

Initiative for Climate Action Transparency Argentina

Terms of Reference for short-term consultancy on Circular Economy and Climate Change within the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) Argentina Project.

UNEP DTU Partnership is seeking to hire a short-term national technical Consultant to support the National Climate Change Directorate within the Secretariat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Republic of Argentina in the development of the Outcome No. 1: “Application of the circular economy (CE) approach to mitigation measures in Argentina and identification of their connections with the Argentinian National GHG Inventory” from the ICAT Argentina Project.

1. Background

The Argentine Republic ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994 (Law No. 24,295), the Kyoto Protocol in September 2001 (Law No. 25,438) and the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol in May 2015 (Law No. 27,137). As signatory of the UNFCCC, the country undertook obligations including the report of the national greenhouse gases inventories, national programs with mitigation and adaptation actions against climate change and any other relevant information regarding to the fulfilment of the objective of the UNFCCC. As part of the country’s undertaken obligations, Argentina submitted its First National Communication in July 1997, and a revised communication in October 1999. The Second National Communication was submitted in December 2007 and the Third National Communication and the First BUR were both submitted in December 2015. The Second BUR was submitted in August of 2017 and the Third BUR was presented to the UNFCCC in November 2019.

In December 2015 during COP 21, the Paris Agreement (PA) was adopted, its article No. 2 established the objective of “holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels”. In September 2016, Argentina ratified the Paris Agreement (Law No. 27,270), thereby submitting its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) which reflects its commitment to combat climate change and its effects. Argentina’s NDC outlines an absolute economy-wide reduction target of limiting its GHG emissions to 483 MtCO₂e by 2030.

One of the most relevant challenges the implementation of the Paris Agreement poses to countries is to count with strong Transparency Frameworks. Article No.13 of the PA establishes the need of Parties to implement national robust and transparent reporting and accounting systems to give clarity on action and support while providing clear information to stakeholders. As a part of building and enhancing their Transparency Frameworks, Parties of the UNFCCC Convention will progressively implement better tools and institutional practices, many of them not sufficiently developed in the countries. This is especially true for developing countries.

Argentina is one of the champions in terms of climate transparency following mandates established at the UNFCCC. As such, the country has been devoting work on improving transparency issues, in particular, those related to the preparation and continuous update of the consistency of Argentina's GHG Inventory. Argentina’s GHG Inventory System (the SNI-GEI-AR based at the National Climate Change Directorate) is currently the backbone of the GHG emissions accounting at country level. The main goal for the SNI-GEI-AR is to be both useful for

the assessment of Argentina's NDC commitments in line with the Paris Agreement, as well as, for the interaction with several other channels that allow the incorporation of GHG emissions data into the public climate policymaking process. Moreover, Argentina is developing its national long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategy (LTS) in order to answer to the invitation formulated in the PA.

To formulate a 2050 vision, Argentina needs to have a systematic account of the forestry sector potential GHG emissions and removals, in particular, for its importance for the long-term planning. However, this sector has an elevated uncertainty due to the existence of many different approaches to account for the potential mitigation impacts. To gain clarity on the most solid options to account for the Argentinian GHG emissions and removals from this sector at 2050 timescales, Argentina has decided to include this topic in this ICAT project.

In the same context of the preparation of Argentina's LTS, mitigation and adaptation measures involving Disruptive Technologies (DT) and Disruptive Behaviors (DB) suitable to Argentinian local conditions need to be analyzed thoroughly. An initial work to identify, define and if possible quantify of these measures involving DT and DB in a transparent manner has been included as part of this ICAT project, by using the ICAT Transformational Change and Sustainability Development methodologies as tools to analyze and account transparently for these actions in the local context.

Moreover, the country will assess the different reporting format to the UNFCCC in order to evaluate possible future improvements of the SNI-GEI-AR so as to be in line with the Biennial Transparency Reports.

Lastly, Argentina has developed a series of sectorial plans including measures across the economy, in particular in the areas of Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, Transport, Industry and Infrastructure to implement the NDC. Furthermore, the country is considering the development of an innovative approach to upscale its work on mitigation and transparency. In this regard, Argentina is putting together information on mitigation measures at different government levels, aiming to improve comparability between bottom-up and top-down mitigation and GHG inventory data. One of the mitigation areas likely to be analyzed with this approach is related to Circular Economy (CE). This area has been prioritized since there is not enough information, on how CE measures may affect Argentina's GHG accounting. Due to this gap, Argentina decided to include the quantitative analysis of this accounting aspect into this ICAT project.

2. Objective

The ICAT Argentina Project aims to assist the country in enhancing and improving technical capacities related to climate transparency efforts in three areas:

- a) Ensuring that local mitigation efforts made by the CE approach- are reflected in the overall emissions accounting of Argentina presented in its GHG National Inventory;
- b) Supporting the work on Argentina's LTS through a transparent assessment of local disruptive mitigation and adaptation measures likely to be considered into its LTS; and
- c) Increasing transparency in Argentina's GHG emissions reporting and projections in particular for the Forestry Sector.

3. Main activities and responsibilities

The local consultant is expected to support the National Consultants 1 in activities and products related to ICAT Argentina Project, especially in:

- Outcome No.1: “Application of the circular economy (CE) approach to mitigation measures in Argentina and identification of their connections with the Argentinian National GHG Inventory”.

The Consultant’s tasks will include revision of support documents and other inputs, development of reports and different type of materials as well as organization and coordination of different workshops related to the above-mentioned outcomes. In addition to this, and as part of a six (6) local consultants’ team, the Consultant will work in general data support activities as needed.

Expected Outputs	Activities
<p>Output 1.2: Identification and assessment of national mitigation measures likely to have an impact within the Argentinian National GHG Inventory</p>	<p>1.2.1 To help mapping mitigation measures linked to circular economy in Argentina or likely to be implemented in the short term, in the sectors previously indicated (desk review), including an initial assessment of its relationship with the Argentinian GHG Inventory.</p> <p>1.2.2 To virtually interview, together with the CE Coordinator, a limited number of stakeholders related with the possible mitigation measures to check for opportunities of application and data available.</p> <p>1.2.3 To organise and conduct a virtual workshop to validate an initial list of mitigation measures to be analysed in detail as a part of this ICAT project, including identification of data available for the forthcoming assessments and barriers for implementation.</p>
<p>Output 1.3: Estimation of impacts caused by the implementation of the GHG mitigation measures</p>	<p>1.3.1 To assess co-benefits (e.g. economic, social, environmental, political, SDG) and spillover effects.</p> <p>1.3.2 To identify sectors and subsectors of the Inventory of Argentina that would be affected by the mitigation measures selected together with the CE Coordinator, including the quantification of those impacts in the National GHG inventory.</p>
<p>Output 1.4: Proposal of improvement in the implementation of selected mitigation measures</p>	<p>1.4.1 To help in the identification of enabling conditions for improving the implementation of selected measures in Argentina and proposal of benchmarks for the measures. Benchmarks should be based in experiences from Latin American countries, if available.</p>
<p>Output 1.5: Development of a specific procedure to replicate the analysis carried out in output 1.3 over time</p>	<p>1.5.2 To develop materials to implement the procedure at national level (Templates: spreadsheets, surveys, models) to gather data to implement similar assessments periodically.</p> <p>1.5.3 Organise and conduct a final workshop (in 2021) to validate the procedure indicated and present the results of the overall assessment (with technical presentations from UDP and ISPRA). Discussion of good practices and lessons learned along the process should be also included in the contents of the workshop.</p>

4. Expected deliverables

No.3 - Initial List of Argentinian mitigation measures for assessment, including collected and validated data from these measures, barriers and enablers.

No.4 - List of Argentinian mitigation measures for assessment, including collected and validated data from these measures, barriers and enablers. The results of the mapping of the whole group of GHG mitigation measures initially considered and associated data (including data sources) should be made available as well in this deliverable.

No.5 - Report with an estimation of impacts caused by the implementation of the mitigation measures.

No.6 - Proposal for the implementation of the selected measures including benchmarks.

No.7 - Document with proposal of cross-cutting links and opportunities between the results of this Outcome #1 and Mitigation Plans available in Argentina at national and sub-national level

No.9 - Final workshop for validation and report of results.

5. Contract terms

For the implementation of the activities described in the scope of the assignment, the consultant shall provide a total of 2080 working hours in 13 months.

For implementing the activities and deliverables specified in this ToR, the consultant will receive a total amount of \$12,311 USD. This amount will be paid according to the delivery of deliverables, as previously described in Section 3: “Main activities and responsibilities” and bi-monthly progress reports.

Payment is to be made in phases, distributed in indicate schedule and condition for each payment).

Timeline	Related deliverable	Amount	Payment conditions
November 2020	No.3	\$2841.00 USD	Every payment will be upon submission of signed invoice alongside with bi-monthly progress reports and corresponding deliverables approved by the national ICAT focal point.
January 2021	No.4	\$1894.00 USD	Every payment will be upon submission of signed invoice alongside with bi-monthly progress reports and corresponding deliverables approved by the national ICAT focal point
April 2021	No.5	\$2841.00 USD	Every payment will be upon submission of signed invoice alongside with bi-monthly progress reports and corresponding deliverables approved by the national ICAT focal point.
June 2021	No.6	-	
August 2021	No.7	\$2841.00 USD	Every payment will be upon submission of signed invoice alongside with bi-monthly progress reports and corresponding deliverables approved by the national ICAT focal point.

October 2021	No.9	\$1894.00 USD	Every payment will be upon submission of signed invoice alongside with bi-monthly progress reports and corresponding deliverables approved by the national ICAT focal point.
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6. Qualification requirements

ACADEMIC:

- Bachelor degree in Environmental sciences, Engineering, Biology, or other university degree relevant to environment, climate change, and national development. (required)

PROFESSIONAL:

- A minimum of 1 year of professional experience in the areas of public policies, environment, sustainable development and/ or climate change with projects linked to public administration (required);
- Demonstrates understanding of Argentina's national policy related to climate change. (desirable);
- Demonstrates knowledge of international climate change frameworks such as UNFCCC (desirable);
- Experience working with, and building partnerships with public and private sector (desirable).

LANGUAGE:

- The candidate must be native in Spanish and have excellent writing, reading and editing skills in English.

SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

PROFESSIONALISM:

- Excellent understanding of global and national climate change issues in particular related to climate transparency;
- Knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts and approaches relevant to climate change mitigation and adaptation planning, and intergovernmental climate change negotiations;
- Relationship skills with public and private sector officials;
- Ability to identify issues, analyze and participate in the resolution of issues/problems.
- Ability to apply judgment in the context of assignments given, plan own work and manage conflicting priorities. Shows pride in work and in achievements;
- Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter; Is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results; Is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns;
- Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; Remains calm in stressful situations; Shows leadership capacities;
- Knowledge of IT tools such as Microsoft Office.

TEAMWORK:

- Experience in teamwork, with recognition in the field of their specialty to cooperate with consultants of other specialties;
- Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise; is willing to learn from others; supports and acts in accordance with final group decision, even when such decisions may not

entirely reflect own position; shares credit for team accomplishments and accepts joint responsibility for team shortcomings.

PLANNING AND ORGANIZING:

- Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies; identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required; allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; uses time efficiently.

OTHERS:

- Experts must be based in Buenos Aires and have full time availability (required);
- Experts with Argentine nationality will have priority - parity of experience and knowledge;
- Experts must have availability to travel within Argentina and abroad as needed.

7. Requirements

- CV

- A description (1 to 2 pages) of how the consultant experience and skills will help with the assigned tasks mentioned above. This letter might be in Spanish.

- To apply for this position, please email Fernando Farias ffar@dtu.dk, Stefania D'Annibali sdannibali@ambiente.gob.ar CC icatargentina@outlook.es.