

## IRRIGATION AUTHORITY

### INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTERESTS

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRO-INDUSTRIAL AND GREEN ENERGY PROJECTS (IA/EOI/2026/03)

##### 1. INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

The Irrigation Authority (IA) invites experienced registered firms or private individuals (promoters, investors, developers, land owners and others) to express their interests for the development of Agro-Industrial and Green Energy projects within gazetted irrigation areas.

Pursuant to Section 14 of the Irrigation Authority Act, the Irrigation Authority (IA) has, throughout its existence, declared several regions as irrigation areas. A comprehensive list of these gazetted irrigation areas is available on the IA's website ([https://ia.govmu.org/ia/?page\\_id=798](https://ia.govmu.org/ia/?page_id=798)). Historically, these areas have been dedicated exclusively to agricultural cultivation. However, the increasing prevalence of abandoned land within these irrigation areas has prompted the IA to explore opportunities for optimising land utilisation and promoting more productive and sustainable use of land resources within gazetted irrigation zones.

Therefore, the IA is launching this initiative so as to revitalize abandoned or underutilized land through dual-purpose land models, specifically, but not limited to, agrivoltaics (as per the CEB's Agrivoltaics (CAV) II Scheme - <https://ceb.mu/projects/cavscheme2025> ), bioenergy, controlled environment agriculture, and integrated aquaculture, that align with national food security and renewable energy mandates. Interested parties may also submit proposals in which the IA may act as partner under any other Solar Energy production Scheme of the CEB.

##### 2. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The IA is seeking partners to implement projects that provide a synergistic balance between modern energy generation and primary agricultural production. Proponents must adhere to the "Agriculture-First" principle, ensuring that land remains a productive agricultural asset while generating secondary economic value.

##### 3. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Selected interested parties will later be required to submit a comprehensive proposal addressing the following criteria:

- a) **Project Concept & Design:** A detailed technical description of the proposed initiative, including infrastructure design, land footprint, and energy generation capacity.
- b) **Agricultural Management Plan:** A rigorous plan detailing the cultivation strategy to ensure that a minimum of 60% of the project area remains under active, crop production.
- c) **Technical Infrastructure:** Mapping and design specifications demonstrating that solar or agro-industrial structures will not affect irrigation infrastructure, pipelines, hydrants, or access roads.
- d) **Modernization Strategy:** A proposal for funding and implementing the conversion of existing irrigation systems to high-efficiency, precision drip technology.
- e) **Environmental & Hydrological Planning:** An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) if required by other authorities
- f) **Financial & Legal Viability:** Details of the proposed land tenure arrangement (whether through acquisition or registered lease), Submission of financial capacity statements and acceptance of the IA's Restoration Bond requirement (set at Rs. 10,000 per arpent). This bond will be reimbursable once the land has been reinstated to a satisfactory cultivable condition, following the project's duration.

##### 4. REGULATORY & OPERATIONAL TERMS

Successful proponents will operate under an "Agro-industrial and green energy initiatives-Exemption Certificate," relieving them from the need for traditional Land Conversion Permits (LCP). They will enter into an agreement

with the Irrigation Authority, which will define the terms and conditions of the project, subject to the following regulatory framework:

- a) **Compliance Monitoring:** The IA will reserve the right to conduct site inspections and mandate annual performance reporting on yields and energy output.
- b) **Operational Trigger:** Failure to maintain the agricultural component for a continuous period of six (6) months will trigger the immediate revocation of the permit.
- c) **Financial Framework:** Promoters shall be liable for non-refundable application fees (Rs. 10,000), annual land-use fees (Rs. 10,000/arp), and standard irrigation dues (Rs. 3,600/arp for year 2025/2026).
- d) **Indemnity:** Proponents will have to indemnify the IA against all liabilities or damages to irrigation infrastructure during the project lifecycle and grant the Authority irrevocable access for maintenance and inspection.

## 5. EVALUATION PROCESS

Selected interested parties will be required to work out and submit proposals which will be evaluated by the IA based on their:

- technical Feasibility and their impact on existing irrigation infrastructure and energy grid integration,
- agricultural Integrity through their capacity to sustain high-yield crop production, and their
- compatibility with the Government's land repurposing schemes and national food security objectives.

Selected proposals will be recommended to the IA Board for approval and subsequently submitted to the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries for final endorsement.

## 6. SUBMISSION PROCESS

Interested parties are requested to submit a letter of expression of interest, with a brief on their corporate profile (if applicable), a portfolio of similar assignments (if available) and a concise description of their proposal, in a sealed envelope marked "**EOI: AGRO-INDUSTRIAL AND GREEN ENERGY INITIATIVES ON ABANDONED IRRIGATION LANDS – Ref: IA/EOI/2026/03**".

Submissions must be delivered to The General Manager, **Irrigation Authority, 5th Floor, Fon Sing Building, Edith Cavell Street, Port Louis, no later than 15:00 hrs on 15 October 2026.**

The IA reserves the right to annul this exercise without incurring any liability or providing justification for its decision.

For further information and submission guidelines, please contact the Irrigation Authority Headquarters on 2106596.

**14.09.2026**

**Irrigation Authority**

**5th Floor, Fon Sing Building**

**Edith Cavell Street, Port Louis**

**Tel: 2106596**

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