

Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Honor - Brotherhood - Justice

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty

**National Company for Rural Development
(SONADER)**



CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND VALORIZATION OF 8,043 HECTARES ON THE SOKAM MARIGOT IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

1. PROJECT CONTEXT

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania today offers an exceptionally favorable environment for investment, supported by recognized political stability, controlled inflation, and sustained economic growth. In this enabling environment, the Mauritanian Government, through the implementation of the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity (SCAPP), has launched a large-scale structural investment program in priority sectors — with agriculture at the forefront.

This strategic focus aims to:

- Achieve food self-sufficiency;
- Ensure the sustainable use of natural resources;
- Create lasting employment opportunities;
- Position Mauritania as an active contributor to regional and global food security.

Mauritania possesses considerable natural assets:

- Untapped arable land;
- Reliable and mobilizable water resources (particularly in the Senegal River Basin);
- A favorable year-round climate with abundant solar exposure;
- A strategic geographic location between North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa, with direct access to European and West African markets.

Additionally, the country benefits from:

- Over 700 km of Atlantic coastline;
- Two deep-water ports in Nouakchott and Ndiago;
- Expanding cross-border road networks;
- International air connectivity.

These assets are reinforced by an attractive regulatory framework. The Mauritanian Investment Code provides significant incentives to investors and dedicated administrative support for agro-industrial projects.

The economy rests on solid foundations: an open and liberalized system, a stable and convertible currency, private sector promotion as a key growth driver, and a competitive labor force. Together, these factors guarantee the feasibility and profitability of large-scale agricultural projects.

2. OVERVIEW OF THE SOKAM PROJECT

As part of its agricultural development policy, the Mauritanian Government is launching a new generation of structural projects designed to modernize the sector and strengthen its contribution to food sovereignty, economic growth, and job creation.

These projects follow an integrated approach that includes:

- Opening up large agricultural development zones;
- Introducing modern precision irrigation technologies;
- Establishing value chain infrastructure (cold chains, packaging and storage centers);
- Developing agro-processing units;
- Promoting public-private partnerships with a leading role for the private sector.

Among these initiatives is the Sokam Zone Development and Enhancement Project.

2.1 Project Location and Accessibility

The Sokam zone lies on both sides of the Sokam marigot a major distributary of the Senegal River stretching 34 km in length and capable of irrigating an estimated 14,000 hectares, of which 8,043 ha are the subject of this call.

This area is located in the western basin of Lake Rkiz, 200 km from Nouakchott, 100 km from Rosso, and about 150 km from the port of Ndiago. It is distinguished by the nature of its soil, considered among the most fertile in the world, thus offering particularly favorable conditions for intensive and sustainable agricultural development (see pedological study).

Access to the Sokam zone is possible via two paved national roads:

- From Tiguent (and Mederdra) to Rkiz in the north;
- From the Rosso–Boghé road serving Tékane in the south.

Several dirt tracks also provide access to and across the zone.

It is worth noting that the 33kV medium-voltage electrical grid is located less than 10 km from the project site.

2.2 Project Components

The project is divided into six (6) agricultural blocks, as follows:

Block	Pumping Station	Storage Structure	Area (ha)
1	SP1	R1	858
2	SP2	R2.1	367
3		R2.2	1,488
4	SP3	R3	1,825
5	SP4	R4.1	1,524
6		R4.2	1,981
Total			8,043

Water supply for the blocks will be provided from the Sokam marigot through pumping stations built and managed by the State. These stations will deliver 20,400 liters/second sufficient to meet the simultaneous water requirements (in volume and pressure) of all six blocks.

The State will guarantee water availability in return for a fee paid by the investor, calculated on the basis of the volume of water consumed, with incentive-based pricing.

The selected projects will benefit from the provisions of the Investment Code, particularly those related to the development hub. The land will be allocated under an agricultural emphyteutic lease.

3. PURPOSE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Government of Mauritania is issuing this call for proposals to select qualified economic operators specializing in agricultural production and/or agro-industrial processing, with proven knowledge of international distribution and marketing networks.

Applicants must submit a detailed proposal including:

- Type of development proposed;
- Targeted crops and produce;
- Intended level of agricultural intensification;
- Proposed irrigation technologies;
- Economic and management model;
- Investment plan;
- Audited financial statements for the past three (3) years;
- Evidence of financial capacity.

Selected projects will benefit from provisions under the Investment Code:

- Tax exemptions on profits;
- Customs exemptions on equipment and inputs;
- Facilitated access to land;
- Dedicated administrative support.

4. AVAILABLE TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

Interested operators may, upon request, access the following technical studies:

- Topographic surveys;
- Soil studies;
- Geotechnical analyses.

5. SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

The complete files must be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on October 31

General Directorate of SONADER

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6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information, please contact:

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ANNEX: LOCATION MAP

