

Technical support to the CBD Plan of Action on Cities and Biodiversity 2011-2020

PURPOSE

In March 2007, the City of Curitiba organized and sponsored a meeting on “Cities and Biodiversity: Achieving the 2010 Biodiversity Target”. The meeting, organized by an Inter-Agency Task Force on Cities and Biological Diversity (TF)(1) was attended by 70 participants from 24 cities and international organizations and resulted in the adoption of the Curitiba Declaration on Cities and Biodiversity (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/biodiv/mayors-01/mayors-01-declaration-en.pdf>), which reaffirmed the cities’ commitment to contribute to the implementation of the Convention and its 2010 biodiversity target. Through this document, participants mandated the Mayor of Curitiba (Brazil), the Mayor of Montreal (Canada), the Mayor of Bonn (Germany), and the Mayor of Nagoya (Japan) to act as a Steering Committee in order to develop synergies between existing associations and the TF, to carry a strong message, and to follow up through concrete projects, awareness campaigns, and exchange of best practices. The Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity was proposed in Curitiba, and subsequently launched at IUCN’s World Conservation Congress in 2008 (<http://www.countdown2010.net/article/iucn-world-conservation-congress-witnesses-launch-of-the-global-partnership-on-cities-and-biodiversity>), to support cities in the sustainable management of their biodiversity resources, to assist cities to implement practices that support national, regional and international strategies, plans, and agendas on biodiversity, and to bring together and learn from existing initiatives.

At COP9, under agenda item 4.13, Parties were invited to consider cities and biodiversity within the request to provide guidance to the Secretariat on cooperation with other conventions and international organizations and initiatives, and engagement of stakeholders. As a result of negotiations, decision IX/28 on Cities and Local Authorities (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-09/cop-09-dec-28-en.pdf>) was adopted, inviting Parties to recognize the roles of cities and local authorities (CLAs) in national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), and to support cities to implement the goals of the Convention. In 2009-2010, one of the main activities of the Global Partnership will be to develop the Plan for Local Action on Biodiversity 2011-2020 to be submitted to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10) in October 2010, in Nagoya, Japan. Several events related to biodiversity at the local level will provide occasions for participating institutions to discuss the document – the Second Curitiba meeting on Cities and Biodiversity, January 6-7, 2010 (see <http://www.cbd.int/authorities/events.shtml>) is of particular importance.

¹ The TF is composed of representatives of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), IUCN (through Countdown 2010), ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability (through the Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) Initiative), Government of Brazil and City-State of Singapore. The Task Force works in collaboration with the Steering Committee (City of Curitiba, City of Montreal, City of Bonn, City of Nagoya).

TERMS OF REFERENCE

With the above information in mind the Secretariat of the CBD is in search of a consultant to develop the draft Plan of Local Action on Biodiversity.

Under the supervision of the UN-CBD Programme Officer in charge of Cities and Local Authorities, the consultant will:

- Prepare, in coordination with the Steering Committee and Task Force, a draft CBD Plan of Action on Cities and Biodiversity and a roadmap for its adoption at COP 10;
- Based on the outputs of the Second Curitiba meeting on Cities and Biodiversity to take place on 6-7 January 2010 in Curitiba, Brazil, review the draft Plan of Action and submit to meeting organizers.
- Prepare, on the basis of case studies, information collected through the participants of the Global Partnership and secondary research, a newsletter on Cities and Biodiversity to be launched at the Curitiba meeting on Jan 6-7, 2010, also to be posted on the CBD website on this issue.

Qualifications:

The consultant must have a post-graduate degree in Environment and/or International Affairs or in a related field, at least 2 years' proven experience in local governance of biodiversity, preferably in executive offices, previous experience in the development of strategic multi-stakeholder plans, and excellent writing/editing skills. Candidates should have a track record of extensive communication with biodiversity practitioners in local and regional governments around the world, and familiarity and/or experience with the Convention on Biological Diversity, partner institutions (UNDP, UNEP, UN-Habitat), sustainable urban development and city-related institutions (ICLEI, IUCN, UCLG, etc).

Remuneration:

US\$3,500 will be paid to the consultant:

- 50% upon submission and acceptance of the documents for the January 6-7 meeting (draft Plan of Action, roadmap, newsletter)
- 50% upon submission and acceptance of revised Plan of Action after the meeting.

TIMEFRAME

-First Draft Plan of Action to be ready for distribution to partners by December 1st.

-Newsletter and inputs to be compiled and integrated before Second Curitiba meeting on Cities and Biodiversity, 6-7 January 2010.

-Draft Plan of Action to be revised according to Curitiba meeting's outputs by 30 January 2010.

How to apply

The application deadline for this contract is 20 November 2009 and all applications should be sent to secretariat@cbd.int