1. BACKGROUND

Waste, including plastic and other marine litter, is among the most pressing environmental issues in the Philippines. The country’s waste generation has steadily increased from 37,427.46 tonnes per day in 2012 to 40,087.45 tonnes in 2016 and is expected to increase to 77,776 tonnes by 2025. Metro Manila, which is composed of 16 highly urbanized cities and one municipality, generated the biggest volume of waste across regions. Such waste, particularly nonbiodegradable plastic waste, tended to leak into waterways. In 2015, the Philippines was named as the third largest source of marine litter.

These have resulted from a linear economic model, which follows the “take-make-dispose” process. Such has also contributed to significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across the production chain, particularly for plastics which consume a significant share of fossil fuels. If urgent and transformative measures are not undertaken, the linear economic model will pose significant challenges to the people, economy, and the environment. Changing this unsustainable status quo requires a dramatic shift towards sustainable production and consumption, enabled by a circular economy.

The Philippine Government, led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has issued the National Plan of Action on Marine Litter (NPOA-ML) which promotes a holistic approach to significantly reduce marine litter pollution, fostering sustainable consumption and production, and promoting a circular economy. This is complemented by the Philippine Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production (PAP4SCP), which has been adopted as the roadmap for operationalizing sustainable consumption and production practices.

UNDP has embarked on a project to support the national government and key cities in the Philippines to adopt and promote circular economy policies and innovations. Through the generous support of the Government of Japan, this project aims to i) strengthen the data ecosystem in support of circular economy; ii) co-design and co-implement portfolios of local solutions to promote better production, consumption, and waste management in at least four cities; and iii) strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaboration for circular economy.

2. OBJECTIVE

This is a Request for Information (RFI) from national and/or international suppliers—including but not limited to manufacturers, traders, technology solution providers, startups, and other such entities—about the equipment, solutions, services, and state-of-the-art technologies in the following areas of need by partner-city governments:
a) **Sorting and Segregation** – including establishment, refurbishment and/or modernization of materials recovery facilities (MRFs), provision of equipment for waste sorting and segregation, etc.

b) **Collection and Transportation** – with emphasis on state-of-the-art technologies, equipment, and services for the collection and transportation of waste.

c) **Recycling and Upcycling** – equipment, technologies, and services for the recycling and upcycling of plastic and other nonbiodegradable waste, with particular interest in approaches and services for translating recovered materials into new goods with utility and/or new value.

d) **Waste Composting** – equipment, technologies, and services for the composting of food and other biodegradable waste, with particular interest in state-of-the-art and sustainable approaches.

e) **Disposal at Landfills** – equipment, technologies, and services for disposal at landfills such as, but not limited to, compacting, waste-to-energy, leachate treatment, and others.

Through this RFI, UNDP aims to scope the market for products and services regarding circular economy and waste management, including the state-of-the-art technology available, technical specifications, estimated costs, and proof of use and effectiveness. UNDP is open to considering all possible products and services, technologies, and service delivery business models that would meet or exceed the requirements of the project. A subsequent procurement process will follow where an invitation to bid or submit proposals or quotations will be issued for the specific products or services to be procured.

### 3. INFORMATION REQUESTED

Firms interested are requested to fill out the questionnaire available on [https://bit.ly/undp_rfi_ce](https://bit.ly/undp_rfi_ce) and provide supporting documents, information, and hyperlinks to online information as may be appropriate.

Alternatively, responses may also be provided by submitting through bids.ph@undp.org, using templates (Annexes A, B, C attached separately to this notice), and any other additional information and documentation.

UNDP will be looking for evidence and information on the following in the Firms’ responses:

- Firms’ track record in one or more of the categories. Whole value chain experience is welcome.

- Available products and/or services, their technical specifications, operational requirements (e.g., space required), underlying technologies, and cost estimates or ranges.

- Experience in the Philippines or other similarly situated countries.

All questions must be answered directly and clearly. Extraneous and imprecise information will only constrain the ability of UNDP to assess the Firms’ alignment with UNDP requirements. The questionnaire and attachments must be submitted no later than [30 June 2022]. The questions are not exhaustive, and respondents may share additional information related to the RFI.
Copies of the documentation in response to this RFI will be available to the UNDP committee for review purposes. The UNDP committee may also request the respondents to submit follow up information. If material that is subject to copyright, patent, or other intellectual property restriction will be sent in response to the RFI, then a limited waiver that allows the UNDP committee to use the material and to make copies for review purposes only will be required. The sensitive or restricted information can also be submitted through bids.ph@undp.org before the date provided above.

Interested suppliers/parties can seek clarification in writing through procurement.ph@undp.org up to three working days prior to the last date of submission with the email subject: “RFI on Circular Economy.”

This RFI does not entail any commitment on the part of UNDP, either financial or otherwise. The suppliers/interested parties shall bear any and all costs related to the preparation and/or submission of the information requested in this RFI. UNDP shall in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the process OR to inform the information providers of the outcome of UNDP’s evaluation process.