

Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU), in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

RFI Title: **The identification of opportunities for the environmentally sound collection, processing, treatment, transportation, disposal, and recovery of solid waste in Trinidad and Tobago**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU), in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL), invites local, regional and international contractors, suppliers, technology providers, consultants, investors, operators and other suitably qualified organisations to submit information in response to this Request for Information (RFI).

The RFI seeks to obtain current market, technical, operational, environmental and financial information on opportunities for the environmentally sound management of solid waste in Trinidad and Tobago, including the collection, transportation, processing, treatment, recovery, recycling, reuse and disposal of waste.

The information obtained through this RFI will assist the Ministry of Public Utilities and SWMCOL in identifying priority infrastructure and investment opportunities, assessing available technologies and operating models, determining infrastructure and capacity requirements, and informing future policy, programmes, operational arrangements and long-term capital planning for solid waste management.

2. BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU) is responsible for the provision of policy direction, leadership, and oversight for the nation's utility sector, ensuring delivery of high-quality, reliable, and affordable utility services—including water, electricity, waste management, postal services, and telecommunications—to all citizens.

The Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL) was incorporated under the Companies Ordinance, Chapter 31 No. 1, as a Limited Liability Company in November 1980, and continues to operate under the Companies Act.

SWMCOL is responsible for, inter alia, the management, control, collection, treatment and disposal of all wastes either alone or jointly with any other companies, statutory authorities or persons in Trinidad and Tobago.

In recognition of the increasing importance of resource recovery, recycling, environmental sustainability and the development of a circular economy, MPU and SWMCOL are seeking information from the market on proven and emerging solutions that can improve the management and recovery of solid waste and reduce the quantity of waste requiring final disposal.

3. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The objective of this RFI is to obtain market intelligence from organisations with relevant experience, technologies, systems, infrastructure, services and investment capabilities in solid waste management.

The information received will be used to identify and assess the following:

1. **Technologies and Waste-Management Solutions** - Identify available and emerging technologies and systems for the collection, transportation, processing, treatment, recycling, resource recovery, energy recovery and disposal of solid waste, and assess their suitability and scalability in Trinidad and Tobago.
2. **Infrastructure, Investment and Costs**- Identify potential infrastructure and investment opportunities and assess indicative capital and operating costs, infrastructure requirements and potential revenue streams associated with different waste-management and resource-recovery solutions.
3. **Technical, Operational and Implementation Requirements**- Assess the technical, operational, environmental, regulatory, logistical and institutional requirements for implementing and scaling the various solutions, including land, equipment, utilities, skills and permitting requirements.
4. **Markets, Business and Partnership Opportunities** - Identify potential markets for recovered materials, products, fuels and energy, together with viable business, financing, partnership and operating models, including opportunities for private-sector participation.
5. **Local Participation and Strategic Planning** -Identify opportunities for local employment, skills development, training, technology transfer and local business participation, and generate information to support future **policy, programme, operational, investment, procurement and long-term capital-planning decisions.**

The RFI covers the management of solid waste across the full waste-management value chain, including waste generation, source separation and collection; transportation, transfer and consolidation; sorting, recycling, reuse and material recovery; processing and treatment; resource and energy recovery; and environmentally sound final disposal and management of residual waste.

The scope of the RFI is therefore not limited to specific waste streams such as plastics, glass, scrap metal, derelict vehicles, used lead-acid batteries, electrical and electronic waste, used lubricating oils and used tyres. Rather, it encompasses the broader range of solid waste streams and management solutions applicable to Trinidad and Tobago, consistent with the classifications established under the Waste Management Rules, 2021.

Respondents are invited to identify opportunities involving individual waste streams as well as integrated or multi-stream waste-management systems.

4. GEOGRAPHIC & LOGISTICAL REQUIREMENTS

While this RFI addresses waste management at the national level, respondents are required to account for the distinct geographical, and operational characteristics of Trinidad and Tobago. Submissions should address the islands as separate operational environments as follows:

- **Trinidad Requirements:** Provide technical and logistical considerations tailored specifically to the waste volumes, existing infrastructure and transport networks within Trinidad.
- **Tobago Requirements:** Provide a dedicated strategy addressing how waste management, processing and recovery solutions would be implemented for Tobago, taking into consideration Tobago-specific logistical parameters, including but not limited to smaller economies of scale, inter-island transportation/shipping requirements for specialised recyclables, localised processing limitations, and ecological and tourism-sensitive considerations.

5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) AND CONFIDENTIALITY

MPU and SWMCOL recognise that submissions may contain commercially sensitive, confidential or proprietary information. Respondents are therefore requested to clearly identify and mark any such information, including proprietary engineering information, trade secrets, financial information or unique business models.

MPU and SWMCOL will take reasonable measures to protect information identified as confidential or proprietary, subject to applicable laws and lawful disclosure requirements. Such information will be used for market research, analysis and planning purposes and will not knowingly be disclosed or reproduced in a manner that compromises a respondent's legitimate commercial interests.

Information obtained through this RFI may inform future policy, programmes, operational arrangements, investment planning and procurement strategies.

6. INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM RESPONDENTS

Respondents are required to provide the following information:

(a) General Company Information:

- i. The business name, registered address, telephone number and email;
- ii. The name, designation, email address and direct contact number of the respondent's designated representative for the purpose of this RFI;
- iii. Brief overview of company; and
- iv. Brief summary of the contracts completed or projects undertaken for the provision of goods, works or services similar in scope and nature.

(b) Technical and Operational Solutions (Segmented by Island)

- i. Brief summary of the solutions to treat and manage the waste stream(s) identified, including indicative capacity, feedstock requirements and expected outputs;
- ii. Information on the maturity and commercial operating experience of the proposed technology, including comparable reference facilities, where available;
- iii. Identification of how the proposed solution supports waste reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery, treatment and/or environmentally sound disposal;

- iv. Identification of any changes to existing collection, transportation, transfer, storage, processing or disposal arrangements that may be required to support the proposed solution;
- v. Brochures, technical data sheets and other relevant supporting information; and
- vi. Specific information detailing how the proposed solution would scale or adapt to the distinct operational and logistical profiles of Trinidad and/or Tobago.

(c) Business Considerations

- i. Include a description of any business model, partnership structure, or operating approach associated with the proposed solution.
- ii. Include an estimate of the types or amounts of material the proposed solution could manage, indicative cost ranges (if known), and any support or resources that would be needed from MPU/SWMCOL such as land, access to materials, utilities, or permitting coordination.
- iii. If the proposal produces beneficial products, such as compost, recyclables, energy, recovered materials or fuels, please describe potential markets or uses. Respondents are encouraged to note any factors that could improve system performance or reduce long-term costs. Tables or illustrations may be included.
- iv. Respondents may also identify opportunities for local employment, skills development, training, technology transfer and local business participation.

7. USE OF INFORMATION

This RFI is being conducted solely for market research and planning purposes. It does not constitute an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, offer or commitment to contract and will not result in the award of a contract.

Information received may be used by MPU and SWMCOL to assess available technologies and approaches, infrastructure and investment requirements, commercial and implementation considerations, and to inform future policy, programmes, operations, procurement strategies and long-term capital planning for solid waste management in Trinidad and Tobago.

Any subsequent procurement process that may arise will be conducted separately and in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations and policies of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Respondents should not incur costs or expenses in anticipation of any subsequent procurement or contract as a result of participating in this RFI.

8. QUERIES AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Respondents may request additional information or seek clarifications regarding this Request for Information (RFI) by submitting all queries to solidwasteRFI@mpu.gov.tt.

Completed response packages should be submitted electronically to solidwasteRFI@mpu.gov.tt no later than 4:00pm on **October 30, 2026**.

9. LEGAL DISCLAIMER

This Request for Information (RFI) is issued by the Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU), in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL), solely for market research and planning purposes in relation to solid waste management in Trinidad and Tobago. This RFI does not constitute a tender, an offer to contract, or a commitment by MPU, SWMCOL, or the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT).

All costs associated with the preparation and submission of a response to this RFI shall be borne solely by the respondent. MPU and SWMCOL shall have no liability for any costs incurred in responding to this RFI.

MPU and SWMCOL reserve the right to seek additional information or clarification from respondents where necessary to support the market consultation.

FOR MARKET CONSULTATION PURPOSES ONLY