

## Re: RFI (Request for Information) on Pluvial Urban Flood Forecasting models and tools

### 1. General

- 1.1 The Government Water and Sewage Authority (hereinafter: “**the Authority**”) is interested in obtaining information on urban flood forecasting models and tools meeting all, or at least most, of the requirements specified in this document.
- 1.2 This request may be viewed on the Procurement Administration Website <http://mr.gov.il/ilgstorefront/en>, under the Tenders tab “RFI (Request for Information) on Pluvial Urban Flood Forecasting models and tools”.
- 1.3 The respondent will be entitled to no compensation or indemnification on account of expenses and/or damages incurred by it in connection with the preparation or submission of a response to this RFI.
- 1.4 It is emphasised that the Israel Water Authority has not decided whether to publish a tender in this matter. Therefore, this notice is **not** an invitation to submit offers or proposals (RFP). It is neither a part of a tendering process, and does not include commitment of any kind to the parties responding to it.
- 1.5 The sole aim of this notice is to obtain information.
- 1.6 Should a tendering process be conducted in the future, the Israel Water Authority will be entitled to change or add conditions and requirements – all in line with its professional discretion and considering its needs.
- 1.7 The Israel Water Authority reserves the right, insofar as may be necessary, to contact respondents to this notice requesting fuller information and clarifications, presentations and demonstrations, performance of a pilot trial, visits to customers’ sites and the sites of suppliers responding to this notice.
- 1.8 The Israel Water Authority is entitled to disregard a response received after the deadline.
- 1.9 Any early response submitted will not be cause for special preference in the tender if executed and will not be cause for any binding participation in the tender.
- 1.10 Intellectual Property:  
Subjected to any law, the Authority will keep the received information confidential, and will not use it, as detailed below:
  - 1.10.1 Will not publish the information publicly.
  - 1.10.2 Will not infringe the intellectual property of the respondent.
  - 1.10.3 It will not be used commercially, except for the purposes of subscribing for information.
  - 1.10.4 Will not pass the information to a third party, except to a party involved in designing the engagement, such as a professional consultant.
  - 1.10.5 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Authority shall be entitled to contact the respondent and request him to use the information, in the manner mentioned in sections 1.10.1-1.10.4 above.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 Israel Water Authority and the Israel Hydrological Service (IHS) are in an ongoing process of establishing a national flood-forecasting center. The center aims to provide forecasts, warning and alerts for flash flood, river flooding, and urban pluvial flooding.
- 2.2 Urban pluvial flooding occurs when rainfall results in large water volumes that exceeds the ability of the drainage system to effectively transport water away from built areas. In such cases, roads, underground parking lots and shelters can be flooded. This effect is intensified when the drainage system suffers from poor maintenance, or from improper planning and when it is blocked by high sea tides or raising river levels.
- 2.3 Most cities in Israel located along the coastline and lowlands have experienced in recent years numerous pluvial flooding events, unfortunately, some of these events resulted in casualties. The severity and frequency of urban pluvial flooding is expected to grow in the future due to expected increase in rain intensities, rise in sea level, and accelerated urban development.
- 2.4 The short time scales of urban pluvial flooding, usually minutes or tens of minutes from the intense rainfall to flood impact, are not sufficient to carry out acts of prevention. Thus, without proper notification, civil protection forces and first responders reach the scene only after the event. Alerts must be disseminated earlier to enable a proper emergency response.

### RFI (Request for Information) on Urban Flood Forecasting

- 2.5 The Water Authority is interested in establishing an urban flood alert service, adopting end-to-end urban pluvial flood nowcasting system that will be able to provide early notifications and alerts. To Aid this required system, the rain radar network was extended and nowcasted rainfall has been improved for constant monitoring.

### 3. Service to be Required by the Authority under the RFI Process

The following are details of the services to be required by the Authority under this RFI process, insofar as this should be conducted:

- 3.1 Fully operational nowcasting and alert system for urban floods.
- 3.2 Easy to use and user interface including visual and vocal alerts for pluvial urban flood warnings and probabilities.
- 3.3 Training of the Water Authority designated staff in operating the system.

### 4. Information Requested under this Process

#### 4.1 General

- 4.1.1 Please provide a general overview of the system including the main theoretical concepts. Please address separately to rain nowcasting (if available) and pluvial flood identification.
- 4.1.2 Please describe implementation of product or product's technology by organizations worldwide in operational usage.
- 4.1.3 Please describe whether the supplier of the product is an authorised dealer for the manufacturer.
- 4.1.4 Please describe whether the supplier of the product in Israel is authorised by the manufacturer.

#### 4.2 Product Features

- 4.2.1 Please provide full overview of the system graphical user interface. Including built-in and adaptive features.
- 4.2.2 Please describe product's full system requirements.
- 4.2.3 Please provide full detail about calibration, validation and integration processes including past experience of such activities.
- 4.2.4 Please describe the required data input or recommended for the system optimal usage including data type, data temporal resolution, etc. Please address the process of acquisition of required data
- 4.2.5. Please describe the expected forecast skill with and without each of the data mentioned in 4.2.4.
- 4.2.6. Please describe validation process and results

#### 4.3 Experience

- 4.3.1 Please provide details of the company's experience with the product/software proposed.
- 4.3.2 Please provide details of sites where the product/software of the type proposed is installed and the parties operating it, including particulars of the contact person for the customer on whose premises the system is installed.
- 4.3.3 Please provide details of the length of time over which the software/product has been installed at an active site and the extent of the customer's operational experience with it.
- 4.3.4 Please provide proof of concept including the system evaluation skills and the raw data on which the analysis was done for each of the examples provided in 4.3.1 - 4.3.3

#### 4.4 Additional Infrastructures Required

- 4.4.1 Cost of licence and usage fee, insofar as these are applicable.

#### 4.5 Warranty and Maintenance

- 4.5.1 Please provide details of the costs of hiring the product and using the software per period of time.
- 4.5.2 Please provide details of the warranty required for the product and software.
- 4.5.3 Please provide details of the maintenance required for software.
- 4.5.4 Please provide details of the sum required for maintenance of the software, during and following the expiry of the warranty period.

### RFI (Request for Information) on Urban Flood Forecasting

- 4.5.5 Please provide details of the frequency of software updates, and whether these are covered under the warranty and maintenance period.
- 4.6 Detailed Reference to the Mode of Provision of the Required Services
- 4.7 A full response to each of the items listed in Paragraphs. 3.1 - 3.5 is to be provided.
- 4.8 Any other relevant information regarding the product/software/manner and nature of provision of the services.

## 5. Authority Representative for Managing the Process

- 5.1 The Authority's representative in charge of this process, to whom queries and clarification requests in connection with the process are to be addressed, is Ms. Raya Blei-Kraftmacher, Head of Procurement Unit (hereinafter: "**the Representative**").
- 5.2 The Representative may be contacted by e-mail only to [michrazim@water.gov.il](mailto:michrazim@water.gov.il). Confirmation of receipt of the message by return e-mail is required.
- 5.3 Replies to significant queries will be sent to all respondents. The decision as to the significance or otherwise of a query is at the sole discretion of the Authority.
- 5.4 Deadline for forwarding clarification questions no later than December 12, 2023.
- 5.5 Deadline for publishing answers to clarifying questions no later than January 3, 2024.

## 6. Directions for Submitting Information

- 6.1 The information submitted by each respondent shall address each of the parameters listed in Section 4 above.
- 6.2 Responses may be submitted in English or in Hebrew only.
- 6.3 Manner of submitting response:
  - 6.3.1 The response shall be submitted to the Authority Representative by no later than **12pm on February 15, 2024**.
  - 6.3.2 The response is to be submitted by e-mail only, to [michrazim@water.gov.il](mailto:michrazim@water.gov.il). Confirmation of receipt of the message by return e-mail is required.

## 7. Additional conditions:

- 7.1. For the avoidance of doubt, this Request is not a tender procedure and is not a Request for Proposal (RFP) and does not require from the Authority to publish a tender or creates rise to a contractual relationship or any other obligation between the Authority and the respondent. After receiving the responses to the Request, the Authority shall consider the continuation of its actions at its professional and sole discretion.
- 7.2. The respondent shall not be entitled to any compensation or indemnity, reimbursement, or any payment from the Authority in respect of the response to the Request, expenses associated therewith or losses incurred by the respondent in connection with the preparation of a response to the Request or its submission.
- 7.3. The Authority reserves the right to deliver to the respondent a request to complete information and clarifications, present presentations and demonstrations, perform a pilot, visit the site of the respondent or the sites of its customers, at its professional discretion.
- 7.4. A reply submitted by a respondent does not constitute an advantage or a condition for participation in the tender, to the extent that a tender is held in the future, and shall not oblige the inclusion of a respondent in the tender or engagement with the respondent in any other manner.
- 7.5. Further to this Request, the Authority reserves its right, at its professional discretion:
  - 7.5.1. To use the information that will be collected within the framework of the Request and following its publication for the purpose of writing a tender or for the purpose of compiling a list of potential suppliers.
  - 7.5.2. To publish by way of a tender, or in any other manner, specifications or designs that will be based on the information that will accumulate as a result of the procedure, and in this regard the Authority shall be entitled to lay down conditions and requirements.

**RFI (Request for Information) on Urban Flood Forecasting**

- 7.5.3. Subject to the provisions of section 7.5.4 hereunder, the Authority shall be entitled to use the information that will be provided by the respondent for the purpose of considering the option to start an engagement for the purpose of this matter and lay down the requirements in connection with such an engagement as said.
- 7.5.4. Subject to the provisions set forth in any law, the Authority shall keep in confidence the information that reached its possession as part of the Request and shall not use such information as said as follows:
  - 7.5.4.1. The Authority will not make the information public.
  - 7.5.4.2. The Authority will not infringe the intellectual property of the respondent.
  - 7.5.4.3. The Authority will not make commercial use of the said information, except for the purposes as stated in the Request.
  - 7.5.4.4. The Authority will not deliver the information to a third party, except for to an entity involved in the formulation of the engagement, such as a professional consultant.
- 7.5.5. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7.5.4 above, the Authority shall be entitled to contact the respondent and request from the respondent to use the information for additional purposes (in addition to those as stated above).
- 7.5.6. The respondent declares as follows:
  - 7.5.6.1. The respondent agrees to everything stated in the document and undertakes that it shall have no claims or demands from the Authority in connection with the use in the information that the respondent will provide, for the purposes as stated in the Request.
  - 7.5.6.2. The information that the respondent submits or the future use of such information as said shall be without prejudice to third-party rights, including copyright, and the respondent shall be held solely liable for any demand or claim on the grounds of infringement of third-party rights within the framework of the use of such information as said, and the respondent shall indemnify the Authority immediately after receiving a demand for any amount that the Authority will be required to pay or an amount that the Authority will be obligated to pay as a result of a lawsuit or a demand as stated above, including expenses and attorney fees.
- 7.5.7. The documents of this Request are the exclusive property of the Authority.
- 7.5.8. This Request is published with the approval of the Tender Committee of the Authority.



**Appendix A**  
**Information regarding the respondent to the Request and the contact person on its behalf**

**Information regarding the respondent to the Request:**

Information	
Name of respondent to the Request	
ID. No. (Private Company Reg. No./Partnership no./License Dealer No./ID. No.)	

**Information regarding the contact person for the RFI procedure:**

First name		Family name	
Landline phone no.		Mobile phone no.	
Fax no.		Title	
Email	@		