Question 1 - What is the scope of the analysis under Outcome 1 and Outcome 2 (e.g. the Mediterranean, Europe or the whole world)?

Outcome 1 is a mapping and synthesis of Blue Economy concepts, strategies, processes and actions at the global level. This has been conducted and is due to be published in February this year.

Outcome 2 will be an aquaculture-specific toolbox, which will look at guiding intervention in this sector. There is no geographical restriction, and it is expected that the toolbox is developed to be as widely applied as possible, for worldwide applications.

Outcome 3 will be geographically defined at a later stage.

Question 2 - What is the framework for proposing pilot areas (e.g. the Mediterranean, Europe or the whole world)?

The definition of pilot areas is expected to be discussed as soon as possible and we welcome any suggestions in the proposals submitted by applicants. It could be anywhere in the world. Developing countries will be preferred.

Question 3 - Are the invoices being delivered to France or Switzerland?

The consultancy will be made with the IUCN Headquarters in Switzerland.

Question 4 - Could you please provide me with the relevant time zone and time at which the submission window will close on the 19th?

23:59 CET (Central European Time).

Question 5 - In the item 4.5.3 states that Goods and Services Taxes Proposal rates and prices shall be exclusive of Value Added Tax. Does the institution have a VAT number?

IUCN is an international organization, and as such is tax exempt.

Question 6 - Regarding the Pilot Site of the study, the countries to be considered are the ones in the Aquaculture and nature solution IUCN report which includes Zanzibar, Tunisia, Indonesia and French Polynesia?

The pilot site is not defined as of today. Zanzibar, Tunisia, Indonesia and French Polynesia were case studies under the AquaCoCo project and whilst this means some information are already available for the said sites, other areas will be considered as well.
Question 7 - How many days of workshop is expected?
This is not defined, and proposals should include a suggested duration and reflected in the budget.

Question 8 - Will IUCN be supporting the workshop logistics at the pilot site?
Logistics will be supported by the host country and the IUCN Secretariat.

Question 9 - Is there a need for a local consultant? Is there a need for local language for workshop logistics and facilitation?
Having a local consultant would be a benefit, and ensuring participants can engage in their language would also be a plus, but not mandatory.

Question 10 - As the report of outcome 1 will be released in the first quarter of 2024, will the consultant team have access to it beforehand to support the delivery of the outcome 2 for the first semester of 2024?
Outcome 1 will be communicated to the consultant as soon as available.

Question 11 - Does the client have a specific region or choice of regions for Outcomes 2 and 3 to focus on? Should we suggest regions within our network that would be suitable?
The pilot site is not defined as of today. Suggestions can be included in the proposals for discussion with the IUCN team and the framework donor.

Question 12 - Are the consultants responsible for the organisation of the workshop/s in outcome 3?
Consultants are responsible for the content and facilitation of the workshop. The host country and IUCN secretariat will assist with the logistics.

Question 13 - Are the consultants responsible for funding the workshop/s in outcome 3? If so please indicate specific requirements to be covered.
The consultant should include an estimated travel budget for his/her participation. Other costs will be borne by IUCN and/or the host country.

Question 14 - Please clarify details on the travel budget. Is there a maximum defined? Does the travel budget cover all costs associated with travel including flights, visa, accommodation, per diem, and other necessary reimbursables?
No maximum defined, but the consultant is expected to provide a maximum travel budget which includes all necessary reimbursables.
Question 15 - Are the marine conservation tools to be used defined by client? If so, which ones?
Any recognized IUCN marine conservation tools should be considered.

Question 16 - We believe the timeline is too short to create and implement a new pilot project, therefore are existing pilot projects permitted for use with existing clients of the consultants?
Existing pilots can be considered.

Question 17 - Can approximate months of conducting work for outcome 2 and 3 be provided as tentative dates opposed to semesters 1 and 2 within 2024?
Approximate months can be provided for timeframe.

Question 18 - Is there a finalised goal for the upscaling the integrated RBE approach using aquaculture?
The overarching goal is to integrate circular economy, nature conservation and Nature-based Solutions principles into sustainable blue economy planning.

Question 19 - The toolkit to develop is country specific or as international standard?
The toolkit should not be region specific, but be applicable worldwide.