

Request for Expressions of Interest

Consultant

Formative Social Research and Advising for Social and Behavior Change on Solid Waste Management in Samaná, Dominican Republic

The Manoff Group, Inc. (TMG) is seeking a consultant with qualitative research experience, fluency in Spanish and English, and demonstrated knowledge in plastic waste to lead and conduct a study on cultural constructions of, structural factors in, and behaviors surrounding solid waste management (SWM) in selected urban areas of Samaná Province.

Period of performance: Approximately 78 days between April 15-December 31, 2020, including the study, data analysis, and advising USAID Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO) U.S.-based staff and a CCBO Dominican grantee.

Qualifications:

Required

- Broad knowledge of qualitative research methods and some knowledge of survey methods
- At least 7 years of experience conducting qualitative research, including ethnographic research
- Demonstrated knowledge of environmental issues, especially with regards to waste plastics, solid waste management, recycling and reuse materials
- Fluency in Spanish and English
- Knowledge of social and behavior change approaches or willingness to learn
- Ability to travel to and conduct ethnographic research in Samaná for at least one month and possibly up to two months between June and September of 2020, as Covid-19 pandemic permits
- Ability to travel to Samaná at least one more time between September and December 2020, as Covid-19 pandemic permits
- Ability to begin work with study design, etc. as soon as consultancy contract is awarded.

Preferred

- Post-graduate degree in anthropology, sociology, or human geography
- Previous experience conducting research in Samaná Province, Dominican Republic

Tasks:

1. Discuss the CCBO social and behavior change approach with CCBO Social and Behavior Change Director prior to developing research instruments (from the U.S.)
2. Develop research instruments and study design in consultation with CCBO Social and Behavior Change Director (from the U.S.)
3. Develop culturally appropriate informed consent document in Spanish (from the U.S.)

4. Advise CCBO on Samaná risks, challenges, and opportunities before and after completing the formative research
5. Specifically collect information on:
 - a. Average size and membership of households (HHs)
 - b. Who is responsible for SWM in the HH and what they do to manage SWM, including any separation of HH waste materials and reasons for their practices
 - c. How plastic and other inorganic waste is perceived by women, men, male and female youth, boys and girls, owners of different types of business, managers of hotels and resorts in homes and in the public environment and in the river and Samaná Bay
 - d. Whom or what people do Samaná residents think is responsible for the waste in their environment
 - e. Whether community members, business owners, heads of resorts and hotels would be willing to do something about plastic and other waste in their environment and their reasons and what they would not be willing to do
6. Meet with waste pickers (WP) to learn more about their lives, work, identities, perception of how they are perceived, and experience with WP organizing, if any
7. Explore with community members their perceptions of WPs and others who work in SWM; if negative, explore the cultural reasons and what it would take to change these
8. Explore with women from poor, marginal ethnic groups and other poor women how they earn their living and how amenable they would be to:
 - a. Work in the SWM sector (describe possible jobs in waste segregation, collection, etc.)
 - b. Starting or expanding a business related to 3R
9. Identify deep cultural themes that could be used -- through metaphors, symbols, etc. -- to spark a strong positive emotional response to recycling and a negative response to plastics entering the river and ocean
10. Learn about Trials of Improved Practices (TIPs) from the CCBO Social and Behavior Change Director and work with her and a CCBO Dominican grantee to conduct TIPs on household waste segregation
11. Liaise, in collaboration with CCBO SBC Director (U.S.), with CCBO grantee (DR) to track progress on TIPs and work together to develop the TIPs analysis and report
12. Liaise with CCBO SBC Director and Grant Manager on overall progress of the CCBO grantee and any issues related to implementation
13. Contribute to monitoring, from the U.S., CCBO grants on topics related to the consultant's areas of expertise
14. Final research report
15. Together with local grantee, brief TIPs report with SBC recommendations and TIPs data analysis tables

To apply please send CV and cover letter to manoffgroup@manoffgroup.com with "EOI-DR" in the subject line by April 1, 2020.

No inquires please. Due to an anticipated large number of applicants, you will be contacted only if selected for next steps.

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