



TERMS OF REFERENCE NATIONAL PROJECT COORDINATOR

IUCN - MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT PROJECT ON SUPPORTING THE MANAGEMENT OF IMPORTANT MARINE HABITATS AND SPECIES OF LEBANON

Background

Lebanon is rich in marine and coastal species. Apart from their intrinsic natural heritage value, these sustain fisheries and have the potential to support marine based tourism activity. Unfortunately, fishing, coastal development, introduced marine species, pollution and climate change threaten Lebanon's marine biodiversity. Among the tools to protect biodiversity is the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and develop monitoring plans to promote management effectiveness.

Context

This common project between IUCN and the Ministry of Environment in Lebanon aims at supporting the development of a network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and an associated monitoring program to evaluate the management effectiveness. The project will assist the Ministry of Environment experts, local communities and relevant actors in designing and managing marine protected areas, restoring impacted marine habitats and species in Lebanon as well as improving knowledge relevant to management of marine resources.

The key outputs of the project will be the following:

- Maps of significant or sensitive marine habitats of Lebanon will be produced;
- Maps of marine based human activities and resource interactions will be developed;
- Zoning scheme, delineation of proposed boundaries as well as support documents for official designation of candidate MPAs will be prepared;
- Skill and knowledge transfer to the MoE – focusing on MPA design, management and GIS decision support will be provided;
- Training needs identified and relevant training for trainers will be undertaken;
- Strategy on priority areas to protect, manage, or rehabilitate will be developed;

- A monitoring manual based on the results of marine biodiversity assessments, the identified monitoring indicators, and better practice marine monitoring and sampling methodology will be drafted;
- National experts and institutions that can support and sustain monitoring in the future will be identified and involved in the project activities;
- Needs for future training and technical support will be assessed and funds for future work will be identified;
- Marine expertise at MoE will be strengthened through the secondment of an IUCN marine expert to the Ministry of Environment.

Project Duration

The project duration is over a 2-year period, starting in June 2009 and ending in May 2011. The contract of the project coordinator will be initially for a period of 1 year, renewable till the completion of the project.

Terms of Reference

The project coordinator shall work in close cooperation with the staff from the Lebanese Ministry of Environment and other relevant institutions as appropriate to implement, guide and supervise activities related to the execution of this project, and in particular will be responsible for:

1. all tasks relevant to project planning and management, including preparation of annual work plans and budgets;
2. the development of Terms of Reference for local experts to undertake specific activities;
3. Supervision of work of experts and evaluation of delivered outputs;
4. the collection and review of marine information and data relating to the Lebanese marine environment;
5. the identification of information gaps and collection of relevant data and information to fill these gaps in relevant sites;
6. the preparation of ecosystem/habitat maps as well as the validation of satellite images and habitats maps;
7. the identification, including field verification, of potential marine areas to be designated as MPAs or any other relevant category of marine management;
8. the organization and reporting on consultation with the local communities and experts on each candidate area;
9. the drafting of a proposition for the boundaries of these areas and the conservation

- objectives, as well as support documents (technical and legal) for official designation;
10. The development of a monitoring manual based on the results;
 11. the development of a public awareness and environmental education program for marine conservation in general and the benefits of MPAs in particular;
 12. the identification of capacity development needs for marine protected areas management, control and monitoring;
 13. the realization of training sessions/workshops on MPAs identification, selection, management effectiveness, control and monitoring and in particular the preparation, evaluation and revision of management plans;
 14. the periodical provision to the MoE and to IUCN-Med of periodic reports on work in progress, ensuring full coordination, timeliness and consistency among project activities;
 15. the support to MoE experts in other relevant issues related to marine conservation.

Selection Criteria

This position requires a strong background (at least at M.Sc. level) in marine biology and resources management with at least 5 years of relevant experience, preferably in the area of marine conservation in the Mediterranean region. The position also requires experience in project management and implementation. Previous experience and familiarity with GIS is an asset.

A good command of English is essential, Arabic is a strong asset. The successful candidate will be expected to undertake field work, including diving. He/she is expected to be fully computer literate and familiar with Microsoft Office and major software packages.

This position carries considerable responsibility and autonomy and requires good organisational capacity, good interpersonal and networking skills and a willingness to work as part of a team.

Lebanese experts are strongly encouraged to apply.

Duty station: Ministry of Environment – Beirut - Lebanon

Work percentage: 100% (70% Field work, 30% Management)

Applications

Candidates who meet the selection requirements are requested to submit **at the latest**



by 20 May 2009 their curriculum vitae, a supporting letter of motivation in English, and the names and contact details of three referees (including one recent employer) to IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation - Email: uicnmed@iucn.org