

Call for Proposals

Data collection for baseline assessment on marine plastics and plastic pollution in Latin American and Caribbean cities

Desired final outcome:	<p>This assignment is to support the development of the baseline assessment of the target countries and cities covered by the project “Reduce marine plastics and plastic pollution in Latin American and Caribbean cities through a circular economy approach” co-financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The desired final deliverables will be:</p> <p>(NB. Applicants can apply for the post for one target country, or posts for more than one target country. Applicants only need to provide the deliverables related with the target countries their application will cover.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. national data of Colombia and city-level data of 2 cities (Cartagena and one more to be decided) collected, to be used for marine plastics and plastic pollution baseline assessment. A baseline assessment report developed, to explain the data sources, calculation processes (e.g. collection rate, recycling rate, leakage rate, etc.), assumptions used where relevant data cannot be collected directly and estimation, and information on waste collection system in each municipality (responsibilities, financing, set up, destination for the collected material).2. national data of Panama and city-level data of Panama City and Colon collected, to be used for marine plastics and plastic pollution baseline assessment. A baseline assessment report developed, to explain the data sources, calculation processes (e.g. collection rate, recycling rate, leakage rate, etc.), assumptions used where relevant data cannot be collected directly and estimation, and information on waste collection system in each municipality (responsibilities, financing, set up, destination for the collected material).3. national data of Jamaica and city-level data of Kingston and Montego Bay collected, to be used for marine plastic and plastic pollution baseline assessment. A baseline assessment report developed, to explain the data sources, calculation processes (e.g. collection rate, recycling rate, leakage rate, etc.), assumptions used where relevant data cannot be collected directly and estimation, and information on waste collection system in each municipality (responsibilities, financing, set up, destination for the collected material).
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Based on the baseline information, assess Global Environmental Benefits (GEB) for core indicators, including assessing indicator 9 (avoidance of chemicals of global concern), indicator 10 (emissions avoidance of dioxins and furans), as well as revisiting indicator 3 (Amount of Marine Litter Avoided), 6 (Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated), 7 (Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management) 5. support provided to the development of project activities and relevant sections including but not limited to the baseline section in the full GEF project document 6. key findings and messages from the baseline assessment reports summarised for communication at the consultation workshops with national and city stakeholders 7. support provided to the improvement of the baseline assessment and the finalisation of project activities based on the feedback received from national and city stakeholders <p>All the outputs are to be delivered in English.</p>
Proposals sought:	Applicants should submit proposals in English in the template provided
Who can apply:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academia (Research Institutes and Universities), Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Not-for-Profit Organisations (NPOs). • Individual consultant. <p>Applications from the LAC region are highly encouraged / are desirable.</p>
Budget:	The maximum budget for this assignment is USD \$15,000 per project country.
Duration:	The implementation period is from February 2021 until July 2021. (Data collection related tasks needs to be completed by the end of April).
How to apply:	Please send your proposal using the template attached, addressed to Mr. Feng Wang feng.wang@un.org , and copy ran.xie@un.org
Application submission deadline	February 4, 2021, COB (Panama time)

Background

This task is mandated under the UNEP project entitled “Reduce marine plastics and plastic pollution in Latin American and Caribbean cities through a circular economy approach”, co-financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) (hereinafter referred to as the “GEF LAC project”). This GEF LAC project aims at facilitating governments and businesses at the city level in the Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) region to address the plastic pollution through accelerating their transition to a circular economy for plastics. The project is planned to be implemented in 6 cities in Colombia (Cartagena, one more to be decided), Jamaica (Kingston, Montego Bay), Panama (Panama City, Colon).

The GEF LAC project includes the following 4 components listed in the table below. (For more information, see the [Project Identification Form](#) and [the project page](#) on GEF website)

Project Objective: Reducing marine plastics and plastics pollution by facilitating circular economy approaches in the private and public sectors		
Project Components	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs
Component 1: City led promotion of circular economy approaches to reduce marine litter and plastics pollution in targeted coastal cities.	Outcome 1.1: Adoption of circular economy approaches to reduce marine litter and plastics pollution in targeted coastal cities.	Output 1.1.1 Policies and action plans developed to promote circular economy approaches to plastics Output 1.1.2 Targeted interventions carried out to reduce or eliminate problematic plastics Output 1.1.3 Financial instruments developed to facilitate responsible plastics management for project stakeholders including the private sector
Component 2: Private sector led promotion of circular economy approaches to reduce marine litter and plastics pollution in targeted coastal cities.	Outcome 2.1 Adoption of circular economy practices to reduce marine litter and plastics pollution in targeted coastal cities.	Output 2.1.1 Approaches developed and tested to facilitate more responsible design, production and consumption of plastics Output 2.1.2 Approaches developed and tested to promote improved waste collection and plastics recycling Output 2.1.3 Industry roundtable established on circular economy
Component 3: Inter-city plastics circular economy engagement network	Outcome 3.1 Establishment of circular economy network for cities in the region	Output 3.1.1 Organizational structure, roles, and policies developed Output 3.1.2 Harmonised city-level action plan developed Output 3.1.3

		Promotion of action plan outside of project countries
Component 4: Capacity development and knowledge management	Outcome 4.1 Improved regional awareness of circular economy approaches to reducing marine litter and plastics pollution.	Output 4.1.1 Information, Education and Communications (IEC) strategy for the project developed and carried out including use of IW:LEARN platform Output 4.1.2 Targeted capacity building exercises conducted Output 4.1.3 Long-term monitoring plan developed

This project is currently under a one-year project preparation phase (October 2020 - October 2021) during which UNEP will prepare a full project document. After the full project document is developed and approved by the GEF in 2021, the project will enter its 4-year implementation period, following the completion of its preparation phase.

National and city level baseline is one of the key sections requested by GEF in the full project document, which will serve as the basis to further identify the actions needed to be taken by the target cities and the concrete activities of the project to implement the actions. A draft baseline section has been developed in the project proposal (Project Identification Form, PIF) submitted to GEF earlier (see page 23-41 of the [Project Identification Form](#)). The selected applicant of this task is expected to support the further development of the sections on baseline and national priorities in the full project document for the GEF LAC project.

Objective of the assignment

This assignment is mainly to support the development of the baseline assessment in the 3 countries covered by the GEF LAC project (with a particular focus on the 6 target cities). The country baseline will provide a general overview of the marine plastic and plastic pollution, and management status in the country, while the city baseline is a detailed quantification of the plastic flows, leakage and impacts.

For the city baseline, the assessment will consider the following methodologies:

- [National Guidance for Plastic Pollution Hotspotting and Shaping Action](#)¹ which is co-developed by UNEP and IUCN.
- Waste wise cities tool which is supported by UNEP and UN-Habitat in partnership with the University of Leeds SPOT² (<https://www.gpmarinelitter.org/what-we-do/marine-litter-hotspots>);
- National source inventories approaches including monitoring and assessment methodologies for the collection of in-situ data (where possible) and review of existing data and information³. Where possible conduct brand audits to further identify sectors, products and polymers for which solutions could to be identified.

¹ The ‘National Guidance for Plastic Pollution Hotspotting and Shaping Action’ aims to provide a methodology for countries to identify plastic leakage ‘hotspots’, find their impacts along the entire plastic value chain, and then prioritise effective actions to stop the leakage at each hotspot. More information: <https://plasticpollution.lifecycleinitiative.org/>

² <https://plasticpollution.leeds.ac.uk/toolkits/spot/>

³ [“Guidelines for the Monitoring and Assessment of Plastic Litter in the Ocean”](#)

The selected applicant of this task is expected to work with UNEP and relevant experts and support the development of the baseline assessment through collecting marine plastics and plastic pollution related data, policies and strategies of target countries and cities.

The project will also recruit consultants supporting policy baseline collection and stakeholder engagement, whom the selected applicant of this assignment will also work closely with.

Expected activities

(NB. Applicants can apply for the post for one target country, or posts for more than one target country. Applicants only need to provide the deliverables related with the target countries their application will cover.)

1. Collect national and city-level data on marine plastics and plastic pollution through desktop studies, interviews with national and municipal stakeholders, etc., and support the development of baseline assessment, with a general country situation analysis and a detailed city baseline. For the country baseline, the data information on the management status on controlling marine plastic and plastic pollution needs to be collected. For the city baseline, upon discussion between UNEP and the selected applicant, the data collection templates will be developed by UNEP and used by the selected applicants to collect marine plastics and plastic pollution-related data of the target countries and cities. UNEP and its experts will apply the various methodologies based on the collected data and develop the draft baseline assessment, which will include identified marine plastics and plastic pollution hotspots, key areas of intervention and key instruments for intervention implementation. The selected applicant will review, comment and provide inputs to the draft baseline assessment report to support its development and finalisation.
2. Summarise key findings and messages from the baseline assessment reports for communication at the consultation workshops with national and city stakeholders
3. Support the improvement of the baseline reports and the finalisation of project activities based on the feedback received from national and city stakeholders
4. Support UNEP in developing relevant sections of the project document (baseline setting, activities in target cities, Global Environmental and Socioeconomic Benefits), by working with the policy consultant

The qualification of the proposal

Proposals are sought which meet the following criteria:

- Proposals with clear objectives and feasible implementation plan
- Proposals with a clear plan on how to collect marine plastics and plastics pollution related data and policies of the target countries and cities
- Proposals with a strong component which lists the potential data and information sources to be used for data and information collection
- Proposals listing studies and publications developed by the applicant on marine plastics and plastic pollution in target countries and/or cities, in particular studies on data analysis
- Proposals showing the experience of the applicant in the area of circular economy, assessment of marine plastics and plastic pollution
- Proposals outlining a track record and network of the applicant

Who can apply?

Applications are sought from Academia (Research Institutes, Universities), Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Not-for-Profit Organisations (NPOs), including not-for-profit industry associations. Individual consultants can also apply. Applications from the LAC region are highly encouraged / are desirable.

Institutional/individual applicants can apply for the post for one target country, or posts for more than one target country.

The applying institution/individual shall have a good track record on:

- Possessing a good understanding of sustainable consumption and production topics, circular economy, life cycle thinking, hotspot analysis on marine plastics and plastic pollution hotspots
- Proven experience of carrying out data collection and data analysis on marine plastics and plastic pollution topics and on waste management and waste audits,
- Published high quality reports or peer-reviewed journal papers related to the mentioned topics.
- Proven expertise and experience on formulating recommendations based on scientific analysis and multi-stakeholder consultations as well as giving guidance on interpreting such recommendations
- Proven record of experience in addressing marine litter and microplastics issues in Colombia, Jamaica and Panama is an advantage.
- Fluency in both written and spoken English and experience in drafting reports in the English language (mandatory for all applications).
- Fluency in both written and spoken Spanish (mandatory for applications related with Colombia and Panama).

How to apply?

Applicants should submit an application in the attached template to the Feng Wang feng.wang@un.org. Please also CC ran.xie@un.org. Please also email us for any inquiries.