



## Request for Proposals (RfP)

### Call for Scientific experts – Consultancy on Coastal & Mangrove Indicators and Targets for inclusion in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

IUCN Global Marine and Polar Programme

Issue Date: 29 March 2021

**Closing Date: 16 April 2021 (extended)**

#### IUCN Contacts:

Anete Berzina-Rodrigo  
Project Manager  
IUCN Global Marine and Polar Programme  
[anete.berzina@iucn.org](mailto:anete.berzina@iucn.org)

Emily Goodwin  
Programme Officer, Ecosystem-based Adaptation  
IUCN Global Ecosystem Management Programme  
[emily.goodwin@iucn.org](mailto:emily.goodwin@iucn.org)

## PART 1 – INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS AND PROPOSAL CONDITIONS

### 1.1 About IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together. Headquartered in Switzerland, IUCN Secretariat comprises around 950 staff in more than 50 countries. Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of more than 1,300 Member organisations and some 10,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards. IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development. Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being.

## 1.2. Summary of the Requirement

IUCN invites relevant scientific experts to submit a Proposal for a consultancy on coastal & mangrove indicators for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), which is currently being developed within the framework of the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). The consultancy will support the objectives of the joint WWF, IUCN and BMZ initiative "[Save our Mangroves Now \(SOMN\)](#)", implemented in collaboration with Wetlands International, specifically the development of a negation toolkit and guidance in relation to the inclusion of mangroves in the post-2020 GBF and how this could support national reporting. The detailed Terms of Reference can be found in Part 2 of this RfP.

## 1.3. The procurement process

The following key dates apply to this RfP:

RfP Issue Date	Monday, 29 March 2021
<b>RfP Closing Date and Time</b>	<b>Friday, 16 April 2021 (extended)</b>
Estimated Contract Award Date	Tuesday, 20 April 2021

## PART 2 – THE REQUIREMENT

### 2.1 Background

#### 2.1.1. Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

As the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020 comes to an end, the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) is actively developing an ambitious new global biodiversity framework, known as the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

The post-2020 GBF builds on the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and sets out **an ambitious plan** to implement broad-based action to bring about a transformation in society's relationship with biodiversity and to ensure that, by 2050, the shared vision "[Living in harmony with nature](#)" is fulfilled.

**The vision** is: "By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people."

**The framework aims** to galvanize urgent and transformative action by governments and all of society, including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and businesses, to achieve the outcomes it sets out in its vision, mission, goals and targets, and thereby contribute to the objectives of the CBD and other biodiversity related multilateral agreements (MEAs), processes and instruments.

**The framework's theory of change** assumes that transformative actions are taken to: (a) put in place tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming, (b) reduce the threats to biodiversity, and (c) ensure that biodiversity is used sustainably in order to meet people's needs and that these actions are supported by (i) enabling conditions, and (ii) adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity and technology.

**The components** of the post-2020 GBF include:

- 2050 Goals;
- 2030 Milestones;
- 2030 Action Targets;
- Means of implementation;

- Means of monitoring, reporting and review;
- Monitoring framework with indicators.

The post-2020 GBF is expected to be a **global framework** and shall contribute to the objectives of the CBD and other biodiversity related multilateral agreements (MEAs), processes and instruments (e.g. UNFCCC, Ramsar and others).

The theory of change is complementary to and supportive of, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It also takes into account the long-term strategies and targets of other multilateral environment agreements, including the biodiversity-related and Rio conventions, to ensure **synergistic delivery of benefits from all the agreements for the planet and people**.

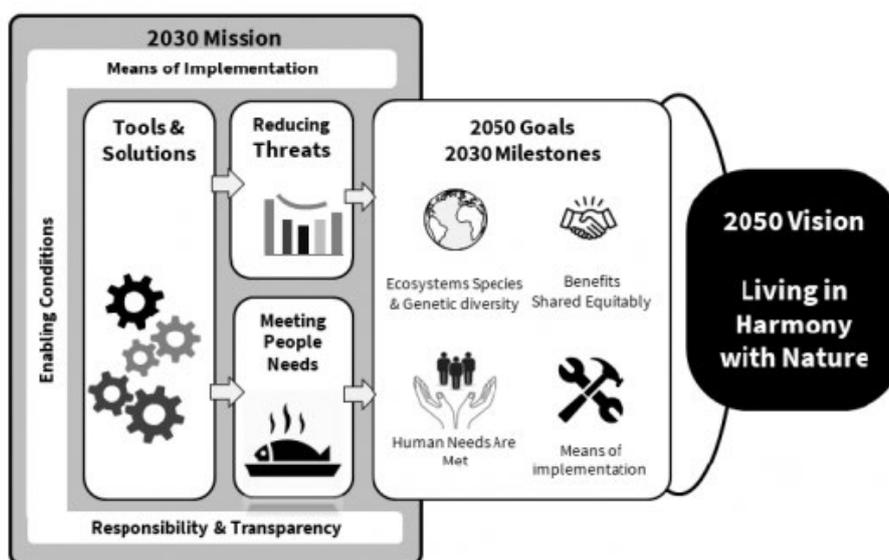


Figure 1. Theory of change of the framework © CBD

The milestones for the development of the post-2020 GBF include:

- In the coming months, the [current updated zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework \(August 2020\)](#) and associated monitoring framework and other elements will be discussed at and further updated to take into account the outcomes of the forthcoming 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice ([SBSTTA-24](#)) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation ([SBI3](#)), as well as the advice from thematic consultations. It will then be issued as Draft One, six weeks prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Open-ended Working Group planned for later this year (2021);
- The governments are then **expected to adopt** the post-2020 GBF at the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties (COP 15, also known as the UN Biodiversity Conference, currently planned for October 2021).

The post-2020 GBF will be **implemented at the national level**, supported by action at the regional and global scales.

Within first year of the adoption (2022), it is envisaged that the governments will be expected to make commitments for its implementation and report on progress<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> This may include, but are not limited to the revision of National Biodiversity Action Plans (NBSAPs), that is the main instrument for national implementation of the CBD and often also the national implementation instrument for other MEAs.

## 2.1.2 Mangroves and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

The goal of the SOMN initiative is that mangrove ecosystems - as part of coastal land- and seascapes - are conserved, restored and sustainably used to the benefit of people locally, and nature globally. The initiative thus contributes to the achievement of international agreements and processes (mainly 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, UNFCCC and CBD, UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, IUCN WCC Resolution).

The cornerstones of the SOMN initiative are: (1) strategic policy work at the international level; (2) a clear vision and commitments from the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region and (3) intensified partnership development and strong communication efforts.

The SOMN works to ensure that ambitious international political goals set enabling global framework conditions for effective mangrove conservation. To this extent SOMN aims at (1) supporting adoption of more ambitious international political goals supporting mangrove conservation and highlight and foster means of implementation and (2) recognizing the role of mangroves as nature-based solutions in coastal areas in ambitious policy processes and outcomes beyond 2020 on oceans, biodiversity, sustainable development, climate, disaster risk reduction and ecosystem restoration.

The SOMN team is currently in the process of developing specific guidance on coastal and mangrove-related indicators, targets and their relevance to national reporting (and to the extent possible streamline with other processes), with the support of the SDG14 Community of Ocean Action on Mangroves, the IUCN Mangrove Specialist Group and the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA). We are now looking for a **scientific expert(s) on mangroves** to support the process.

## 2.2 Purpose of the consultancy

The selected **scientific expert(s)** will support the development of an analysis of how mangroves and related coastal-marine issues are covered in the current draft post-2020 GBF and associated monitoring framework documents (see detailed TOR), **and provide concrete recommendations/guidance on ensuring the technical correctness, robustness and measurability of proposed indicators (and associated targets)**. The post-2020 GBF will span across conventions and as such, indicators should also align with relevant indicators for the UNFCCC and SDGs.

## 2.3 Deliverables

### 2.3.1. Part 1

- One technical publication on mangrove-related elements in the post-2020 GBF, in table format, with short supporting narrative/resources as relevant, based on the initial framework provided by the SOMN team (see initial framework in Annex 1). The final product will be a post-2020 GBF negotiations toolkit on mangroves similar to the document prepared by ICRI on coral reef indicators in the post-2020 GBF.<sup>2</sup> This publication will include:
  - A review of the currently proposed indicators, targets, and baselines with guidance/recommendations on mangrove-related elements to be considered in the post-2020 GBF;

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<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.icriforum.org/negotiation-toolkit/> or direct link <https://www.icriforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ICRI-Recommended-Indicators-for-SBSTTA-24-6.pdf>

- Scientific and technical review and feedback on the robustness and measurability of the indicators, including available most-up-to-date scientific evidence, data, and baselines, and identification of gaps and recommendations for modifications;
- Facilitation of a virtual consultative workshop (half-day) on the draft recommendations with experts in the SOMN project team, the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA), and the IUCN Mangrove Specialist Group, as well as any other identified technical experts. The online workshop logistics and coordination will be supported by IUCN.

### **2.3.2. Part 2**

At a later stage, support the development of guidance for country reporting on mangrove & coastal ecosystems against the adopted GBF, by providing initial recommendations for supporting country reporting on mangrove targets with a focus on the SOMN focal WIO region, specifically Madagascar, Mozambique, Kenya and Tanzania.

## **2.4 Timeline**

The provisional timeline to be refined and confirmed closely with the selected Consultant and will take into account the CBD meeting dates (which are tentative and currently pending confirmation):

### **2.4.1. Part 1: April-May 2021**

- Deliver the draft review of the indicators and associated scientific recommendations by the end of April 2021 (see section 2.5 below);
- Consultative workshop (virtual) in early May 2021;
- Delivery of the final product by around mid to second part of May 2021 on time to facilitate discussions at CBD SBSTTA-24 (dates to be confirmed by CBD) and subsequent revision and finalization of the post-2020 GBF;

### **2.4.2. Part 2: June – July 2021**

- Provide initial recommendations for supporting country reporting on mangrove targets that could be used after the adoption of the framework, with a focus on the SOMN focal WIO region, specifically Madagascar, Mozambique, Kenya and Tanzania.

## **2.5 Detailed ToRs**

### **2.5.1. Part 1**

- Review the draft monitoring framework (and associated documents for the components/elements relevant to mangroves) and provide scientific and technical opinion/guidance on mangrove-related elements, gaps, and associated recommendations. The final publication will summarise/synthesize most up-to-date scientific knowledge on mangrove elements and provide recommendations on new targets, linkages, and baselines:
  - by editing and completing the below draft table (Annex 1), based on the initial review prepared by the SOMN team; please modify where deemed appropriate for the final publication;
  - based on the information to be included in the table, provide overall option and recommendation on mangrove integration in the post-2020 GBF for consideration

- at the SBSTTA-24 (see the draft considerations to build upon listed below, under the table to complete);
- include all annotations and references / sources of information to support the recommendations, as appropriate;
- In doing so, the overall guiding questions/aspects to consider include, but are not limited to the following aspects:
    - Although the focus is on global indicators, the preference is for indicators that can be disaggregated at the national level to ensure alignment and facilitate reporting by countries;
    - Are the current draft and suggested monitoring elements and indicators appropriate to measure the proposed targets? If not, please propose best options where none have been established yet, including any recommendations for a new or combined targets (e.g. related to critical ecosystems<sup>3</sup>);
    - Are the currently proposed mangrove-related baselines (where provided) appropriate? Please propose recommendations.
    - Are there any win-win monitoring element(s) that could help achieve multiple goals across the board? Consider opportunities to illustrate the role of mangroves as multiple-benefit “superheroes”, which could be implemented and reported upon at the national level, should those be appropriately recognized in the framework.
  - This analysis is meant to respond to the content of the following relevant documents up for consideration at SBSTTA-24 (including the draft decision of SBSTTA-24 and COP15):
    - [CBD/POST2020/PREP/2/1](#): The update of the Zero draft of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (August 2020);
    - [CBD/SBSTTA/24/3](#): Post-2020 global biodiversity framework: scientific and technical information to support the review of the updated goals and targets, and related indicators and baselines (November 2020);
    - [CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/ADD1](#): Proposed indicators and monitoring approach for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (November 2020);
    - [CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/ADD2](#): Scientific and technical information to support the review of the proposed goals and targets in the updated zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (February 2021);
    - [CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/16](#): Indicators for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (January 2021);
    - [CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/23](#): Available monitoring frameworks and information to support monitoring of progress towards goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework with respect to marine and coastal biodiversity (February 2021);

### 2.5.2. Part 2

- Provide initial recommendations for supporting country reporting on mangrove targets that could be used after the adoption of the framework, with a focus on the SOMN focal Western Indian Ocean region, specifically Madagascar, Mozambique, Kenya and Tanzania. Detailed TOR will be discussed and tailored specifically to the WIO country needs, following the completion of part 1 of this consultancy.

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<sup>3</sup> Critical ecosystems (in the context of post-2020 GBF) are defined as “ecosystems for which evidence of potential for restoration or replacement is lacking should be considered “no loss” ecosystems, because gains could not counterbalance losses of such ecosystems”; this include mangroves and other associated ecosystems (see document [CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/9](#). *Synthesizing the scientific evidence to inform the development of the post-2020 global framework*, May 2020).

## 2.6 Qualifications

The consultant(s) shall have the following qualifications:

- Advanced qualification or equivalent experience in marine science, nature conservation or other related fields, with proven expertise in mangrove science;
- At least 15 years' experience in related topics, ideally specifically both expertise on mangrove ecosystem as well as the global monitoring and evaluation of ecosystems. Proven work on global indicators is desired.
- Knowledge and experience on environmental issues, particularly on mangroves as nature-based solutions climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies;
- Excellent analytical and research skills, able to work and deliver results independently and within a team;
- Strong interpersonal skills are essential, capacity to develop partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Excellent presentation and communication skills;
- Mastery of computer tools: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and other as applicable;
- Advanced written and verbal proficiency in English.

## PART 3 – OTHER INFORMATION

### 3.1 Consultancy duration

The consultancy is expected to take about 4 months, starting ASAP and to be completed no later than the end of July 2021.

### 3.2 Contract value

This assignment has a maximum budget of 15,000 EUR.

### 3.3 Terms of payment

Payment will be based on service provision and is subject to the prior production of an original invoice; advance payment can generally not be granted. The consultant is required to comply with our procedures for assignments. We reserve the right to not accept expenditure beyond the agreed budget or whose supporting documentation is not in accordance with our procedures, and to suspend payments in the absence of appropriate deliverables.

### 3.4 Application procedure

Interested experts are invited to submit a proposal Anete Berzina-Rodrigo (cc: Emily Goodwin) by email [anete.berzina@iucn.org](mailto:anete.berzina@iucn.org) (copy: [emily.goodwin@iucn.org](mailto:emily.goodwin@iucn.org)) **no later than Friday, 16 April 2021, 23:59pm CET time (extended deadline)**, including;

- Curriculum Vitae of the expert/consultant(s) indicating experience relevant to the subject of this assignment with professional references and area of specialisation;
- Letter of motivation (including demonstration of an excellent understanding of the assignment's purpose and aims);
- Technical offer (including proposed procedure, timeline and methodology);
- Financial offer (budget broken down by major activities, specifying the number of days and daily fee of expert/consultant(s), and detailing taxes or exemption thereof).

**ANNEX I. TABLE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CONSULTANT  
(PART 1 OF THE DETAILED TORS)**

**Draft guidance on mangrove indicators on inclusion of mangroves  
in the post-2020 GBF to be discussed at CBD SBSTTA-24**

The draft table below, for the selected expert(s) to review and populate, responds to the content of the above-mentioned documents to be considered during SBSTTA-24 and proposed recommendations to strengthen mangrove integration into the post-2020 GBF.

Indicator Name & Number	What does it measure?	Are the data & metadata publicly available?	Has the methodology been peer-reviewed?	What is the baseline? How often are updates?	Useful at national and global scales?	What entity facilitates reporting?
A.1.1.9. Continuous Global Mangrove Forest Cover	Increased extent of natural ecosystems (Goal A, Component A.1)					
A.1.1.10. Trends in mangrove forest fragmentation	Ecosystem integrity and connectivity (Goal A, Component A.2)					
A.1.1.11. Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	Increased extent of natural ecosystems (Goal A, Component A.1)					
A.1.1.12. Trends in mangrove extent	Increased extent of natural ecosystems (Goal A, Component A.1)	<a href="#">Global Mangrove Watch</a>				
A.1.1.22. Wetland Extent Trends Index	Increased extent of natural ecosystems (Goal A, Component A.1)					
A.1.1.24. Change in the extent of water related ecosystems	Increased extent of natural ecosystems (Goal A, Component A.1)					
A.1.1.34. Ocean Health Index	Ecosystem integrity and connectivity (Goal A, Component A.2)	<a href="#">Mangroves : Ocean Health Index</a>				
B.1.1.13. Change in the quality of coastal water ecosystems over time	Nature's regulating contributions including climate					

	<b>regulation, disaster prevention and others</b> (Goal B, Component B.1)					
<b>B.1.1.14. Level of erosion</b>	<b>Nature's regulating contributions including climate regulation, disaster prevention and others</b> (Goal B, Component B.1)					
<b>1.1.1.3 Habitat patches located within marine protected areas or integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)</b>	<b>Increase in area of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems under spatial planning</b> (Target 1, Component 1.1)					
<b>2.1.1 Protected area coverage by type (marine, freshwater, mountain and terrestrial)</b>	<b>Area of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystem under protection and conservation</b> (Target 2, Component 2.1)					
<b>2.1.1.3 Protected area coverage of key biodiversity areas</b>	<b>Areas of particular importance for biodiversity are protected and conserved as priority</b> (Target 2, Component 2.2)					
<b>2.1.1.6 Proportion of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecological regions which are conserved by protected areas or other effective area-based conservation measures</b>	<b>Effective management and equitable governance of the system of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures</b> (Target 2, Component 2.4 and others)					
<b>7.1.1.1 Above-ground biomass stock in forest (tonnes/ha)</b>	<b>Increased biodiversity contribution to climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction</b> (Target 7, Component 7.1;					

	Goal B, Component B.1)					
7.1.1.2 <b>Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030</b>	<b>Increased biodiversity contribution to climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction</b> (Target 7, Component 7.1; Goal B, Component B.1)					
7.1.1.3 <b>Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies</b>	<b>Increased biodiversity contribution to climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction</b> (Target 7, Component 7.1; Goal B, Component B.1)					
7.1.1.4 <b>Number of least developed countries and small island developing States with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans, strategies as reported in adaptation communications and national communications</b>	<b>Increased biodiversity contribution to climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction</b> (Target 7, Component 7.1; Goal B, Component B.1)					
8.1.1.1 <b>Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels</b>	<b>Sustainable management of aquatic wild species of fauna and flora, including fisheries</b> (Target 8, Component 8.1; Goal B, Component B.2)					
9.1.4 <b>Aquaculture production</b>	<b>Sustainable management of aquaculture</b> (Target 9, Component 9.2; Goal B, Component B.2)					
9.1.1.5.	<b>Sustainable management of all types of</b>					

<b>Progress towards sustainable forest management</b>	<b>forests</b> (Target 9, Component 9.3)					
10.0.2 <b>Ecosystems providing reduced coastal erosion, flood protection</b>	<b>Regulation of hazards and extreme events</b> (Target 10, Component 10.2; Goal B, Component B.1)					

The consultant should also provide a short narrative on the overall recommendations, that could include, but are not limited to the following initial elements:

- Cross-cutting data on mangrove extent, integrity, and connectivity to help to inform multiple indicators about the broader state of ecosystems, especially concerning forests and coastal/marine settings;
- Examples of entry points for mangrove ecosystems include:
  - Mangroves can also contribute to sustainable management of wild and domesticated fish/seafood stocks (Targets 8 & 9);
  - Highlighting the role of mangroves in coastal protection and disaster risk reduction, especially in the context of building climate resilience (Goal B, Targets 7 & 10). For Target 7, this would mean inclusion of mangroves in disaster risk reduction strategies;
- Framing of the role of mangrove ecosystems for climate adaptation and mitigation throughout.