

# REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

## (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRM SELECTION)

### RECRUITMENT OF A CONSULTANCY FIRM

#### FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF A FIRM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MASTER PLAN FOR CONTROLLING PLASTIC POLLUTION IN SELECTED RIVERS OF SRI LANKA

<b>Country:</b>	SRI LANKA
<b>Project:</b>	PLASTIC FREE RIVERS AND SEAS FOR SOUTH ASIA (PLEASE) PROJECT.
<b>Grant No:</b>	D648-8S
<b>Assignment Title:</b>	FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF A FIRM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MASTER PLAN FOR CONTROLLING PLASTIC POLLUTION IN SELECTED RIVERS OF SRI LANKA
<b>Assignment Period:</b>	6 MONTHS CONSULTING FIRM RECRUITMENT WILL BE ON CONSULTANTS' QUALIFICATION SYSTEM (CQS) BASIS
<b>Procurement Plan No:</b>	LK-SACEP-466801-CS-CQS

The South Asia Cooperative Environment Program (SACEP) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Plastic Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia (PLEASE) project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

Candidates should be nationals of member states of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), which consists of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. While the leadership of SACEP and the World Bank are committed to having a diversity of candidates, women are encouraged to apply.

The consulting services ("the Services") include preparing a comprehensive master plan and an implementation mechanism to guide and achieve plastic waste-free rivers through an integrated approach. The project will be implemented to cover 11 rivers in Sri Lanka which have a high number of river-related environmental issues and necessary canals and water bodies that may ultimately affect the marine water surrounding Sri Lanka.

This study is not focusing on deep sea plastic marine debris and maritime activities but focuses primarily on land-based and coastal zone plastic pollution.

The List of key activities under the TOR are listed below:

- a) Collection of baseline data including types of plastics (including micro plastics) , sources of generation and their impacts on different ecosystems and sectors
- b) Preparation of an assessment report of existing baseline data, policies, legislation and gaps identified in the field in relation to the project (1st deliverable)
- c) Carry out a comprehensive study on eleven selected rivers/ river basins and their river mouth/estuary/coastal area in the field in relation to the project and submit a report. (2nd deliverable)

- d) Updating and maintaining the existing river pollution database with new data including types of plastics, sources of generation, and their impacts on different ecosystems and sectors such as fisheries, tourism, irrigation etc. (3rd deliverable)
- e) Preparation of a master plan after identifying the existing issues (4th deliverable) (including detection of gaps in policy, rules, and regulations and providing insights that can direct strengthening existing policies and low enforcement, behavioral change, engagement of national authorities responsible for waste management, enhance financial commitments, monitoring, research and development)
- f) Preparation of an implementation plan/project road maps with short, medium, and long term activities, along with the approximate budget and validation (5th deliverable)
- g) Present the findings and the roadmap to pertinent stakeholders and decision-makers.

The detailed Tasks are given in the TOR Attached.

Consultancy assignment shall be completed within a 6-month period from the date of signing of the contract and the estimated budget is USD 290,000. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: <http://sacep.org/consultancy-opportunities> .

The SACEP/PLEASE now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the requested Services. Interested Consultants should provide the information that was requested in the proposal that demonstrates that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience and qualification to perform the Services as indicated below;

Recruitment Qualifications and Experience:

The experience and expertise required for the consulting firm are listed below:

- i. In addition to the qualification requirements of the individual consultants indicated in TOR, the Consulting Firm shall have general consulting experience in carrying out high-quality analytical work, including qualitative and quantitative analysis of data relating to waste management including plastics of a minimum of 7 years. The firm has had an average consulting turnover of Rs 80 Mn in the past 3 years.
- ii. A consulting firm shall indicate a minimum of 2 reference projects/contracts of the services carried out in the past 5 years which are similar to the activities included in the TOR. The minimum value of each activity shall be not less than LKR 20 Mn.
- iii. PLEASE project reserves the right to contact the companies provided as references by bidders (proposed consultants) .

References will be requested by PIU/SACEP to provide feedback on the following aspects of service delivery similar to services expected in the TOR on the reference 2 projects listed by the consultants: (i) Management capabilities of the firm to carry out the similar activity, (ii) Accuracy and quality assurance of the administrative processes and ensuring the output, (iii) Efficiency and cost-effectiveness in terms of delivery of services and meeting the timeliness, and (iv) responsiveness to the client services,.

### **Required Team Composition**

The consulting team should have experienced consultants in the disciplines as requested in the TOR. The REOI submissions will be evaluated in two stages: The first stage will evaluate functionality according to the criteria of;

- a) **methodology/ approach of the proposal – (40 points )** including collection/ sampling points captured across different geographical areas, sectors, commercial/institutional districts, seasonal climatic changes, using statistically representative method. Methods of Stakeholder consultation, Mapping, health and safety plan for the field activities related to sampling, analysis of data collected.

- b) **Past experience:** Consulting Firm shall have at least three (3) traceable references relating to project-related experiences undertaken in the past three years. Provide a brief description of the scope and scale of the work undertaken for each and indicate the value of each contract. Points will be awarded to affirmative compliance to the Experience and qualification requirements indicated in the Recruitment Qualifications and experience listed in the TOR. **(30 points)**
- c) **Team capacity:** The Consulting Firm should demonstrate the capacity of the project team recommended to be engaged and to be utilized in the execution of the contract. Their skills, qualifications, experience, etc. The CVs of staff should not be longer than 3 pages in total and should be structured as follows:- (i) Professional qualification/s, (ii) Brief description of individuals' experience of similar work in the last five years. (iii) Name of previous employer/s and position.(iv) Role in the services to be provided in this bid. **(25 Points)**
- c) **Value-added services** (these are the services that can add value to the proposed services possessed by the firm). **(5 points)**

## Technical Proposal Requirements

Firms are required to submit technical proposals with the "Technical Proposal Template" with a strict page limit to a total of 50 (fifty) pages (there is no limit on annexes). Reviewers reserve the possibility to only consider and evaluate the 50-page proposal (excluding annexes). The Consultant shall provide a summary table of experience in the Technical Proposal and provide detailed citations for each project in an Annex of the proposal.

The RFP/EOI that fails to score a minimum of 70 out of a possible 100 points on this criterion on the technical requirements will not be eligible for further consideration. The highest ranks Consulting Firm scored on technical grounds of the EOI shall be called up to submit an RFP mainly with a financial bid along with the technical information for contract negotiation. The successful Consulting Firm will be requested to enter into a **time-based** Contract to compete for scope activities in the TOR.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraph, 3.17 of the World Bank's 'Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers' (*Procurement in Investment Project Financing- Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016 Revised November 2017 and August 2018*), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment:

*3.17 Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of being unable to carry out the assignment in the best interests of the Borrower. Without limitation on the generality of the foregoing, Consultants shall not be hired under the circumstances set forth below:*

*d. Consultants (including their experts and other personnel, and sub-consultants), that have a close business or family relationship with a professional staff of the Borrower, or of the project implementing agency, or of a recipient of a part of the Bank's financing, or any other party representing or acting on behalf of the Borrower, that is directly or indirectly involved in any part of:*

- i. the preparation of the TOR for the assignment;*
- ii. the selection process for the contract; or*
- iii. the supervision of the contract, may not be awarded a contract unless the conflict stemming from this relationship has been resolved in a manner acceptable to the Bank throughout the selection process and the execution of the contract.*

The Firm will be selected based on the qualification and experience (CQS basis) , in accordance with the procedures set out in the 'The World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers Procurement in

*Investment Project Financing- Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016, Revised November 2017' and August 2018' and as per the Financing Agreement of the project.*

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 08.30 to 16.30 (Sri Lanka Time).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, by mail, or by e-mail) by **20<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 14.00 hrs**. Sri Lanka standard time.

All email submissions of the technical bid shall be directed to Anjalie Devaraja (Project Director) **[pleaseproject@sacep.org](mailto:pleaseproject@sacep.org)** with copy to **[anjalie.please\\_project@sacep.org](mailto:anjalie.please_project@sacep.org)**

For more information on the technical clarification in the TOR, contact: Prakriti Kashyap (Plastic Expert) at **[prakriti.please\\_project@sacep.org](mailto:prakriti.please_project@sacep.org)** .

For contractual queries in the TOR, contact: Sarath Muthugala (Procurement Specialist) at **[sarath.please\\_project@sacep.org](mailto:sarath.please_project@sacep.org)**

**Attn: Mrs. Anjalie Devaraja,  
Project Director,  
PLEASE Project  
#45, Rosemead Place,  
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.**

**Tel: +9411-2662106**

**E-mail: [pleaseproject@sacep.org](mailto:pleaseproject@sacep.org) and copy to [anjalie.please\\_project@sacep.org](mailto:anjalie.please_project@sacep.org)**

**03 January 2024**