

# Terms of Reference

## Regional Project Management Unit

### Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Phase 2 (ATSEA 2)

#### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Reference:</b>	VA-2020-06
<b>Title:</b>	Designing of a Resilient Network of Regional Marine Protected Areas in Arafura and Timor Seas region.
<b>Consultation type:</b>	International Consultant
<b>Reports to:</b>	Regional Project Manager
<b>Expected Places of Travel:</b>	Travel to regional office in Bali and ATS countries
<b>Duration of Assignment:</b>	The expected duration of the contract is 100 working days within July 2020 – April 2021

#### II. BACKGROUND

The Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) is part of the North Australian Shelf large marine ecosystem (LME), which is a tropical sea lying between the Pacific and Indian Oceans and extending from the Timor Sea to the Torres Strait and including the Arafura Sea and Gulf of Carpentaria. The region is adjacent to the Coral Triangle, which hosts the world’s highest marine biodiversity and contains some of the most pristine and highly threatened coastal and marine ecosystems. At the regional scale, the ecosystems of the ATS play an important economic and ecological role in the littoral nations bordering the Arafura and Timor Sea: Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Australia, and Papua New Guinea.

The marine environment in the ATS region is in serious decline, primarily as a result of overharvesting and other direct and indirect impacts of anthropogenic stresses and global climatic changes. Fisheries in the ATS region represent an extremely complex productive, socioeconomic sector, with multiple actors, target species sought, and technology used. In addition to climate change, unsustainable harvesting, illegal unreported unregulated (IUU) fishing, and bycatch are having significant impacts on the populations of key marine species in the ATS region, particularly globally threatened coastal marine megafauna including migratory, rare, and threatened species of turtles, dugongs, seabirds/shorebirds, sea snakes, cetaceans, sharks and rays. Lastly, potential sources of marine pollution in the ATS region include marine debris, marine based pollution from oil and gas activities, as well as waste from fishing and shipping vessels.

ATSEA 2 is the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the GEF-financed, UNDP-supported ATSEA program, building upon the foundational results realized in the first phase of the ATSEA program, covering Indonesia, Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea, and Australia. This 5-year project will support implementation of the following governance and environmental objectives of the ATS regional Strategic Action Program: (i) Strengthening of ATS regional governance; (ii) Recovering and sustaining fisheries; (iii) Restoring degraded habitats for sustainable provision of ecosystem services; (iv) Reducing land-based and marine sources of pollution; (v) Protecting key marine species; and (vi) Adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

The ATSEA 2 project will support protection of priority coastal and marine habitats and conservation of protected species. The first step will be a regional stock-taking of key biodiversity habitats, including coral reef, seagrass, and mangrove ecosystems, and identifying priority conservation areas.- This will be used to support the designing of a resilient network of marine protected areas (MPAs), covering an estimated 1.5 million hectares and extending from the Lesser Sunda region to the south coast of Timor-Leste, southeast Aru Islands in Indonesia, and over to Kolepon Island located at the far eastern reaches of the Arafura Sea, near Merauke.

The project is also providing resources to support efforts at strengthening regional biodiversity information management systems. Furthermore, the potential impacts of climate change on the biodiversity of the coastal and marine ATS ecosystems will be addressed, and adaptive strategies

integrated into the protected area management plans and regional action plans for enhanced protection of key species.

### III. SCOPE OF WORK, APPROACH AND ETHIC, AND DELIVERABLES

#### **Scope of Work**

The Regional Project Management Unit is seeking to engage an organization/company to consolidate and update relevant data/information; map coastal/marine critical habitats and threatened, charismatic, and migratory species; analyze key conservation features and cost layers; and design a resilient network of Marine Protected Areas in the ATS region. These will be undertaken through scientific assessment and consultation, including with stakeholders from each of the four ATS littoral countries, in order to ensure relevant representation in the design of the network. The process will include setting the objectives of the network; identifying the key conservation features, threats and uses of the area; applying relevant conservation planning tools; and facilitating inputs from relevant government agencies, local stakeholders and scientific experts through workshops and meetings. Learning from experiences in the Lesser Sunda ecoregion, high resolution satellite imagery and ground-truth activities could be used to refine the analysis in designing the MPA network. The MPA Network design will also consider actions for improving conservation and management of marine turtles, and the consultant will be working with ATS stakeholders to develop a regional action plan for enhanced protection of marine turtles.

#### **Scope of work 1: Stock-taking of key marine biodiversity habitats and priority for conservation**

- 1.1 Mapping of coastal/marine critical habitats (mangrove, seagrass, and coral reefs) and protected species (marine turtles, dugong) in the ATS through desktop review on existing data/information, data gap analysis, and complete the data gap using aerial surveys/remote sensing imagery interpretation, followed with a ground truth survey to identify current status and threats, including climate change impacts on coastal/marine biodiversity in the region.
- 1.2 Undertake ecosystem valuation of the coastal/marine resources in the ATS
- 1.3 Develop a regional profile of coastal/marine ecosystem and connectivity from the aspect of ecology and socio-culture.
- 1.4 Provide capacity building and technical support to strengthen existing regional biodiversity information management systems

#### **Scope of work 2: Prepare draft of MPA Network design which is resilient to Climate Change**

- 2.1 Identify key conservation features and cost layers for the establishment of MPA Network
- 2.2 Set goals and objectives, and design a Resilient Network of MPAs using the seven network design principles including representativity, replication, connectivity, adequacy, viability, protection, and best available evidence.
- 2.3 Develop a roadmap toward establishment of new MPAs and improving existing MPA management effectiveness in the ATS

#### **Scope of work 3: Develop regional action plan for enhanced protection of marine turtles**

- 3.1 Undertake analysis of the threatened, charismatics, and migratory species distribution around the ATS
- 3.2 Analyze the status, distribution, migration, reproduction and nesting patterns of marine turtles in the ATS, key threats, and national and regional conservation efforts
- 3.3 Develop a regional action plan for enhanced protection of marine turtles

#### **Scope of work 4: Undertake public consultations with relevant stakeholders**

- a. Undertake national consultations with National Project Boards (NPB) and relevant stakeholders related to the MPA Network design and regional action plan for marine turtles
- b. Present the results and seek further inputs during the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) and Stakeholders Partnership meetings

#### **Scope of work 5: Final Reports**

- a) Based on inputs and recommendations from the stakeholders' consultations, refine and finalize the design for the resilient network of MPAs, and regional action plan for marine turtles.
- b) Submit the final report on design of resilient network of marine protected areas in the ATS
- c) Submit the final report on regional action plan on marine turtles protection.

### **Expected approach and ethical guidelines**

The consultant will be expected to observe full ethical guideline and approach during the field work (specifically) and throughout the process (generally) which will be designed and agreed during the methodology design stage. It is important for the consultant/company to keep in mind the following:

- Ensure that both the formal and informal environmental and socio-economic mechanisms are examined;
- Be aware of conflicts and gender sensitivities and adopt the principles and practices of participatory dialogue for all consultations;
- Respect local cultures and values and ensure behaviours of research team do not violate norms and values;
- Ensure adequate safety to those conducting and attending the consultations and other activities of the process;
- Ensure objectivity and independence by conducting the consultations in an impartial manner;
- Work with relevant government to identify participants for the consultations; and
- Pay attention to vulnerable groups throughout the process.

### **Expected Outputs and deliverables**

The specific outputs/deliverables expected from the consultant are the following:

Deliverables	Estimated no. of working days	Completion deadline	Payment amount
1 <sup>st</sup> Payment will be made upon the submission and approval of completion on <b>scope of work 1: Stock-taking of key marine biodiversity habitats and priority for conservation.</b>	20 wds	15 August 2020	30%
2 <sup>nd</sup> Payment will be made upon the submission and approval of completion on <b>Scope of work 2: Prepare draft of MPA Network design which is resilient to Climate Change; and Scope of work 3: Develop regional action plan for enhanced protection of marine turtles</b>	45 wds	30 October 2020	30%
3 <sup>rd</sup> Payment will be made upon the submission and approval of completion on <b>Scope of work 4: Undertake public consultations with relevant stakeholders</b>	20 wds	30 February 2021	20%
4 <sup>th</sup> Payment will be made upon the submission and approval of completion on <b>Scope of work 5: Final Reports</b>	15 wds	15 April 2021	20%

## **IV. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS**

### **Institutional Arrangement**

The Consultant will be reporting to Regional Project Manager in seeking approval and acceptance of the above-mentioned outputs.

### **Duration of the Work**

Expected duration of work is from July 2020 – April 2021 for 100 working days. The detailed timeline should be developed by the consultant as part of the proposal.

### **Travel Plan**

The Consultant is requested to travel to Bali, Jakarta, Dili, and Port Moresby to do the tasks, especially during data collection, assessment, and stakeholders' consultations with National Project Boards, as well as RSC/SPF meeting. Travel and other coordination costs could either be part of the consultant's contract package or separately borne by the RPMU.

### **Reporting**

All forms of reports shall be developed in English, submitted in a file storage containing soft copy of editable version, all presentations, videos and photos, and all data and calculations. The final report must have executive summary and power point presentation.

## V. REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS

### **Qualifications of the Organization/Company:**

RPMU is seeking an organization/company, which can demonstrate:

1. At least 5 years experiences in relevant works of marine protected area planning and management, assessment of climate change impacts on fishery sectors, coastal/marine biodiversity surveys and mapping.
2. Experience in engaging government, academe, private sector, and NGOs, and implementing multi stakeholder engagement process leading to consensus, support and ownership of outputs/results.
3. Has proven established and stable partnerships with global institutions and private sector;
4. Experience working and partnering with various stakeholders such as governments, non-governmental organizations, local communities (eg protected area management bodies)

### **Qualification of Key Personnel:**

1. Marine conservation expert as Team leader
  - a. Master's degree in relevant fields
  - b. At least 5 years of relevant experiences
2. Marine biodiversity and climate change expert
  - a. Master's degree in relevant fields
  - b. At least 3 years of relevant experiences
3. Remote sensing and GIS expert
  - a. Bachelor's degree in relevant fields
  - b. At least 5 years of relevant experiences
4. Data and knowledge management support specialist
  - a. Bachelor's degree in relevant fields
  - b. At least 3 years of relevant experiences

Bidders should specify the amount of time key staff will spend to work on the project during the project period. Bidders are encouraged to review and propose their own staffing schedule to match project needs.

### **Budget proposal:**

Bidders should describe the budget plan based on expected outputs, clearly showing logical framework or activity plan to achieve outputs.

## VI. SELECTION CRITERIA

### **Cumulative analysis**

Company profile (relevant experience and qualifications) – 70%

Financial Proposal – 30%

Technical proposal evaluation forms	Maximum Points
Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience/expertise of the organisation (Reputation of Organization and Staff, General Organizational Capability, Relevance of specialized knowledge and experience)	200
Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan (Understanding of the requirement, description of approach and methodology, assessment of the implementation plan proposed)	400
Management Structure and Key Personnel (Composition and structure of the team proposed, Qualifications of key personnel)	400

	1000

## VII. SUBMISSION OF TENDER

Applicants are requested to submit:

1. Duly accomplished **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability**;
2. **Detailed Curriculum Vitae**, indicating all past experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the Candidate
3. **Brief description** of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment,
4. A description of the **methodology**, on how they will approach and complete the assignment.
5. **Financial Proposal** that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price, supported by a breakdown of costs.

Applicants are requested to submit the tender and requirements via email to [recruitment@pemsea.org](mailto:recruitment@pemsea.org) with copy to the Regional Project Manager at [hasusanto@pemsea.org](mailto:hasusanto@pemsea.org). Kindly indicate the vacancy reference number and title of requirement when applying (in the subject line) by email.

### **Additional Considerations**

Bid applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Only those candidates that are shortlisted will be notified. Applicants from the ATSEA region are highly preferred.

For more information on ATSEA and ATSEA2, please visit <http://diktas.iwlearn.org/ATSEA>; [www.id.undp.org](http://www.id.undp.org); and [www.pemsea.org](http://www.pemsea.org)