

Market consultation

Policy- and technical advice on the beneficial use of dredged materials for the application of nature-based solutions (NbS) in Colombia

Organisation

The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (in Dutch: Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland, RVO) supports private and public organisation with funding, international business partners, knowledge, and regulations. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency is part of the Government of the Netherlands. More information about RVO can be found on: www.rvo.nl and <http://english.rvo.nl/>.

The collaboration between the Government of the Netherlands and the Government of Colombia on the topic of water and climate change adaptation is formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding. This MoU is signed between the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management and the Colombian National Planning Department. The Partners for Water programme (executed by RVO) is a key executing instrument to develop and finance projects that fall under this MoU. The Partners for Water programmatic collaboration with Colombia focuses on four pillars: policy partnership, implementation support, resilient cities, and the nexus water-biodiversity-food.

Purpose of the notification

The purpose of the market consultation is to receive inputs for a future assignment on providing policy- and technical advice on the beneficial use of dredged materials for the application of nature-based solutions (NbS) in the Colombian context. RVO would like to receive inputs on the following topics:

- Intended scope and activities of the assignment;
- Expert profiles and the potential for deployment of international and Colombia-based experts;
- Intended project duration;
- Intended and required budget.

Extent and duration

The intended project will run from the final quarter of 2023 up until early 2026.

Budget indication

The estimated budget is max € 200,000.00

Purpose and intended scope of the project

As part of the MoU work plan 2023-2024 between Colombia and the Netherlands, continuation of the policy partnership on beneficial use of dredged materials has been set as one of the priorities. Building on increased attention for beneficial use, and a desire to further improve the normative guidelines for dredged materials, potential future collaboration focuses on policy- and technical advice for the beneficial use of dredged materials for the application of nature-based solutions in Colombia. This is a priority topic within the bilateral partnership between the Netherlands and Colombia. The overall purpose of this project is to collaborate with the Government of Colombia, specifically the Ministry of Transport and through them, other key (governmental) stakeholders and contribute to further advancing the regulatory framework for the beneficial use of dredged materials, fostering the implementation of nature-based solutions in Colombia.

Goals and deliverables

The scope of work consists of:

1. Determining the physical and chemical baseline for the suitability of dredged marine sediments in Colombia for NbS.
Providing the Colombian government with key threshold values of dredged marine sediments concerning beneficial uses, including NbS applications, would be a valuable step in further delineating the framework. These threshold values should be clustered in geographic regions, as the type of dredged marine sediment varies per location. Besides, each type of beneficial use determines the suitability of sediments. Existing information from the Colombian government, as well as port authorities, regarding sediment samples should be used to develop these threshold values specific to the nine marine port areas as identified in NPMD: San Andres, Guajira, Santa Marta, Barranquilla, Cartagena, Golfo de Morrosquillo, Uraba, Buenaventura, and Tumaco.
2. Determining the suitability of dredged marine sediments for Nature-based Solutions, as input for the Guide for environmental management of infrastructure projects, maritime and fluvial modes, elaborated by INVIAS.
Formulating procedural guidelines from demand and offer of marine sediment from maintenance dredging to Nature-based Solutions implementation, considering social, environmental, governance, economic, and technical aspects as input for the Colombian government to further elaborate an appendix to add to the Guide for environmental management of infrastructure projects, maritime and fluvial modes, elaborated by INVIAS in 2022.
3. Formulate the opportunities, through a case study on a conceptual design level, for the beneficial use for Nature-based Solutions of marine sediments from maintenance dredging in Barranquilla.
The activity should include a detailed analysis of two potential projects using marine sediments from maintenance dredging for nature-based solutions in the port area of Barranquilla, with the viability of future implementation. Based on activities within the intended assignment, the consultancy team is expected to formulate two potentially feasible NbS-projects for Barranquilla on a conceptual design level. Per NbS project, an indicative assessment of technical and economic feasibility and social and environmental risk needs to be performed.
4. Organization of work tables to discuss the consultancy advances, and in a final event aimed at presenting conclusions and recommendations.
Organize three work tables in Barranquilla with regional stakeholders and three work tables in Bogotá. The objective of these tables is that the key counterpart entities of the Colombian government (DNP, Minambiente, and Mintransporte), assess jointly with the consultant and representatives of other entities the opportunities and challenges that are identified in the activities mentioned above. The focus of the work tables should make explicit how the technical, environmental, and socioeconomic constraints play a role in implementing NbS, using dredged materials.

Intended expert profiles

The intended assignment requires a team of experts, partially international and partially Colombia-based, due to the interaction with Colombian key counterpart organisations. It is expected that the following qualifications need to be incorporated in the team composition, for which (areas of) expertise may be combined in deployment of a single expert:

1. Expertise in geology with postgraduate degree in Marine geochemistry, Environmental geochemistry, Environmental sciences, or Earth sciences. Five (5) years of experience in Geology or Marine sciences, and experience of at least two (2) years in Marine geochemistry and Analysis of sediment and environmental data. Experience in (statistical) data analysis is of added value.

2. Expertise with a background in Chemistry, Chemical engineer, Marine biologist, Environmental engineer, or a related profession (as support to professional #1). Five (5) years of experience in Environmental data analysis, and experience of least six (6) months in Quality management systems, geochemistry, or geosciences, with knowledge in geology, chemistry or water quality data. Experience in (statistical) data analysis is of added value.
3. Expertise in civil engineering with 5-year experience, and experience of minimum two (2) years in maritime/fluvial dredging, construction of maritime ports, and/or beach regeneration.
4. Expertise in environmental engineering with 5-year experience in exercise of their profession, and experience of minimum two (2) years in the elaboration of environmental studies, environmental compliance reports, beach regeneration, hard maritime works, and/or Environmental Guide Adaptation Plans ("PAGA" for its acronym in Spanish), related to the maritime and port sectors.
5. Expertise in marine biology with 5-year experience in exercise of their profession, and experience of minimum five (2) years in regeneration of mangrove areas, beach regeneration, analysis of strategic marine ecosystems (seagrasses and coral reefs), elaboration of environmental studies, environmental compliance reports, hard maritime works, and/or PAGAs related to the maritime and port sectors.
6. Optional: Oceanographer with 5-year experience in exercise of their profession, and experience of minimum five (2) years in ocean modeling, sediment transportation, beach regeneration, and/or design of maritime works.
7. Expertise in governance, with relevant experience or knowledge in Barranquilla and/or Colombian coastal region(s), NbS alignment with Barranquilla's ambitions
8. Expertise in social issues and inclusion of stakeholders, with relevant experience and applied knowledge in project development processes, preferably in NbS-development, alignment with stakeholders, as well as social risk assessment
9. Expertise on economic analysis, with relevant experience and knowledge on project development and conducting (societal) cost-benefit analysis

Besides the above-mentioned qualifications, it is expected that the professionals also have experience in other NbS that apply to coastal ecosystems. Besides it is required that the team involves Colombian and/or Colombia-based team members, and that at least 60% of the foreign international team members be able to read, speak and write in Spanish on a professional level.

Expression of interest

In case you possess demonstrable experience in similar projects you are invited to express your suggestions for the scope, activities, project duration and expert profiles that are part the intended assignment to the contact person mentioned below. Additional suggestions to be taken into account in developing this project, for example on methodologies and techniques to be deployed in the project execution, may also be shared with RVO.

Application

Interested companies are invited to send an expression of interest to Netherlands Enterprise Agency, by sending an e-mail to gert.goorhuis@rvo.nl of the Procurement Office. Please state the name of the contact person of your company and his or her e-mail address.

You do not have to send any documents; please only send a short message that you are interested.

The organization can use the information collected as a result of this market consultation when formulating an assignment. Candidates should note that information they provide in the context of this market consultation may be made public (albeit in anonymised form).

In case of a follow-up process, no distinction will be made between parties that have or have not participated in the market consultation.

Deadline

The deadline for responding to this market consultation is set at **15 April 2024**.