

Call for Expressions of Interest

Policy and stakeholder engagement consultancy on marine plastics and plastic pollution in Latin American and Caribbean cities through a circular economy approach

Background	<p>The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.</p> <p>The UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC), located in Panama City, works closely with the 33 countries of the region and its activities are integrated into the Medium-Term Strategy and the Programme of Work approved by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA).</p> <p>Under the UNEP project <u>Reduce marine plastics and plastic pollution by supporting governments and businesses at the city level to accelerate the transition to a circular economy</u>, co-funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) (hereinafter referred to as the “GEF LAC project”), aims to reduce national marine plastic pollution by facilitating governments and businesses at the city-level to accelerate the transition to a circular economy thereby responding to national, regional and global marine litter and plastics-related action plans, resolutions and commitments in the region of Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC). The project is planned to be implemented in 6 cities in Colombia (Cartagena, one more city to be defined), Jamaica (Kingston, Montego Bay) and Panama (Panama City, Colon).</p> <p>In order to achieve the overall objective of the project and guarantee an effective implementation of the project activities, it is necessary to (i) support the identification and engagement of key relevant stakeholders at national and local level; (ii) collate national and city-level policy baseline on circular economy and/or plastics and waste management; including relevant information on national and local priorities (e.g. from existing action plans and regulations, engagement in existing frameworks, commitments); (iii) support the identification and feasibility of implementing possible evidence-based interventions based on information of key products or polymers found in the environment and sectors identified through brand audits; and (iv) support UNEP/ROLAC in the organization and coordination of consultative meetings and workshops, and the identification of capacity-building needs and outreach activities.</p>
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	<p>The selected applicant of this task is expected to work with UNEP and relevant experts and support the engagement of stakeholders and the collation of national and city-level policies and initiatives on circular economy and marine plastic litter and plastic pollution prevention.</p> <p>The project will also engage consultants or organizations supporting data collection for baseline assessment, whom the selected applicant of this assignment will also work closely with.</p>
<p>Outcomes, duties, and responsibilities:</p>	<p>The consultancy will support the following activities and provide the related deliverables:</p> <p>1. Support the identification and engagement of key relevant stakeholders at national and local level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and facilitate relations with national and local stakeholders, including government (central, regional, and municipal) authorities, private sector, NGOs, experts, and other relevant stakeholders that support the implementation of the project activities. • Support the establishment of potential strategic partnerships for project implementation, at national and local level, identifying synergies and building cooperation to ensure a stronger impact. <p><i>Deliverable 1.1</i> Report with updated list of engaged stakeholders, their contacts, evidence of meetings of engagement, power point presentations, progress report if requested.</p> <p>2. Provide expertise, guidance, and technical support on the collation of national and city-level policy baseline on circular economy and marine plastic litter and plastic pollution prevention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, analyze and present national information for [Colombia, Jamaica, and Panama], gathered from diverse sources (e.g government authorities, private sector, NGOs, experts, and other relevant stakeholders) on national and city-level policies, action plans and initiatives developed on circular economy and marine plastic litter and plastic pollution prevention. • Review and provide inputs to relevant documents, baseline assessments and reports and provide feedback. • Support the improvement of the baseline reports and the finalization of project activities based on the feedback received from national and city stakeholders. • Support the development of the section on “consistency with national priorities” in the GEF LAC project document.

Deliverable 2.1 Report on the national and city-level policies, initiatives and action plans developed on circular economy and marine plastic litter and plastic pollution prevention, which will include their effectiveness, good practice and lessons learned from policy implementation, challenges, and gaps, etc.

3. Identify the baseline and feasibility of implementing possible interventions.

- Support the identification of possible interventions based on on-going initiatives and best practices including policies, financial instruments, and technology approaches, intended to promote the reduction, reuse, recycle and disposal of plastic waste (e.g., bans, alternative solutions to reduce plastic consumption, and improve collection channels/waste segregation and other solutions to prevent leakage), taking into account the formal collection system as well as the informal sector.
- Support preliminary analysis of interventions such as policies and public and private sector initiatives, including potential barriers, feasibility, benefits, and institutional and financial mechanisms.

Deliverable 3.1 Report with policy recommendations and possible policy interventions to reduce marine plastics and plastic pollution.

4. Support UNEP/ROLAC in the organization and coordination of consultative meetings and workshops, and the identification of capacity-building needs and outreach activities:

- Support the identification of capacity-building needs of national and local stakeholders, and potential related activities to be considered in the project, including awareness raising actions.
- Support consultative meetings and validation workshops, including the preparation of the agenda, topics, identifying participants, preparation of documents and presentations, etc.
- Support the translation to Spanish of knowledge products (applicable for Colombia and Panama).

Deliverable 4.1 Progress report which includes meeting reports, power point presentations, preliminary materials, agendas, and list of participants of meetings held during the inception workshop and follow-up national meetings.

Deliverable 4.2 Final progress report which includes meeting reports, power point presentations, preliminary materials, agendas,

	capacity building needs, and list of participants of meetings held during the validation phase.
Who can send an expression of interest (EOI)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions and organizations such as academia (Research Institutes and Universities), Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Not-for-Profit Organisations (NPOs). • Individual consultants. <p>Candidates from the LAC region, particularly the target countries (Colombia, Jamaica, Panama) are highly encouraged/desirable.</p>
Requirements for the EOI:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions and organizations: submit an expression of interest letter, including a professional track record. • Individuals: submit an expression of interest letter and your CV. <p>In all cases, please indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which country/countries you are expressing interest for. • Prior experience in the field of marine plastics and plastic pollution/circular economy for plastics in Colombia, Jamaica and/or Panama. • Capacity and general approach to address the activities described above in the target country(ies)/city(ies).
Budget:	<p>The maximum budget for this assignment is USD \$28,000 in total distributed per project country as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colombia: USD \$10,000 • Jamaica: USD \$9,000 • Panama: USD \$9,000
Duration:	The implementation period is from February 2021 until July 2021.
How to submit the EOI:	Please send the corresponding to Mr. Jordi Pon jordi.pon@un.org and copy maria.fernandezgarcia@un.org .
Timeline for submission:	February 4, 2021, COB (Panama time)