

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
CONSULTING SERVICES
BANK-EXECUTED OPERATIONS
FULL COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS

PROJECT NAME: Prospective geochemical soil survey in the Eastern Pegmatite Province of Brazil, state of Minas Gerais

SELECTION PROCESS #: BR-T1690-P003 (BEO procurement number B260064)

SELECTION METHOD: Full Competitive

COUNTRY: Brazil

SECTOR OR DEPARTMENT: Infrastructure and Energy Sector (INE), Energy Division (INE/ENE)

TC NAME: Geological Mapping of Critical Minerals in Brazil (BR-T1690)

FUNDING – TC #: ATN/JF-22298-BR (Japan Special Fund)

LINK TO TC DOCUMENT: <https://www.iadb.org/en/project/BR-T1690>

Attention Consulting Firms: Important Update Regarding BEO Bidder Portal Registration

All consulting firms, both new and previously registered in the [BEO Portal](#), **must add their Business Partner Number (BP Number)** to their organization's profiles to participate or continue participating in a BEO procurement process.

Please refer to the [FAQs](#) in the Portal for more details on **"How to Find or Obtain Your BP Number"**.

Avoid delays by not waiting until the last moment to complete this update. This process may take up to **48 hours** to complete and could prevent your organization from participating in a BEO Process.

For further questions or assistance, use the [live chat](#) on the BEO Bidder Portal page or email us at ocs.procurement@iadb.org

The Inter-American Development Bank (the Bank) was established in December of 1959 to help accelerate economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Today, the Bank is a major catalyst in mobilizing resources for the region (For more information about the Bank, please refer to the Bank's website at www.iadb.org.)

Section 1. Purpose of this Request for Expression of Interest

1.1 The Bank is executing the above-mentioned project. The Bank intends to contract consulting services described in this Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI). The purpose of this REOI is to obtain sufficient information to enable the Bank to evaluate if the eligible consulting firms (CF) have the experience and qualifications relevant to provide the consulting services requested by the Bank.

1.2 As defined in the Corporate [Procurement Policy \(GN-2303-33\)](#), participating CF must be from a Bank's Member Country¹ or Territory² to be eligible to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI). The Bank will conduct the shortlisting process of the CF that expressed interest. The shortlisted CF will then be invited to continue further in the procurement process.

1.3 This REOI is not to be construed as either an RFP or an offer to contract and in no way obligates the Bank to contract anyone. The Bank reserves the right to reject any and all participating CF for any or no reason without having to provide an explanation. The Bank does not bind itself in any way to select any participating consulting firm. No debrief will be provided as to why CF have or have not been shortlisted.

Section 2. Instructions to the eligible consulting firms

2.1 Expressions of interest must be delivered using the *Bidder Portal for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting Firms for Bank-Executed Operations* (the Portal) (<http://beo-procurement.iadb.org>) by: 28 August 2026, 5:00 P.M. (**Washington, D.C., Time**) in PDF format only (Max. 45MB).

2.2 To access the Portal, the CF must generate a registration account, including **all** the data requested by the Portal. In the event that any of the information requested is not included, the consulting firm will not be able to participate in this or any other Bank-executed selection process for operational work. If the consulting firm has been previously registered, please validate that you have **all** the consulting firm's information updated and complete before submitting an EOI.

2.3 Eligible CF may partner in the form of a Consortium/joint venture (JV) to enhance their qualifications. Such Consortium/JV shall appoint one of the CF as the representative responsible for the communications, the registration in the Portal, and the submission of the corresponding documents (Lead Firm). If submitting as a Consortium/JV, the proposed structure, as well as the Lead Firm, must be maintained if the Consortium/JV proceeds in this selection process.

¹ **Member Countries:** Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, People's Republic of China, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

² **Eligible Territories:** a) Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Reunion – as Departments of France; b) U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam – as Territories of the USA; c) Aruba – as a constituent country of the Netherlands; and Bonaire, Curacao, Sint Maarten, Saba, St Eustatius – as Departments of the Netherlands; d) Hong Kong – as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.



2.4 Interested CF may obtain further information during office hours, 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM (**Washington, D.C. Time**), by sending an email to: Carlos Gustavo Sucre Pantin, csucre@iadb.org, with copy to Martin Walter, martinw@iadb.org

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2.5 The Bank hereby invites eligible CF to indicate their interest in providing the services described below in the draft Terms of Reference for the consulting services. Interested CF must provide information establishing that they have the necessary experience and are qualified to perform the services. So that all responses may be properly evaluated, eligible CF must include in their submissions the information requested in the following section, with full and clear explanations.

Section 3. Consulting Services

3.1 The consulting services include the execution of a detailed prospective geochemical soil survey in the Araçuaí Pegmatite District, in the Eastern Pegmatite Province of Brazil, state of Minas Gerais, covering nine map sheets at the 1:100,000 scale in the priority 1 area of the BR-T1690 project. The selected consulting firm shall carry out the systematic collection of approximately 1,340 soil samples plus 54 duplicate samples, at a sampling density of at least one sample per 20 km² over a continuous area of approximately 27,000 km², in accordance with the sampling protocols and the Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) standards of the Geological Survey of Brazil (SGB). The services comprise executive planning and mobilisation, field collection, duplicate control, packaging, chain of custody and delivery of the samples, the consolidation of a georeferenced database and the delivery of the technical reports, digital files and final technical presentation.

3.2 Although there is no standard format for presenting an Expression of Interest, eligible CF must submit an EOI containing the following information:

- 1) Basic Information—Provide the official name of CF, the contact's name, email address, phone numbers, and office address (es) of the key contact (s) responsible for the EOI.
- 2) Background—Provide a description of the CF. The CF may include brochures or documents that provide information about its organization, history, mission, structure, and number of staff.
- 3) Experience related to the requested consulting services—Provide all kinds of

evidence the CF considers appropriate to show its experience and expertise in delivering services similar to those described in Annex A, Terms of Reference (e.g., brochures, reports, studies, description of similar assignments, references to cases in which it has provided similar services, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.)

3.3 Estimated budget: USD 200,000 (two hundred thousand United States dollars).

Annex A. Draft Terms of Reference

Please note that the attached Terms of Reference may be subject to changes by the Bank. The CF that have been shortlisted will be notified of these changes.

ANNEX A – Terms of reference

1. Background and Justification

- 1.1 The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is the largest regional development bank in the world and the leading source of multilateral financing for economic, social and institutional development projects, as well as for trade and regional integration initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean. The IDB promotes the generation of knowledge and the exchange of relevant information to support decision making by its beneficiaries in the mineral sector, both at the regional and national levels, with particular attention to the institutional and sustainability aspects associated with the activity. These efforts reflect the multiple opportunities and challenges associated with the expansion of mineral activities and the shared perception among stakeholders regarding the potential of investments in the sector as an instrument for long term equitable development in the region.
- 1.2 The Government of Brazil, through the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and the Geological Survey of Brazil (SGB), requested technical assistance from the IDB to strengthen national geological knowledge and institutional capacity related to the development of mineral deposits that play a strategic role in the country's development, given the high global demand driven by their centrality in various technologies, applications and sectors. This technical cooperation project, prepared in response to that request, will generate pre competitive data, strengthen institutional frameworks and foster partnerships between public and private actors, with the aim of attracting responsible investments to the critical minerals value chains.
- 1.3 As part of this technical cooperation, the present Terms of Reference (ToR) falls within the context of the BR-TI690 project, aimed at strengthening geological knowledge of critical minerals in Brazil. In this specific instrument, the emphasis is placed on the investigation of surface geochemical dispersion in the Eastern Pegmatite Province of Brazil, in the state of Minas Gerais, in coordination with geological and geophysical studies already underway in the region.
- 1.4 The target area encompasses the largest lithium reserves and production in Brazil within the Araçuaí Pegmatite District, in the middle Jequitinhonha river valley. It is also the focus of the largest prospective effort for this metal in the country, having been, to a large extent, the target of the first phase of the Project for the Evaluation of Lithium Potential in Brazil (Paes et al., 2016). Broadly speaking, the area comprises domains with a similar geological setting regarding the relevant aspects associated with pegmatites. Furthermore, it is the region that presents the largest number of samples with anomalies of the Geochemical Mineralisation Probability Index (GMPI), identified in the stream sediment modelling (Paes et al., 2023).
- 1.5 The BR-TI690 document establishes that the soil campaign shall cover nine map sheets in the priority 1 area at a sampling density of one sample per twenty square kilometres, consistent with the 1:100,000

scale, with the objective of identifying geochemical anomalies, supporting the interpretation of the genetic context of potential mineralisations, and providing a basis for delimiting favourable zones for future exploration stages.

- 1.6 Given that geochemical prospecting integrates the stages of sampling, analysis and interpretation, this ToR emphasises the contracting of specialised services for the field collection and data organisation phase, without prejudice to subsequent integration with analytical results, statistical processing, metallogenic interpretation and the elaboration of a mineral favourability map.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The general objective of this consultancy is to carry out a detailed prospective geochemical survey in the Araçuaí Pegmatite District, state of Minas Gerais, through systematic soil sampling, as defined in the technical instruction DIGEOQ 01 attached to this ToR, with field quality control, consolidation of georeferenced data and generation of inputs for geochemical and metallogenic interpretation.
- 2.2 The specific objectives are: (i) to execute the sampling campaign of 1,340 soil samples plus 54 duplicate samples in the nine map sheets of the priority 1 area, namely the 1:100,000 sheets Taiobeiras, Curral de Dentro, Salinas, Comercinho, Araçuaí, Itaobim, Jenipapo, Novo Cruzeiro and Minas Novas (including a small portion in the southeast of the Grão Mogol sheet, where rocks of the Salinas Formation occur, as per the Minas Gerais map of Silva et al., 2020); (ii) to collect representative soil samples following standardised protocols, traceable and compatible with Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) good practices; (iii) to record coordinates, field observations, sample coding and the minimum mandatory documentation for each sampled point; (iv) to ensure adequate packaging, identification, transport and chain of custody of the samples until the receiving point defined by the contracting party; and (v) to consolidate a georeferenced database, metadata and methodological documentation for subsequent integration with geological, structural, geophysical and analytical data.

3. Scope of Services

- 3.1 The services shall comprise executive planning, mobilisation, collection of samples in the specified fields, operational quality control, organisation of records and batches, preparation of spatial data and delivery of partial and final technical products in accordance with the technical manuals, spreadsheets and operational procedures of the Geological Survey of Brazil (SGB) provided as annex.
- 3.2 Execution shall take place in close coordination with the SGB technical team and under the supervision of the contracting institution, observing the programmed sampling points, traceability requirements, safety standards and conditions of access to the work areas.
- 3.3 The minimum scope of this ToR includes: (i) elaboration of the work plan and logistics; (ii) systematic soil collection; (iii) duplicate control and consistency of records; (iv) packaging and forwarding of samples; (v) consolidation of the georeferenced database; and (vi) provision of reports, digital files and a final technical presentation.

4. Key Activities

- 4.1 **Initiation and planning.** The contractor shall review the inputs made available for the project, including cartographic data, geological information and the preliminary schedule of collection points. Based on these inputs, the contractor shall present an Inspection Report containing detailed methodology, mobilisation strategy, executive schedule, team structure, logistics plan, health and safety procedures, coding system and quality control protocol. It shall also be the contractor's responsibility to provide the operational means necessary to access the area, as well as to support obtaining field permits and access authorisations that may be necessary, in coordination with the contracting party. The contractor shall strictly comply with the sampling design (sampling density at least of 1 sample per 20 km², or at a higher sampling density) defined by the SGB prior to execution, as well as with the SGB sampling protocols and the defined QA/QC standards defined in the sections below.
- 4.2 **Soil collection.** Soil sampling shall use manual augers, spatulas or scraping tools for soil cuts to remove organic matter; rock fragments shall not be removed. Sample packaging shall be in resistant polyethylene bags, sealed with a plastic seal and identified with a waterproof label (napa type) and permanent marker, to be sent to the nearest SGB Regional Unit to the collection area. At each collection point, all tools used shall be cleaned to avoid possible contamination. The sample shall not undergo

prior preparation (sieving and drying) before being sent to the laboratory; the collection QA/QC controls shall be followed to ensure the quality of the collection.

- 4.3 The sample shall be collected in the B horizon of the soil. The same pedological horizon shall be maintained consistently at every sampling point across the entire survey, since data interpretation and analysis require information from a single, consistent horizon. It is essential to clearly identify and record the horizon sampled; the initial and final depth of the sample shall be recorded, as well as the textural aspects and colour of the soil. The Field Sheet standard shall be provided by SGB (physical notebook and/or BaseGeo App); the mandatory fields to be filled in for each sample type shall be specified by SGB when the collection services are requested. A duplicate sample shall be collected every twenty five soil samples collected. Soil sample collection is described in further detail in the Standard Operating Procedure DIGEOQ 3 of 25.05.2021 attached to this document.
- 4.4 **Record, coding and traceability.** For all samples, geochemical sample sheets with the minimum mandatory fields shall be filled in physically in field notebooks and in digital format in the BaseGEO application (instructions and registration shall be provided by the SGB in 1 day of course training), in addition to the list of samples per batch. Sample identification in the field shall follow the standard containing the unique project code, collector initials, sample class and sequential number, in accordance with Technical Instruction DIGEOB 04 of 11.04.2024 attached to this ToR, thereby preserving traceability between collection, packaging, transport, receipt and any subsequent laboratory stage. The contractor shall maintain chain of custody control, data integrity and consistency between sheets, labels, coordinates and shipping lists.
- 4.5 **Data organisation and technical integration.** The data produced in the field shall be consolidated in a georeferenced database compatible with a Geographic Information System (GIS) environment and with the information systems and repositories of the SGB, accompanied by metadata and methodological documentation. Digital files must be in vector formats compatible with GIS environments for QGIS and ArcGIS, and digital reports, preferably in DOCX, XLSX and PDF formats, to populate the RIGEO repository. The contractor shall deliver the records in a standardised manner as defined by the contracting party, suitable for integration with geological, structural and geophysical data and with analytical results eventually produced under a complementary contractual instrument.
- 4.6 The contractor shall comply with the delivery requirements and storage conditions defined by the SGB for the samples and their witnesses, ensuring chain of custody and preservation of sample quality throughout. Delivery points must be agreed upon with the SGB and may be located at SGB regional units or even at an analytical laboratory designated by the SGB. Samples must be delivered with their physical integrity ensured, free of torn bags or labels that are detached or improperly filled out.

5. Expected Outcome and Deliverables

- 5.1 The deliverables to be produced under this consultancy are summarised in the table below, which sets out the minimum content for each product.

Item	Deliverable	Minimum content
1	Inspection Report	Detailed methodology; sampling strategy; team composition; logistics; schedule; QA/QC procedures; field sheets and recording standards; traceability and delivery flows.
2	Partial Field Report	Mobilisation status; physical progress; quantitative of points and samples; preliminary spatial distribution; duplicates; operational difficulties; corrective actions.
3	Field Data Package	Spreadsheets and georeferenced database; coordinates; sample sheets; batch lists; duplicate controls; chain of custody; photographic records where applicable; metadata.
4	Preliminary Technical Report	Methodological synthesis; consolidation of the material collected; assessment of data consistency; indication of pending items; preparation of inputs for integration and interpretation.
5	Final Report and Digital Deliverables	Complete description of methods; consolidated results; technical integration with the geological context of BR-TI690; recommendations; final database; GIS layers; metadata; editable files and PDF.
6	Final Technical	Presentation of the main results, constraints, limitations,

	Presentation	recommendations and next steps for the management team.
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- 5.2 All final products shall be capable of supporting the continuation of the activities foreseen in the BR-T1690 project, in particular the geochemical integration, metallogenic interpretation and elaboration of the favourability map for lithium.