



CALL FOR PROJECTS

Involvement of the civil society in SPAMIs/MPAs
management activities

Rules

May 2019



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I- Call for Project context

The **Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC)** was established by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in order to assist Mediterranean countries in implementing the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean. The mission of RAC/SPA's consist essentially in the coordination of initiatives and activities for the implementation of the SPA/BD Protocol.

The SPAMI Twinning Programme, implemented in the framework of the Cooperation Agreement between IMELS and UN Environment, aims to contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Target 11, and SDG 14.5 in the Mediterranean by developing and strengthening an effective management of marine protected areas and particularly Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance. The activities are envisaged to develop twinning programmes among Italian SPAMIs/MPAs and SPAMIs/MPAs of the Mediterranean sub-regions of which Italy is part to promote networking and standardize management. The project aims to support best practices and experiences sharing between the twin SPAMIs/MPAs, build capacities and involve civil society organizations.

II- Objective

The main objective of this call for Project is the involvement of local civil society in the management of the SPAMIs/MPAs participating in the SPAMI Twinning Programme through the implementation of on field activities of small projects.

III- Eligibility criteria

The small grants is reopened **for the Marine Protected areas of Torre Guaceto and Isole Egadi** and will be awarded to civil society organisations from Italy.

The candidate should be a local civil society organisation involved in the management of one of the SPAMI/MPA indicated above.

The Civil Society Organisation that wants to apply for the call for projects must have a legal status that allows it to receive grants.

In order to ensure a successful implementation of the small project activities, the candidate will have to prove a transparent collaboration and communication with the authority in charge of the management of the concerned MPA or SPAMI participating in the SPAMI Twinning Programme.

The missions, objectives and activities of Applicant organisation, especially those related to the SPAMI/MPA participating in the SPAMI Twinning Programme, should be detailed within the application documents.



IV- Themes and eligible activities

The activities presented must be in line with one of the following themes. Any activity that cannot be connected to one of the following themes will not be eligible:

- Contributing to the sustainable development of socio-economic activities, particularly **sustainable tourism**, in and around the SPAMI/MPA participating in the SPAMI Twinning Programme.
- Involvement in ecological and/or socio-economic **monitoring** within the SPAMI/MPA participating to the SPAMI Twinning Programme.

Projects must include a maximum of concrete, effective and coherent actions; studies should be limited and should lead to management and monitoring actions within the framework of the small project.

V- Project duration

The projects' duration will be of **06 months maximum**. The projects are expected to start during June 2019.

VI- Payments

For each project, the amount financed by the SPA/RAC will be **6 000€**.

Co-funding to the SPA/RAC grant is mandatory. This contribution may be either in kind from the applicant Organisation, either self-financing or co-financing by local or international financial partners.

The grant will be paid in two (2) instalments :

- 3000 € soon after signature of the financial agreement,
- 3000 € on approval of final report.

VII- Applications

All eligible Civil Society Organisations wishing to apply for this call for Projects will have to file a grant request, fill in this [Grant Application Form](#) and to provide all supporting documents required here after (3-5):

The application should include the following documents:

- 1- A written request for the grant.
- 2- The Grant Application Form completed in PDF format either in English or in French.



- 3- The legal status of the Organization
- 4- The latest activity report of the Organization.

Each Organisation can submit only one (1) application form for this call for Projects.

The Grant Application Form and the appendices must be sent by April 22nd 2019 (23:59, Tunis time) at the latest only by email to:

car-asp@spa-rac.org and saba.quellouz@spa-rac.org

The Organisation will receive an email confirming the receipt of its grant application.

For any question, please write to the above-mentioned email address:

saba.quellouz@spa-rac.org

VIII- Selection Process

A commission will be created within the SPA / RAC for the assessment of small project candidates at this call for projects.

The commission will eliminate applications from organizations that are not eligible for a grant under this call for applications and then proceed to the selection. The assessment will be made according to a grid of criteria that should lead to an overall score for each application file and a ranking of candidates.

Applications will be rated on 10 points according to the following three criteria:

CHOICE CRITERIA		Maximum score
Experience in the field	1 point for each project or action carried out by the organization in the management and / or communication around the SPAMI / AMP concerned by the SPAMI Twinning Programme	4
Relevance of the project	0 to 3 points depending on the relevance of the proposed small project (average of the scores given by the different members of the commission)	3
Actions /activities	1 point for each type of activities proposed in the small project in line with one of the themes mentioned in Article IV of this Call for Projects	3
TOTAL		10

IX- Mise en œuvre et évaluation

The civil society organizations selected will sign a financial agreement with the SPA/RAC. SPA/RAC can cancel the financial agreement of a project if the project is not launched within one month after grant signature in which case SPA/RAC can reallocate the funds to



another project. In this case, the beneficiary is required to reimburse the full first instalment to SPA/RAC.

The organization should participate to an exchange workshop between the small projects of the SPAMI / AMP participating in the SPAMI Twinning Programme by the end of the small project implementation.

All projects will be subject to a middle and final evaluation. To this end, the organization will provide an interim report three months after the signature of the financial agreement, and a final technical and financial report two weeks after the end of the small project. The SPA/RAC can assist project leaders with their self-assessment and reporting.

The organization shall keep accurate and up-to-date records and documents in respect of all expenditures incurred with the funds made available by SPA/RAC to ensure that all expenditures are in conformity with the provisions of financial agreement. For each disbursement, proper supporting documentation shall be maintained, including original invoices, bills and receipts pertinent to the transaction.

SPA/RAC will directly monitor the project progress and may call on the support of a consultant if necessary.