

OAS Caribbean Emergency Legislation Project (1) – Short term Consultancy

Technical Proposal

“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)

1.0 Introduction

The **Isada Consulting Group** is pleased to submit the following technical and financial proposals to the Department for Sustainable Development (DSD) of the Organisation of American States in response to the Request for Proposals for the above-captioned project. Our bid herein will be valid for 30 days from May 30th 2009.

Isada Consulting Group

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2.0 Abstract

Natural or manmade disasters in the Caribbean region have the potential to reverse development gains, compromise foreign exchange earning capacity, erode quality of life, destroy the islands' natural beauty and damage biodiversity. It is possible through policy congruence and physical planning, to mitigate the impact of natural disasters. In 2004 *Ivan*, the sixth most intensive Atlantic hurricane ever recorded, barreled through the Caribbean and caused significant damage to the infrastructure and economies of Jamaica and Grenada in particular, with residual social and economic impact some five years later, despite the assistance offered by other nations and institutions to support national efforts at rebuilding.

Utilising our associates across the region and using face to face, virtual and telephone meetings and desk top studies, the ICG Group will research the legislative and institutional frameworks of regional territories with a special focus on the relevant powers available to the key actors for disaster management as well as any unavailable resources or associated bureaucracy that could hinder processes. We will review and compare budgetary allocations and mobilisation measures, existing best practices, legal and institutional gaps, together with national and regional and policy documents.

3.0 The Project Team and 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).

In carrying out the project the team will utilise associates in those islands for which we have bid

4.0 Project Understanding, Approach and Methodology

4.1 Project Background & Objectives

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.

Given the location of **Isada's** consultants, partners, and associates across the region, our bid is for the islands of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

4.2 Work Plan

The attached work plan has been designed to provide all of the specified deliverables within the 6 month project period and assumes a start date of July 1st.

4.3 Approach and Methodology

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

- Overview of the natural disasters affecting the region and the budgetary, legal and institutional frameworks for response
- Research and assessment of the social, legal and financial impacts natural disasters have on the region, relative to the institutional and legislative capacity for managing impacts and responses
- Review empirical and other relevant information to determine any vulnerabilities or response mechanisms which may be unique to individual countries.
- Conduct a study of the regional legislation and institutions responsible for disaster management
- Review the CARICOM Comprehensive Disaster Management: Strategy and Programme Framework 2007-2012
- Identification of significant threats to CELP
- Comparative analysis of regional response institutions, systems and legislative capabilities.
- Consideration of both regional best practices and gaps in legislative and institutional capacity and responses
- Review the potential for harmonisation of legislation and practices under the Caribbean Single Market and Economy

No	Task/ Deliverables	Months					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	Overview of the natural disasters affecting the region and the budgetary, legal and institutional frameworks for response						
	Research and assessment of the social, legal and financial impacts natural disasters have on the region, relative to the institutional and legislative capacity for managing impacts and responses						
	Review empirical and other relevant information to determine any vulnerabilities or response mechanisms which may be unique to individual countries.						
	Conduct a study of the regional legislation and institutions responsible for disaster management						
	Review the CARICOM Comprehensive Disaster Management: Strategy and Programme Framework 2007-2012						
	Identification of significant threats to CELP						
	Comparative analysis of regional response institutions, systems and legislative capabilities.						
	Consideration of both regional best practices and gaps in legislative and institutional capacity and responses						
	Review the potential for harmonisation of legislation and practices under the Caribbean Single Market and Economy						
	NB: ICG will conform to the deliverables and reports as given in the TOR						

No	Description	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
	Remuneration allowances	4	\$6,250	\$25,000
	Communication costs between Barbados and the region	27	\$30	\$405.00
	Drafting, Reproduction of Reports	4	\$2000.00	\$8000.00
	Equipment, Supplies,			\$1000.00
	Local Transportation costs	4	\$75.00	\$300.00
	Clerical assistance	1	\$2000.00	\$2000.00
	TOTAL			\$36,705.00

5.0 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 also a support secretary.

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 **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 placed on a light green rectangular background.

H.E.Thompson