

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Technical Backstopping Officer for MedMPAnet Project

(Location: RAC/SPA, Tunis, Tunisia)

Applications arrival deadline: 30 / 04 / 2009, 17h U.T.C

PREAMBLE

The Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) is the lead agency charged by the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP/UNEP) to coordinate the implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean.

MedMPAnet is a biodiversity project aimed to the development of a Mediterranean marine and coastal protected areas (MPAs) network through the boosting of Mediterranean MPAs creation and management in areas within national jurisdiction. It constitutes a component of the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem and it is financed by the EC (European Commission), the AECID (Spanish International Cooperation Agency for Development) and the FFEM (Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial) for regional coordination.

The project will assist the Mediterranean countries, in particular the south and east ones, through two main interlinked fields of action:

- Identification, preparation for nomination and national networking of Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPAs) and Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs) according to the SPA/BD Protocol;
- Improvement of the capacities of existing MPAs managers and practitioners on issues related to MPAs management, monitoring and sustainable financing, according to the priority actions identified in the SAP BIO.

TASKS

Under the overall guiding of RAC/SPA Director, the Co-ordination and Technical Backstopping Officer will be in charge to support the MedMPAnet Project Officer, through the appropriate actions to implement the project activities as follows:

- ✓ S/he will provide technical support in implementing and reviewing the project's strategic planning and project cycle fulfilling, including the establishment of the priority activities required, coordination with stakeholders & partners, notably WWF MedPO, the assessment of new site options and demonstration areas and elaboration of guidelines and teaching packages for MPAs creation and management.
- ✓ S/he will provide technical support to the project participants in coordinating the organization and implementation of meetings/workshops and countries' demonstration projects, supporting communication and exchanges with Parties participants and all relevant stakeholders, developing the

capacity building programme, tailoring it to the needs and existing capacities of the project's beneficiary Parties.

- ✓ S/he will provide technical support to the preparation of needed deliverables, including ToRs for consultancies and contracts, reports and other outputs finalisation and compilation, documentation for the working meetings of the Steering Committee of the SAP BIO Programme and coordination meetings of the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem, publications, and any other relevant project's documents.
- ✓ S/he will assist and participate to the technical support of project activities -including field missions-, monitoring, review and delivery of the project, organizational policy and practices and reporting in accordance with project plans, contractual agreements, EC and UNEP-MAP policy and requirements.
- ✓ S/he will act at RAC/SPA level for the supervision and best coordination of project's staff, volunteers and consultants undertaking job responsibilities in a manner consistent with principles of gender equity.
- ✓ S/he will contribute with own fields of expertise to the development and implementation of RAC/SPA activities.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education

University degree on Marine Biology or Ecology, Marine Natural Resources Management with a relevant combination of academic and professional qualifications, including knowledge of conservation needs of Mediterranean fauna and ecosystems, in particular through the creation of Marine Protected Areas.

Work Experience

- ✓ At least five years of progressively responsible work, including management experience at Mediterranean level in marine biodiversity conservation and marine protected areas related fields including extensive field experience.
- ✓ Demonstrable mastering of scientific and technical aspects of marine protected areas at Mediterranean level.
- ✓ Project/Programme management and coordination experience, including MPAs promotion and development.
- ✓ Good knowledge of regional and international conventions related to marine biodiversity conservation and MPA creation field will be an asset.

Languages

For the post advertised, fluency in oral and written English and French is required. Knowledge of other Mediterranean languages is an advantage.

Other skills

Fully proficient computer skills and use of relevant software and other applications, e.g. word processing, spreadsheets, internal databases, GIS, and Internet.

SCUBA diving certification.

CONTRACT DURATION AND OTHER CONDITIONS

- The project will be implemented during a five years period. The initial engagement will be for 1 year, renewable upon performance assessment up to the 5 years project extent
- Start on duty is planned within June 2009
- Gross annual salary along the project, will be comprised between 20 000 Euros and 33 000 Euros, based on the applicant qualification and experience
- The position will be based at the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas RAC/SPA, Tunis, Tunisia

Candidates should send their CV in English or French, in UN format P11, by e-mail and rapid post accompanied by a motivation letter (1-2 pages) no later than 30 April 2009 to:

Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)

UNEP-MAP

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Ref: MedMPA net project Technical backstopping officer

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