

Terms of References

Country: Jordan Post Title: Ecosystems Based Management (EBM) Technical Assistant
Monthly Salary: Full time job

Starting Date: July 25th 2021

Duration: Full time job Starting July 25th, 2021, until the end of MED4EBM Project,

Location: JREDS Office, Aqaba, Jordan

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.enicbcmed.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 motivated candidate to perform the function of an Ecosystems Based Management (EBM) Technical Assistant. The assignment will be granted in a full-time job at a fixed monthly salary. The selected candidate will join JREDS Team to work 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 be assisting a national Expert acting as the counterpart of two International Consultants providing training to the National Teams. The selected candidate 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 along with a national Expert and a GIS DB Specialist. The EBM Technical Assistant will be required as a member of MED4EBM National Team 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 EBM Technical Assistant 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 technical Assistant will help in review the set of components and indicators already identified and use the EB-ICZM Application after receiving the necessary training to develop diagram, tabular and GIS format information.*

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 technical Assistant will check the data already collated and facilitate data collection and processing in the Application.*

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 Technical Assistant will assist the EBM National Expert to apply a protocol for consistent and coherent development of a System Cause-Effect Analysis*

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 Technical Assistant will be trained by the EBM National Expert on implementing 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.

v- Routine Technical Work at JREDS

While Tasks (i-iv) constitute a starter of the Technical Assistant job at JREDS where he / she is expected to acquire proper skills on them through learning by doing training while working with the MED4EBM technical Team, these along with other technical work at JREDS Office on the coastal and marine ecosystem will become the daily work routine of the selected candidate.

Qualifications

Education

The EBM Technical Assistant must hold a minimum of a First University degree with 5 years of professional experience or a Master degree with 3 years of professional experience or equivalent in the fields of engineering, technical, scientific or ecological marine and coastal natural-resources-management and sustainable-development.

Experience and Qualifications

Candidates 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
- Willing and enthusiasm to receive condensed training on developing decision support systems for integrated spatial planning/management by applying participative and socio-ecological methodologies in coastal and marine ecosystems.
- Passion to learning design and implementation of systemic analytical frameworks for assessment and quantifying 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 high appetite to learn handling data in complex databases.

Functionality

- 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, particularly Microsoft Office.

Compensation and special conditions

The assignment is for a full-time job at fixed monthly salary for the duration of MED4EBM Project, following JREDS regulations.

How to apply

Interested candidates, please send your resume with 2 reference letters to: information@jreds.org Specifying "**MED4EBM – Ecosystem Based Management Technical Assistant**" 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.