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**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
**The Asia Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum)**  
**“Asia Europe Strategies for the Earth Summit 2012”**

Title:	Consultant/Researcher
Programme:	ENVforum
Department:	Intellectual Exchange

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM<sup>1</sup>). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since implemented over 450 projects, engaging over 15,000 direct participants as well as reaching out to a much wider audience in Asia and Europe. [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)

***The Asia Europe Environment Forum***

The ENVforum is a flagship programme of ASEF organised in partnership with leading organisations and institutions. It sustains a network in a wide range of environmental fields, including officials, activists, researchers, academics and industry professionals. The ENVforum aims to contribute to the agenda of the international policy initiatives such as ASEM in the area of environment and sustainable development, and serves as an interface between governments and other stakeholders in the ASEM countries including civil society, industry and research. Past fora included topics such as climate change, energy security and sustainability, chemicals and hazardous waste, urban sustainability, biodiversity and renewable energy. For more information please visit <http://env.asef.org>

***Programme Background***

The ENVforum runs a series of informal consultations on International Framework for Sustainable Development with the focus on International Environmental Governance. Responding to the perceived need for a platform that is able to consolidate different points of view and serve as an interface between Asia and Europe, the ENVforum is in a good position to provide a neutral and informal meeting point for top-level, expert discussion. An informal process that will bring a small and select group of key institutions/governments, opinion leaders and civil society experts is expected to contribute to the analysis of options that the Rio+20 discussions can draw from. This process is supported by research, based on needs identified during 2 scenario building workshops conducted.

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<sup>1</sup>ASEM (the Asia-Europe Meeting) is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation. It brings together 46 member states (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam) plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. [www.aseminfoboard.org](http://www.aseminfoboard.org)

## **Research Objectives**

The overall objective of the research is to complement the informal consultations outcomes in order to produce an analysis of Institutional Framework for Sustainable Developments (IFSD) options for Rio+20 including the aspects of International Environmental Governance (IEG).

The specific objectives are:

- 1) To examine an inter-regional (Asia-Europe) synergies on the IFSD and IEG debate†
- 2) To assess the various IFSD and IEG options discussed at the UN level
- 3) To map and prepare analysis of options supported by foresight methodology and field research.

## **Research Components**

Based on the Inputs for the ENVforum contribution for the Zero Draft submission and workshop reports as well additional materials (see ANNEXES) the following areas for further research were identified:

### **A. Creation Sustainable Development Council (SDC):**

- A.1. Mapping the existing UN sustainable development structure (all institutions involved in 3 pillars); in particular, assessing the potential role of Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organisation
- A.2. Analysis of the SDC's place in the existing structure (making sure of horizontal coherence – concept based on [ANNEXE 1](#))
- A.3. Proposing possible structure and functions
- A.4. Assessing the civil society participation models taking into account the need for an accountability framework
- A.5. Assessing of the options against scenarios developed during the programme (included in [ANNEXE 2](#))

### **B. Implications of the regional and national SD mechanisms for Vertical Integration**

- B.1. Mapping existing regional SDC bodies in ASEM countries.
- B.2. Assessing the efficiency of existing structures and choosing the best practices examples
- B.3. Analysis of a potential level SDC's place in the existing structure (making sure of horizontal coherence – concept based on [ANNEXE 1](#))
- B.4. Analysis of national models for SD structures in ASEM countries and choosing the best practices examples
- B.5. Assessing the possible civil society participation models

### **C. Analysis of Asian and European positions on strengthening International Environmental Governance**

- C.1. Upgrading UNEP – practical implications related with competences and global membership
- C.2. Upgrading UNEP – legal aspects of mandate change: UNEO or WEO.
- C.3. Options of governance structure and possible organs of IEG body
- C.4. Funding mechanisms proposals
- C.5. Identification of common positions<sup>2</sup> and opportunities for further dialogue in ASEM countries

## **REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS**

With regard to reports and documentation, the consultants should note that ASEF will retain the intellectual property rights and copyrights over all materials produced for the project.

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<sup>2</sup>Based on submissions for Zero Draft of UNCSG and further negotiation positions. More information: <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=115>

The selected consultants will:

- In coordination with ASEF, prepare the required research and documentation following agreed research plan;
- Conduct the research and document cited references
- Prepare draft reports on different components
- Submit draft reports by March 2012 and a final report by April 2011.

#### **AVAILABLE FUNDING**

**Funding available for the Consultants is up to EUR 40,000** for the entire project. Please note that it is possible to apply for separate components. The funds will be allocated according to the prepared budgets for each component respectively.

**All the details and amount allocated for each component will be clarified with specific terms of reference with the selected consultants.**

All the necessary costs related with the project should be borne by the consultants within the agreed funding (eg. research and writing, meetings, data, software).

#### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The following requirements shall be met.

- The organisation is from an ASEM country;
- Europe - and/or Asia - related experience with intergovernmental organisations, international agencies, public authorities and civil society;
- Expertise in IFSD and IEG;
- Demonstrated experience in foresight methodologies.

Proposals will be assessed on both financial (30%) and quality (70%) criteria.

#### **SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

Proposals should include the following documents

- Completed [application form](#)
- Curriculum Vitae of the consultant and (any) associates
- Four page facilitation and reporting plan
- Detailed budget

**Proposals should be received before Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012.**

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