



Demonstrating the Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Island Resource Management Mechanism in a Small Island Developing State.

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

Assessment and Mapping of Antigua's Southwest Watershed

GOAL

To comprehensively map of the southwest region of Antigua, identifying key natural features; both terrestrial and marine at scales appropriate for management. The consultant will be expected to build on existing maps prepared for Antigua through other project activities.

BACKGROUND

This activity is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) full size project Demonstrating the Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Island Resource Management Mechanism in a Small Island Developing State.

The southwest region of Antigua includes some the most important natural systems on the island including the Wallings Forest and Fig Tree Drive, Cades Reef and the Cades Bay Marine Reserve and Mount Obama. All of these areas are utilised by a wide range of commercial and recreational stakeholders whose input is vital to the development of a comprehensive integrated management framework for this “ridge to reef” ecosystem.

The overall objective of the Demonstration Project is to develop an integrated management strategy for the area. Analysing the area and mapping its natural features is seen as a key component to achieving this objective. Although some maps have already been prepared for Antigua through the SIRMM project, the consultant will be expected to build on existing layers to produce more in-depth products that would feed into an integrated management plan for the southwest region. In particular the consultant will be required to liaise with key management agencies to determine which areas of the existing maps would require more in-depth assessment or refinement to a greater scale. The consultant is also expected to identify biodiversity hotspots in the southwest region that may require special protection. Further, the work will contribute to the completion of the integrated management for the area which will include zoning plans at global and local scales. The consultant will be expected to liaise with community leaders and stakeholders in producing these recommendations.

OBJECTIVE

The project seeks to identify a suitably qualified candidate or firm to carry out a consultancy to complete an in-depth assessment and mapping of Antigua's southwest region; which includes – Wallings Forest, Fig Tree Drive, Mount Obama, Cades Bay Marine Reserve.

GUIDELINES

The consultant will conduct an assessment of the key ecological features of the southwest region of Antigua and prepare maps at scales appropriate for the management of area. These maps will form a key component for the development of a comprehensive integrated management plan for the southwest corridor. The consultant will utilise existing maps, refining data layers to a scale that is more appropriate for management; particularly in those area of the southwest region that are deemed to be of greater ecological significance. The team is expected to conduct field surveys; both on land and in water to refine the existing data layers. The consultant is expected to provide a report of methodology in order to allow for replication of activities.

SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENT

1. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the ecological features of the southwest region of Antigua, including both terrestrial and marine components. The data from these assessments must be digitised and geo-referenced in a format compatible with the EMIAS.
2. Liaise with key government agencies and the SIRMM PCC with responsibility for managing key ecosystems with a view to determining appropriate scales for mapping.
3. Delineate, and digitize the boundaries of the Demonstration area utilizing existing maps in the EIMAS format.
4. Prepare detailed, digital and geo-referenced maps of key terrestrial and marine ecosystems in the southwest region. These should be to the level of *Alliances and Associations and identifying location and habitats of Species* in particular endangered species, according to the Horwith and Lindsey classification. These maps should be appropriate to aid in development of an integrated management plan for the area. All maps must be compatible with the format used in the EIMAS.

OUTPUTS

The outputs of the assignment will be:

1. Clearly digitized, delineated boundaries for the demonstration project.
2. Finalized maps and data base of key marine and terrestrial ecological communities at appropriate scales to be utilized in preparation of integrated management plans.
3. At least 2 status update reports
4. Methodology report

To produce the outputs the consultant will be required to:

1. Prepare an initial work schedule one (1) month after the commencement of the consultancy outlining approach to the assessment, information needs and timelines for the completion of work.
2. Provide a short but detailed report outlining the progress of work at (3) months after the commencement of the contract.
3. Present a draft work ten (10) months after the commencement of the contract to include draft maps which are to be reviewed by key government agencies and stakeholders.
4. Present a finalized report to the steering group twelve (12) months after commencement of work.
5. Participate in any stakeholder consultations or sensitization workshops as required by the project steering group.
6. Ensure any requests for data and/or information from any private or public agency is in writing. The documentation received along with the letter of request should form part of the appendices to submitted reports.
7. Draft reports are to be reviewed and approved by the Project Steering Committee and the Project Coordination Committee after which final reports will be submitted at the conclusion of the contract of all work completed.

The documents produced within this TOR will become the property of the SIRMM Project and the Environment Division, which is the National Executing Agency (NEA).

Contract Duration

The contract shall be for twelve months.

Qualifications

The applicant should be suitably qualified with at least:

- a. A first degree (or equivalent) and a minimum of 5 years experience in Natural Resource Management, Geography, or GIS technologies.
- b. Proven Skills in Geographic Information Systems.
- c. Knowledge of both terrestrial and marine ecological communities. Proficiency in both Marine and Terrestrial fields of study including the ability to correctly identify species and habitats is essential.

Payment Schedule

Payment will be on the basis of outputs as follows:

- 20% on the submission and approval of an inception report
- 20% upon delivery of draft methodology report
- 20% upon delivery draft maps
- 40% upon delivery of final methodology Report and Maps

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on price/cost effectiveness, methodology and experience

Submission Requirements

Proposal submissions are to include:

- a. Proposal for cost of the exercise inclusive of an operating budget
- b. A technical proposal not exceeding 10 pages in length, including CVs. Other material deemed to be relevant to the proposal may be attached as annexes

Proposals must be submitted to:

Proposals from interested parties should be forwarded on or before March 15th 2010 to:

Chairman of SIRMM Project Board
C/o The office of the GEF Focal Point
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Queen Elizabeth Highway
St. John's Antigua

Or email to sirmmab@gmail.com

For additional information please call the Demonstration Project Coordinator at 720-5910