



REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR

Nota No. 001/SAAO/ECUPEC/2015

The MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HUMAN MOBILITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR - Undersecretary of Africa, Asia and Oceania - compliments to the Forum for East Asia Latin America Cooperation Cyber Secretariat and in relation to the email, dated April 2, 2015 has the honour to inform the following:

Ambassador María del Carmen González, who was the Coordinator of Ecuador to the Pacific Basin-ECUPECC, including matters related to FEALAC, APEC, PECC and other related has been designated as Ambassador of Ecuador in Hungary.

The new Coordinator of Ecuador to the Pacific Basin-ECUPECC is the Ambassador Fabian Valdivieso.

Please found as attachment the form with the information about the National Project of Ecuador requested by the Cyber Secretariat.

The MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HUMAN MOBILITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR – Undersecretary of Africa, Asia and Oceania takes this opportunity to renew to the Forum for East Asia Latin America Cooperation, Cyber Secretariat the assurances of its consideration.

Quito, May 7, 2015

(With Annex)

A
FEALAC Cyber Secretariat
Seoul, Korea.



National Project

Title	BIREGIONAL INTER-SCHOOL CONTEST TO PROMOTE MARINE AWARENESS AND ADDRESS THE MARINE DEBRIS PROBLEM IN FEALAC COUNTRIES		
Working Group	Socio-Political and Development	Cooperation Sustainable	Country ECUADOR
Date	22 / 08 / 2014	Venue	
Project Status (Choose one)	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Reformulated		
Project Category (Choose one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Consultation by Specialists <input type="checkbox"/> Short Term Training Course / Internships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workshops / Seminars		
Project Contact Point	Name	Mónica Torres	
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	Department	Secretaría Ejecutiva del Comité para la Cuenca del Pacífico- ECUPEC – Comisión Permanente Pacífico Sur-CPPS	
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Participants	Member Countries	All countries FEALAC	
	Organizations	Comisión Permanente Pacífico Sur-CPPS secretariageneral@cppsint.org Secretaría Ejecutiva del Comité para la Cuenca del Pacífico- ECUPEC – ecupec@mmrree.gob.ec	
Project Purpose & Description	The contest seeks to generate marine awareness in the students in regards to the marine debris problem, and the mechanisms for its reutilization, thus turning the problem into a practical and environmentally friendly solution.		
Activity Description & Outcome	The competition (essays) to create awareness marine in students. Based on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reutilization (for example bricks, synthetic oil, etc.) Recycling: To use a substance/material again for the same/or another industrial process. Final disposal: Burning, landfill, etc. Prevention and public awareness. 		
File	BIREGIONAL INTER-SCHOOL CONTEST TO PROMOTE MARINE AWARENESS AND ADDRESS THE MARINE DEBRIS PROBLEM IN FEALAC COUNTRIES		

Introduction.-

Marine debris or marine wastes are composed of solid materials of manufactured or processed anthropic origin that have been tossed into or abandoned on the ocean coasts or even on land, and that by the effects of the wind, rain or rivers end up in the ocean. This trash causes enormous trouble for coastal activities, affects public health, biodiversity, as well as productive and recreational activities, such as fishing and tourism. It also causes serious financial problems for the coastal communities that are in charge of the collection and final disposal of this debris, which in many cases was generated in other places. It is estimated that over 80% of marine wastes are generated on land.

Many countries and international organizations have been facing the marine debris problem for decades, in some cases, with significant proof of progress. Among them are the initiative of the Ocean Conservancy Organization that has been promoting the beach cleaning day for almost three decades. The information collected has served to create awareness in the population, identify waste "hotspots" and propose policies to address the problem.

The Office for the Coordination of the Regional Seas Program of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the World Program of Action (WPA) have developed the "World Initiative for Marine Debris". This initiative focuses on the implementation of pilot activities in regions that are particularly affected by this problem. The initiative also provides a platform for the establishment of cooperation and coordination alliances for the control and sustainable management of marine debris. After the Fifth International Conference on Marine Debris (2011), UNEP and the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), developed the *Honolulu Strategy: A Global Framework for the Prevention and Management of Marine Debris* to support and strengthen these initiatives and channel new efforts around the world. The *Honolulu Strategy* serves as a platform for the global efforts that deal with the marine debris problem.

During the Rio+20 Meeting (2012), the Heads of States and Governments expressed their concern for the health of the biodiversity of oceans and seas negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, and they committed to adopt measures to reduce the incidence and the effects of that contamination, among other things, through the effective application of the relevant agreements adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the World Program of Action for the protection of the marine environment regarding activities carried out on land, as well as how to adopt coordinated strategies for this purpose.

Southeastern Pacific countries adopted the "Commitment of Galapagos for the 21st Century" during the VIII Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Southeast Pacific, held in the Galapagos, Ecuador, on August 17, 2012, and institutionalized the "Biennial Inter-School Contest on Management, Prevention, Reuse and Recycling of Marine Debris".

This proposal gathers the experience of the Southeastern Pacific Region and was recommended at the XV FEALAC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM- Bangkok, 2014) to be adopted by the VII Foreign Ministers Meeting (FMM, Costa Rica, 2015) in order to replicate and extend its application to the schools of the FEALAC Member States Cooperation Forum.

Bases of the FEALAC Biregional Contest

1. The bases of the contests prepared by the Secretariat will be general and adaptable to the special conditions of each one of the FEALAC Member States.
2. Each country will create a National Committee for the global coordination of the contest in its country, will seek strategic partners for the promotion of the contest (for example: State institutions related with education, environment, energy, tourism, the media, and NGOs specialized in the matter), and will notify the CPPS's Secretariat and FEALAC on the contacts that will maintain permanent coordination with the Secretariats.
3. The CPPS Secretariat will prepare a set of informative documents (Spanish/English) and will post them on its website together with all the documents related to the contests.
4. Each participating school shall identify **one** of the principal problems in its community that derives from marine debris and shall seek **one** practical solution to it. Said solution shall include several stakeholders, such as communities, associations of Municipalities, marine authorities, schools, parents, among others.
5. A national campaign should be carried out for the dissemination of the contests through the media in each one of FEALAC's Member States.
6. Five schools shall be chosen as winners per country, all of which will receive an honor mention. One school will be chosen out of these five selected schools.
7. The winning school must appoint a representative, whom will receive the established awards.
8. The focus areas for the projects on marine debris for the First Edition of the Biregional Inter-school Contests in the 2015–2016 biennium are:
 - Reutilization (for example bricks, synthetic oil, etc.)
 - Recycling: To use a substance/material again for the same/or another industrial process.
 - Final disposal: Burning, landfill, etc.
 - Prevention and public awareness.
9. The proposed solutions must be replicable in other places with similar problems.

Call and Bases of the Contest.-

The Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), the Secretariat of FEALAC and the authorities of the pertinent institutions will make a call to the “FEALAC Biregional Inter-school Contest aimed at increasing marine awareness through management for the Prevention, Recycling, Reutilization and Disposal of Marine Debris”.

The contest is open until _____. All information pertaining to the contests can also be found on the following websites:

www.cpps-int.org

www.fealac.org

Objective and scope of the call.-

The contest seeks to generate marine awareness in the students in regards to the marine debris problem, and the mechanisms for its reutilization, thus turning the problem into a practical and environmentally friendly solution.

Aimed at coastal Municipal Schools of FEALAC States Members (can be extended to the entire country, if required).

Latin America:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, República Bolivariana de Venezuela.

East Asia:

Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zeland, Filipinas, Singapur, Thailand, Vietnam.

Requirements.-

1. To have standardized knowledge of the marine debris problem, the students of the schools shall read the documents prepared by the CPPS on the issue.
2. They must prepare a project that proposes a brief diagnostic of the current situation in their region and define a practical and environmentally friendly solution to the critical problem identified during the diagnostic. Said solution will be aimed towards management for the prevention, reutilization, recycling and final disposal of marine wastes, and must adjust to the local reality.
3. The students shall share their proposal and test its acceptance in the community through at least 30 surveys to the family, the community, the school and the Municipal authorities to facilitate the application of the recommended solution.
4. The schools shall present the results of the surveys and documents that support this dissemination.
5. The project will have a maximum of five pages and a minimum of three. It will be written in Word format, Arial font size 11. The project should contain a summary, the description of the problem and identification of the critical cause, general and specific objectives and project methodology.
6. The five best projects in the country will be chosen using the "proposal selection criteria" that is specified below. The five projects will receive an honor mention.
7. One of the five projects selected will be chosen winner in accordance with the highest score, and will receive the award in a ceremony. (Place and date)

Criteria to be considered for the selection of proposals.-

1. The degree of applicability of the proposal.
2. The possibility to replicate the proposal elsewhere.
3. The level of engagement of the school and the community in its application.
4. Care for the environment
5. Originality of the proposal.

Submission and Receiving.

The proposal shall be submitted electronically to (country address), with a copy to the CPPS:

secretariageneral@cpps-int.org

fealac@mofa.go.ke

The Secretariats of CPPS and FEALAC, as receiving institutions shall confirm receipt of the proposals.

Judges.-

There will be a national jury appointed for each country, which will be made up of a group of national experts that will choose the best projects from among the five finalists of each country.

Decision.-

The jury's decisions will be final and will be posted on the CPPS's and FEALAC's website as well as of the national institution responsible for the coordination of the contest.

Participation in this contest implies the total acceptance of the present rules and conformity with the jury's decisions.

Awards.-

The representatives of the winning school (1 teacher and 1 student):

1. Will travel to _____ and will visit a marine reserve in August, 2016.
2. Will participate in a study cruise organized by the local authorities/CPPS/FEALAC /UNESCO/FAO/CI/MARVIVA/ (other sponsors).
3. Will receive medals of honor and diplomas of recognition.

FEALAC Focal Point Ecuador

Abril / 2015

Country	Name	Position	Email
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No.	Working Group	Project Name	Proposing Country	Status	Progress Update
	Socio-Political Cooperation and Sustainable Development	FEALAC Inter-School Contest on Prevention, Disposition, Re-usage, and Recycle on Marine Litter	Ecuador	To be organized every two years, to be launched at FEALAC FMM VII in Costa Rica in 2015	The bases (English and Spanish) already been sended to the FEALAC Cyber Secretary to be considered at the Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of FEALAC