



Terms of Reference

Research on Circular Economy Key Mechanism towards SCP

1. About Prevent Plastics and sequa

Prevent Plastics is a European Union funded project and a joint approach of sequa, STENUM Asia, Thant Myanmar and the Myanmar Banks Association (MBA).

The overall objective of Prevent Plastics is to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns in Myanmar through **raised awareness** and **best practices on waste management**. The action has three specific objectives:

- (1) adoption of sustainable waste management practices in industrial zones and communities,
- (2) increased availability of eco-friendly packaging and carrier bag alternatives in the market for producers and consumers,
- (3) increased consumer awareness on plastics reduction.

In this context, Prevent Plastics plans to educate young people to raise awareness on the basic concept of circular economy and waste management from a young age already.

sequa is a non-profit development organisation. We promote the development of the private sector and its business membership organisation as well as vocational qualification. sequa's shareholders are Germany's top business membership organisations (DIHK, ZDH, BDA, BDI) as well as GIZ. Jointly with partners, we have successfully implemented more than 1,000 projects in more than 100 countries during since 1991.

2. Objective of the assignment

The circular economy is a key mechanism to sustainably produce and consume on this planet. Although the subject is rather new and is born out of the need that the linear economy approach has to change, its methods are actually rather old. In fact traditionally most economies were more or less circular while relying on natural processes to make waste material again useful.

While nowadays a lot of effort is put on recycling as one method to make material more circular other sectors like repair and resell are not well researched although providing a much higher return from the perspective of circularity.

Bangkok and Yangon are both commercial hubs in Southeast Asia, but each took a very different development approach. This research aims at understanding the strength of these circular theses circular practices and the capacity of the sector to absorb and give value to waste items. Comparing the two cities can give a major insight on how modern lifestyle, income and consumption practices lead to thriving or dying of these vital sectors.

Target is that an external consultant together with a university based in Bangkok work together with Thant Myanmar to initiate combined research into the topic of repair and resell to:

- Strengthen the understanding of SCP in the region
- To foster collaborative actions between Myanmar and Thailand and to transfer knowledge
- To initiate the possibility of collaborative work between the Bangkok University and Myanmar Institute of Theology with whom Thant Myanmar is also working



3. Scope of work and timeline

Understand and compare the development of circular economy businesses (mainly second hand and repair sector) in the two cities Yangon and Bangkok:

1. Density and availability of sector related businesses;
2. Acceptance by the community for these sectors
3. Circularity: Efficiency of the sector in bringing the waste material back into the economy;
4. Business development gaps: institutional support, technical capacity, infrastructure and material availability, financial support;

Timeline: December 2022 to February 2023

4. Proposal submission requirements

- a) Technical proposal
- b) Financial proposal
- c) List of references

5. Points of contact and date for submission of quotations

The PREVENT PLASTICS Project Coordinator is the primary point of contact for all questions on program content.

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For questions regarding the submission of proposals, you may contact the PREVENT PLASTICS Project Director, who is responsible for managing the award procedure and contract.

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Quotations are due via email by midnight Yangon time on 5th December 2022.