

Tender:

## Risks and abatement: The most problematic plastics and their alternatives

**WWF is seeking an expert consultant or institution for an analysis, categorisation and compilation of knowledge on the most problematic plastic products and materials, in order to inform the global negotiations for a new treaty on plastic pollution.**

### **BACKGROUND**

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is the world's largest independent conservation organisation, with over 6 million supporters and a global network active in over 100 countries. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the Earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biodiversity, ensuring the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

As the world's oceans are filling up with plastic, with an estimated 11 million tons of plastic entering the marine environment every year, WWF is implementing a network-wide No Plastic in Nature Initiative (NPIN) to stop plastic wastes from leaking into our oceans by 2030. Under the NPIN's Global Policy Pillar, WWF is engaging with the intergovernmental process of developing an ambitious legally binding agreement on plastic pollution, taking into consideration the needs, perspectives, and challenges of governments across all regions of the world.

In March 2022, [UN Member States decided to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee \(INC\)](#) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. The decision officially set in motion the negotiation process, which is expected to continue through 2022 and 2023, and finish by the end of 2024.

WWF aims to provide evidence-based recommendations to Member States to support this process, and ensure overall effectiveness of the new treaty in addressing the most problematic types of plastic pollution. With this aim, WWF is seeking a consultancy service to produce a report identifying the most problematic categories of plastic pollution (i.e. the product types, materials or applications posing the highest risk to the environment), and analysing potential abatement measures through reviews of possible alternative materials, products, designs, and business models.

### **OBJECTIVE OF THE SERVICE**

The objective of the service is to compile and provide the most updated information to policy makers during the negotiation process, for their prioritisation and deliberation of the core provisions (on control measures) in the new treaty on plastic pollution.

The Consultant will produce a report that

- provides overall scoping, specification, and prioritisation of the most problematic plastic categories and their subcategories, based on leakage risks and potential harms to health and environment
- details their characteristics, including leakage pathways and causes, specific harms to wildlife and biodiversity, and their relative prevalence amongst the plastic items found in marine and other environments
- Reviews avoidability (i.e. whether substitutes are deemed necessary), possible environmentally-sound product and material substitutions, as well as other changes in product design and disposal methods that could reduce the environmental risk associated with the identified categories (and sub-categories) of problematic plastics
- Recommends abatement measures for the the identified categories and subcategories

## SCOPE OF WORK

The Consultant will finalise details of the proposed research methodologies and report structure after the contract is signed, in consultation with WWF's global plastics policy core team, and will complete the report within 03 months. The Consultant will have bi-weekly progress meetings with the core team.

The final report, no more than 50-page long in final layout, including illustrations, graphs, tables and infographics as necessary, in accordance with [WWF Branding Guidelines](#), should include the following content:

- **Call to action**  
Outlining key evidence-based recommendations for the core provisions (on control measures) of the new global treaty on plastic pollution
- **Executive summary**
- **Most problematic plastics and their harms to the planet**  
Providing an overview of available evidence and updated information to specify which particular types, categories and subcategories of plastic items and materials are polluting and doing most harm to the planet, with special attention to those that are destined to or most likely to leak into the environment.
- **A series of deep-dive analysis on the most problematic categories**  
For each identified category, specify through a 1-2 page deep-dive analysis on their subcategories, characteristics, and the possible abatement measures
- **Discussion**  
On how the categorisation and prioritisation of most problematic plastics contributing to plastic pollution may inform the core provisions (on control measures) of the new global treaty
- **Annexes on methodologies for scoping and prioritising problematic plastics**  
Providing further details into the criteria, matrix and methods used in the report for identifying and categorising the most problematic plastics that are polluting and harming the planet
- **List of references**

The Consultant will also be responsible for presenting preliminary findings and facilitating consultations with relevant WWF Network experts during the drafting and finalising of the report (expert groups and consultation sessions will be organised by WWF).

## **OWNERSHIP OF PRODUCTS; RIGHT TO USE**

The full and unconditional ownership of the results of the work and the products of the Consultant (and their Sub-Contractor, if any) participating in this Agreement will be handed over to WWF-Norway.

## **PRICING AND BUDGET**

The proposal should include a total price for the report, broken down into expected time spent per staff and hourly rates, as well as other costs. If applicable, the proposal should include a suggestion for scaling depending on available budget. The total budget for this work package should not exceed 500,000 NOK. This amount includes Reimbursable and Consultation Fees, and taxes and fees in accordance with WWF's financial regulations.

## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Based on the contents of assignment described in the Terms of Reference, the candidates are requested to submit the following bidding document, in English, to WWF:

- Letter of interest;
- Company profile or CVs of consultants;
- Technical proposal: outlining approach to deliver the service as required, including proposed areas of research focus, tasks and outputs, as well as time allocation and tentative work schedule for timely delivery of outputs
- Financial proposal: costs based on daily averages and expected expenses corresponding to the implementation plan and contents of the assignment.

Please send the application as an e-mail **by August 17th**, with attachments to [tender@wwf.no](mailto:tender@wwf.no) with copy to Eirik Lindebjerg ([elindebjerg@wwf.no](mailto:elindebjerg@wwf.no)), and Huy Ho Huu ([huy.hohuu@wwf.org.vn](mailto:huy.hohuu@wwf.org.vn)).

Questions and requests for additional information can be addressed to Huy Ho Huu ([huy.hohuu@wwf.org.vn](mailto:huy.hohuu@wwf.org.vn)) and Eirik Lindebjerg ([elindebjerg@wwf.no](mailto:elindebjerg@wwf.no)).

## **Attachment I: REQUIREMENT ON CAPACITY AND PERSONNEL**

The Consultant should be a consulting firm with extensive experience in conducting research and producing evidence-based recommendations on environmental issues and policies. Ideally, the Consultant is familiar with the issues and challenges of plastic pollution, policy options to address them, and other global governance frameworks on the environment. The Consultant must be eligible to provide professional services to WWF.

The tender process will be international, but held in accordance with Norwegian law. The Consultant should not have received any funding from WWF as part of the project to date, nor should they have any other conflict of interest related to taking on such an assignment for WWF-Norway.

The main competition criteria will be the relevant experience and expertise of the candidates, the clarity and completeness of their technical and financial proposal, their understanding of the assignment, the quality of their technical proposal in accordance with the TOR's requirements, the soundness of their implementation plan, and competitiveness of the financial proposal.

## Attachment II: PROPOSED DELIVERABLES & TIMELINE

No.	Tasks	Timeline (Months)			Deliverable
		1	2	3	
1	Consult with global plastic policy core team to finalise research methodology and report structure				Final proposal and work plan, 01 week after signed contract and consultation session
2	Conduct research and draft key outline and content for each section of the report				Draft of key outline for each section of the report, 05 weeks after contract is signed
3	Further develop report content into a full draft, present preliminary findings and facilitate 1st consultation with relevant WWF Network experts				1st Full Draft of the report, presentation of preliminary findings, consultation notes, and responses (proposed revisions and/or necessary explanation of findings) to feedback from WWF global plastic policy coreteam and relevant Network experts, 08 weeks after contract is signed
4	Revise and finalise report content for a 2nd draft, present final findings and facilitate 2nd consultation with relevant WWF Network experts				2nd Full Draft of the report, presentation of final findings, consultation notes, and responses (proposed revisions and/or necessary explanation of findings) to feedback from WWF global

					plastic policy coreteam and relevant Network experts, 11 weeks after contract is signed
5	Produce final report, including necessary illustrations, graphs, tables and infographics, in accordance with WWF Branding Guidelines for publications				Final report submission to WWF, in appropriate formats for publishing online and printing, including working files of texts, layouts and visual elements in the report, 13 weeks after contract is signed

### Attachment III: ELIGIBLE TENDERERS

3.1 Tenderers must provide information on their legal form and ownership structure.

3.2 Tenderers shall be excluded from participation in a procurement procedure if:

- a) they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations. However, tenderers in this situation may be eligible to participate insofar as the Grant Recipient is able to purchase supplies on particularly advantageous terms from either a supplier which is definitively winding up its business activities, or the receivers or liquidators of a bankruptcy, through an arrangement with creditors, or through a similar procedure under national law;
- b) they or persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control over them have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a final judgement;
- c) they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct; proven by any means which the Grant Recipient can justify;
- d) they have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established, or with those of the country of the Grant Recipient or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;
- e) they or persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control over them have been convicted for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or money laundering by a final judgement;

- f) they make use of child labour or forced labour and/or practise discrimination, and/or do not respect the right to freedom of association and the right to organise and engage in collective bargaining pursuant to the core conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

3.3 Tenderers shall confirm in writing that they are not in any of the situations listed above. Even if such confirmation is given by a tenderer, the Grant Recipient shall investigate any of the situations listed above if it has reasonable grounds to doubt the contents of such confirmation.

3.4 Contracts shall not be awarded to tenderers which, during the procurement procedure:

- a) are subject to a conflict of interests;
- b) are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by the Grant Recipient as a condition of participation in the tender procedure, or fail to supply this information.