



BASEL CONVENTION

Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean Region

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IDENTIFYING FEASIBLE STRATEGIES FOR THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND DISPOSAL OF SPENT LIGHTING PRODUCTS

(Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

NATIONAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT

BACKGROUND

With the entry into force of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the issue of dealing with mercury wastes has been highlighted by some Caribbean countries. One of the main areas of concern is the environmentally sound management and disposal of compact and linear fluorescent bulbs (CFLs and LFLs), street lights and medical wastes (including dental amalgam). These wastes are transported to landfills and are co-mingled with other wastes and, as such, are disposed of in a manner that is not environmentally sound. The landfills on these islands are typically subject to fires during the dry season which further compounds the problem.

The Project entitled, "Identifying Feasible Strategies for the Environmentally Sound Disposal of Spent Lighting Products" aims to identify feasible strategies for the environmentally sound disposal of spent lighting products in Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The identification of these strategies will be guided through the testing of the following revised practical manuals for the promotion of environmentally sound management (ESM) of wastes developed by the Conference of the Parties of the Basel Convention's expert working group on ESM:

1. General policies and legislation;
2. Permits, licenses or authorizations;
3. Certification schemes; and
4. Waste prevention (*An assessment of the "Guidance to assist Parties in developing efficient strategies for achieving the prevention and minimisation of the generation of hazardous and other wastes and their disposal" document that was adopted at the 13th Conference of the Parties of the Basel Convention*).

The overall project components and their related activities are:

1. Organisation of Process

The following roles will be designated by the BCRC-Caribbean:

Parties consenting to be served by the Centre:

Antigua & Barbuda Commonwealth of the Bahamas Barbados Belize The Republic of Cuba The Commonwealth of Dominica The Dominican Republic
The Republic of Guyana Jamaica The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago The Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Suriname

- **Project Coordinator**: for overall execution of the Project;
- **National Working Groups** in each participating country: consisting of key national personnel who will oversee the Project's progress and evaluate the outcomes;
- **Technical Expert (Legal Consultant)**: experienced in legislative and institutional capacity assessments and knowledgeable in the areas highlighted in the manuals; and
- **National Research Assistant** in each of the participating countries: responsible for the on-the-ground relevant stakeholder communications and examination of waste facilities and existing processes for managing spent lighting products with the use of strategies developed by the technical expert and BCRC-Caribbean.

2. Application and Assessment of Manuals

The National Research Assistant will conduct relevant on-the-ground stakeholder communications and examine waste facilities and existing processes for managing spent lighting products with the use of the strategies developed using the manuals and relevant guidance document. The National Research Assistant will be guided by the Project Coordinator (BCRC-Caribbean staff) and the respective National Working Groups to assess each country's situation as it relates to current practices for the management of spent lighting products.

The applicability of the above-mentioned manuals will be assessed against each of the country situations regarding spent lighting products. This will inform the development of an analysis report by the technical expert and will include:

- Identification of gaps;
- Provision of recommendations for the environmentally sound management of spent lighting products based on the manuals.

In-country activities carried out by the National Research Assistant will inform the development of the report(s) assessing the general policies and legislation; permits, licenses or authorizations; certification schemes; and waste prevention and minimisation strategies related to the environmentally sound disposal of spent lighting products within each country. A comparison of the results in each country will also be included.

3. Verification of the Manuals and Development of Recommendations

Based on the outputs of (2), an analysis report on the applicability and effectiveness of the manuals will be developed which will include recommendations for improvement of the manuals.

In this regard, the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean (BCRC-Caribbean), in its role as Project Partner, is seeking to recruit a suitably qualified and experienced young professional to provide key services as a National Research Assistant.

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MAIN FUNCTIONS AND DELIVERABLES OF NATIONAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT

The National Research Assistant will work in close coordination with the BCRC-Caribbean, the Technical Expert (Legal Consultant) and their respective National Working Group, comprising of key stakeholders, for the implementation of project activities. The National Research Assistant will be asked to perform tasks including:

1. Developing a workplan for tasks identified by the BCRC-Caribbean with clear deliverables and indicators;
2. Reviewing the revised practical manuals for the promotion of environmentally sound management (ESM) of wastes to be tested under this project;
3. Identifying and engaging (through interviews, questionnaires and site visits where necessary) with relevant stakeholders including commercial and private waste generators and collectors pertaining to spent lighting products and, assisting with data analysis;
4. Acting as the Secretary of the respective National Working Group for the duration of his/her appointment. The responsibilities of the Secretary include scheduling group meetings, making sure that accurate minutes are kept and following up with participants on subsequent matters discussed, as needed;
5. Coordinating the assessment of relevant existing waste facilities and current practices for the national management of spent lighting products;
6. Providing a draft report on findings for review by the BCRC-Caribbean and the respective National Working Groups. The National Research Assistant will be responsible for following up on any gaps identified where possible and finalising their reports;
7. Submitting detailed progress reports of the status of information collected and drafts of the national assessment report, as deemed necessary;
8. Performing other duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

As a basic requirement, the National Research Assistant to be engaged in their respective beneficiary country should possess an undergraduate degree in natural sciences, environmental sciences or management, chemical and/or process engineering, or related fields. Further, the candidate should have:

- Professional experience, preferably in areas relevant to waste and chemicals management;
- Good knowledge of the local context and infrastructure as it relates to waste and chemicals management;
- Experience in the implementation of environmental programmes;

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- Experience in conducting research, desktop reviews and field surveys;
- An ability to plan and execute assigned tasks in a multi-stakeholder environment;
- Good interpersonal skills;
- A willingness to work in a team with national and international experts;
- Proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English.

DURATION OF THE CONSULTANCY

The duration of the consultancy is **three (3) months**.

APPLICATION

Please send Curriculum Vitae (CV) and cover letter to:

Ms. Jewel Batchasingh

Director (Ag.)

Email: jewel.batchasingh@bcrc-caribbean.org and info@bcrc-caribbean.org

And copy tahlia.alishah@bcrc-caribbean.org

Applications must be submitted **on or before 4:00 pm (Trinidad and Tobago, GMT -4) on September 7, 2018**

The successful candidate will be expected to start work as of September 2018.

NOTE:

The identification of these strategies will be guided through the testing of the following revised practical manuals and guidance for the promotion of environmentally sound management (ESM) of wastes developed by the Conference of the Parties of the Basel Convention's expert working group on ESM are available at:

<http://basel.int/Implementation/CountryLedInitiative/EnvironmentallySoundManagement/ESMToolkit/Practicalmanuals/tabid/5847/Default.aspx>

<http://basel.int/Implementation/CountryLedInitiative/EnvironmentallySoundManagement/ESMToolkit/Guidanceonwasteprevention/tabid/5844/Default.aspx>

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