TERMS OF REFERENCE:

MEDITERRANEAN MPAs AND CLIMATE CHANGE ONLINE PLATFORM

Background of the consultation

Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) will be strongly impacted by climate change in the coming decades and adaptation mechanisms and actions are needed to reduce the number and intensity of threats. Incorporating adaptation into current management frameworks in and around MPAs can contribute to increasing the resilience of marine communities and the coastal human societies that depend on them.

The MPA-Adapt Project aims to raise awareness on the role of effectively managed Marine Protected Areas for enhancing resilience to climate change and safeguarding ecosystem services, as well as to strengthen capacity of MPAs to plan for and respond to climate change impacts based on a better understanding of climate risk and vulnerability. Providing a platform that will support these processes by offering tools and guidance to managers is among the main outputs of the project and will ensure that the information is accessible to everyone and its benefits extend beyond project duration.

The IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation is one of the partners in the MPA-Adapt project and the leader of communication and testing project packages. The project is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (in the framework of the Interreg Med Programme) and MAVA Foundation.

Objective of the consultancy

IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med) is seeking to develop an online platform on Marine Protected Areas and Climate Change whose purpose is to present all available tools and materials for climate change adaptation in Mediterranean MPAs in a clear, visually attractive and structured way. The aim is to present a go-to online resource for MPA managers and other relevant target public (researchers, MPA staff, NGOs, national and regional administrations) when it comes to climate change tools, guidelines and information updates from the region.

The platform will be divided into several different sections and will include multimedia materials (video tutorials), early warming events (Dashboards) with an interactive map and descriptive information. It will be also linked to two relevant thematic platforms (TMedNet and MedMIS) as well other initiatives.
These applications will need to be designed and carefully structured to ensure their long-term relevance and follow up updates considering the dynamic nature of climate change and upcoming information.

**Scope of Work**

Designing and developing the platform, structured into 9 main sections:

- Science results: text and images
- Tools and Guidelines: text, tutorial videos, uploaded documents
- Monitoring platforms: text, pdfs, link- this section should link to existing platforms that provide climate change-relevant data (e.g. MedMIS and TMedNet).
- Early warning events: this section will contain an interactive map with several layers where it will be possible to visualize the recent climate change-related events reported by the users themselves. Each layer should represent one type of event (e.g. mortality events, flowering events etc.). The events will be represented by points and the users will be able to visualize the info relevant to each event. The maps will feed on data entered by different users and will present the most recent data through automatic updates.
- MPAs Works: text, images, uploaded documents
- Get involved: text, images, online form for data submission with attachments
- Embedded videos and story maps
- Query tool to enable users to search by text or map to find relevant information (e.g. ongoing monitoring programme), including downloadable studies, technical summaries and final reports, and links to publications and digital data.
- Links to relevant sites

General considerations:

There will be 3 categories of platform users:

- Expert – registered user who will be able to visualize, download, upload and publish data without previous authorization from admins
- Other contributors – registered user who will be able to visualize, download data and upload data but will need to be approved by admin for publishing
- General public – unregistered users who will be able to visualize and download data

IUCN-Med will provide the background texts and other content for the platform. The platform will have to be structured in a way to allow the publication of continuous updates with new data and materials.

Language: English and French

The proposal should include a roadmap of the work to be done, including the timeline.
Required profile

The company or expert (s) object of this consultancy must have considerable knowledge on the latest technologies in the development of web pages, including databases and optimization of graphic elements in digital format.

Knowledge of programming of web pages, browsers, hosting services, servers and data storage and fluency in English is required.

The contactor should be able to communicate easily during the business hours of Malaga’s time zone (Spain).

Phases of the support tasks

Phase 1: Delivery of the documentation and images for the platform and list of mandatory and optional fields for the online form for new data and attachments submission. Delivery of the necessary documentation for the general sections of the platform
Phase 2: Review of proposals and formal acceptance of final specifications.
Phase 3: Determination of hosting services and data storage for the application, according to technical requirements and recommendations of the company / expert.
Phase 4: Test of the final product.

Expected deliverables

- Design proposals (home pages, interactive map, submission form)
- Analysis and proposals for hosting and publishing
- Beta version of the web platform
- Final version of the web platform

Timeline and payment:

Estimated time for the consultancy is 6 months.

The estimated start date for the consultancy is **16th July 2018**.

The web platform should be finalized by **15th December 2018**.

The payments will be issued in 3 stages (30%-30%-40%).
Selection criteria

Quote Proposals will be accepted by 29th June 2018 and evaluated on the following criteria:

- Quality of the technical proposal (Proposed methodology): including content management system, development of geodatabase for spatial datasets and visualization, data and information sharing with other platforms
- Previous examples of work on similar jobs
- CV company/consultant and experience of the team
- Ideas for improvement
- Economic offer (including basic maintenance cost)

Value: Offers up to 17,000 euros (VAT excluded) to be sent to: Maria del Mar Otero at mariadelmar.oter0@iucn.org.

For any other questions contact mariadelmar.oter0@iucn.org and lourdes.lazaro@iucn.org