

Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance

Funding and knowledge sharing opportunities

This document outlines the support that has been made available by the UK Government to Commonwealth countries to tackle plastic pollution in our ocean.

Technical assistance

CCOA Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) (up to £10m total)

Technical assistance will be made available to Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligible CCOA member countries to help them meet the ambitious political commitments made under the CCOA to reduce plastic pollution. The technical assistance package will be developed with each country to tailor it to their needs.

Eligibility: ODA-eligible Commonwealth countries who sign up to the CCOA can receive technical assistance. UK Government will engage with eligible countries over February – May 2019 to scope technical assistance needs. Countries interested in receiving technical assistance should nominate an official to act as a contact point for the CCOA and send their details to OceansandPlasticPollution@defra.gov.uk.

We will be seeking to share knowledge and experience on tackling plastic waste and pollution between all CCOA members, including those ineligible for ODA support.

If your country would like to join the CCOA, please email OceansandPlasticPollution@defra.gov.uk. Formal joining will require a letter from your relevant Minister to the UK's Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. A template letter is available upon request.

Commonwealth Marine Litter Programme (£6m)

The Commonwealth Marine Litter Programme (CLIP) is led by the UK through the Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas). The programme is supporting a number of ODA-eligible Commonwealth countries to develop national litter action plans focusing on plastics entering the ocean, with an emphasis on capacity building and developing plastics monitoring programmes. Once completed (by 2020) outcomes from this programme will be shared with all CCOA members, and the national litter action plans will be made available for other countries to adapt and implement.

Global Plastics Action Partnership (£2.4m)

The UK Government, through the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, has committed £2.4 million of funding routed through the World Economic Forum to support the Partnership to 2020. The initiative has since received matched funding from the Canadian Government, and funding from Pepsico, Coca-Cola and Dow Chemicals. This investment will support the delivery of ambitions under the Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance. The Partnership provides a public-private collaboration platform to help translate political commitments to address plastic pollution into tangible strategies and

investible actions plans. The outputs will be: a global plastics collaboration platform; support for national action partnerships to develop fact-based action plans; mobilizing funding of plastics action projects; engaging and leveraging existing expertise among partners; exchanging knowledge and learning to advance systems change. The first collaboration is with the Government of Indonesia. Collaborations in two other coastal nations (one in West Africa and a small island developing state) will be announced in coming months. Other examples could be added to this list, depending on the capacity and additional resourcing brought into the Partnership.

Other funding

As well as the up to £10m technical assistance funding, UK aid will be provided to some Commonwealth countries, including some CCOA members, as part of the wider £66.4m funding package announced by the UK Prime Minister to boost global research and help countries across the Commonwealth stop plastic waste from entering the ocean in the first place.

Research & Innovation (£25m)

The Commonwealth Marine Plastics Research and Innovation Framework will provide a platform and overarching structure for bringing together governments, industry, researchers and practitioners from across the Commonwealth to work together to tackle this global issue. The initiative will comprise both new jointly-funded interdisciplinary research and innovation programmes developed through the Framework, and activities developed and delivered by individual partnering countries and organisations. An important aspect of the Framework will be providing a forum for sharing research plans and emerging findings with all partners, increasing coordination and adding value to individual programmes. The Framework will also support the development of links between researchers and innovators across the Commonwealth, driving new partnerships and strengthening capacity. The Framework will be delivered both by and for the Commonwealth. Further details to follow. In the meantime, if you would like to find out more about the Framework, including how to get involved, please contact Sarah.Honour@beis.gov.uk and Naomi.White@beis.gov.uk.

Sustainable Manufacturing and Environmental Pollution programme (£20m)

The £20 million Sustainable Manufacturing and Environmental Programme will research solutions to tackle pollution generated by manufacturing processes in developing countries, including plastics, supporting CCOA implementation globally. Details of the programme are currently being scoped and further information will be made available in 2019.

Waste pilots (up to £3m)

Three pilot projects (up to £3m) have been designed in Ghana, Bangladesh and Uganda to test approaches to increasing plastic recycling rates.

- i. Ghana: Working with businesses to reduce plastic waste in Accra, as part of the World Economic Forum hosted Global Plastics Action Partnership.

- ii. Bangladesh: Increasing the proportion of plastic waste generated by the capital Dhaka that can be reused by industry, particularly garment manufacturing.
- iii. Uganda: Support for the Kampala Plastics Recycling Partnership, which includes private companies such as Coca-Cola, the Ugandan Government and other stakeholders, to improve the sustainable management of plastic waste in Greater Kampala.

February 2019