



**Organization of American States
Department of Sustainable Development
Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean Phase II
Second Request for Proposals (RFP2)**

Eligible Institutions:	Government institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community associations and academic institutions in Central America and Caribbean countries that are members states of the OAS
Executing Agency:	General Secretariat / Organization of American States (GS/OAS)
Donor Agency:	U.S. Department of State
Project:	Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean
Type:	Small Grants
Duration:	Work must be completed within 1 year from project start date
Amount:	Up to USD \$50,000 per project

I. INTRODUCTION

The cities of the Americas are experiencing dramatic and accelerating changes. Rapid urbanization poses serious challenges in terms of infrastructure and housing, common spaces and sustainable transportation, the prevention and correction of pollution, the disposal of industrial and electronic waste, the promotion of pollution free consumption habits, and the management of sustainable technologies. Cities often expand beyond their planned limits, and official and informal systems to provide water, sewerage, waste disposal, and other common services to these areas tend to be insufficient and inefficient. Furthermore, cities are responsible for as much as 80 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions while at the same time city residents face significant impacts from climate change. According to recent studies, Latin America and the Caribbean has the highest rate of urbanization in the developing world¹. The proportion of the region’s population living in cities doubled from 41% to 80% in the last 60 years². Likewise, economic activity in the region is significantly concentrated in its urban areas. However, two out of every three people in Latin American and Caribbean cities live in poverty.

Recognizing the need to implement actions to build and promote the creation of sustainable communities in the hemisphere, the Department of Sustainable Development is supporting OAS member states in the implementation of different initiatives such as the Sustainable Cities Initiative and the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA). Within this framework, Phase I of the *Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean Project* was implemented by the OAS in 2012-2014 funding [14 US\\$50,000 demonstration projects](#) submitted by non-governmental organizations from 10 countries in Central America and the Caribbean. Phase I grants supported innovative community-level initiatives linked to the following priority areas: 1) Clean energy and energy efficiency; 2) Resilience to natural hazards; 3) Sustainable transport solutions; and 4) Waste management and recycling (including electronic waste). Specific projects ranged from an effort to strengthen the network of micro-

¹ Inter-American Development Bank “Urban Sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean” 2011

² Ibid

hydroelectric systems in the Dominican Republic to the development of a Sustainable Transportation Plan in St. Kitts and Nevis that emphasizes bicycling and walking.

Under Phase II of the Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean Project, and through this Request for Proposals (RfP), the OAS intends to finance 8 Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) sub-projects (circa US\$50,000 each) through a competitive bidding process according to the criteria detailed Section XIV.

II. RATIONALE

Recognizing the need to implement actions to build and promote the creation of sustainable cities in the hemisphere, since the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, December 7-8, 1996 the GS/OAS Department of Sustainable Development has been working with member States on four areas under the sustainable cities theme: economic development (initiatives 32 to 35), housing (initiatives 36 to 40), pollution prevention and environmental protection (initiatives 38 to 45), and sustainable transport (initiatives 43 and 46). In response, cities are forging ahead with improved policies and plans in:

- Public Transport
- Cycling & Walking
- Sustainable Urban Development, Waste Management
- Climate, Energy, & Transport Policy
- Traffic Reduction
- Outreach & Awareness
- Ecoefficiency

During the Forty First Lecture Series of the Americas, which took place on September 14, 2010, at the OAS headquarters in Washington D.C. titled “Perspectives from City Hall: Better Cities for Better Lives” the speakers Oscar Luis Castañeda (Mayor of Lima, Peru), Desmond Mackenzie (Mayor of Kingston, Jamaica) and Enrique Peñalosa (Former Mayor of Bogota, Colombia) spoke about the dramatic and accelerating changes experienced by the cities of the region. Governments are channeling more resources and increased responsibilities to sub-national jurisdictions. In turn, many regional and local governments are facilitating business and community initiatives to expand and improve services in terms of coverage, quality and efficiency. International technical assistance and lending programs are supporting these changes.

In this context, all OAS Member States have spearheaded efforts to face the challenges associated with rapid urbanization. Medellín, Colombia is becoming famous for innovative sustainable transport. Recent efforts to modernize public transit, create better public spaces and improve safety are helping transform the city. These projects include the development of bus rapid transit (called MetroPlús) and the creation of a bike-share program -- new transportation elements that are integrated with existing metro and cable car systems. In addition, the city is building 1.6 million square meters of new public space. Medellín was awarded the 2012 Sustainable Transport Award. Medellín’s social transformation through sustainable initiatives is certainly one to be applauded, however innovative disruption based on sustainability principles is fortunately not unique to Colombia. Inner-City Bus Rapid Transit is spreading. Mexico City’s pioneer mobility project, Metrobus Line 4, utilizes all of the components of a successful bus rapid transit (BRT) system: dedicated lanes, enclosed stations with leveled access and prepayment, large buses with multiple doors, advanced fare collection, and a sleek image. Inaugurated in April 2012, Metrobus Line 4 runs through Mexico City’s historical downtown,

with an extension to the international airport. Line 4 was carefully designed to preserve the colonial architecture of the historical city center.

In Honduras and Nicaragua, incentives have been set in place to promote the involvement of local communities and governments in the joint planning of projects of construction and maintenance of urban infrastructure. Barbados, Belize, and Trinidad Tobago, all Small Island Developing States (SIDS), recognize the dangers of global warming and the importance of reducing the country's carbon footprint. Green Barbados, a target goal of the 2007 - 2025 National Strategic Plan, seeks to transform the country into a cleaner, more environmentally advanced country. In Belize City, advances in a Waterfront Development Strategy and Fort Point Pedestrian Walk are underway, and T&T has initiated The Green Fund, established to financially assist registered community groups in activities related to the remediation – remedying environmental damage, reforestation – replanting with trees and conservation of the environment – preservation of the natural environment and wildlife. Furthermore, Mexico City launched its first public bike share program, Ecobici, a system, that features 1,114 bikes and 85 stations, as part of the new Bicycle Mobility Strategy.

The private sector is also collaborating with like-minded innovators in all aspects of the value-chain by utilizing, for example, the B Corp certification for sustainable business (www.bcorporation.net). B Corps are certified by the nonprofit B Lab to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. Today, there is a growing community of more than 600 Certified B Corps from 15 countries and 60 industries working together toward 1 unifying goal: to redefine success in business. For example, in Chile, TriCiclos is a company that offers Puntos Limpios (clean points) for citizens and companies to learn to recycle and become conscious consumers, acting to solve the problems of waste management. Working where there are no existing solutions, Triciclos recycles some 20 materials, most of which have very low commercial value, promising that every material received is effectively recycled. TriCiclos supports companies, schools, and other organizations that want to learn how to act in a more sustainable way, and sells products with low environmental impact to support sustainable habits. In 2012, TriCiclos recycled 731 metric tons of waste headed for landfills last year; 100% of products support the reduction of overall waste sent to landfills. Case studies such as these will be disseminated and scaled up where possible.

In this context, the OAS Sustainable Communities Initiative is implemented under the **Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA)**. ECPA was launch at the Fifth Summit of the Americas held in Trinidad and Tobago in April 2009, at which time the leaders of countries in the Americas underscored that energy and climate change are among the most important issues confronting our future. ECPA currently serves as the key forum for dialogue among decision makers in the areas of energy and climate change, while it engages many partners to help explore sustainable solutions for the ever growing challenges to sustainable development in the 21st century.

ECPA's vision is to bring the countries of the Americas together to share best practices, encourage investment, and cooperate on technology research, development, and deployment. The Partnership functions as a flexible mechanism through which governments, academia, non-governmental organization, private companies and other institutions may voluntarily lead multi-country or bilateral initiatives to promote clean energy, advance energy security, fight energy poverty and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for a sustainable Americas.

Day-to-day communications of ECPA are coordinated by the ECPA Clearinghouse, hosted by the Department of Sustainable Development. The ECPA Clearinghouse fosters a favorable

environment for the development of projects, supports initiatives that expand renewable energy and energy efficiency markets, and enables energy and climate stakeholders to share and exchange ideas. ECPA partners and initiative implementers are encouraged to be in regular communication with the Clearinghouse as a means to exchange information, ideas and best practices, as well as to disseminate their actions and foster a better understanding of their work on energy and climate across the region. Aware of the fact that there is no one-size-fits-all strategy for realizing sustainable growth, ECPA seeks to establish new and creative partnerships with public and private sector institutions in order to support the nations of the Americas in their transition toward sustainability, low carbon economic growth and cleaner energy alternatives.

Thus far, ECPA has leveraged 19 ongoing initiatives and projects focused on low carbon development and economic growth. The OAS/DSD is engaged in these initiatives in different capacities, either as the main implementing agency, as the incubator of new ideas to further the initiatives, as the provider of technical support or by disseminating project outputs. <http://www.ecpamericas.org>

The United States is supporting the OAS sustainable communities effort as part of its broader commitment to highlight the key themes (i) Clean Energy, New Infrastructure, and Access for All, and (ii) Urbanization and Sustainable Cities at the **UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**. Urban areas are centers for job creation, making them the front line of a green economy. This includes: deploying green technologies and services; prioritizing green infrastructure and buildings; protecting and restoring green spaces; creating more housing opportunities; reducing emissions, resource use and waste; and making more sustainable urban system and land use decisions. Coordination of place-based policies can enhance transportation choices, improve air and water quality, reduce waste, maintain reliable water and energy supply, advance public health and awareness, enhance disaster preparedness and response, increase climate resilience, use public resources more efficiently, help mobilize private investment, and strengthen local decision-making. Cities offer opportunities for capturing cross-cutting efficiencies, for example across water and energy systems, with joint strategies for resource management and public-private finance. Such sustainable urban development not only improves the health and wellbeing of current residents and businesses, but can also create jobs and attract new business.

The 7th World Urban Forum, held in Medellin, Colombia in April 2014 reported 142 countries, 139 Mayors, 42 Ministers, and more than 22,000 people participated in the Seventh session of the World Urban Forum (WUF7) convened by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Medellín, Colombia. One of the networking events, entitled “*Clean Energy and Transport Solutions in an Urban Hemisphere: Lessons from the Americas*” was co-hosted by the OAS-SEDI Department of Sustainable Development and the U.S. Government on April 10, 2014. Experienced practitioners from four cities in the Americas - who have received support from the OAS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)- presented successful strategies and tools that promote the use of clean energy and innovative, practical transport solutions. Project implementers from San Jose (Costa Rica), Salt Lake City (USA), Baja Verapaz Department (Guatemala), and New York (USA) shared their experience, lessons learned and best practices for replicating similar sustainability initiatives in other cities around the world, highlighting the role of community engagement for project ownership and sustainability. At the event, the OAS and the U.S. Mission to the OAS announced the launch of the second phase of the “Sustainable Cities and Communities in the Americas” Project, which includes a sum of \$400,000 of new grant opportunities for grass root initiatives related to the promotion of urban sustainability.

Moreover, under the OAS Sustainable Communities Initiative, on Sunday, June 2, 2013, the OAS Department of Sustainable Development held a Sustainable Cities Implementers Workshop and Midterm Review of the 14 projects funded under phase one of the OAS “Sustainable Communities in Central American and the Caribbean” initiative. During the event the 14 implementers under the project presented the objectives, accomplishments and challenges encountered in the first implementation phase in each of their projects. Technical experts were invited to provide feedback and exchange ideas regarding opportunities for replicating projects throughout the Hemisphere and creating transformational change. For more information please visit:http://www.oas.org/en/sedi/dsd/Biodiversity/Sustainable_Cities/GA_Workshop/SCWorkshop.asp

Following this workshop, on June 3, 2013, the Department of Sustainable Development of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development held a Sustainable Cities Round Table entitled: Building Sustainable Cities and Communities in the Americas, Moving from Demonstration Projects to Scale as part of the activities under the 43rd OAS General Assembly: http://www.oas.org/en/sedi/dsd/Biodiversity/Sustainable_Cities/GA_Round_Table/SCRoundTable.asp

III. OBJECTIVE

Phase II of the Sustainable Communities Initiative, which targets Central America and the Caribbean, will support the implementation of public-private partnerships (PPP) that support sustainable community development initiatives, provide technical assistance to project implementers, and promote the exchange of best practices. The grants will be awarded to local NGOs, community associations and academic institutions on a competitive basis and will support sustainable development in the following priority areas:

1. Community-based Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency
2. Resilience to Natural Disasters
3. Waste Management, Recycling (including Electronic Waste) and Improved Water Resource Management.
4. Sustainable Transport Solutions

The small grants will finance the implementation of about 8 projects (up to US\$50,000 each) that will be selected on a competitive basis using the criteria detailed in Section XIV. Co-financing of 1:1 is required in an effort to leverage funds from related initiatives. The project will also promote cross-sectoral integration of investments in urban areas through improved participatory planning, monitoring at the local, municipal and state levels, sub national dialogue, capacity building and knowledge sharing on urban development.

A Steering Committee will be formed to review the proposals and will include representatives from the U.S. State Department, the Organization of American States and at least two professionals from the following Organizations:

- Institute for Transportation and Development Policy
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, State & Local Climate & Energy Program
- World Resource Institute-EMBARQ
- American Planning Association
- Inter-American Development Bank -- Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative (ESCI)
- Global Urban Development (GUD)
- Sustainable Cities Collective
- The Clean Air Institute

- The Center for Clean Air Policy

Legal sub-project agreements will be signed with each grant recipient defining a work plan and a technical and financial reporting schedule. Three disbursements will be made upon submission of deliverables as part of the strategy to monitor progress. Criteria used to evaluate the proposals will include the organizations' experience and capabilities relevant to the proposed tasks, the relevance of the proposed sub-project according to the priorities specified and the significance for each community.

IV. PRIORITY AREAS

Projects will be evaluated based on public-private partnerships (PPPs) that promote cost optimization, relevance in the context of local needs, expected impact, increased citizen control regarding indicators of success and progress related to quality of life, innovation and technical approach, cost recovery instruments or policies promoting project self sufficiency or sustainability, and increased quality of and access to information for citizens to constructively shape public debate. Proposals must focus on at least one of the four following priority areas:

1. Community-based Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency: The Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean project seeks to support community-based initiatives that advance the use and adoption of clean, renewable energy solutions, and result in enhanced energy efficiency. The following examples of existing or previously implemented projects that would fall under this pillar are provided for reference:

- **Green Roof Retrofits, Lowering Temperatures and Reducing Emissions:** Green roofs have been proven to cool indoor temperatures, and reduce the urban "heat island" effect that develops in cities, particularly those with minimal vegetation. By lowering temperatures, green roofs reduce the use of energy-intensive air conditioners, improving the overall energy efficiency of buildings. At the same time, they improve local air quality, reduce storm water runoff, and absorb carbon dioxide.
- **Strategic Plan for Energy Efficiency in an Urban Area or Community:** The project would be focused on implementation of energy efficiency (EE) measures to promote a market transformation for the efficient use of electricity. It would enable an environment in which the private sector makes more informed decisions about development and investment activities through the implementation of three main components: (i) creating a legal and regulatory base for market transformation; (ii) securing institutional and individual capacity to implement EE; and (iii) distilling lessons learned and information dissemination. The project may also identify gender-related barriers with respect to information on the application of best practices in energy saving, technical understanding on efficient technologies, and awareness regarding the efficient use of energy among women.
- **Photovoltaic (PV) Based Electrification** - The project would assist urban municipalities in removing barriers to sustainable electrification using PV technology in off-grid areas, thereby reducing the long-term growth of the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The project demonstrates the viability of establishing micro enterprises to sell, maintain, and operate the PV system, as well as create incentives for increased public and private sector investment in PV-based electrification.
- **Increasing Accessibility to Solar Equipment:** The project would support the renting of solar equipment to villages at affordable costs as an alternative to the electricity grid.

Costs were made to be comparable to the \$11 a month average spent on non-renewable energy sources such as candles, batteries, and gas. A photovoltaic solar home system is developed and distributed, including even lighting and electrical outlets for only \$10 a month.

2. Resilience to Natural Hazards

Through the Sustainable Communities Central America and the Caribbean project, the OAS seeks to support projects that strengthen the member states' capacity to successfully plan, prevent, manage and mitigate the risk associated to natural hazards at the community level, thereby contributing to their efforts to become more resilient. The following examples of existing or previously implemented projects that would fall under this pillar are provided for reference:

- **Integrated Natural Risk Reduction:** The project would promote a key tool for developing safe, sound urban areas: the hazard map developed with a multi-hazard approach. To reduce the risk of disasters, instead of merely reducing construction vulnerability, a new emphasis is applied on using hazard maps for city expansion and densification, as well as for the planning and construction of safe urban lifelines.
- **Family Level Resilience to Drought:** The project increases rural resilience to drought and decreases migration to urban centers by training community leaders and establishing alternative income sources for family in drought-prone municipalities. Community leaders learn effective water management techniques and build rainwater collection and storage areas in the communities. Also, additional income is generated through a cooperative that recycles plastic bottles, increasing residents' resilience to periods of drought.
- **Response Equipment and First-Responder Training for Local Communities:** The project provides emergency radio communications equipment and technology training to municipal and community leaders in indigenous communities. Also, first responder training and equipment is provided to volunteer members of disaster response committees throughout the communities. Training includes a full scale emergency situation to test communications equipment, procedures, and protocols.
- **Early Warning System for Forest Fires:** The project implements an early warning detection and response system in a region of remote communities. The project also provides forest firefighter training and communications and firefighting equipment to the central, heavily populated communities. The project enables officials to broadcast radio announcements during future fires to ensure people receive adequate warning and have the opportunity to vacate.

3. Waste Management, Recycling (including Electronic Waste) and Improved Water Resource Management

Improving waste management is a critical component of sustainable community development. The goal of improved waste management can be achieved through a range of projects that promote landfill gas to energy conversion, waste to energy, reduce-reuse-recycle techniques, beneficial land reuse of landfills, and cradle to cradle concepts. The following examples of existing or previously implemented projects that would fall under this pillar are provided for reference:

- **E-Waste Collection and Disposal/Recycling:** The project would seek to promote awareness regarding the environmental and public health impacts of current e-waste

disposal techniques. Residents would be surveyed regarding their willingness to pay a fee for collection of end-of-life electronics and household appliances. The project would also explore the feasibility of acquiring e-waste recycling technologies in order to set up an e-waste recycling center for the community.

- **Landfills and Sustainable Communities:** The project would demonstrate how businesses can tap into landfills as a source of clean, renewable energy or recyclable materials. Likewise, projects may present a strategy on how landfill properties can provide protected green space for wildlife.
- **Alternative Waste Management System:** The project would create an alternative system to waste management using a micro-enterprise model, promoting self-employment opportunities for local residents, making garbage collection profitable, accessible, and self funded for poorer citizens who may not be reached by the government collection routes.
- **Self-Sustaining Recycling Program:** The project creates a community recycling center and would support town workshops and the installation of additional recycling containers in other locations. The sellable recycle materials would be sold after being separated by local members. The revenue would be used to support the operations of the recycling center.

4. Sustainable Transport Solutions

As communities continue to grow, the adoption of sustainable transport solutions have become critical in order to increase mobility, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality. The Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean project seeks to support community-based projects including but not limited to motorized and non-motorized transport development, intelligent transport systems, transport planning and transit-oriented development. The following examples of existing or previously implemented projects that would fall under this pillar are provided for reference:

- **Bicycle Network Improvement in Urban Areas** - The project would seek (i) to improve the operational efficiency and safety of the transport system, with better opportunities to use public transport through trans-millennium type bus upgrades and non-motorized transport, and (ii) reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by promoting the use of zero-emission bicycle and pedestrian transport. The project demonstrates and publicizes the benefits and viability of bicycles as an alternate transport mode to encourage replication of this pilot program in other urban areas.
- **Mobility and Urban Development:** The project promotes the development of sustainable transportation by evaluating costs of both private and public transportation options and showcasing the benefits of growth in dense, compact, and low emission transportation infrastructure. Through cooperation with city bus systems, the project aims to promote the replication of successful low-carbon transportation systems.
- **Cycling and Walking:** The project works with cities to bring about streets that are safer for pedestrians and cyclists with features such as protected sidewalks and bike lanes, initiate bike share programs and car-free days, and improve the quality and availability of affordable bicycles with bike shares to ensure affordability and access.
- **Urban Design to Decrease Car Use:** The project works to integrate smart urban design and transport by encouraging pedestrian and transit-oriented real estate development,

designing state-of-the-art environments for walking and cycling, and crafting policies that turn physical and cultural spaces into economic assets.

V. POINTS OF CONTACT

The points of contact at the OAS for any clarification on this RfP or additional information are as follows:

Luisa Fernanda Neira S.

*Department of Sustainable Development
Organization of American States
1889 F. St., N.W., Suite 794-C*

Washington, D.C. 20006

Tel: 202-370-4930

F+202-458-3560

Lneira@oas.org

Richard M. Huber

*Department of Sustainable Development
Organization of American States
1889 F. St., N.W., Suite 792*

Washington, D.C. 20006

T+202-370-4638

F+202-458-3560

rhuber@oas.org

VI. VALIDITY OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must remain valid for at least 4 months.

VII. PROJECT TIMELINE

Proposals must follow the guidelines contained in the “Technical and Financial Project Proposal Template” document and should not exceed 16 pages in length. Proposals must be received by **July 28th, 2014** and should be addressed to Richard Huber (rhuber@oas.org) and Luisa Neira (Lneira@oas.org).

1. Proposals evaluated and selected by August 11th, 2014
2. Successful proposal applicants notified by Aug 18th, 2014
3. Project implementation will commence by October 1, 2014
4. Projects are to be completed by September 30th, 2015

VIII. ELIGIBILITY

This Request for Proposals is open to government institutions, NGOs, community associations, and academic institutions registered in the Central American and Caribbean member countries of the OAS. Interested organizations should associate with other institutions in the form of a public-private partnership (PPP) or similar joint venture or through an agreement to complement their respective areas of expertise, strengthen the technical responsiveness of their proposals, make available bigger pools of experts and provide better approaches and methodologies. Such an association may be for the long term (independent of any particular assignment) or for a specific assignment. In the case of a joint venture, the association should appoint one of the firms to represent the association; all members of the joint venture shall sign the Grant Agreement and shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire assignment.

IX. GRANT AMOUNT

The grant amount will be up to US \$50,000 per proposal. The period for project implementation is expected to be 12 months maximum, starting on the date the agreement is signed. Project proposals must include the cost of all logistic arrangements. Those projects that include cost-sharing of 1:1 will be favorably evaluated (see Section X).

X. COST SHARING

Co-financing of 1:1 is highly recommended meaning \$1 of co-financing must be provided for every \$1 received from GS/OAS. The co-financing can be from different sources or in different types including:

- Project funds from other sources
- Salaries of people involved in the project that are paid by non-project funds
- Volunteer time spent directly on the project calculated at an hourly wage equivalent
- In-kind support to the project (hardware, software, travel costs, etc.)
- Grants from other institutions in support of the development of other capacity building tools and projects

XI. AWARD NOTICES AND ADMINISTRATION

Following the evaluation and selection process, the GS/OAS will send a written notice by email to the applicants whose proposals have been selected for financing. Successful applicants will also be informed of the approximate date they can expect to receive the Grant Agreement for review and signature. Unsuccessful applicants can expect to receive written notice, most often via email, within 30 days after final review.

XII. SUPERVISION

Supervision will be provided by the Department of Sustainable Development of the GS/OAS.

XIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Reporting requirements will be described in the Grant Agreement to be signed between the GS/OAS and each grantee. Disbursements will be made upon submission and approval of agreed outputs. Quarterly reports will also be expected. Products developed should be submitted according to work plan and made freely available through the Sustainable Community web site and / or other agreed upon mechanisms.

XIV. PROCEDURE TO EVALUATE PROPOSALS

Grants for the Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean project will be awarded to institutions submitting outstanding proposals that contribute to sustainable community development related to the priority areas stated in Section IV. A Steering Committee will be formed to review the proposals and rate them according to the established evaluation criteria. Experts for the Steering Committee will be recruited from some of the following organizations:

- U.S. Department of State
- Institute for Transportation and Development Policy
- Making Cities Work
- International City/County Management Assoc.
- United Cities and Local Governments
- Cities Alliance
- Sustainable Cities Collective
- The Clean Air Institute
- The Center for Clean Air Policy

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- American Planning Institute

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the proposals.

Name of Institution: _____

Country: _____

Objective of Proposal: _____

Criteria	Scale	Score	Remarks
Administrative Aspects	15%		
The organization's experience and capabilities are relevant to the proposed tasks specific to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs).	5		
Relevant technical experience of the proposed institution's staff in relation to the proposed tasks.	5		
Knowledge and capacity to develop projects in the priority area selected (Section IV).	5		
Subtotal/15 points			
Subtotal/15%			
Technical Aspects	85%		
Priority Areas: The project addresses at least one of the priority areas laid out in Section IV and relates it to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs).	15		
Innovation and technical approach: The project proposes an innovative and technically viable solution with the available resources.	10		
Need: The project is locally relevant and will fill a significant need in the proponent's community.	10		
Impact: The project has the potential to have a significant impact in the community including its potential to improve local development patterns, the estimated number of beneficiaries and stakeholders involved, the likelihood of significant community improvements, and the ability of the project to serve as a model or be replicated in communities with similar needs.	15		
Project Rationale: The project's goals and objectives are clearly related to the outputs and proposed activities. Monitoring and evaluation procedures as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators are used.	10		
Sustainability: The proposal takes into account measures to ensure the sustainability of the project once the grant funds run out and after the project has been completed. The project incorporates cost recovery instruments or policies and Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) promoting project self sufficiency, where applicable.	10		

Inclusiveness and gender sensitivity: The project approach engages the community through inclusive bottom-up methodologies. The gender perspective is integrated into the project assuring that the different needs of both men and women are addressed by the project as well as its potential impact.	10		
Proposal was completed according to instructions	5		
Subtotal/85 points			
Subtotal/85%			
TOTAL SCORE/100%			

Date of Evaluation: _____