

ORGANISATION OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES (OECS)

Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) Project on Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Land Management in the Eastern Caribbean

TERMS OF REFERENCE (Revised)

Project Specialist

1. Background

The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) has received financing from the European Union (EU) acting through the European Commission for a Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) Project on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in the Eastern Caribbean.

In support of the OECS Climate Change programme, the Secretariat has developed a Climate Change Project Dossier of Concepts which was endorsed by the OECS Environment Policy Committee (Ministers of Environment) at their 12th Meeting in Antigua and Barbuda in December 2008. SLM in the context of CCA is one of the focus areas under the programme.

Like most Small Island developing States (SIDS), the environment of OECS Member States is characterized by, and faces challenges originating from their small size: small open economies, limited infrastructure, and high vulnerability to natural disasters. These unique characteristics, in association with multiple drivers and root causes such as prevailing land tenure systems, fragile soil types, physiographic and climate variation, limit the land area available for development, creating intense competition between the land use options including urban settlement, agriculture, tourism and infrastructure. These challenges are exacerbated by the projected impacts of global climate change which combine to erode the ability of Member States to meet their development aspirations sustainably.

OECS Member States have long acknowledged that their development must be predicated on individual efforts pursued within the context of regional unity, solidarity and cooperation in wide ranging areas, including environmental protection and sustainable development. To this end, the Revised treaty of Basseterre, requires, under Article 24, that each protocol Member State shall implement the St. George's Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability which seeks to, inter-alia, build the capacity of Member States and regional institutions to guide and support processes of sustainable development, achieve the long-term protection and sustained productivity of the region's natural resource base and the ecosystem services it provides, and ensure that natural resources contribute optimally and equitably to economic, social and cultural development.

One recurring national level constraint to sustainable development, which is also cross cutting among OECS member states, relates to sustainable land management. This matter is the subject of several action plans, vulnerability assessments and regulations as well as investments in institutional and capacity development interventions. Notwithstanding this intention and effort, process has been slow, disjointed and incomplete, and when combined with weak institutional capacity and resource frameworks, the result is of a region willing but not having the capacity to meet national and global sustainable development targets.

2. Project Purpose

The purpose of the project is to improve the region's natural resource base resilience to the impacts of climate change. It intends to overcome the aforementioned weaknesses by undertaking the subject of sustainable land management in a completely new fashion: via a comprehensive and integrated regional and national approaches, including strengthening the OECS Secretariat to effectively play the leading institutional role to effectively support Member States on environmental protection and climate change.

3. Activity Description

The Project will be implemented under 2 components, as follows:

Component A - Effective and sustainable land management (SLM) frameworks and practices:

- **Enabling environment.** Establish/reinforce the regional and national LM systems by providing appropriate Climate Change (CC) oriented legal and institutional frameworks;
- **Technical and human capacity.** Build capacity to effectively operate and manage the required technical tools for the collection, storage, coordination, analysis and display of geo-spatial data necessary to support the decision making process in delivering SLM policies and strategies;
- **Participatory approach.** Conduct harmonized awareness campaigns at regional and national level to highlight the risks, threats and opportunities arising from CC with a view to building a durable and constructive partnership between relevant stakeholders.

Component B - Specific physical adaptation pilot projects in relevant areas or sectors:

- **Best practice demonstrations.** Identify, design and replicate a set of priority, SLM measures in each Member State.

The Project will be implemented in the nine countries of the OECS (Antigua and Barbuda; Dominica; Grenada; St. Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Montserrat; Anguilla; and the British Virgin Islands).

4. Scope Of Services Required

Project Specialist - GCCA Project on Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Land Management in the Eastern Caribbean

The specific Duties and Responsibilities of the Project Specialist will include, *inter alia*:

1. Providing technical advice and implementation assistance for project activities, especially related to Component A, towards the key expected results as follows:

- a. Improved understanding of the region's status in terms of institutional, technical and human capacity;
 - b. Enhanced Sustainable Land Management (SLM) institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks at regional and national level;
 - c. Enhanced SLM human and technical capacity at regional and national level;
 - d. Improved public awareness on the risks, threats and opportunities arising from climate change at regional and national level;
 - e. Enhanced physical adaptation measures.
2. Assisting with project management functions, including (but not limited to): development of work programmes and plans; preparation of reports; preparation, administration and closure of "Programme Estimates"; supervision of relevant contracts; liaising with appropriate national and regional stakeholders;
 3. Liaising with appropriate personnel at the OECS Secretariat and other national and regional programmes and initiatives towards realization of the broader OECS climate change and sustainable land management and development mandate.
 4. Undertaking any such duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Project Coordinator, relevant to the coordination and implementation of the Climate Change Unit's programme and implementation of the OECS Secretariat's Work Plan, and the OECS Growth and Development Strategy.

5. Functional Relationship and Reporting

- (i) Reports to the Project Co-ordinator through the Project Technical Team Leader;
- (ii) Member of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and the Project Technical Team (PTT);
- (iii) Internal Contacts: OECS Secretariat Personnel - including Members of the PSC and PTT, and staff of complementary projects.
- (iv) External Contacts: Beneficiary OECS Member States; European Commission Officials, Consultants, Contractors, Complementary projects, Service Providers and Suppliers, External Auditors and Evaluators, and relevant regional and international partners.

6. Qualifications and Experience

The candidate is required to demonstrate the following qualifications, knowledge, skills and experience:

- (i) Post-graduate degree (Masters or higher) in a relevant discipline: Physical Planning, Environmental Management, Land Management or other relevant field with minimum eight (8) years professional experience.
- (ii) Demonstrated understanding of and expertise in subjects such as Sustainable Land Management, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, Natural Resources

Management, climatology, hydrology, and geographic information systems, in the context of Small Island Developing States.

- (iii) Knowledge and understanding of relevant regional and international climate change and land management development partners, treaties, forums, programmes and stakeholders.
- (iv) A minimum of five (5) years direct experience working at a leadership level with relevant SLM and Climate Change programmes or projects. Knowledge of European Union programming, procurement and management procedures would be an asset.
- (v) Ability to work as a member of a multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural team and to take initiative and to work with minimum supervision, and proven capacity to work with and establish working relationships with medium to high-level government and non-government representatives.
- (vi) Experience and skills with relevant tools, ability to prepare and deliver relevant training, and excellent oral and written communication skills in English.

7. Duration of the Contract

The duration of the Project Specialist's contract is for a period of **two (2) years**, subject to relevant terms and conditions and possible extension.

The execution period for the project's operational implementation phase is fixed at 60 months, which commenced 1st January 2014.

8. Application Procedures

Applications are to be submitted for the attention of: **Human Resource Unit, Post of Project Specialist, Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) Project, OECS Secretariat, Morne Fortuné, P.O. Box 179, Castries, Saint Lucia** and should reach the Secretariat by the **17th June 2014**. Applications should include Curriculum Vitae stating nationality as well as the contact information of the present or most recent employer and that of two referees. Certified copies of relevant certificates should be submitted with applications.

Applications can also be sent via e-mail to oesec@oecs.org with a copy to gccaproject@oecs.org. Only applications under consideration will be acknowledged.