

The Clean Oceans Project Identification and Preparation Programme (COPIP)

The COPIP Programme

The 8 million tonnes of plastics and 1.5 million tonnes of microplastics discharged to the oceans every year have an increasingly alarming impact on marine life and ocean related economic activities.

In response to this, the **Clean Oceans Project Identification and Preparation (COPIP)** Programme is identifying and preparing projects in sub-Saharan Africa that contribute to reducing the discharge of plastics to the oceans.

Beneficiary Countries and Promoters

The COPIP **beneficiary countries** are eligible coastal sub-Saharan African countries except South Africa.

Target promoters are local authorities and municipalities and their public utilities, regional, national and local organisations (including NGOs, research institutions, universities) and private sector companies involved in solid waste, wastewater and storm water management.

Contracting Authority and Mandate

The **contracting authority** is the European Investment Bank (EIB), which is the European Union's bank. While EIB's main activities are focused on Europe, it has been an active development finance partner in the African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACPs) since 1963. The EIB supports the EU's external and development policies.

Currently, the EIB operates in sub-Saharan Africa under the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, also known as the **Samoa Agreement**, formerly the Cotonou Agreement.

The Clean Oceans Initiative (COI)

The **Clean Ocean Initiative (COI)**, which forms the basis and framework for COPIP, was launched by the EIB, KfW group and Agence Française de Développement (AFD) in October 2018. In October 2020, the Italian and Spanish national promotional banks CDP and ICO joined the initiative. In February 2022, the EBRD joined the initiative as the sixth partner. Together the six banks have committed to a COI financing goal, including both loans and grants of EUR 4bn in the period 1 October 2018 – 31 December 2025. The goal of COI is to finance projects that demonstrate efficient and effective ways of reducing plastic waste or the discharge of microplastics in the oceans. Project types that contribute to the goals of the COI, and are eligible under COPIP, are listed below.

- **Collection, treatment and recycling of waste, and improvement of wastewater collection and treatment** to keep plastics out of rivers, oceans and coastal areas.
- **Waste management** in ports and harbours to reduce plastic discharge from ships.
- **Innovative projects that keep plastics out of the oceans** or lead to more reusable or biodegradable products
- **Stormwater management in cities** to stop plastics from entering waterways due to rainfall and floods.

Scope of the COPIP Programme

The key objective of the COPIP Programme is to identify and prepare investment projects with a clear demonstration impact on curbing waste and plastics pollution to the oceans in sub-Saharan Africa coastal cities.

The COPIP programme is currently assessing and preparing for implementation solid waste projects in coastal and near-coastal riverine cities in sub-Saharan Africa. The promoters of the projects are public sectors.

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The COPIP team identified a pipeline of **20 projects** with minimum investment cost of **20 million euros**, out of which **8** were selected for prefeasibility studies (PFS). Of the 8 projects under PFS, **6** will be selected for Feasibility studies (FS) and prepared for subsequent financing and implementation.

Together with the promoter and other stakeholders, the consultants are implementing **2 pilot projects** as proof of concept of selected project component(s) or approach(es) and to build awareness and commitment among local stakeholders.

The consultants will also carry out **activities for the transfer of knowledge and expertise** in project development, project management, financing, operation and maintenance techniques to public and/or private sector project sponsors and other government counterparts.

Note:

Though wastewater and storm water are eligible under COI and the COPIP programme, all the selected COPIP projects are on **Solid Waste Management** as it was found that this is the sector that needed much intervention during project identification stage.

Purpose of the project

Reducing waste and plastics pollution going to the oceans in sub-Saharan Africa coastal cities by:

- improving the waste management system (collection, transport, treatment, and disposal),
- supporting circular solutions to increase re-use/recycling of waste and reduce the amount of waste going to landfill,
- improving the living conditions of the population (job creation, working conditions, gender equity, etc.).

Expectations from the promoters of selected projects

During the Feasibility Study (FS):

The promoters/sovereign governments of the projects selected to feasibility study phase under the COPIP programme are required to;

- Sign a cooperation agreement (CoA) with the EIB. The purpose of the CoA is to:
 - Ensure buy-in from the Sovereign State and promoter in terms of acceptance of the FS,
 - Ensure that licencing and copyright of the FS produced remains with the EIB,
 - Ensure that the Technical Assistance consultant is provided with the necessary support to ensure smooth implementation of the FS. The support includes but not limited to: access rights (data/information/site visits) and visas by the host Governments, availing a key contact person responsible coordination between the promoter and the consultants to ensure timely communication/feedback.

After the Feasibility Study (end of the COPIP programme):

- Sign a loan with the EIB after completion of the FS. EIB will finance up to 50% of the project investment costs and the other half will be financed by other co-financiers.
- The project complies with the EIB's guidelines for:
 - Environment and social standards (comply with the [EIB E&S Standards](#))
 - Procurement (comply with the [EIB Guide to Procurement](#))

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Service provider

The COPIP programme is carried out by a consultant consortium consisting of **Tetra Tech International Development** and **EGIS Eau**.

COPIP Contacts

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