



A Jamaican Path from Hills to Ocean (H2O) Project

Technical Assistance for a Rapid Ecological Assessment (REA) of the Wagwater, Rio Nuevo and Rio Bueno/White River Watershed Management Units in Jamaica

Identification number JM-H2O-SER-01

July 21, 2021

Please see below **CLARIFICATION NO. 2** to the above-mentioned tender:

Question 1 – Requesting copies of the land use maps from the Forest Department for the three WMUs of interest. The preferred format is shapefile for ArcGIS.

Answer - This should be sourced directly from the Forestry Department, as they are the owners of this specific dataset. There will likely be an associated cost. **(See Instructions to Tenderers, Section 10, Costs for preparing tenders)**

Question 2 – Request for additional information regarding the areas to be covered in each WMUs.

Answer – The REA pertains to the entire area within each WMU, tenderers are expected to conduct field visit(s) on their own to determine degraded versus pristine areas and what areas are to be actively sampled. The boundary shapefiles for the WMUs are attached. **(See Map in TOR, Section 4, Scope of Work, Section 4.1.2 Geographical Area).**

Question 3 – Requesting clarity on whether a required output will be the creation of new maps or a validation and/update of previous land use maps?

Answer - Creation of new maps and associated shapefiles is preferred. **(See Section 4. Scope of Work, Section 4.2 Specific Work and Section 7 Reports, Section 7.1 Reporting requirements)**

Question 4 – Requesting clarity regarding the ‘**Professional Certificate**’ required in the Additional Information to the Contract Notice, Section 16 Selection Criteria, 2) Professional capacity of the tenderer – ‘has a professional certificate appropriate to this contract, such as Geography or Ecology or Natural Resource Management or Forestry or Environmental Sciences or Environmental Management’

Answer – For the purposes of this tender ‘**Professional Certificate**’ is equivalent to the academic qualification requested in the Terms of Reference (Section 6; requirements, 6.1.1 Key Experts, that is, ‘A minimum of a Master’s degree or equivalent in Geography, Ecology, Natural Resource Management, Forestry, Environmental Sciences or Environmental Management’.

Question 5 – Regarding the submission of both the technical and financial proposal to the functional mailbox, should these be attached in one email or two emails sent separately?

Answer – Both technical and financial proposals should be sent in a single email. Both the technical and financial proposals are to be password protected with different passwords.

Question 6 – Could you please provide a shape file of the general project area and any other maps?

Answer – See answer to Question No. 1

Question 7 – Access to specific locations may be required in order to conduct requisite field work. While this is the responsibility of the Contractor, in cases where access is made difficult (i.e., privately owned land), will the PIOJ/local stakeholders facilitate accessing these areas (e.g., make general public announcements or provide letters confirming that a study is being conducted in the area?)

Answer – Tenderers are expected to arrange for the safe conduct of the requisite field work on their own, neither the Contracting Authority (PIOJ) nor the implementing partners (NEPA and RADA) will be providing any assistance in this regard.

Question 8 – Will PIOJ or a local partner (Parish Council, other) facilitate in providing access/location (e.g. town hall) where public consultations for S-E surveys can be conducted in select communities?

Answer – For the purposes of the preparation of the tender proposal, the PIOJ will not be providing any assistance in this regard. For the purposes of the execution of the contract and in conjunction with activities to be implemented under the project, the PIOJ and its implementing partners will seek to provide the Contractor with the necessary contact information to facilitate arrangements for the public consultations as required.

Question 9 – What if any logistical support can/will the PIOJ provide?

Answer – Please see **Section 6.3 Facilities to be provided by the contractor** (page 12) of the Terms of Reference which stipulates that *“The **Contractor** will work with as little support from the H2O implementing partners as possible in keeping with the methodology and work plan submitted with this tender and is expected to have all equipment and personnel to execute the required tasks (data collection, data entry and data analysis etc.) necessary. Please note that the **Contractor** is expected engage the services of community stakeholders as is feasible to facilitate safe access to field sites and collect the required data”*.

Question 10 – Will PIOJ sensitize the communities about the project?

Answer – For the purposes of the preparation of the tender proposal, the PIOJ will not be providing any assistance in this regard. For the purposes of the execution of the contract and in conjunction with activities to be implemented under the project, the PIOJ and its implementing partners will be undertaking knowledge transfer and public awareness of the project. Please see **Section 1.4 Current situation in the sector** (pages 2 and 3) in the Terms of Reference, particularly *“Expected Result (3) – Knowledge and Public Awareness of Integrated and Sustainable Landscape Management increased”*.
