



AUA Policy Development Research Fund (PDRF)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

THEME: DEVELOPING LOCAL MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING GUIDELINES AND TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR IMPLEMENTING SUCH GUIDELINES

Through this Request for Proposal (RFP), the AUA Policy Development Research Fund (PDRF) seeks an established researcher based in an Armenian university and/or team of researchers (with the project leader based in an Armenian university) with the experience and ability to analyze municipal solid waste (MSW) sector and its governance and reforms. A strong research background reflected by a record of publications and/or practical past experience with policy making, program evaluation, experience in MSW regulation/service delivery, as well as experience in general public policy advisory is highly desirable.

1. BACKGROUND

It is a best practice for local and regional authorities to develop and implement their own MSW management plans that would comply the national policies and strategies in MSW governance. This can be an effective approach especially in countries like Armenia that have diverse conditions in communities in terms of population, geographic location, level of development, industrial context and other aspects.

Armenia has only few communities that have developed an MSW management strategy or plan. These were done when an international or local organization implemented a project where such a plan was necessary. Moreover, these are now outdated.

Generally, communities do some MSW collection planning as part of the yearly general community programs and action plans. These, however, address only collection and disposal issues with no focus on prevention, sorting and recovery, as well as the landfill operation aspects. The calculation of the waste management costs in communities is not based on any standard methodology and mostly includes merely the transportation fuel and labor costs excluding components such as landfill operation and maintenance, collection truck and waste bin maintenance and depreciation, environmental impact, among other important components. Communities will need guidelines to be able to develop more comprehensive MSW management planning and proper cost accounting.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective is to assist regional and local authorities in planning and implementing solid waste management. The support offered through this consultancy shall be:



- Developing guidelines for local waste management, including planning for prevention and minimization, sorted-collection, reuse, recycling, and safe disposal of solid waste in communities as well as standards for cost calculation and recovery
- Assess training needs for local, regional, and national authorities in developing MSW management and landfill plans using developed guidelines

3. SCOPE OF THE WORK

Tasks

1. Conduct research on international practices in:
 - a. Guidelines for local solid waste management planning
 - b. Guidelines and standards for solid waste management cost calculation aiming at full cost recovery based on the polluters pay principle
2. Conduct a RA legislative and institutional review to identify challenges and opportunities for mandating, adopting, and implementing guidelines on local solid waste management planning
3. Conduct multi-stakeholder engagement with local, regional, and national government agencies in charge of municipal solid waste management to optimize guidelines to meet MSW objectives and targets
4. Assess the regional or local level training needs for developing SWM plans
5. Based on international best practice and multi-stakeholder input, the MSW management planning guidelines may include, but not be limited to, reporting on the status as well as plans for managing:
 - a. Waste amounts, streams, and sources
 - b. Waste management facilities
 - c. Activities to pursue the waste hierarchy (including public awareness campaigns, educational initiatives, engagement of civil society organizations, etc.)
 - d. Collection systems (trucks, bins, and other equipment, potential for sorted collection)
 - e. Transportation logistics
 - f. Roles and responsibilities
 - g. Economic and financing considerations
 - h. Capacity for treatment (locally, regionally, or linking to national capacity)
 - i. Capital investment as well as operational planning aspects of MSW. Capital investment guidelines could include needs to landfill weighing facilities (weighbridges or other) to monitor the amounts of waste, place fencing and control gates, improve access roads, etc.
 - j. Data and reporting obligations
6. The Local MSW Management Planning Guidelines may offer a graduated and phased approach to ensure that municipalities can build up capacity to properly implement the waste management planning guidelines.

Deliverables

1. Local MSW Management Planning Guidelines
2. Report on the multi-stakeholder engagement
3. Report on the trainings needs assessment (TNA)
4. Report on international practice research
5. Reporting scheme
6. Guideline on monitoring requirements of Local MSW Management Planning Guidelines
7. Report by the Policy Liaison on success and barriers to effective policy engagement (see Section 9 for details)



8. LOGISTICS AND TIMING

The research team will be responsible for its own logistics (including getting to/from meetings and site visit locations as required.)

The duration of the project shall be determined by the agreed upon workplan between researcher and AUA PDRF. The completion of the project, however, can be no later than October 2020.

9. REQUIREMENT TO DESIGNATE A POLICY LIAISON

The applicant must identify a team member who will be acting as the project Policy Liaison. The Policy Liaison, who shall be an integral part of the project team (and could be the principal researcher), will ensure continuous contact between research project and the responsible government body for which the policy research is being conducted. The role of Policy Liaison is to facilitate the integration of research results and findings into national policies and programs. The Policy Liaison should help to prepare a final report reflecting on the successes and barriers to engage and integrate project results. The Policy Liaison designee shall have experience and demonstrated capabilities in performing her/his prescribed responsibilities.

10. EXPERTS REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Eligibility

- Strong research background reflected by a record of publications and/or practical past experience with waste management practice, regulations, or policies.
- Availability of liaison officer/expert in the team.

Competitive selection

- Funds are awarded on the basis of a competitive selection process that ranks applicants according to their research price/outputs/methodology and relevant professional experience.
- The AUA PDRF funding is administered by the American University of Armenia in collaboration with the Government of Armenia and the Swedish Government.