



Maldives Clean Environment Project
Ministry of Environment
Republic of Maldives

Date: 18th March 2021

Procurement Reference: MV-MEE-160547-CS-CQS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultancy Assignment for the Formulation of a National Waste & Resource Management Policy and Strategy for the Maldives

1. Introduction

The Government of the Republic of Maldives through the Ministry of Environment (ME) is implementing Maldives Clean Environment Project (MCEP) financed through grant aid from the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for a consultancy assignment for the formulation of an overarching waste and resource management policy and strategy for the Maldives, as part of the GoM's efforts to strengthen waste and resource management in the country.

2. Background

Since the introduction of the first National Solid Waste Management Policy of the Maldives in 2008 followed by investments to establish the first regional waste management system under the World Bank funded Maldives Environmental Management Project (2008-2016), strengthening waste and resource management has become a key priority of the government of Maldives.

In 2014, the policy was again revised and better coordination and more investments from the state budget and donors were pooled since then, to address the issue of waste management. The revised policy gives clear mandates to all stakeholders and to all island councils to manage the waste generated in their respective islands. However, a number of emerging issues have raised a need to review the existing policy in line with the current government's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and key lessons learned to develop a comprehensive strategy identifying potential options for integrated waste and resource management in the inhabited islands and cities of the Maldives; tourism resorts and marine tourism (safari boat) operators; commercial and industrial generators of waste including fisheries; medical waste, . This assignment will support the formulation of an overarching national waste and resource management policy and strategy, recommending future programs, capital investments and other options

as well as the social, environmental and economic implications for waste and resource management in different communities of the Maldives.

3. Objective of this Assignment

The main objective of this assignment is to formulate an integrated national waste and resource management strategy with next step and gap filling policy recommendations in line with the government's Strategic Action Plan (SAP). The strategy should also make recommendations for an associated implementation plan (short, medium and long-term) for waste and resource management in the Maldives taking into account stakeholder feedback, goals and targets, outcomes and performance targets and cost-effectiveness. Recommendations and activities should have a clearly defined baseline relating to the current situation, existing policy framework, and stages of implementation in the Maldives based on capacity, funding, and timing requirements.

The government's SAP strategy to deal with waste management in the country centers on recognizing waste as a valuable resource by integrating international waste management practices in a more circular economy approach, establishing extended producer responsibilities, and polluter pay principles while reducing pollution through a complete ban on the use and sale of single use plastic by 2023.

The specific objectives of the assignment are:

- To suggest/recommend policy changes in order to address issues emerging in the evolving waste and resource management sector,
- To review existing waste and resource management practices and identify problems that need solutions related to waste and resource management in the country,
- To formulate a national strategy for the development of effective and sustainable waste and resource management systems across the Maldives, including short-, medium- and long-term implementation plans,
- To recommend a sound and economically sustainable institutional framework using the government mechanisms (both at national and island level) in combination with the private sector as appropriate to initiate, operate, and supervise the waste and resource management sector,
- To identify potential sources of revenue for sustainability of the waste and resource management system,
- To recommend actions to increase the generation of new jobs and increase private sector involvement in waste and resource management through an understanding and analysis of the business prospects and constraints faced by the private sector
- To develop a process, roadmap, and policies to incorporate Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in waste and resource management,

- To define methods and a plan for continuous education and awareness campaigns for sustainable waste and resource management,
- To identify appropriate technologies/ methods for the management of all categories of waste, including but not limited to Municipal, Commercial, Industrial, Healthcare, Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste, E-waste, Hazardous Waste etc.
- To design a national program for the reduction of marine litter / ocean plastic pollution,
- Identify key gaps and updates needed in the legal framework for waste and resource management and propose changes to the draft waste and resource management bill.

4. Scope of Work

Based on the objectives above, the detailed scope of services for this assignment will be:

I. Assessment of the current situation and policy framework:

- Review the current policy framework and all existing policies related to waste and resource management (solid waste management, health care waste management, hazardous waste management and E-waste etc.) This will include a review the existing Solid Waste Management Policy (2014); the government's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and all the relevant laws/regulations including but not limited to the waste management regulation, draft waste management bill and Decentralization Act etc.
- Assess ocean plastic pollution activities and recommend management measures

II. Conduct field studies and stakeholder consultations:

- Carry out field survey in 8 islands of different population sizes and review current waste and resource management practices in light of the economic situation, legal framework, institutional arrangements, social condition, etc. in the cities and islands,
- Carry out field surveys in 4 resorts of difference sizes and review the current waste and resource management practices in the tourism sector
- Conduct meetings and discussions with various stakeholders including island communities, public and private institutions, NGOs to identify waste and resource management related problems and possible solutions.
- Carry out public consultation at the national level using social media platforms
- Suggest policy recommendations to strengthen sustainable waste and resource management in tourist facilities/resort operations.

III. Analyze and Recommend Policy Updates, Strategies and Implementation Options:

- Assess the investment options/opportunities for the private sector participation in the improvement and strengthening of waste and resource management related infrastructure and activities,

- Recommend/suggest an overarching waste and resource management policy in order to cater for the evolving waste and resource management sector in the country,
- Conduct a stakeholder workshop (workshop 1) for presenting the draft Waste and resource management Policy (to be held in Male’)
- Formulate a national strategy for waste and resource management, with short, medium, and long-term implementation plans. In developing the strategy, the consultant will undertake a review of all potential options for sustainable waste and resource management in the Maldives. This plan shall include recommendations for future programs, capital investments and other options as well as the social, environmental and economic implications for waste and resource management in different communities in the Maldives.
- Incorporate 3R practices, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and other aspects of sustainable waste and resource management principals into the strategy
- Conduct a stakeholder workshop (workshop 2) for presenting the national strategy and implementation plan for waste and resource management (to be held in Male’)
- Propose an improved draft of the waste and resource management bill

5. Duration of Consultancy

Duration of this assignment will be 08 (eight) calendar months commencing May 2021.

6. Deliverables

The following are key deliverables for the assignment:

1. Inception report and work plan with a detailed methodology (*end of week 4*)
2. Report on the existing situation (including findings of desk review and field surveys) and stakeholder consultations (*end of week 14*)
3. Overarching waste and resource management policy with recommendations based on the analysis and objectives of the assignment (*end of week 20*)
4. National Strategies (including EPR and PPP) and implementation plans (short, medium and long-term) for implementing the proposed policy/strategy (*end of week 28*)
5. Improved/ revised waste and resource management bill (*end of week 32*)

Draft of the revised national waste and resource management policy (deliverable 3) and the strategy/implementation plan (deliverable 4) should be presented in 2 separate stakeholder workshops organized centrally, in order to get feedback and comments from key stakeholders prior to finalizing these documents. Final deliverables should be submitted as soft copies (both in PDF format and editable MS Word format).

7. Reporting Modalities

The Consultant will work under the overall guidance of the Project Director and Project Manager of Maldives Clean Environment Project and will work closely with Waste Management and Pollution Control Department of the Ministry of Environment and relevant section of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Utility Regulatory Authority (URA).

8. Team Composition

It is estimated that approximately 12 person/months of key personnel will be required for the consultants' services collectively. The team composition is recommended to include the following:

| SN | Designation | Basic requirements | Estimated Input (psn/months) |
|----|--|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | Team Leader/Waste and resource management expert | Minimum of a master's degree in either environmental/resource management, waste and resource management sustainable development or equivalent combination of education relevant to this assignment with 10 years of general experience in policy formulation and strategic planning, including a minimum of 05 years' experience in waste and resource management/resource management and or pollution control. | 05 |
| 2 | Marine logistics specialist | At least 10 years of experience and relevant qualifications in marine logistics planning, preferably with a good knowledge of the Maldives. Experience working across a diversity of sectors on marine mobility options and efficiency improvements would be considered an advantage as waste management has many specific operational issues that need to be taken into consideration. This includes a need to assess options and costs for different waste streams as unique resources at the national scale rather than treating waste as a whole. Strong track record Ability to work in a multi-sectoral team is also | 02 |

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| | | essential. Relevant educational training may include operations research, marine logistics, etc | |
| 3 | Environment Specialist | Postgraduate qualification in environmental management/science with 5 years' work experience in a related field such as waste and resource management or environmental impact assessment. | 02 |
| 4 | Sociologist | Undergraduate qualification in sociology or anthropology with minimum 3 years' experience in a related field. | 01 |
| 5 | Financial analyst/Economist | Postgraduate qualification in economics/commerce/ business management with 5 years' experience in a related field. Experience in public private partnership will be an advantage. | 01 |
| 6 | Legal expert | An undergraduate degree in law with 5 years experiences in the legal sector and legislative environment of the Maldives. | 01 |

9. Evaluation Criteria

The proposals submitted by the consultants will be evaluated based on the criteria below.

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| Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the assignment | [10] |
| Adequacy and quality of the proposed methodology and work plan in responding to the Terms of Reference (TORs) | [35] |
| <p>Relevant experience and qualification of Key Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Team Leader/ Waste and resource management Expert (15 points) - Marine Logistics Specialist (7.5 points) - Environmental Specialist (7.5 points) - Sociologist (7.5 points) - Financial Analyst/ Economist (7.5 points) - Legal Expert (5 points) <p>The number of points to be assigned to each of the above positions shall be determined considering the following three sub-criteria and relevant percentage weights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) General qualifications (general education, training, and experience): 20% 2) Adequacy for the Assignment (relevant education, training, experience in the sector/similar assignments): 70% | [50] |

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| 3) Relevant experience in the region (working level fluency in local language(s)/knowledge of local culture or administrative system, government organization, etc.): 10% | |
| Participation of nationals among key staff | [05] |

10. Payment Schedule

The consultant shall be paid as per the following schedule:

- PAYMENT 1: 10% upon submission and approval of inception report.
- PAYMENT 2: 30% upon submission and approval of the report on literature review, field surveys and stakeholder consultations
- PAYMENT 3: 45% upon submission and approval of the revised national waste and resource management policy and waste and resource management strategy (with implementation plan)
- PAYMENT 4: 15% upon submission and approval of proposed changes to the draft bill on waste and resource management

11. Facilities to be provided by the Client

The client will provide all relevant background information, including reports of all relevant studies and assessments carried out previously. The client will also facilitate the consultant in obtaining relevant reports and data from other stakeholders, and in organizing stakeholder consultations/ stakeholder workshops. The consultant is required to carry out the assignment with sufficient resources, staff and logistical arrangements. No cost for such arrangements shall be borne by the Client, except for the cost related to the participation of stakeholders from islands (other than Male') in the 2 Stakeholder Workshops.