



## **Terms of Reference for consultants to draft Guidelines for environmental assessment in a transboundary context**

### **1. Introduction**

The UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) for 2018-2019 adopted at COP20 (Tirana, December 2017), includes a specific cross-cutting theme on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) as “a transversal policy, with strategic options, plans and management measures, which can integrate and reflect on the same coastal geographic unit (with its terrestrial and marine parts) all thematic policies and horizontal dimensions, encompassing development measures, environmental protection, SCP, adaptation to climate change, etc.”.

ICZM is a long-term strategic process that implies the availability and proper use of a variety of operational tools and instruments to ensure sustainable use and management of coastal zones, ensuring that needs for human settlement and economic activities minimise the impacts on the natural resources and protect the fragile natural habitats, ecosystems, landscapes and cultural heritage from pollution and other types of degradation including those caused by natural risks and hazards. Environmental assessment i.e. SEA at strategic level for policies, plans and programmes, and EIA at operational level for individual projects and activities, are the frontline tools for the implementation of ICZM principles and the achievement of Good Environmental Status (GES) and sustainable development.

Within a transboundary context, the application of SEA and EIA helps to foster co-operation between neighbouring States as both processes allow for consultations to be carried out when potential significant issues of a transboundary nature are identified through the evaluation process. Whilst respecting national jurisdiction, transboundary environmental assessment allows for plans, policies and projects undertaken at a national level to have higher potential to contribute towards regional efforts at safeguarding the Mediterranean.

### **2. Objective**

According to Art. 29 of the ICZM Protocol, the 2018-2019 PoW envisages the preparation of Guidelines for environmental assessment in a transboundary context on the procedures for notification, exchange of information and consultation among the Mediterranean States.

These Guidelines are to be prepared based on the existing international instruments in the field and in parallel with the on-going process of work on the Common Regional Framework (CRF) for ICZM. They should be adapted to the Barcelona Convention context and fit to the Mediterranean basin and its sub-regions.

### **3. Job Description and Time Frame**

Two consultants will be hired to work under the guidance of and in close cooperation with PAP/RAC and UN Environment/MAP. The consultants will accomplish the following specific tasks:

|    |   |                                      |
|----|---|--------------------------------------|
| a. | Overview of the existing practice with regard to transboundary impact assessment  | December 2018                        |
| b. | Drafting of the Guidelines  | January – March 2019                 |
| c. | Participation in working meetings and consultations: one working meeting with PAP/RAC and UN Environment/MAP at the beginning of the drafting process and meeting of PAP/RAC NFPs in May 2019 | January – May 2019 (exact dates tbc) |
| d. | Finalisation of the work in line with the recommendation of the PAP/RAC NFPs meeting  | May – July 2019                      |

#### 4. Deliverables

The consultants will produce the following deliverables:

|    |   |                   |
|----|---|-------------------|
| a. | Summary of the main elements from the existing documents (conventions, directives, recommendations, good practices...) to be taken into consideration while drafting the Guidelines (max. 10 pages) | End December 2018 |
| b. | Draft Guidelines to be submitted to the PAP/RAC NFPs meeting for consideration (max. 25 pages)  | End March 2019    |
| c. | Final Draft of the Guidelines   | End July 2019     |

The deliverables will be submitted in English.

#### 5. Remuneration

The consultants will be rewarded for the accomplishment of the above tasks with the amount of 8,000 € gross each, payable in two instalments:

|   |                |     |
|---|----------------|-----|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> instalment upon the submission and clearance by PAP/RAC of the deliverables a. and b. | End March 2019 | 60% |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> instalment upon the submission and clearance by PAP/RAC of the deliverable c.         | End July 2019  | 40% |

The costs of the participation in the meetings will be covered separately.

#### 6. Qualifications

The consultants should have the following educational and professional qualifications:

- Recognised degree in one of technical, environmental or social sciences relevant for coastal and marine planning and management;
- Professional level with a minimum of five years of experience with projects/activities related to international cooperation;
- Ability to analyse issues and process information;
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills;
- Good knowledge of English, both in written and oral formats.