

Terms of References

Country:	Jordan
Post Title:	Ecosystems Based Management (EBM) National Expert Deliverable Based Consultancy
Starting Date:	Aug 1 st 2021
Duration:	Deliverable to be completed within four months (Aug 5 th – November 30 th , 2021),
Location:	Home-based. Field Missions and external travel might be planned as needed taking Covid restriction in consideration.

Background

The Mediterranean Forum for Applied Ecosystem-Based Management (MED4EBM) initiative is a partnership project funded by the ENI CBC MED Programme 2014-2020, under the Thematic Objective B.4 (Environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation) and Thematic Priority B.4.4 (Incorporate the Ecosystem-Based management approach to ICZM into local development planning). MED4EBM duration is three years, and its partnership spans four countries: Italy, Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia.

The Project aims at enhancing capacities of various stakeholders and institutional actors involved in the management of coastal and marine areas, and at establishing a cooperation and coordination platform for them to effectively implement ecosystem-based Integrated Coastal Zone Management (EB-ICZM). Governments and other ICZM stakeholders can use this platform to take informed decisions on planning and managing coastal resources and achieve effective coordination on the ground. In turn, this will help wide-spreading EBM in the Mediterranean consistently with the Barcelona Convention and its ICZM Protocol.

MED4EBM proposes the use of innovative tools to tackle the main issues which currently limit the widespread incorporation of EBM into ICZM processes (EB-ICZM). These are related to the difficulties that the decision-makers and the professional teams involved still face because EB-ICZM requires:

- i.* intense and continuous efforts to coordinate management actions across a wide array of stakeholders (e.g. governmental agencies; international programs/projects; social, economic associations), application sectors (e.g. fisheries, tourism, transport, biodiversity conservation);
- ii.* intensive work by the team of professionals implementing EB-ICZM, with particular reference to adjusting the available guidelines to the specificities of the relevant ecological and socio-economic systems, as well as operationalising them for effective application in area of interest
- iii.* significant amount of data and large databases.

MED4EBM endeavours to handle these barriers using an innovative land and sea management package which makes EB-ICZM much easier for the professional team, the stakeholders and the decision-makers involved. This package has been developed by one of MED4EBM Partners and consists of a software application and a set of methodological tools, to plan, implement and monitor EBM through a participatory and evidence-based approach.

The said methods allow handling the EB-ICZM multi-stakeholders analytical processes through a straight-forward path, providing analytical methods based on deterministic rather than statistical ecological and socio-economic assessments. These methods help the planning team and relevant stakeholders to identify and quantitatively assesses the relationships between ecosystem components, functions and services, along with the associated human activities, toward the establishment of a multi-stakeholders ICZM scheme. The software package enables the analysis of spatial and tabular datasets, and the compilation of data-aware advanced reports, via a multi-windows interface which facilitates the browsing of large datasets through an ecosystem-based logical mapping framework. MED4EBM will establish one Ecosystem-based ICZM Decision

Support Systems (EB-ICZM-DSS) in each of the four project's target areas in Italy, Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia. This by applying a methodological protocol which consists of five easy-to-apply sequential steps to handle the complex multi-stakeholders analytical processes that characterize EB-ICZM applications. The said EB-ICZM-DSSs will be then used to perform a systemic, indicator-based, and participatory analysis to develop an EB-ICZM Governance Protocol (EB-ICZM-GP) for each of the MED4EBM target areas.

Technical and methodological references on the above mentioned methods and tools, as well as on the activities to develop the said EB-ICZM-DSSs and EB-ICZM-GPs are illustrated in detail in the document titled *MED4EBM: Technical and methodological references and operational framework for the execution of WP3 and WP4*. This document is available for consultation on the MED4EBM website, under the section Library/Documents at the following link: www.enicbcmmed.eu/projects/med4ebm. Detailed technical and methodological grounds for these Terms of Reference are based on the above-mentioned document; in particular, items in *italic* in this ToR refer to specific elements illustrated in detail in the said document.

Scope of the Assignment

The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan "JREDS" is seeking the service of a National Consultant to perform the function of an Ecosystems Based Management (EBM) Expert. The assignment will be granted in a Deliverables Base Contract. The selected candidate will work on the Jordanian sector of the Gulf of Aqaba under supervision of JREDS' Project Coordinator and the MED4EBM Project Coordinator, and in close coordination with the Project's EB-ICZM Technical Team established in the framework of MED4EBM Project. He / She will act as the counterpart of the two International Consultants providing training to the National Consultants and will be responsible for executing activities and managing the pool of resources for developing the EB-ICZM-DSSs and EB-ICZM-GPs for Aqaba, Jordan. The National EBM Expert will be required along with the National GIS DB specialist to catch up with "Hands on" training and practice intensive learning by doing in handling the EB-ICZM-DSSs and EB-ICZM-GPs tool.

Specific Tasks:

Under supervision of the supervision of JREDS' Project Coordinator and the MED4EBM Project Coordinator, and in close coordination with the Project's EB-ICZM Technical Team the National EBM Expert will execute the following tasks:

i- Revision and improvement of sets of components and indicators

Key activities: In regular consultation with stakeholders and collaboration with the Project's EBM Technical Team, the consultant will review the set of components and indicators already identified, and use the EB-ICZM Application to develop diagram, tabular and GIS format information.

Deliverable: Interim Report on the reviewed and updated components and indicators handled in the Application

ii- Data collection

Key activities: Parallel with Task (i) and in regular consultation with stakeholders and collaboration with the Project's EBM Technical Team, the consultant will check the data already collated and facilitate data collection and processing in the Application.

Deliverable: Interim Report on the data collection and processing through the Application to generate decision support information

iii- System Cause-Effect Analysis

Key activities: Based on deliverables of Tasks (i) and (ii) and in regular collaboration with the Project's EBM Technical Team, the consultant will apply a protocol for consistent and coherent development of a System Cause-Effect Analysis

Deliverable: Interim Report outlining a System Cause-Effect Analysis with illustration of actual results obtained from the Application

iv- Methodological Protocol for Ecosystem Based Management

Key activities: Based on successful implementation of Tasks (i-iii) and in regular collaboration with the Project's EBM Technical Team, the consultant will draft a methodological protocol which consists of the sequential steps required to handle the complex multi-stakeholders / multi data sources analytical processes that characterize EB-ICZM applications. This is to perform a systematic participatory indicator-based analysis for developing an EB-ICZM Governance Protocol for the Jordanian sector of the Gulf of Aqaba.

Deliverable: Ecosystem Based Management Protocol for the Jordanian sector of the Gulf of Aqaba

Covid-19 Related Situation

Adapting to prevailing Covid-19 related situation, activities could be executed remotely through virtual meetings and webinars. To the extent that this may be needed and possible/allowed activities will be conducted in-presence.

Expected Timeframe	Deliverables &	Documents	Duration/Deadline
<i>i-</i> Interim Report on the reviewed and updated components and indicators handled in the Application		<i>i-</i> First Interim Report	<i>i-</i> August 28 th 2021
<i>ii-</i> Interim Report on the data collection and processing through the Application to generate decision support information		<i>ii-</i> Second Interim Report	<i>ii-</i> September 18 th 2021
<i>iii-</i> Interim Report outlining a System Cause-Effect Analysis with illustration of actual results obtained from the Application.		<i>iii-</i> Third Interim Report	<i>iii-</i> October 18 th 2021
<i>iv-</i> Ecosystem Based Management Protocol for the Jordanian sector of the Gulf of Aqaba		<i>iv-</i> Fourth Interim Report	<i>iv-</i> November 17 th 2021
<i>v-</i> Final Report Synthesising the Consultancy Outputs		<i>v-</i> Consultancy Synthesis Report	<i>v-</i> November 30 th 2021

Qualifications

Education

The EBM Expert must hold a minimum of a PhD degree with 5 years of professional experience or a Master degree with ten years of professional experience or equivalent in the fields of technical, scientific or ecological natural-resources-management and sustainable-development.

Experience and Qualifications

Given the technical and methodological characteristics of the tasks to be executed, the Candidate's professional record should include:

- Good knowledge in coastal and marine ecosystem characteristics, services, usage, pressure and threats particularly of the Red Sea, Gulf of Aqaba
- Good knowledge in developing decision support systems for integrated spatial planning/management by applying participative and socio-ecological methodologies in coastal and marine ecosystems
- Ability of design and implementation of systemic analytical frameworks to assess and quantify socio-ecological dynamics through quantitative indicators in coastal and marine ecosystems
- Ability of developing integrated Ecosystem-Based Management measures in coastal and marine areas
- Ability to design, execute and lead participative stakeholders' consultation workshops with alternance of working groups and community plenaries
- Ability to design and execute data gathering activities and handling data in complex databases

Competencies:

Corporate

- Demonstrate integrity and fairness, by modelling the UN/UNDP's values and ethical standards
- Promote the vision, mission and strategic goals of the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority
- Display cultural, gender, religion and age sensitivity and adaptability

Functional

- Demonstrated ability for facilitating and coordinating approaches and accomplishments of EBM
- Demonstrated entrepreneurial ability and demonstrated skills to work in an independent manner
- Background knowledge about the SDGs, United Nations and UNDP
- Flexibility and ability to handle multiple tasks and work under pressure
- Excellent command of the Arabic and English languages both written and oral communication
- Excellent computer skills especially in Microsoft Office, GIS and Database software
- Knowledge of working with virtual meeting platforms/technologies.

Compensation and special conditions

Payments will be based on approval of deliverable reports following JREDS regulations

How to apply

Interested candidates, please send your resume with 2 reference letters to: information@jreds.org

Specifying "***MED4EBM – Ecosystems Based Management (EBM) National Expert***" in the email subject.

Application deadline is July 25th, 2021, or 10 working days from the vacancy announcement date.

Short-listed candidates only will be contacted and invited for interview.