



Reference: Funding Opportunity No. 72052722APS00001

Amendment Number: Two

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Agreement Officer: Dion Glisan

Subject: Amendment Two to the USAID/Peru and South America Regional (SAR) – Annual Program Statement (APS) Number 72052722APS00001

Dear Prospective Applicants:

The purpose of this Amendment Two to referenced funding opportunity is: (1) to include an additional technical area of intervention for Development Assistance; and (2) to remove one Program Funding Area: Socio-economic Integration of Migrants.

Therefore, the APS as described above is hereby amended as follows:

1. SECTION I: Item A. Estimate of Funds Available and Number of Awards Contemplated

After “4. Improving Solid Waste Management and Reducing Ocean Plastics in Peru (\$15million)” add “5. Protecting Environmental Defenders in the Peruvian Amazon (\$2.5 million)”.

2. SECTION V: PROGRAM FUNDING AREAS

Delete this section in its entirety and replace it with the following:

“1. Improving Solid Waste Management and Reducing Ocean Plastics in Peru

Restrictions:

This section addresses solid waste management and plastics pollution in Peru. USAID intends to make at least one but possibly multiple awards totaling up to US \$15million in support of activities that develop and establish effective, multi-sectoral models of solid waste management to reduce the quantity of mismanaged plastics and other solid waste within targeted municipalities and watersheds in Peru¹.

Problem Statement:

Municipalities, civil society, and the private sector in Peru lack the capacity, partnerships, and governance structures to effectively coordinate and implement multi-sectoral models that improve solid waste management.

Theory of Change:

IF more effective solid waste laws, policies, and regulations are in place and enforced, and IF municipal capacity to manage solid waste improves, and IF formal and informal solid waste businesses have better access to capital, equipment, and business support services, and IF the public is supported to change behaviors related to waste management; THEN the quantity of plastics and other solid waste entering watersheds and the ocean will decrease.

Background and Objectives:

Substantial volumes of plastic waste are being discharged into Peru's watersheds and waterways, degrading public health and the environment, contributing to climate change, and creating a drag on Peru's economic growth^{2,3}. More than 21,000 metric tons of solid waste are generated per day in Peru⁴, and approximately half of that waste ends up in illegal open-air dumps or is discharged directly into waterways. Infrequent but strong flooding that characterizes many watersheds in Peru flush large amounts of improperly disposed solid waste and other debris into the ocean, damaging infrastructure and redepositing some waste into low-lying communities along the way⁵. In 2020, Peru mismanaged over 250,000 MT of plastic waste in the country's coastal areas⁶. Some of these plastics enter the Humboldt Current, moving north from Peru to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, impacting marine wildlife and entering the marine food chain. Additionally, the Amazon River is one of the 20 most polluting rivers in the world, due in large part to mismanaged solid waste across the watershed⁷.

The disposal of solid waste in open dumps and waterways is illegal under Peruvian law, and Peru has a relatively robust set of national policies meant to improve solid waste management, increase recycling, and reduce the production of plastic waste⁸. While gaps remain in the governance enabling environment, especially in terms of enforcement, low capacity and performance of municipal governments, lack of engagement by the private sector, and low adherence to good household waste management practices by the public contribute to high levels of improper solid waste management and plastic pollution. Two key and related challenges are the lack of sanitary landfills and lack of reliable waste management services to ensure household waste is regularly collected and legally disposed^{9,10}. While the number sanitary landfills have grown significantly in the last few years, only 65 sanitary landfills and six controlled landfills existed across the entire country as of 2021¹¹, leaving limited options for proper solid waste disposal. Local authorities often lack the capacity or access to financial resources to navigate the complex technical and regulatory steps associated with designing, permitting, financing, and constructing new sanitary landfills¹². Formal and informal waste collection services, managed by municipal governments, face myriad challenges, from lack of tax and regulatory structures to enable full cost recovery, to lack of capital for purchases of trucks and other equipment, to gaps in business planning and management¹³.

A third challenge is lack of infrastructure, incentives, and associated public behaviors to support recycling and a circular economy approach to managing solid waste. While recycling is on the rise in Peru, of the waste that is appropriately disposed of in sanitary landfills, between two-thirds and three-quarters could have been recycled or reused¹⁴. Plastics make up over 10% of the total solid waste stream in Peru, but only 1.9% of the total reusable solid waste generated was recycled as of 2018¹⁵; less than 1% was valorized as of 2021¹⁶. As noted above, the Government of Peru has established several programs to encourage recycling and increase private sector involvement in order to reduce plastic waste; however, implementation has been slow. Informal recyclers, many of whom are women, fill the gap in government recycling services, but often face discrimination, hazardous working conditions, and other barriers to scaling up their activities¹⁷. Medium and large companies also play a critical role in recycling value chains, often by aggregating and marketing recyclable waste and transforming it into new products, thus generating demand for recyclables collected locally. These enterprises often need technical assistance, connection to reliable suppliers, and/or increased access to favorable financing in order to scale their operations¹⁸.

Objectives of proposals submitted under this announcement should include improving solid waste management and reducing the amount of improperly discarded plastics through:

- 1) Supporting policy and regulatory reform and planning;
- 2) Improving the capacity and performance of municipal governments to manage solid waste;
- 3) Increasing the role of the private sector, by formalizing, financing, and building the capacity of recycling and other collection businesses, especially recyclers from marginalized groups;

4) Building social and behavior change strategies that increase the practice of recycling and proper household disposal of solid waste.

Geographic Scope:

The target geography within Peru will be determined by the opportunity to effect lasting change. However, priority regions include Loreto, Ica, and Piura.

¹ Due to the multidisciplinary nature and potentially large monetary value of awards associated with this announcement, applicants are encouraged to develop partnerships with other relevant organizations, including with international firms or consultants, as relevant.

² United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (2019). *Marine Debris and Biodiversity in Latin America and the Caribbean*

³ Ciudad Saludable and Global Fairness Initiative (2018). “Inclusive Waste Management in Peru: Enabling the Business of Recycling.”

⁴ United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (2021) Initial Solid Waste Management Assessment (Peru). Clean Cities, Blue Ocean program.

⁵ Ciudad Saludable and Global Fairness Initiative (2018). “Inclusive Waste Management in Peru: Enabling the Business of Recycling.”

⁶ Brooks, A, Jambeck, J, Mozo-Reyes, E., 2020. Plastic waste management and leakage in Latin America and the Caribbean. IDB Technical Note 2058.

⁷ United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (2021) Initial Solid Waste Management Assessment (Peru). Clean Cities, Blue Ocean program.

⁸ Ibid. and e.g., National Plan for the Comprehensive Management of Solid Waste, 2016-2024, RM N° 191-2016-MINAM; National Environmental Action Plan (PLANAA) 2011-2021, D.S N° 014-2011-MINAM; National Competitiveness and Productivity Plan 2019 – 2030 & Roadmap towards a Circular Economy in the Industry Sector, DS N°003-2020-PRODUCE; Regulation of the Law of Integral Management of Solid Waste, DS N° 014-2017-MINAM; Solid Waste Comprehensive Management Law, DL N°1278-2016-MINAM; Law Regulating the Activity of Recyclers, N° 29419-2009-MINAM.

⁹ United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (2021) Initial Solid Waste Management Assessment (Peru). Clean Cities, Blue Ocean program.

¹⁰ Defensoria del Pueblo de Peru (2019). Informe Defensorial N° 181 – ¿Dónde va nuestra basura?

¹¹ Peru Ministerio del Ambiente (MINAM) Listado de Rellenos Sanitarios al 10 de julio de 2021. Consulted 3/20/23

¹² United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (2021) Initial Solid Waste Management Assessment (Peru). Clean Cities, Blue Ocean program.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ciudad Saludable and Global Fairness Initiative (2018). “Inclusive Waste Management in Peru: Enabling the Business of Recycling.”

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Holland Circular Hotspot (2021). Waste Management Country Report: Peru.

¹⁷ Ciudad Saludable and Global Fairness Initiative (2018). “Inclusive Waste Management in Peru: Enabling the Business of Recycling.”

¹⁸ Ibid.”

“2. Protecting Environmental Defenders in the Peruvian Amazon

Restrictions:

This section aims to ensure that environmental defenders in Loreto, Madre de Dios, and Ucayali can freely exercise their human rights without arbitrary or unlawful interference. USAID funding will support programming to prevent and mitigate violence, improve access to justice, and increase accountability for

human rights abuses. USAID will issue the one award totaling \$2.5 million that advances solutions to this problem (and encourages alliances between potential implementing partners, if needed).

Problem Statement:

Violence and threats against environmental rights defenders in Peru has increased. Criminalization of environmental rights defenders and impunity for crimes against them continue to rise. Strengthening access to justice for this vulnerable population is crucial. Indigenous environmental rights defenders living in remote areas lack the means, knowledge, and legal representation to access justice services. The increasing severity and frequency of violence is fueled by corruption, impunity, and barriers to justice. Peru has recently issued a comprehensive policy called the National Human Rights [Intersectoral Mechanism](#), which involves eight ministries, including the Ministry of Environment. The Mechanism is designed for the protection of human rights defenders broadly, a category that includes environmental rights defenders. However, the mechanism has weak political will and lacks the funding and adequate regulations and protocols to implement it.

Expected Impact: Strengthen the exercise of human rights in Peru by increasing access to justice for environmental rights defenders. Civil society and government will be better able to prevent human rights abuses, protect environmental rights defenders, and respond to violations in the Amazonian regions of Loreto, Madre de Dios, and Ucayali through implementation of Peru's National Human Rights [Intersectoral Mechanism](#). The activity will provide technical assistance to governmental institutions and civil society organizations to facilitate implementation of Peru's strong existing policy framework.

Theory of Change:

IF non-governmental organizations and environmental rights defenders, including indigenous communities, improve their organizational, technical, communication, and coordination capacities to engage in the protection of environmental rights defenders, and IF key public entities strengthen their overall capacities to understand and comply with their mandate to protect the rights of environmental rights defenders, THEN civic actors and key government entities will be able to develop and apply systematic approaches to improve respect for the rights of environmental rights defenders in Peru.

Background:

The below are underlying conditions that contribute to the problems that this activity will aim to address:

Increased environmental crimes in Loreto, Madre de Dios, and Ucayali. Illicit activities, including narcotrafficking and illegal mining have negatively impacted the security of indigenous communities, threatened their land rights and their livelihoods, and weaken their ability to protect their forests and biodiversity that mitigate climate change in those targeted regions.

Limited Access to justice. Environmental rights defenders living in remote areas lack access to justice services. They face challenges in accessing expert legal representation willing to take on cases that challenge mining and logging interests, narcotraffickers, and corrupt authorities.

Impunity. Security and justice sector authorities do not attend to environmental rights defenders who are victims of violence with timely and adequate diligence, and rampant impunity for perpetrators persists. Ministries responsible for implementing Peru's recent National Human Rights Intersectoral Mechanism lack clear implementation procedures that each executive-branch agency drafted. Financial-crimes investigators in the Amazon regions lack expertise to successfully identify and disrupt corrupt activity, including money laundering.

Corruption. Corruption within the formal justice and law enforcement sectors can lead to persecution of environmental rights defenders, subjecting them to denial of due process, frivolous defamation lawsuits, and

criminalization of the peaceful exercise of their human rights. Illegal actors fraudulently claim titles to indigenous lands, and some local authorities—tasked with providing equitable services and enforcing laws—collude in the networks of illicit economic activity that threaten environmental rights defenders.

Special Consideration for Indigenous Environmental Defenders:

Applications should define an inclusive approach highlighting the role of Indigenous Peoples and their local organizations as active participants that define their own priorities, challenges, and strategies to prevent, protect against, and respond to abuses—either alone and/or in coordination with governmental authorities when appropriate and possible. Applications should engage and empower Indigenous Peoples in the priority regions, consistent with USAID’s Policy on Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (<https://www.usaid.gov/policy/indigenous-peoples>).

USAID/Peru’s Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS):

Applications should align with [USAID/Peru’s CDCS](#), which highlights human rights objectives.

Reference documents: [Safeguarding Environmental Rights Defenders](#), report from USAID’s Prevent Project

[End of Amendment No. 2]