverage of the required parameters and the existing information gaps.

- 5) Define, based on the selected indicators and data availability, the configuration of the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network, identifying priority stations in at least twelve main tributaries of the Amazon Basin and considering physical stations and satellite support.
- 6) Establish the harmonized set of water quality parameters to be measured in the regional network, defining up to ten priority parameters compatible with existing regional protocols and necessary for the generation of TWAP indicators.
- 7) Organize and facilitate data interoperability technical tables and structure the data generated by the national water quality monitoring networks according to the database structures defined for the ERP/IWRM, for their subsequent integration into the regional ORA databases and their use in the generation of regional products based on TWAP indicators.
- 8) Coordinate database interoperability activities with GEODATIN.
- 9) Organize and carry out a regional intercalibration exercise among national laboratories, with the participation of the Metrology Institutes and national accredited laboratories. This event should include the comparative analysis of technical standards, their harmonization and the performance of a joint practical test.
- 10) To elaborate a proposal of technical specifications for the acquisition of multiparametric water quality equipment that will allow strengthening the comparability of measurements in the regional network.

Objective 2 products.

1. **A technical document of regional products and TWAP and ODS 6 indicators related to water quality agreed by the Regional Group and applicable to the Amazon Basin.** This document should include:
 - Set of water quality parameters to be measured in the regional network, defining at least ten priority parameters with existing regional protocols and necessary for the generation of TWAP indicator products.
 - A technical report agreed by the Regional Monitoring Group on the availability and permissibility of data from national water quality monitoring networks to be shared with the ORA, identifying the coverage of required parameters, existing data gaps and conditions necessary for the generation of comparable regional indicators.
 - Agreements or other instruments to support the transfer of databases according to the needs of each country.
 - A regional water quality database organized and structured according to the database structures defined for the PRI/IWRM, consolidating the information generated by the national monitoring networks, satellite information and allowing its integration in the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA) for regional analysis and the generation of products based on TWAP indicators.
2. **Operation of the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network resulting from the database interoperability technical tables.** This document should include:
 - Based on the status of the information systems and database interoperability technical tables, prepare the configuration/architecture of the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network in the Amazon Basin developed and validated by the Regional Monitoring Group.
 - Data collection points should cover at least twelve main tributaries, considering physical stations and satellite data and defining their contribution to the generation of comparable regional data.

- Agreements or other instruments that formally support the interoperability of databases and data transmission according to the needs of each country (linked to product 2).
- Report on data transmission to ORA from at least 4 MPs.

3. Regional technical guideline (protocol) for the intercalibration of water quality laboratories.

This product should contain:

- An indicative regional technical guide (protocol) **for** intercalibration between national laboratories developed based on a comparative analysis of national technical standards. This regional technical guideline should be presented to the group and adopted in a regional intercalibration exercise.
- The organization, conduct and outcome of a regional intercalibration exercise between national laboratories. The results of the practical test should be performed with the participation of Metrology Institutes and accredited laboratories in the PM.
- Technical specifications for the acquisition of multi-parametric water quality equipment compatible with national standards, aimed at guaranteeing the comparability of measurements in the regional monitoring network.

3.2.3. Reference activities to achieve specific objective 3. *Consolidate the Regional Water Quantity Monitoring Network as a basis for the generation of TWAP indicators.*

- 1) As part of the PRI/IWRM operational plan, work with the Regional Monitoring Group to define the regional products associated with water quantity monitoring that will be generated from the hydrometeorological network, consistent with the TWAP methodology and the IRP/IWRM environmental reporting scheme.
- 2) Identify and select, within the framework of the Regional Monitoring Group, the TWAP and SDG 6 indicators related to water quantity that will be applicable to the Amazon Basin, considering the availability of regional hydro-meteorological data and information and comparability between countries, including satellite information.
- 3) Define the hydrological and hydrometeorological variables necessary for the calculation of TWAP and ODS 6 indicators related to water quantity, including variables such as flow, precipitation, river level and other relevant variables for the regional assessment of the hydrological regime.
- 4) Analyze, together with the Regional Monitoring Group, the current availability of hydrometeorological data in the national monitoring networks to determine the level of coverage of the required variables and the existing information gaps.
- 5) Define, based on the selected indicators and data availability, the configuration of the Regional Hydrometeorological Monitoring Network of the Amazon Basin, identifying priority stations that will make up the regional network and ensuring a minimum coverage of at least seventy hydrometeorological stations.
- 6) Coordinate database interoperability activities with GEODATIN.
- 7) Harmonize hydrometeorological observation variables and procedures.
- 8) Establish the set of hydrometeorological variables to be monitored in the regional network, as well as the observation and data recording procedures, ensuring compatibility with existing national protocols.
- 9) Evaluate with the regional group the adoption of one/several analytical tools to support the analysis of national data and information.

- 10) As part of the process of the Database Interoperability Technical Tables, organize and structure the data generated by the national hydrometeorological networks according to the database structures defined for the IP/IWRM, ensuring their consistency and regional comparability. Also integrate the hydrometeorological data generated by the national networks into the regional databases of the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA), ensuring their availability for regional and PM analysis and the generation of products based on TWAP indicators.
- 11) Prepare, together with national consultants, a plan to strengthen the PM monitoring rooms.
- 12) Organize and carry out at least two training courses for institutions responsible for hydrometeorological monitoring in the Amazon Basin countries, aimed at strengthening technical capacities for station operation, data management and the use of analytical tools for regional analysis.

Objective 3 products.

1. **A document of regional products and TWAP and SDG 6 water quantity indicators agreed by the Regional Group and applicable to the Amazon Basin.** This document should include:
 - A technical document agreed with the Regional Monitoring Group defining the regional products associated with water quantity monitoring in the Amazon Basin, as well as the applicable TWAP and SDG 6 indicators, including the hydrological and hydrometeorological variables needed for their calculation and their contribution to the regional analysis of the state of water resources.
 - Agreements or other instruments that support the transfer of databases according to the needs of each country.
 - A technical report prepared with the Regional Monitoring Group that analyzes the availability and permissibility of hydrometeorological data in the national monitoring networks that will be shared with the ORA. This analysis should identify the coverage of variables required for TWAP indicators, existing information gaps and priorities for the consolidation of the regional network.
2. **Consolidation of the Regional Hydrometeorological Monitoring Network resulting from the database interoperability technical tables.** This document should include:
 - Based on the status of the information systems and the database interoperability technical tables prepare the configuration/architecture that establishes the configuration of the Regional Hydrometeorological Monitoring Network of the Amazon Basin, identifying priority stations that will make up the regional network and ensuring a minimum coverage of at least seventy hydrometeorological stations distributed in the 4 PM basin.
 - Prepare and make available a regional hydrometeorological database organized and structured with the Regional Monitoring Group, consolidating the information generated by the national networks and allowing its integration into the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA).
 - Agreements or other instruments that support the transfer of databases according to the needs of each country.
 - Report on the transmission of data in the ORA of at least 4 MPs.
 - Report on the strengthening of situation/monitoring rooms in at least 4 MPs.
3. **Regional capacity building program for the implementation of the Protocols.**

3.2.3. Reference activities to achieve specific objective 4. *Integrate and operationalize, within the framework of the IP/IWRM, generate products based on TWAP indicators.*

1. Consolidate, within the framework of the IRP/IWRM and according to the integration architecture defined in Objective 1, the data from the regional water quality and quantity monitoring networks, ensuring their organization and availability in the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA).
2. Conduct technical sessions of the Regional Monitoring Group to review and validate the consistency, coverage and comparability of regional data integrated in ORA.
3. Apply the TWAP methodology for the calculation of regional indicators related to water quality and quantity in the Amazon Basin, using the data generated by the monitoring networks and the variables defined in Objectives 2 and 3.
4. Develop the processes of regional aggregation of indicators at the defined scales, generating comparable regional indices and metrics that allow the assessment of the state of transboundary water resources.
5. Apply the Pressure-State-Response analytical framework (PER/DPSIR) to interpret the calculated indicators and analyze the pressures on water resources, the state of the hydrological system and the existing institutional and management responses in the Amazon region.
6. Develop comparative regional analyses to assess trends, identify regional patterns and understand hydrological and water quality dynamics in the Amazon basin.
7. Prepare the regional report on the environmental status of water resources in the Amazon Basin, based on TWAP indicators, regional comparative analyses and the PER/DPSIR analytical framework.
8. Prepare the regional report according to SDG 6.
9. Present the results to the Regional Monitoring Group for technical review, methodological validation and consolidation as regional PRI/IWRM products.
10. Publish the regional products generated under the PRI/IWRM framework in the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA), ensuring their availability to regional stakeholders and their use in decision-making processes and water resources management.

Objective 4 products.

- 1) **Regional system of TWAP and SDG6 indicators and indices. This product should include:**
 - Consolidated regional database from water quality monitoring and hydrometeorological monitoring networks, organized according to the IP/IWRM database integration architecture and available in the ORA for regional analysis.
 - Technical document describing the methodology applied for the calculation of TWAP water quality and quantity indicators and SDG 6.
 - Structured set of regional indicators and indices calculated for the Amazon Basin to assess the status of transboundary water resources and facilitate regional comparison.
 - 2) **Regional report on the environmental status of water resources in the Amazon Basin based on the PER/DPSIR analysis.** This document should include:
 - Update on the status of water quality in the Amazon region.
 - Status of water quantity in the Amazon region.
 - 3) **Police Brief for decision makers submitted to RADA (layout document for publication in Spanish and English).**
 - 4) **Story Maps for publication and availability of regional products in PRI/IWRM.**
 - 5) **Platform Sustainability Plan.**
- 4. Timetable for the presentation of products and terms of payment**

Payments will be made according to the delivery of the products with the validation of the project coordination and will correspond to a percentage of the total value of USD 120,000 USD according to the following table, which presents the products, the percentages corresponding to each one and the month of the period of execution of the contract from the signature of the contract.

#	Products to be delivered	% of the value of the product to be delivered	Deadline
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed work plan 	10%	15 days
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed document <i>in extenso</i> detailing methodologically and operationally the ERP/IWRM elaborated under an updated regional diagnosis. 	25%	Month 3
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A technical document of regional products and TWAP and SDG 6 indicators related to water quality agreed upon by the Regional Group and applicable to the Amazon Basin. Operation of the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network as a result of the database interoperability technical roundtables. Regional technical guideline (protocol) for intercalibration of water quality laboratories 	20%	Month 8
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A document of regional products and TWAP and SDG 6 water quantity indicators agreed by the Regional Group and applicable to the Amazon Basin. Consolidation of the Regional Hydrometeorological Monitoring Network as a result of the database interoperability technical roundtables. 	20%	Month 12
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional system of TWAP and ODS6 indicators and indices. Regional report on the environmental status of water resources in the Amazon Basin based on the PER/DPSIR analysis. Police Brief for decision makers submitted to RADA (layout document for publication in English and Spanish). Story Maps for publication and availability of regional products in PRI/GIRH. Platform Sustainability Plan. 	25%	Month 15

Note: The products will be delivered following the format found in the single Annex of the TORs.

5. Proposal Submission, Qualifications, Requirements and Professional Experience

The candidate consulting firms must submit a proposal with the scope of the activities to be developed and the methodological framework in accordance with the objectives, activities and products presented in this RFP, including specific procedures and strategies for the implementation of the most relevant activities, as well as proposing complementary activities, if applicable.

The technical proposal shall be presented in a maximum of ten pages in A4 format and may be complemented with annexes using graphic elements, tables and others, in a maximum of five pages.

The technical capacity of the consulting firm will be evaluated in relation to the understanding of the subject matter of the consultancy, there being an obligation between the link between the technical proposal and what will be developed in the consultancy work.

The financial proposal will be evaluated based on the lowest price considered the limit of the existing budget in the SP/OTCA for the consulting activity. The price proposal (Fm) evaluated as the lowest will receive the maximum financial score (Sf) of 100 (i.e. 10%). The formula for determining the financial score (Fp) for all proposals is as follows:

$$Sf = 100 \times Fm / F$$

where "Sf" is the financial score, "Fm" is the lowest price and "F" is the price of the proposal under consideration.

5.1. Qualifications

Scoring will be done according to the criteria in the following table

Rating	Percentage (%) assigned in the evaluation
General profile of the company and technical team	10
Specific profile of the technical team	50
Technical proposal	20
Financial proposal	20

6.2. Requirements

The requirements adopted for evaluation, classification and elimination are those indicated in the table below. The SP/OTCA applies a zero tolerance policy to all forms of harassment and is committed to promoting gender equality, valuing with special interest and in a positive manner the possible female candidates to be part of the team of this consultancy. The same criterion applies to people with disabilities, who are encouraged to apply.

NO.	Criterion (Yes/No)
1	The company must be registered in your country in order to be able to perform the specific consultancy work.
2	At least three (3) works performed by the company in the last ten (10) years, related to the subject matter of the consultancy. years, related to the subject matter of the consultancy.
3	The experience of the professionals of the company's technical team must be at least 10 years for the coordinator and at least 5 years for the specialists, and must be in areas related to the thematic object of the consultancy. All professionals involved must have a university degree. The coordinator must have at least a master's degree in a related area.

4	Technical team composed of a minimum of four (4) requested professionals (being a specialist in information systems, programming language and experience in database interoperability) and one (1) support professional. The professionals must demonstrate training and experience in the areas relevant to the object of the consultancy. It is desirable that the professionals of the work team have a master's degree and/or a doctorate in areas related to the subject matter of the consultancy.
5	Of the professionals on the team, the coordinator and two specialists must have knowledge of at least two official languages of ACTO.
6	Submit the company's résumé, the team's individual résumés, the technical offer and the financial offer.
7	Qualification of companies from Member Countries: NIT; RIF; RUC - issued by official agencies; corporate contract, amendments and appointments of administrators and legal representatives, at the chamber of commerce with jurisdiction in the domicile of the respective company.

6.3. Professional experience of the company

Weights will be assigned to some of the criteria with points to define the ranking of the participants and will be distributed as follows:

- Company experience: Experience in the elaboration and implementation of technical works, production of reports, bulletins and studies related to the subject of the consultancy. Maximum score of 10 points (0.5 points for each test).
- Experience in work carried out in the Amazon region. Maximum score of 3 points (1 point for each test).
- It is desirable that the consultant has proven experience in international technical cooperation projects. Maximum score of 1 point if yes.
- Team experience (up to 10 points): Consideration will be given to the professional background of the team with a high level of specialization (Master's degree: 2 points; Ph.D.: 4 points) and experience in the type of work requested (1 point for each experience).
- Experience in the preparation of reports, bulletins and studies related to water resources.
- Experience in the preparation of reports and bulletins related to water quality management.

6. Duration of the contract

The consulting firm will sign a contract with SP/OTCA for a period of 18 months, extendable for another 6 months, without financial addition.

8. Supervision and Follow-up

Supervision of the consultancy will be carried out by the Senior Monitoring Specialist and the Regional Coordination Unit of the project. Deliverables must be submitted to the SP/OTCA. The products delivered by the consulting firm within the deadlines mentioned in point 7 will be subject to review by the supervision of the above mentioned instances, within a period of no more than fifteen days after receipt. Subsequently, the general and specific comments shall be forwarded to the consulting firm for any necessary adjustments. These revisions shall be sent again to the aforementioned agencies for

approval. The Contracting Party, through specially designated technicians, will monitor, supervise and control the work carried out by the contracted professional, and must receive any proposals for modification of the planning, for analysis and decision, at least twenty days in advance.