

CONSULTANCY

Development of Bankable Investment Portfolio for Financing Climate Change Projects in the Dominican Republic, to Support the Second Submission of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

APPLICATION DEADLINE:	11th September 2020
STARTING DATE:	24th September 2020
LOCATION:	Flexible

ABOUT GWP

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is an international network established in 1996, whose vision is for a water secure world. The GWP mission is to advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development. The GWP network is open to all organisations which recognise the principles of integrated water resources management (IWRM) endorsed by the network. The network spans 13 regions with more than 3,000 institutional Partners in 158 countries. The global secretariat is in Stockholm, Sweden. **More information:** www.gwp.org.

BACKGROUND

GWP addresses the manifold threats and opportunities relating to sustainable water resource management by promoting partnerships, knowledge management and facilitation of reform/change processes. To this end, it works at a regional and country level to facilitate the inclusion of water in the development agenda (within the overall umbrella of SDGs), with an entry point on water security. The main thrust is for better implementation of water governance via IWRM.

The Global Water Partnership-Caribbean (GWP-C) has a mandate to assist Caribbean countries in achieving long-term water security, through the sustainable management of their water resources. This is achieved through the promotion and implementation of IWRM, a participatory approach to managing water resources that involves engaging all sectors of the economy.

Nationally Determined Contributions

After the commencement of the Paris Agreement, country reports which were submitted before the Paris Conference (INDCs – Intended Nationally Determined Contributions), became Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Together with a new system for reporting on adaptation, these NDCs are central to the Agreement’s implementation. Countries can decide whether to focus adaptation planning into their NDC, and/or use National Adaptation Plans, or National Communications.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030, all have their respective global processes and platforms, and monitoring and reporting mechanisms. These provide entry points for dialogue and action to make best use of IWRM in increasing ambition to advance countries’ commitments on climate action, sustainable development, and disaster risk reduction.

www.gwp.org

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The NDCs are a powerful framework for laying out priorities for national climate action, with the potential to guide priorities, such as building climate resilience and climate-resilient infrastructure. They can be developed into country-level strategies and/or approaches for mobilising finance for climate resilient infrastructure programmes and projects and for enhancing the necessary policy and regulatory frameworks. The first window of opportunity ahead, is the submission of new or updated NDCs in 2020.

It is in this context that GWP is supporting the Government of the Dominican Republic to develop investment-ready portfolios of technically sound and economically viable projects for climate change adaptation and mitigation at basin level. This support will be provided in the form of a technical study, that will inform the preparation of the country's submission for the second round of NDCs. These activities are part of the Climate Action Enhancement Package from the NDC Partnership.

OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

- Develop an investment-ready portfolio of (minimum 5) technically sound and economically viable climate change projects at basin-level in the Dominican Republic. The primary focus of this activity will be on adaptation, though mitigation projects with strong adaptation components will be accepted. Consequently, a minimum of 3 concept notes in the final portfolio should have a climate change adaptation focus. Adaptation projects with mitigation co-benefits, will be highly desirable. Wherever possible, financially viable business cases for investment should be included.
- Ensure the portfolio is developed with a basin-scale approach and includes water resources, livelihoods diversification, and resilient agriculture, processing schemes, supply chains and food security, integrating transboundary cooperation when appropriate. Ensure private sector involvement and engagement wherever possible; indicate type and extent of private sector involvement for each project.
- Each project of the portfolio will include a short/mid-term financial strategy, aiming to optimise effectiveness and efficiency to achieve maximum impact in terms of, *inter alia*: covered areas, beneficiary population (disaggregated by gender), ecosystem health and improved social development.

SCOPE

Activities will be carried out in the context of the formulation of the second round of NDCs of the Dominican Republic to be submitted in 2020. The consultant / Firm is expected to become familiar with the first NDC submitted by the Dominican Republic in 2015, as well as national policies and plans related to climate adaptation and mitigation that are relevant for the assignment. In addition, it is expected that the consultant/ Firm keeps abreast of on-going and planned processes in the country that offer synergies with this task; building specifically on the priorities and past activities of Mesa de Coordinación del Recurso Agua (Coordination Table of Water Resources), which elaborates and approves the integral strategy of water management in the Dominican Republic. It is also expected that the consultant/ Firm has undertaken similar assignments related to development of environmental and/or climate change adaptation and mitigation projects.

ACTIVITIES

- 1) Prepare an inception report**, include detailed workplan, budget and TORs of additional supporting staff. In close collaboration with GWP-C, prepare an agreed-upon project document template to be used for each project concept/proposal. The exact contents of this template will be agreed upon between the service provider and GWP-C. However, they are likely to include: i) baseline assessment/situation analysis; ii) climate rationale (mitigation/adaptation); iii) problem & objective statement; iv) project component description, impacts, co-benefits and Theory of Change; v) preliminary costed logical framework; vi) alignment with country needs and priorities; vii) exit strategy, sustainability and potential for upscaling.
- 2) Conduct rapid preliminary assessment** of existing/ongoing proposed projects/programmes interventions relevant to the scope of the assignment, as well as climate risks and vulnerability of identified areas. This assessment will build on a review of relevant literature, consultation and coordination with Mesa de Coordinación del Recurso Agua, as well as consultation with other public, private sector and key NGO stakeholders.
- 3) Develop draft project idea notes** based on preliminary assessment and feasibility study.
- 4) Develop full portfolio of projects and/or programmes** for climate adaptation at basin-level:
 - a)** Familiarise him/herself with all relevant literature, and liaise with Mesa de Coordinación del Recurso Agua, to identify priorities and build the portfolio in synergy with past and current national activities.
 - b)** Draft project concept notes utilising the template designed by the consultant and agreed upon by the GWP-C.
 - c)** Participate in multi-stakeholder consultations (Mesa de Coordinación del Recurso Agua), relevant Ministries, international and local agencies, population residing in basin areas, among others), to gather stakeholder input on the drafted concept notes, both at inception stage as well as at finalisation stage.
 - d)** Revise concept notes considering discussions held in stakeholder consultation; incorporate inputs from stakeholders consulted along the process.
 - e)** Screen each project for environmental and social impacts against national standards and regulations.
 - f)** Assess and clearly state potential gender impacts (adverse and positive) within each proposed project.
 - g)** Include infographic and supporting documentation such as maps, demographic profiles, etc.
- 5) Prepare portfolio completion report** with all necessary annexes.

DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

Main deliverables:

1. Inception report and concept note template:

- Include detailed workplan, budget and TORs of additional supporting staff.
- Prepare project document template, including:
 - i) Baseline assessment/situation analysis
 - ii) Climate rationale (mitigation/adaptation)
 - iii) Problem & objective statement
 - iv) Project component description, impacts, co-benefits and Theory of Change
 - v) Preliminary costed logical framework
 - vi) Alignment with country needs and priorities
 - vii) Exit strategy, sustainability and potential for upscaling

2. Detailed preliminary assessment:

- Review of the relevant literature and similar existing/ongoing proposed projects/programmes interventions
- Methodology and information used for the assessment, including inputs resultant from stakeholder consultations and liaising with Mesa de Coordinación del Recurso Agua
- Recommendations for the assessment, including:
 - Review of existing available data
 - Recommended criteria to be used for the assessment and methodology
 - Specification for viable projects

3. Develop draft project idea notes:

- Review of the relevant literature
- Methodology and information used to develop the notes
- Include considerations from preliminary assessment multi-stakeholders' consultations and discussions with Mesa de Coordinación del Recurso Agua and other relevant institutions (e.g. Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture)

4. Develop full portfolio of projects:

- Include considerations resultant from project idea notes and multi-stakeholder consultation
- Methodology for environmental and social impact screening
- Methodology for potential gender impacts
- Include infographic and supporting documentation such as maps, demographic profiles, etc.)

5. Portfolio completion report

Schedule:

The consultancy will commence on the 24th September 2020:

- **Item 1** – To be completed by 5th October 2020
- **Item 2** – To be completed by 5th November 2020
- **Item 3** – To be completed by 5th December 2020
- **Item 4** – To be completed by 5th February 2021
- **Item 5** – To be completed by 28th February 2021

CONSULTANCY REQUIREMENTS

- At least 7 years' experience in a relevant field, such as Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, Economy or Finance, International Development, etc.
- Minimum 5 years' experience on conducting climate and/or environmental project development, natural resources management or similar assignments.
- Experience with climate change adaptation/mitigation in LAC countries advantageous.
- Experience with nature-based solutions and catchment management/basin planning/IWRM highly advantageous.
- Previous experience with the preparation of project concepts and proposals at a regional or national level is required.
- Previous experience working with international agencies such as UNDP, UNEP, GWP or others will be an asset.
- At least one member of the consultancy team having experience working in the Caribbean region will be an asset.
- Deadline driven and results oriented.
- Computer literacy and mastery of Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.
- Excellent writing, editing and oral communication skills in both English and Spanish.

Please send in your technical and financial proposal for the services required to procurement@gwp.org by **Friday 11th September 2020**. **Financial proposal should include all financial costs to be borne by the consultant / firm** for undertaking the assignment. **ONLY** proposals under consideration will be contacted within 2 weeks after the deadline date has passed.
