



## **Terms of Reference** for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for SIRCLES Project

### **Project Background:**

The Mediterranean's high unemployment rate, especially among the youth & women, has serious economic & social repercussions, which matters not only for the countries individually, but also has wider implications. At the same time, the area suffers from a combination of different environmental challenges that further affect peoples' livelihoods. Considering the complexity of the situation, MED countries need to consider new approaches that address these challenges integrally.

SIRCLES -Supporting Circular Economy (CE) Opportunities for Employment and Social Inclusion- is a far-reaching project that contributes precisely in that direction, with ambitious goals & clear benefits for the MED Sea Basin.

The project provides marketable skills for the future and new job opportunities in the CE and bio-waste (BW) management sectors for NEET & Women. The recognised potential of the CE sector to create jobs and boost the economy, whilst safeguarding the environment (EC and ILO), has encouraged a large partnership of social inclusion stakeholders and organisations from the civil society, public and private sectors coming from Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Spain & Tunisia.

In all these countries, NEET & Women will be offered tailor-made trainings on BW management, entrepreneurial and soft skills, as well as job opportunities along the BW loop in separation, collection, composting and farming.

SIRCLES will deliver CE business models serving as a showcase to be scaled-up and replicated in the PP regions & beyond, contributing towards having a more inclusive and environmentally sustainable growth. The development of capacities along with job insertion and the engagement of local entities will ensure sustainability beyond the project duration. CE is in the process of evolution & this project will help in providing the necessary empirical evidence needed for informing policy-making and developing further this inclusive economic model.

The project partners are:

- Agència de Residus de Catalunya / Waste Agency of Catalonia (Calatonia, Spain)
- Training and Employment Labour Insertion Company Catalonia, Spain)
- National Technical University of Athens (Attiki, Greece)
- Organization Earth (Attiki, Greece)



- House of Water and Environment (Palestine)
- EDAMA Association for Energy, Water and Environment (Amman, Jordan)
- Rene Moawad Foundation (Lebanon)
- Tunisia ECOTOURISM (Bizerte, Tunisia)
- Italian Composting and Biogas Association (Lazio, Italy)
- PIN S.c.r.l. Scientific and Educational Services for the University of Florence (Toscana, Italy)

**The René Moawad Foundation, partner of SIRCLES in Lebanon, will install a composting facility in Hbaline – Byblos as a key component of a circular economy model that creates job opportunities and makes local compost more accessible to farmers**

### **Purpose of this consultancy**

In line with the Lebanese Ministry of Environment (MOE) Decree No 8633 [published in the official gazette on 16/8/2012- Guidelines to Environmental Impact Assessment] and through this TOR, the RMF is seeking the services of an Environmental Consultancy Company to conduct and submit an EIA to the MOE, for a composting facility in Hbaline – Byblos (Annex A). According to Appendix 1 of Decree No 8633 (List of projects that require an Environmental Impact Assessment), the said project requires an EIA and approval of the MOE.

Interested Consultancy Companies should provide information demonstrating that they possess the required qualifications and relevant experience to deliver these services.

### **Professional Qualification:**

Environmental Consultancy Company approved by MOE and pre-qualified at the Council of Development and Reconstruction (CDR) (MoE Decision No. 1/2765 dated 09/09/2020)

### **Experience and technical qualifications:**

- At least five years of relevant experience in developing IEE/EIAs.
- Relevant experience in working for governments and/or international organizations on consultancy assignments, especially in conducting EIA studies.



- Proven track record in similar environmental projects in solid waste management and other consultancy services;
- Sound knowledge of the institutions of Mediterranean region and international organizations such as the EU as an advantage;

#### **General Competencies:**

- Excellent communication either with RMF or MoE.
- Ability to provide clear instructions to stay on the schedule of the overall project implemented.

#### **Key Deliverables**

- The Consultant shall conduct necessary field visits to the project site to develop the EIA study for the project as per the MOE requirements found in Annex B herein.
- The Consultant shall undertake all necessary activities to ensure that a “Public Participation” meeting is conducted as per the MOE’s requirements.
- The Consultant shall follow-up with the MOE on the status of the EIA study review and provides necessary information for the MOE if needed to complete the review.
- The Consultant shall provide RMF with two hard and soft copies of the EIA study of the final EIA study which is approved by the MOE.

#### **Duration of Consultancy:**

This consultancy should not exceed four months (4) starting from the date of the signature of the contract.

#### **Budget and payment:**

The consultant should submit the total budget in the proposal with a detailed breakdown including applicable government taxes.



### **Submission of proposals:**

Interested applicants should provide a proposal covering the following aspects:

- Detailed response to the TOR
- Proposed methodology.
- Proposed timelines
- CVs and portfolio
- Example of previous work
- Detailed budget.

Please send your proposal, as ONE PDF document with the above-mentioned points, to René Moawad Foundation (Email: [nmachaalany@rmf.org.lb](mailto:nmachaalany@rmf.org.lb), [sircles@rmf.org.lb](mailto:sircles@rmf.org.lb)), by April 18, 2022 referencing “SIRCLES Project EIA - Hbaline”.



## Annex A: Composting Station in Hbaline

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### **Project Title:**

Composting facility in Hbaline to process 3.75 Tons of source sorted organic waste (SSOW)

### **Description of the project:**

As part of the SIRCLES project, RMF is supporting the circular economy in Byblos Caza by introducing a composting facility at the heart of this circular approach, processing sorted waste from F&B institutions to give local farmers access to locally produced compost that shall contribute to the growth of their cultivated crops and potentially be sold to the local F&B institutions.

The proposed project will be held on a land owned by the UoM of Byblos close to the existing landfill.

The technology to be used is in vessel aerated static piles with leachate and odor management systems

Currently, the site is used as a temporary storage of non-functional equipment owned by the UoM.

### **The proposed activities include:**

1. Cut and fill the existing soil (Quantity details shall be given after contract award)
2. Compaction the soil to the level pre-determined by the project's consultant
3. Cast concrete onsite for the reception area and the composting equipment foundation
4. Installing prefabricated composting equipment
5. Operations in the composting facility include chipping pruning and agriculture waste to use as carbon material



6. Operations in the composting facility include a waste collection vehicle entering on average once per day to tip its load of SSOW that shall be manually inspected and sorted from contamination
7. Operations in the composting facility include storing pruning waste for a period of 6 months depending on its seasonal availability
8. Operations in the composting facility include storing fermented and cured compost until the product is sold in the market.



## Annex B: EIA Requirements

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### **Annex 8: Statement of information required for the “Environmental Impact Assessment” study**

The EIA study should include the following information (not necessarily in this order):

1. Executive summary.
2. Table of content.
3. Introduction: defining the project, the project owner, the person of office conducting the environmental impact assessment, as well as a brief explanation of the type, size and location of the project, as well as its importance for the country.
4. Policy, legal and administrative frameworks: an investigation of the enforceable regulations, principles, and standards observed by the environmental sector at the local and national levels, laws governing the sector under which the project is included. The information should address specifying the official department concerned, and its potential at the local and national levels.
5. A Public Participation meeting: stakeholders present at the meeting should include the relevant Public Institutions and NGOs for the project, as well as the local society.
6. Description of the proposed project: description of project components, the relevant maps according to the appropriate scale and photos, information of project location, comprehensive design, size, capacity, work program, services, the duration of operation, etc.
7. Description of the surrounding environment of the project: gathering and evaluating basic information of environmental characteristics of the study location (physical, chemical, biological, social and economic environment) taking into consideration any expected modifications before the commencement of the project or any likely changes in future.
8. Potential environmental impact of the project: identification, estimation, and assessment of all potential effects of the project on the environment (physical, chemical, biological, social and economic consequences) whether positive or negative, direct or indirect, over the short or long term.
9. Alternatives: this paragraph includes proposed alternatives for the project which comprises: the statement of alternative projects with similar objectives to the proposed project, the statement of alternative designs / technologies to the proposed project, as



well as a comparison between the proposed project and stated alternatives on a budgetary and on an environmental compliance level.

10. Environmental management plan: this paragraph summarizes a group of impact mitigation measures taken during building, operating, or decommissioning a project, with a view to eliminating or mitigating negative environmental effects to locally acceptable levels, if any, or to global standards. This paragraph should include the estimated cost of the environmental management plan.
11. Environmental monitoring plan: this paragraph comprises a technical description of the proposed monitoring activities as per the following: parameters, monitoring frequency, monitoring locations, monitoring procedure (sampling and / or measurements), procedure of information collection and recording, as well as emergency procedures when needed. This paragraph should also include the cost of environmental monitoring.
12. Institutional framework: this paragraph includes the enumeration of all institutions related to the proposed project as well as a statement of their specific functions for the implementation of the project.
13. Conclusion.
14. Annexes:
  - a. Summary of project documents.
  - b. Tables and information statements.
  - c. List of the attendees of the Public Participation
  - d. List of scientific and non-scientific references used.
  - e. List of the names of who prepared the environmental impact assessment study (individuals and institutions).