

Terms of reference Consultancy

Design and implement monitoring activities to assess Marine Protected Areas ecological and fisheries effectiveness: improving MPA's manager skills

FishMPABlue 2 Interreg project "Transferring and Capitalising"
Applying the "governance toolkit"

BACKGROUND / INTRODUCTION

Small-scale fisheries and environmental conservation have a long history in the Mediterranean basin, with many common features but also numerous conflicts on the use and management of the marine resources. The FishMPABlue 2 project is the follow up of FishMPABlue 1 project, which developed a regional-based toolkit for small-scale fisheries governance in and around Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). In this second phase, the project will test the toolkit with a bottom-up approach in order to explore its actual application in different MPAs settings and involvement process with stakeholders.

FishMPABlue 2 aims at providing results and specific guidance for the management of artisanal fisheries in MPAs through testing the process of a governance toolkit, bringing capacity building for stakeholders (MPAs managers and local fishermen groups) and supporting policy recommendations in order to set up fishery management models. These models will allow MPAs management bodies to preserve marine ecosystems and species, assuring sustainable exploration of marine resources, and therefore assuring the sustainability of small-scale fisheries in and around Mediterranean marine protected areas.

A part of the project was dedicated to test the Small Scale Fisheries (SSF) governance toolkit and quantify its effectiveness in a set of selected MPAs (11, from 6 Mediterranean countries) in achieving expected results in terms of ecological and economic benefits, and social acceptance of management measures by stakeholders (mainly small-scale fishers). In each MPA, the project was carried out through a Pilot Action aimed to implement and test the effectiveness of the governance toolkit; it was developed through 3 main steps:

- 1- The assessment of ecological, economic and social status of SSF in the context of MPA before the implementation of the governance measures
- 2- The pilot action implementation, whose main activity was the application of some MPA-specific governance measures selected from the Governance toolkit
- 3- The assessment of ecological, economic and social status of SSF after the implementation of the governance measures, allowing assessment of the latter's effectiveness for SSF.

In order to apply the toolkit there is the need to have a good knowledge of existing fisheries in the MPA and of fisheries-related environment status, so the need to improve the capacities of an MPA in monitoring.

More details on the background of the project in Annex 1

All information on FishMPABlue2 development <https://fishmpablue-2.interreg-med.eu/>

IUCN Med is the Coordinator of WP5 “Capitalising” (see below – Annexes part); nevertheless, this activity is drafted and organized in partnership with the UNS and Conisma, and was proposed and agreed by all the project partners at the Steering Committee meeting hold in University of Nice in April 2019.

OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The objective of the consultancy is based on the results of previous phases/WorkPackages of the FishMPABlue2 project – i.e assessment of projects implementation results (socio-economic and environmental), design of the governance toolkit for MPAs and first feedback on the toolkit¹, especially the WP 3.4.1 and from the first conclusion of the WP5.

As the ecological and fisheries assessment in each MPA are the basis of the whole process to implement and evaluate then the effectiveness of the set of tools proposed by the “governance toolkit”, a local monitoring systems (M&V) are required and needed to demonstrate the benefits of such local measures. Which enables recognition of their value, provides an evidence base for adaptive management, and forms a basis for innovative management approaches.

These conclusions come from the results of the ecological monitoring carried out in 2017 (i.e. ex ante monitoring) and 2018 (i.e. ex post monitoring) that were compared against each other following a “before vs after” logic. Specifically, for each MPA and protection level (no-take, partially protected and unprotected), a set of descriptors of fish assemblages 10 status were compared ‘before’ and ‘after’ the

¹ MedPan Regional Conference Nov 2018

toolkit implementation (i.e. after one year). Fish assemblages represent a fundamental component of aquatic ecosystems and are widely recognized as a good indicator of marine ecosystems health.

The objective of this consultancy is to:

- First, propose a package training session(s) with a precise methodology for increasing MPAs' staff's skills on how to design and implement monitoring activities to assess Marine Protected Areas ecological and fisheries effectiveness;
- Second, coordinate and organize on site practical activities to train MPA managers

IUCN and the associated partners of the project can provide to the consultant all background documents and results that will come from their works:

EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

The following deliverables will be submitted by the organization (MPA) to the Project Team:

- 1- **Methodology of monitoring used/ applied**
- 2- **Description of the training session(s):** this training must be done in a Marine Protected area
- 3- **Report of the training session:** number of participants (ie MPA managers), skills learnt, number of onsite training
- 4- Propose all the arrangements: rooms, facilities, meals and accommodation.

A special attention will be given to the capacity of the consultancy to gather MPA managers from different countries.

TASKS AND ACTIVITIES

The Consultant is expected to work closely with the IUCN Project Coordinator (focal point), with the others project partners and WPs' leaders especially the University of Nice (in charge of the assessments – WP3) and MedPan that will work on the dissemination (WP4).

The consultancy will be conducted as follow:

- i. Attend an initial meeting (could be remotely) with the project coordinator to discuss about the project framework and ensure a good comprehension of all the issues;
- ii. develop a work plan, which outline roles, responsibilities, and timelines: the summer training sessions have to be organize no later than mid-September 2019
- iii. Throughout the consultancy work closely with the MPA partners of project (11 MPAs) to ensure the outputs are consistent with their needs; and open the training sessions to the new

- MPA that express their interest to enter the process of testing and implementing the governance toolkit;
- iv. Propose a methodology (to be included in answer of the call) that will be used in the training session(s)
- v. Final report on the training session(s): to be edited no longer than the 15 of October 2019.

All documents will be submitted in English. Logos to be included will be provided by IUCN. The final product is EU property (as any Interreg project).

SCHEDULE OF DELIVERABLES

This schedule will be precise and up-dated (if some delay occurred previous to the final phase), regarding the first deliverable, the inception report that will be prepare by the consultants.

Deliverables	Tentative Timeline
2019	
First draft on the methodology	included in the answer of the call
Plan to organize the training session	1 of August
Training sessions	No later than the 30 of September
Final report	15 of October

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Speaking language: English

The consultant (MPA management bodies/ team) should have experience:

- on MPA management and fisheries governance and especially on assessing, monitoring and evaluating ecological and fisheries components within MPA
- on linking methodology for monitoring and evaluation and field experimentation and implementation
- on sustainable SSF
- good written and oral English skills to deliver the training in English

In addition, experience and/ or knowledge will be valuable and appreciated regarding:

- involvement on previous EU projects (Interreg, Life,...)
- any publication or success initiative on monitoring and evaluation of MPA and/ or SSF
- use to work within a multi-cultural framework
- the Mediterranean context (especially in the countries where the project is implementing)

MAXIMUM BUDGET AVAILABLE

The maximum budget available for this assignment for both experts is **25 000 euros** (including all taxes). Logistical support (travels of the participants): not included in the budget; IUCN will be in contact with the selected MPA to organize participant travels.

SCOPE OF COST PROPOSAL

The experts will be paid through a lump sum amount which is all costs inclusive. All costs (professional fees, travel costs, living allowances, communications, consumables, etc.) that could possibly be incurred by the contractor must be factored into the final amounts submitted in financial proposal. Note that the contract price is fixed regardless of changes in the cost component.

TIMING

The expected timeframe for the consultancy is **4 months** (the time frame should be revised regarding the way how the project is implementing in the previous phases)

SUBMISSIONS

1.1 Experience and technical proposal

- a) **Personal CV** of the MPA team that will prepare and lead the activities indicating all past experiences in the field environment and marine activities (including fisheries), main competencies of the organization (MPA) to deal with the topics and the training (capacity building/ training experiences)
- b) **Brief description** of why the MPA management team is the most suitable for the assignment: **propose a first short methodological note**, on how they will approach and complete the assignment, within the timing assigned.

1.2. Financial proposal

Financial Proposal in Euros that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price.

DELIVERABLES

The consultant shall submit the following deliverables: see above in the previous section

All report deliverables shall be submitted in English in hard and electronic versions

MONITORING, CONTROL AND VALIDATION OF THE WORK

The consultants will work under the supervision of IUCN Mediterranean Centre of Cooperation/ marine department. The service provider will submit a draft report as request on the schedule table for deliverables. The service provider will hand in the final version 15 days after the monitoring committee has made its observations and comments on the draft report.

HOW TO APPLY?

Interested MPA, who meet the criteria for this consultancy, may send their resume and cover letter to: marieaude.sevin@iucn.org, not later than the 10 of July, 2019. Only selected candidates will be contacted for interviews.

Annexes

▪ Annex 1 : project background

The project has started in November 2016 and will end in October 2019. It is led by the Italian Federation of Parks and Natures Reserves (Federparchi) and involves many partners: the Mediterranean Protected Areas network (MedPAN), the National Inter-University Consortium for Marine Sciences (CoNISMa), the University Nice Sophia Antipolis, the WWF MedPO, the Association of Var for a small coast fishing and sustainable maritime activities (founders of MedArtNet, the Mediterranean platform of artisanal fisheries) and the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med).

As Associated Partners of the project are General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean of the FAO, the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection in Croatia, the Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWET), the French MPA Agency (AAMP), the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA), Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation and the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery, Food and Environment.

The 11 MPAs pilot sites involve are:

- Marine reserve of Es Freus, Spain (coordination WWF Mediterranean)
- Cabo de Palos Marine Reserve, Spain (coordination WWF Mediterranean)
- Fisheries reserve of Cap Roux, France (coordination UNS)
- Côte Bleue Marine Park, France (coordination MedPAN)
- Bonifacio natural reserve, France (coordination MedPAN)
- Torre Guaceto MPA, Italy (coordination Federparchi / Conisma)
- Egadi islands MPA, Italy (coordination Federparchi / Conisma)
- Portofino MPA, Italy (coordination Federparchi / Conisma)
- Telascica natural park, Croatia (coordination WWF Adria)
- Strunjan Landscape park, Slovenia (coordination WWF Adria)
- Marine natural park of Zakynthos, Greece (coordination UNS)

Background

Information on FishMPABlue 1 (*documents could be downloaded from the following web page*)

<https://www.iucn.org/regions/mediterranean/projects/completed-projects/fishmpablue-fisheries-governance-marine-protected-areas-potential-blue-economy>

Expected results

- To maintain biodiversity and natural ecosystems through strengthening the management and networking of Protected Areas;
- To test the “governance toolkit” for small scale fisheries” in different typologies of MPAs in order to have an upgraded version of it. This testing will be carried out in 11 MPAs assisting them to improve their conservation-related effectiveness and their capacity in managing one of the main human-based pressures for Mediterranean MPAs;
- To disseminate the experiences on the toolkit among the maximum feasible number of Mediterranean MPAs;
- To enhance integration of principles and recommendations in national and international policies to ease informal/formal engagement of stakeholders in small-scale fishery management within MPAs.

▪ Annex 2 : WP 5: Capitalizing

Description and objective

WP6 will issue policy-related recommendations to promote mainstreaming and institutional uptake of the project results, primarily through incorporation of the governance toolkit principles into national/regional/international policies, to:

- a) Identify at national level the gaps and hindrances in terms of legal and administrative framework for a successful implementation of the “governance toolkit”
- b) Propose the inclusion of some principles of this new governance approach in national juridical frameworks
- c) Propose new concepts and procedures (starting from the “Governance toolkit”) for associating conservation (MPAs) and sustainable fisheries (FRAs) tools in the International Institutions/initiatives recommendations or decisions.

Each goal will be developed thanks to the involvement of the Associates partners, since their competency on specific topics or organizations.

At national level (in each of the 6 countries), “discussion panels” will be held between relevant country-based PP (exceptions: WWF MedPO for Spain and ECOMERS for Greece) and the relevant responsible bodies (mandated administrations for nature conservation and fisheries) for identifying the gaps and hindrance in the national juridical framework in relation with MPAs and FRAs. The integration of toolkit principles in national policies and some changes in national regulatory frameworks will be proposed, as well as a support to national authorities in the identification of other sites where such an approach could be developed.

At Mediterranean regional level, thanks esp. to some project partners (IUCN Med, WWF MedPO and MedPAN), Associates (GFCM, MedWET and RAC/SPA) and to their strong contacts with the main organizations in charge of policies and strategies (DG MARE, UfM, MAP, EUSAIR), WP5 will work for the inclusion of new governance approaches associating conservation (MPAs) and sustainable fisheries (FRAs) approaches in the international recommendations or decisions

Target groups involvement

1. Policy makers at national level of the concerned countries (e.g. Ministries of Environment and Ministries of Fishery) through transferring knowledge (communication tools) and discussing possible solutions (national panels)
2. Regional (Med)/international Institutions/Initiatives such as GFCM, UfM, Barcelona Convention, EU-DGs Mare and Environment, EUSAIR, etc. through transferring knowledge (communication tools), participating in events organized by the Regional (Med)/international Institutions/Initiatives, and organizing bilateral meetings with them

Durability and transferability of main outputs of this WP

The legal and institutional reviews at national level can serve as framework for improving legal and administrative framework for MPAs/FRAs of each country, during the project and beyond.

The dissemination of all the project outputs in the platforms of the project partners will make them exploitable by different actors for further decisions and/or actions. Main projects outputs are replicable in European and likely even in non-European countries, because they have been developed on an actual sample (11 MPAs) representing different features and juridical frameworks (6 countries); moreover, in WP Capitalization a particular effort is done towards the international framework, also taking in account some non-EU countries.

In addition, the involvement (as partner or Associates) of national and international institutions is a guarantee for the replicability in other MPAs of the project outputs also beyond the project end.

▪ Evaluation Criteria for the offer

Evaluation Criteria			Maximum Point
General experience and technical references			(20 points)
Experience in delivering training sessions on MPA management activities (for the team of for other MPAs)	Nature and number of the training	Presented over 3	5 points
		Presented 2 to 3	3 points
		Less than 2	0 points
	Completion date of the most recent training	Less than or equal to 3 years	5 points
Over 3 years		3 points	
Experience in monitoring fisheries	Nature and number of the monitoring and evaluation activities	Presented over 2	5 points
		Presented 1 or 2	3 points
		None	0 points
	Completion date of the most recent monitoring	Less than or equal to 3 years	5 points
Over 3 years		0 points	
Methodology, organisation and planning			(30 points)
Methodology, organisation and planning	Methodology	Methodology clearly presented and meets the terms of reference and the training's objectives	20 points
		Methodology fairly presented and partially meets the terms of reference and the training's objectives	5 points
		Methodology not clearly presented and does not meet the terms of reference and training's objectives	0 points
	Organization and planning	A clear and well worked-out organization of the work and a realistic planning that respects the deadline	10 points
		A clear enough organization of the work and a planning that respects the deadline	5 points
		A poor organization of the work or a planning that does not respect the deadline	0 points
Team proposed to provide the training			(20 points)
	Qualification of the team	Highly qualified with relevant experiences proven	30 points
		Not all the team qualified	10 points
		Not qualified	0 points
Financial proposal			(30 points)
	Total budget	Below 25 000	10 points
		Aligned with the technical expectations	20 points
		Not aligned with the technical expectations	0 points
Total			100 points