

## **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**

### **PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF VOCATIONAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE (VCEs), TEACHING SPACES (MINI-SKILLS LABORATORIES) and HOSTELS.**

SolidarMed Zambia is a Swiss non-profit organization registered in Zambia and operating in close collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Zambia, particularly the Ministries responsible for health and education, as well as public infrastructure and local authorities. The organization's mandate is to strengthen health systems and improve equitable access to quality, cost-effective healthcare services, with a strong focus on rural and underserved communities.

One of the critical challenges affecting healthcare delivery in Zambia is the shortage and unequal distribution of adequately trained health professionals, especially in rural areas. In response, SolidarMed Zambia implements targeted interventions aimed at strengthening human resources for health through improved training infrastructure, clinical education systems, and institutional capacity building, in alignment with national health strategies.

As part of this support, SolidarMed Zambia is implementing the proposed construction of **Vocational Centres of Excellence (VCEs), Teaching spaces (Mini-Skills Laboratories) and Hostels** to enhance decentralized, practice-oriented pre-service and in-service training for doctors, nurses, midwives, clinical officers, and medical licentiates. In this context, SolidarMed Zambia invites **Expressions of Interest (EOIs)** from eligible and experienced construction contractors. This EOI constitutes the **first stage of a competitive procurement process**, after which suitably qualified contractors will be shortlisted for subsequent tendering stages.

#### **1. Project Description**

The proposed works involve the construction of **Vocational Centres of Excellence, Teaching spaces (Mini-Skills Laboratories) and Hostels** at selected sites in Zambia (Southern, Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern, Muchinga, Northwestern and Eastern Provinces), integrated within existing public health institutions. The facilities are intended to provide modern, fit-for-purpose training environments that strengthen clinical education and contribute to the long-term availability, quality, and retention of skilled healthcare workers.

#### **2. Scope of the Proposed Works**

The scope of works is expected to include, but is not limited to:

- Construction of Hostels, teaching and training workshops.
- Administration and lecture facilities.
- Ancillary buildings and external works.
- Electrical installations, including solar backup power systems.
- Mechanical, water, waste reticulation, and plumbing installations.

- Associated civil, structural, and finishing works.
- Furnishing of hostels.

### **3. Eligibility Requirements**

- Interested contractors **must meet the minimum requirements** outlined below. Failure to meet any of the requirements may result in disqualification.

#### **3.1 Contractor Grade**

- Contractors applying for **VCEs and Hostels** must be registered with the **National Council for Construction (NCC)** and hold a minimum of **Grade 3, Category B or C** or higher.
- Contractors applying for **Teaching Spaces (Skills Laboratories)** must hold **NCC Grade 3 or 4, Category B or C** or higher.
- Experience in rural infrastructure projects will be an added advantage.

#### **3.2 Financial Capacity**

- Demonstrated execution of works with a cumulative value exceeding **ZMW 3,000,000** in the last three (3) years for VCEs and Hostels.
- Demonstrated execution of works with a cumulative value exceeding **ZMW 600,000** in the last three (3) years for Skills Laboratories.
- Submission of **endorsed bank statements for the past six (6) months**.

#### **3.3 Statutory and Legal Compliance**

Contractors must submit valid and current copies of the following:

- **PACRA** Registration Certificate.
- **NCC** Registration Certificate.
- Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) **Tax Clearance Certificate**.
- **Workers' Compensation Fund Control Board** Certificate.
- **NAPSA** Compliance Certificate.

#### 4. Mandatory EOI Submission Requirements

- Interested contractors must submit the following information and documentation as part of their EOI:
- **Company Profile**, including legal status and ownership structure
  - **List of Major Contracts Completed** in the last three (3) years, clearly indicating:
    - Project name
    - Client/Employer
    - Contract value
    - Duration and completion status
  - **Three (3) References** from reputable organizations for similar works undertaken. References will be checked and verified by SolidarMed.
- **List of Available Construction Equipment**, owned or leased, relevant to the proposed works
- Demonstrated execution of **works with a cumulative value exceeding ZMW 3,000,000 (Three Million Kwacha)** for **Hostels and Skills** in the **last three (3) years**.
- Demonstrated execution of **works with a cumulative value exceeding ZMW 600,000 (Six Hundred Thousand Kwacha)** for **Hostels and Skills** in the **last three (3) years**.
- **Endorsed Bank Statements** for the last six (6) months
- **Letter of Litigation Status**, including disclosure of any past or ongoing litigation, arbitration, or disputes from a registered firm/Practitioner with the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) and Advocate of the High Court of Zambia.
- **Latest Audited Reports**
- **Power of Attorney** authorizing the signatory to commit the company
- Copies of all **statutory certificates** listed under Section 3.3

Contractors may submit an EOI for **one or more** selected categories, i.e. Skills Laboratories, VCEs and Hostels, in accordance with instructions provided in the full EOI document.

#### 5. Submission Method and Deadline

All Expressions of Interest must be submitted electronically via:

##### 5.1 Submission Deadline:

**Friday, 6th February 2026 at 17:00 hours (CAT), Zambia**

Late submissions will not be considered.

#### 6. Reservation of Rights

The Client, in accordance with **procurement regulations**, reserves the right to:

- Accept or reject any Expression of Interest without assigning reasons
- Annul the procurement process at any stage without incurring liability
- Verify, validate, and independently confirm information provided by applicants
- Shortlist contractors strictly in accordance with the published eligibility and evaluation criteria

## **7. Enquiries**

All enquiries related to this Expression of Interest must be submitted in writing to the address provided in the official notice.

procurement.zambia@solidarmed.ch

The email subject line must clearly indicate the site applied for, for example:

- “Expressions of Interest – Proposed construction Vocational Centres of Excellence (VCE)”
- “Expressions of Interest – Proposed construction of Teaching Spaces (Mini-Skills Labs)”
- “Expressions of Interest – Proposed construction of Hostels”

Feedback will be provided to all vendors or contractors who reach the final stage of procurement, whether successful or not.

## **8. Additional Information**

- No site visits will be conducted at the EOI stage.
- Winning vendors shall promote gender inclusion by engaging female constructors, consultants, and trade apprentices.
- SolidarMed Zambia does not charge any fees for submission of EOIs.
- Only shortlisted contractors will be invited to the next stage of the procurement process.
- Experience with SolidarMed projects and positive references will be an added advantage.