

# OAS - Caribbean Emergency Legislation Project – (2) Short term Consultancy

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**(1) The Isada Consulting Group herein submits its bid for CELP (2).  
Please find us at:**

**Isada Consulting Group**

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## Technical Proposal

"A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses which exceed the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources."

The UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction) - disaster defined by the United Nations.

"Disaster mitigation should be reflected in the budget, in national policies, in legislation, in ministry and agency work programmes, in community development, as well as in the oft-repeated national development."

Dr. Barbara Carby Director General (ODPEM)

## **(2) Abstract**

Sound Disaster Management Legislation is imperative to the survival of any Caribbean territory as their geographical locations dictate that they are susceptible to an annual onslaught of natural disasters. When also taking into consideration the manmade disasters and the potential for disaster which climate change presents to these environmentally vulnerable islands, sound, comprehensive, preventative and responsive measures and mechanisms must be put in place to ensure the survival of the islands, through capacity building.

The Isada Consulting group proposes therefore to gather information from countries around the world, particularly the Americas, to find examples of best practice in disaster management for the formulation and recommendation of appropriate templates for use by regional governments in order to improve the legal, administrative, financial and institutional frameworks as they relate to Disaster Management in the Caribbean. Consideration will also be given to the benefits of harmonised legislation and practices within the context of a Caribbean Single Market and Economy.

### (3) Consultant's Experience

The **Isada Consulting Group** is a multidisciplinary consultancy practice of independent consultants based in the Caribbean but headquartered in Barbados. The members of the Group engage in consultancy assignments for the public and private sectors, and regional organisations in the areas of law, economics, environment, energy (oil, gas and electricity), public policy and management. Group members have carried out assignments for IDB, CDB, World Bank, OAS, OECS, CTO and regional utility companies, The Group comprises 12 senior consultants three of whom are based in other Caribbean islands and a number of research assistants. The Group is in the process of incorporating.

**Elizabeth Thompson Team Leader** is a lawyer of 21 years experience. She holds an LLB, LEC (Caribbean Bar Qualification), MBA (General Management with Dissertation in Energy Policy management in Developing Countries, First Class Honours), Postgraduate Certificate in Energy law with modules in Environmental Law and Renewable Energy. She is a winner of the UNEP Champion of the Earth Award, a policy maker of 14 years experience and a former Minister of Energy and Environment for 12 years. She works as a consultant on energy and environmental law and policy and teaches and lectures in these subjects.

**Shawn Carter** is a lawyer. She has worked in environment since 1997. Her academic qualifications are LLB, Postgraduate Diploma Marine Resources and Environmental Management, and BSc Management. Her experience includes work on projects relating to Hazard and Disaster Planning and Mitigation, the Barbados National Biosafety Framework for GEF/UNEP, and as an Environmental Project Officer in Natural Resources within the Ministry of Environment of Barbados. (Research Assistant).

**Anika Higgs** holds an LLB, a Bachelor of Arts (B.A) in International Relations with a minor in Economics and Spanish. She has excellent written and communication skills in both English and Spanish. Anika also has strong legal research and drafting skills. (Research Assistant).

**Marlon Moore** holds a BSc in Management and a PgDip in Oil and Gas Law. He is trained in Environmental Law, Renewable Energy and is experienced in conducting desk studies in energy and environmental matters. (Research Assistant).

#### **(4) Technical Approach and Methodology**

The overall goal of the project is to research and create a comprehensive and synergistic legislative framework to be recommended to the governments of the Caribbean that will adequately satisfy their disaster management responsibilities. The legislation must be clear as it relates to impending, ongoing and post disaster mobilization, the disbursements of finances, the responsibilities of relevant organisations / stakeholders and the administrative channels which constitute part of the disaster management chain.

Our approach and methodology may include but not be limited to conference calls, desk top studies, and reviews which will encompass the following:

- To research and compare disasters affecting the Caribbean and those affecting the countries identified for the purpose of this study.( With a strong focus on the Americas)
- To research and assess the legislation that exists in the Caribbean as it relates to Disaster Management.
- To research and assess the legislative and administrative provisions in countries around the world (particularly the Americas), as they relate to budget appropriation and disbursement in the context of disaster management.
- To research and assess their scope, operability, and success.
- To compare and contrast the legal and institutional frameworks in countries around the world and the legal and institutional frameworks of the Caribbean territories.
- To create a list of best practices used in disaster management of countries studied that can be adopted by Caribbean territories.
- To determine gaps and weaknesses in existing Caribbean legal, institutional and budgetary frameworks.
- To determine the opportunity for and desirability of harmonisation for disaster management laws and practices within the context of a Caribbean Single Market and Economy.
- Review the CARICOM Comprehensive Disaster Management: Strategy and Programme Framework 2007-2012 to determine integration into a regional policy framework.

- Consider and recommend appropriate models for Caribbean adoption

This consultancy arises out of concerns that emergency legislation in the Caribbean does not effectively allow governments and organisations involved in disaster management to mobilise and act with alacrity in the run up and follow up to disaster events. It seeks to enhance the legislative, institutional and national capacity to effectively act and respond when confronted with disasters and to improve appropriate legal and administrative structures.

The attached work plan has been designed to provide all of the specified deliverables within the 3 month project period and assumes a start date of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Our bid is valid for 30 days.

We will conform to the tasks and deliverables as identified in the Terms of Reference.

No	Description	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
	Remuneration allowances	4	\$625.00	\$2,500.00
	Communication costs between Barbados and the countries identified	30	\$30	\$900.00
	Drafting, Reproduction of Reports	3	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
	Equipment, Supplies,			\$400.00
	Clerical assistance	1	\$300.00	\$300.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$5,600.00</b>

## (5) Organisation and Staffing

The staff allocated to the project will be as identified at section 1 of the Technical Proposal. However, as with all projects we will use our full resource of specialist consultants to inform discussion and final product delivery. Specifically we will rely as necessary on Economist Erskine Griffith, Physical Planner and Legal Drafting Specialist Christine Toppin-Allahar, Electrical Engineer Hebert Samuel and Environmental Specialist and AOSIS Vice Chair Dr Hugh Sealy.

Administrative Assistant will be

**Sonia Marville-Carter** (no relation to Shawn), who holds a B.A and an M.A in Linguistics and a Diploma in Marketing. She has worked with the Ministries of Housing and Lands, Energy and Environment. She will act as logistics coordinator and provide administrative support to the team.

There is strong secretarial support.

### References

It is the practice of the ICG not to disclose the name of its clients but please be aware that our energy practice has been engaged by the DSD of the OAS. In the event that our bid is successful we would provide references at that stage.

### Conclusion

The cost of post disaster repair makes it incumbent on the institutions and governments of the wider Caribbean Basin to foster national readiness and preparedness in order to reduce the risk of disasters and to mitigate their worst impacts and highest costs. The legislation which addresses this area is in essence the enabling platform on which the disaster management infrastructure is anchored and is therefore critical to its success.

The **Isada Consulting Group** looks forward to being a part of this very important consultancy. Our Financial Proposal and relevant attachments follow this document.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H.E. Thompson', is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive.

H.E. Thompson