

Terms of Reference

Preparing case studies on “potential other-effective area-based conservation measures” in North Africa

1. BACKGROUND

Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) agreed a definition, guiding principles, common characteristics and criteria for identification of ‘other effective area-based conservation measures’ (OECMs) at the 14th Conference of the Parties ([Decision 14/8](#), November 2018). The IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas Task Force on OECMs is currently finalizing a Technical Report on *Recognising and Reporting OECMs* as well as an OECM Assessment Methodology. FAO has also recently organized a workshop to guide the identification of OECM in fisheries conservation areas. State agencies, private entities, civil society organisations and local communities are now turning to assess the extent of their potential OECMs and to begin to recognize and report them.

To support learning about ‘other effective area-based conservation measures’ and to share guidance about how to recognize, report and support OECMs in five Northern African countries (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia), the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, in collaboration with other partners, are hosting a regional workshop in Tunisia late-January/early-February 2020.

The workshop sessions and themes will include:

- Information sessions for government officials and key stakeholders about the CBD decision on OECMs;
- Updates about OECM-related guidance and initiatives by global organizations and agencies such as IUCN and FAO;
- Discussion on the opportunities and challenges offered by OECMs within the regional context, covering both terrestrial and marine areas (with a particular attention to fisheries conservation measures and areas); and
- Consideration of specific examples and case studies of potential OECMs in the region.

2. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The objectives of the consultancy are to:

- i. Conduct a rapid assessment and provide an overview and analysis of the achievement of Aichi Target 11 in the five North African countries;
- ii. Undertake a rapid inventory of area-based conservation measures used in the region (other than the protected areas categories) with an aim to guide stakeholders on thinking how to identify OECM and prompt the discussion at the workshop;
- iii. Undertake a GIS-based analysis overlapping areas of importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services already identified in the region with the existing protected areas and potential OECMs;
- iv. Develop a minimum of 6 specific case studies on potential OECM candidates in the region. The case studies should cover at least the following categories: hunting reserve, fisheries reserve, Ramsar sites, military and cultural sites (including sacred sites);
- v. Prepare a presentation on the case studies and deliver it at the above-mentioned workshop; and
- vi. Take notes of the input provided during the workshop on potential OECM candidates and the case studies and revise the documents accordingly.

3. METHODOLOGY

The consultant should conduct the work using a methodology developed in partnership with IUCN and WCPA. It is expected that the OECM assessment, inventory and case studies will be built following the IUCN Technical Report on *Recognising and Reporting OECMs* and IUCN *OECMs Assessment Methodology*.

The GIS-based analysis would primarily use data available at regional and national levels on Key Biodiversity Areas, protected areas network and other area-based conservation measures that appear to be potential OECMs. The objective of the analysis is to give an indication of how a mosaic of area-based conservation measures (PAs and OECM) support the conservation of areas of importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services and the achievement of Aichi Target 11 and a potential post 2020 PA target.

The case studies should provide a description of the conservation measure, any regulations related to it, provide an overview of the particular issues relevant to a participatory assessment of each area (including how to engage the governance authority, who else should be involved in the assessment, etc.) and - following a desktop study - an assessment of the extent to which it meets the CBD definition and criteria of a 'potential OECM', including any particular gaps and suggested steps to address them.

The assessments and case studies are primarily meant to prompt discussion at the workshop and are not expected to be exhaustive. More details on their scope (countries, and regional level data) would be discussed with IUCN and WCPA at the start of the consultancy.

4. KEY DELIVERABLES

- An inception report including a work plan, detailed methodology, report format and timeline, to be submitted within 3 days from the commencement of the assignment;
- A draft assessment report on AT 11 achievements in the region;
- A draft report on OECM inventory and case studies;
- A PowerPoint presentation with the case studies delivered at the workshop;
- A report summarizing the discussions and conclusions of the workshop; and
- Revised OECM inventory and case studies taking into account the main input during the workshop.

5. SUPERVISION AND COLLABORATION

The Consultant will work under the supervision of IUCN North Africa Programme Coordinator, and in collaboration with the Regional Vice-Chair of WCPA and the Co-chair of the WCPA OECM Task Force to finalise the methodology, collection of data and facilitation of interviews and contacts with key PA stakeholders in the region as needed.

6. TIME SCHEDULE

The Assignment shall be expected to be completed within a period of four (4) months before 20th of March 2020.

The preliminary inventory and draft case studies is expected to be finalized before January 15th 2020 to serve as input to the workshop.

7. SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED OF CONSULTANT

The consultant is expected to have the following skills and expertise:

- Experience and familiarity with the CBD process, Aichi Target 11 and OECMs;
- A minimum of fifteen (15) years' experience in work on protected areas and other area-based conservation measures, and familiarity with North African context;
- Excellent analytical and GIS skills;
- Excellent writing and communication skills in English and French, Arabic would be an asset; and
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate and work well with diverse people.

8. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

Consultants interested to apply are invited to send the following documents:

- A motivation letter to the Director of the IUCN Center for Mediterranean Cooperation;
- Updated CVs signed by their owners showcasing similar experience to the one needed in this consultation ;
- A methodological note detailing the approach to be followed in carrying out the tasks assigned and achieving the expected results of this consultation;
- Financial offer specifying the total remuneration for the consultation (in euros or in local currency including all taxes)¹.

9. APPLICATIONS SUBMISSION

The applications containing the documents mentioned in paragraph 8 above must be sent by e-mail to: uicnmed@iucn.org

The e-mails should indicate in their subject "OECMs North Africa consultation".

The deadline for sending the applications are 21 November 2019. Applications arriving after this date will automatically be rejected.

¹ We estimate the work to take no more than 50 days. IUCN will facilitate the acquisition of some of the data needed (e.g. GIS layers of PAs, and KBAs) as well as facilitate access to contacts in the five North African countries.