

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Selection # as assigned by e-Tool: RG-T2960-P001

Selection Method: Full Competitive Selection

Country: Regional

Funding – TC #: ATN/MC-16236-RG, ATN/OC-16237-RG

Project #: RG-T2960

TC name: Development of the Sustainable Islands Initiative

Description of Services: Consultancy to define the elements of Blue and Circular Growth for island sustainability and to generate project ideas

Link to TC document: [click here](#)

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is executing the above-mentioned operation. For this operation, the IDB intends to hire the consulting services described in this Request for Expressions of Interest.

Expressions of interest must be delivered using the IDB Portal for Bank Executed Operations (<http://beo-procurement.iadb.org/home>) by: October 4th, 2017, 5:00 P.M. (Washington D.C. Time).

The consulting services (“the Services”) include the execution of activities geared towards: (i) defining the current situation in terms of governance structure and institutional settings as well as recommend main policy and regulatory reforms necessary to apply a Blue and Circular Economy approach to sustainability in island territories of participating countries; and (ii) identifying a programmatic pipeline of projects in line with the previously defined blue circular economy approach for smart growth in islands territories. The estimated available budget for this consultancy is USD\$400,000 and the estimated term of the contract is twelve months from the hiring of the consulting firm/consortium.

Firms/consultants that have been involved or somehow are already involved in the early design and development of this project will not be eligible to participate in any consortiums nor to submit an expression of interest (EOI) for this or any other consultancy arising from this project. Firms that fail to follow this restriction may be eliminated from the selection process. EOIs are intended to identify those firms whose proposed team has the best skills and technical qualifications to carry out the activities described. The firms with the most competent professional team and experience will be invited to submit a formal proposal. The IDB will give priority to consulting firms complying with the following:

(A) EXPERTISE. The proposed team leader shall hold a Post-graduate degree in Environmental Sciences, Engineering and Environmental Economics or in a related discipline. The team leader shall also possess at least 10 years of project management experience. Other key personnel shall demonstrate knowledge in the area of blue or circular economy through documented post-graduate work with a minimum of 7 years of experience in the field. The list of key personnel must include:

- i. Climate change specialist with experience in climate finance;

- ii. Expert in environmental sustainability with experience in coastal and marine ecosystems;
 - iii. Expert in waste management with experience in blue economy or circular economy;
 - iv. Expert in water management with experience in blue economy or circular economy, and
 - v. Expert in energy efficiency and renewable energies with experience in climate change mitigation.
 - vi. Expert in land use or development planning
- (B) EXPERIENCE. The firm must have no less than 5 years of legal constitution; have experience managing consulting contracts amounting to \$300,000 or more a year, and document experience in climate change projects, grant proposal writing or through the experience of at least two collaborators proposed for this assignment. Similarly, the firm should demonstrate experience with activities related to climate change, blue economy or circular economy; local field experience in the Caribbean and local team members (nationals of participating countries) will be considered an asset. Also experience with MDBs in project design and implementation (ideally related to Blue/Circular Economy growth) will also be considered an asset.

(C) LANGUAGES: English.

Eligible consulting firms will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: [Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting firms for Bank-executed Operational Work](#) - GN-2765-1. All eligible consulting firms, as defined in the Policy may express an interest.

The IDB now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services described below in the draft summary of the intended Terms of Reference for the assignment. Interested consulting firms must provide information to establish that they are qualified to perform the Services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Eligible consulting firms may associate in a form of a Joint Venture or a sub-consultancy agreement to enhance their qualifications. Such association or Joint Venture shall appoint one of the firms as the representative. The Expression of Interest containing all the relevant information SHOULD NOT EXCEED TEN (10) PAGES. Any additional files are to be attached separately and be clearly marked as annexes.

Interested eligible consulting firms may obtain further information during office hours, 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM, (Washington D.C. Time) by sending an email to Sara Valero Freitag (sarav@iadb.org) by September 27th, 2017 5pm (Washington DC time). Questions and answers will be compiled and shared with all firms expressing interest in time for the deadline of October 4th, 2017.

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DRAFT SUMMARY OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

I. Objective of consultancy

- 1.1 The objective of this consultancy is to: (i) define the current situation in terms of governance structure and institutional settings, as well as recommend main policy and regulatory reforms necessary to apply a Blue¹ and Circular² Economy approach to sustainability in island territories of participating countries;³ and (ii) identify a programmatic pipeline of projects in line with the previously defined blue circular economy approach for smart growth in islands territories.

II. Main Activities

- 2.1 The main activities the consulting firm will undertake are:
- i. A desk review to identify the elements (principles, existing challenges and requirements) of a Blue and Circular Economy so that these can be applied to islands in their efforts to attain sustainability;
 - ii. An assessment of the existence or nonexistence of the previously identified elements in targeted island territories⁴;
 - iii. An assessment of: (a) the level of attainment of SDGs⁵ and targets set out in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) of participating countries; and (b) current and potential (in a scenario where the Blue and Circular Economy approach is applied) contributions of all island territories to their corresponding national targets in terms of SDGs and NDCs;
 - iv. Creation of “island categories” based on governance, economic, social and environmental criteria in order to select a representative sample of islands for which the Blue and Circular Economy framework can be piloted.
 - v. Preliminary identification of a pool of ongoing initiatives (either IDB funded or not) that have potential, to be adjusted to fit within the Blue Circular economy principles, inclusive of the proposed project adjustments in the pilot island territories identified as a result of the previous activities under this consultancy; and rank the on-going initiatives based on criteria. Following preliminary identification, the firm will hold workshops with top-ranked initiatives to sensitize Executing Agencies and PEUs of benefits of applying the framework to their projects. Then final selection based on level of engagement/buy in.
 - vi. Identification of new project ideas to support the Blue Circular Growth model defined as part of the previous activities under this consultancy;

¹ The Blue Economy is a sustainable ocean economy in which “economic activity is in balance with the long-term capacity of ocean ecosystems to support this activity and remain resilient and healthy” (adapted from The Economist, 2015).

² A Circular Economy relies on 3 main principles: (1) Preserve and enhance natural capital by controlling finite stocks and balancing renewable resources flows; (2) Optimize resource yields by circulating products, components and materials at the highest utility in both technical and biological cycles; and (3) Foster system effectiveness by revealing and designing out negative externalities (adapted from Ellen McArthur Foundation).

³ Participating countries are: Barbados, The Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, and Trinidad and Tobago. When referring to island territories within participating countries it means either island states (such as Jamaica and Barbados) or island territories belonging to continental countries (for example Roatan (Honduras), Corn Island (Nicaragua) or Caye Caulker (Belize)).

⁴ Targeted island territories will be assessed from an economic perspective to be able to create categories that would allow classification of “types of island” for which different blue circular economy elements should be applied in order to reach sustainability. The economic criteria to be used to create such island categories will be defined as part of the activities under this component.

⁵ At least, [SDGs](#) # 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15.

- vii. Development of a funding proposal to access international financing to fully develop (technical designs, full feasibility studies, etc.) and implement at least 3 projects contained in the previously identified pipeline that will support the blue/circular growth model for the selected island territories⁶.

⁶ The exact number of projects will be defined at the time of proposal preparation, as it will depend on the type of fund being accessed and the maximum resources that can be requested (examples of funds are GCF, IKI-BMU, GEF, etc.), but never less than 3 to be able to pilot a blue/circular pipeline of projects.