Terms of Reference

Production of a report
on Blue Energy in the Mediterranean

In the framework of

Blue Growth Community Project

Issue date: 31 July 2020
Deadline for submission of offer: 6 September 2020
1. Context

“Marine” and “Ocean Energy” encompass the energy generated by offshore wind, waves, tidal power, thermal energy conversion and salinity gradient. This sector is also generally referred to as Marine Renewable Energy (MRE). The term “Blue Energy” has been used to extend these definitions to further include energy obtained from marine biomass. The development of blue energies represents important opportunities for innovation and employment for the benefit of all Mediterranean countries, thus contributing to the development of a sustainable Blue economy in the Med region. Indeed, the European Union has considered Ocean energy as one of the 5 sectors in its Blue Growth strategy that have a considerable potential to boost economic development and provide new sustainable jobs. Today, more than ever, the Blue Economy sectors are an important engine for the region’s economy, with enormous potential for innovation and for sustainable and inclusive prosperity. The economic opportunities provided by the Mediterranean Sea are accompanied by an increasingly need for a management that is respectful of its ecosystems and is able to maintain and increase their value over time.

Although energy resources in the Mediterranean may be relatively fewer in comparison to “hotspots” such as in the North Sea and the Atlantic, there exist numerous locations in the basin with considerable potential. The Mediterranean’s milder climatic conditions also enable the affordable testing of devices and stimulate the design of efficient technologies. As such, the Mediterranean has potential for both significant Marine Renewable Energy production and technological development.

Offshore wind is considered as the most promising Marine Renewable Energy sector. Other promising Marine Renewable Energy sectors include wave and tidal energy, in sites of appropriate conditions, with prototypes and pre-commercial devices already being tested (e.g. Italy, Israel) and progressively entering the commercial phase. Offshore solar, marine biomass and ocean geothermal energy can be considered as emerging MREs. Low-carbon technologies associated with the marine energy sector can also play a significant role in the fulfillment of the EU climate objectives.

The most important problem refers probably to the different uses of the ocean space that induce challenges and conflicts of interest between stakeholders’ activities and uses, and policy goals that can be resolved through mutual understanding, cooperation and efficient communication. Other hindrances as regards MRE development in the Mediterranean refer to the inadequate legal-regulatory framework, the financial instabilities encountered in some Mediterranean countries, as well as the lack of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). MSP and ICZM are prerequisites for achieving sustainability and facilitating spatial demands by diminishing potential conflicts regarding the use of marine space. In this sense, contracting parties of the Barcelona Convention reaffirmed during the COP21 (Naples, 2019) their commitment to implement the ICZM Protocol to foster the
sustainable development of projects including Marine Renewable energies in the Mediterranean Region.

2. Blue Growth community project

Approved in 2019 for a 3 years-period, the Blue Growth Interreg MED community project (https://blue-growth.interreg-med.eu/) is the continuation of the InnoBlueGrowth Interreg Med project (2016-2019). The Blue Growth Horizontal project counts with a €1,47 million funding (of which €1,25M of EU co-funding) in the framework of the transnational cooperation programme Interreg Med. The project is coordinated by the CoNISMa - Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Scienze del Mare, and gathers 6 other partners: Plan Bleu, the Association of Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME), the Intermediterranean Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), the Institute of Marine Biology from University of Montenegro and IrRADIARE-Science for Evolution.

Blue Growth project’s main objective is to facilitate the development of a sustainable Blue economy in the Mediterranean Region.

During the first phase, InnoBlueGrowth has built a real community of projects dealing with Blue Growth. This innovative community has allowed the reinforcement of the cross-cutting and integrated dynamics between projects and transnational key stakeholders and the support of Mediterranean clusters in their transnational activities processes. Moreover, InnoBlueGrowth has enhanced the dissemination and transferability of several modular and integrated projects’ results, consequently ensuring a wider and deeper impact towards external multilevel stakeholders and contributing to the sustainable socio-economic development of the Mediterranean area through innovative investments in the Blue economy.

Blue Growth, after laying the foundations of a strong community during the project’s first phase, comes now to its capitalization phase. It will assist and coordinate the modular/integrated projects dealing with Blue Growth in their communication and capitalization activities, creating and ensuring internal (inter-community) and external synergies, knowledge sharing, transfer and capitalization for policy-making project recommendations take-on by key stakeholders (projects, SMEs, decision-makers, technicians, researchers, etc.).

This consultancy work is part of capitalization activities based on outputs produced by three specific modular projects from the Blue Growth community dealing with Marine renewable energies:

- **MAESTRALE** (https://maestrale.interreg-med.eu/): This project (2016-2019) aimed to identify the Blue Energy potential in participating Countries, according to their physical, legal, technological, socio-economic and environmental contexts. Based on
a survey of existing and innovative technologies, barriers and potentials, MAESTRALE aimed to broaden knowledge-sharing among scientists, policy makers, entrepreneurs and citizens, and to foster measures and investments for Blue Growth;

- **PELAGOS** ([https://pelagos.interreg-med.eu/](https://pelagos.interreg-med.eu/)): This project (2016-2019) aimed to promote innovative networks and clusters for marine renewable energy synergies in Mediterranean coasts and islands;

- **BLUE DEAL** ([https://blue-deal.interreg-med.eu/](https://blue-deal.interreg-med.eu/)): Based on outputs from the Interreg MED MAESTRALE and PELAGOS projects, BLUE DEAL (2019-2022) foresees a series of transnational Labs to involve multi-sectorial stakeholders, perform participative planning processes and establish public-private alliances through open innovation actions. Its overall aim is to increase transnational activity of innovative clusters and networks of the BE sector, develops links and synergies between SMEs, public authorities, knowledge institutions and civil society and establish transnational and regional Blue Deal alliances.

### 3. Objectives and content of the service provided

The objective of the present Call for applicants is to select an expert to **produce a report on Marine renewable energies in the Mediterranean**.

This report should capitalize, but not only, on results and tools developed by three Modular projects of Blue Growth community (MAESTRALE, PELAGOS, BLUE DEAL) dealing with marine renewable energies, and complement a technical factsheet produced by the Biodiversity protection community on best environmental practices in the blue energy sector.

The report will also capitalize on previous work realized by Plan Bleu on Blue energies (e.g. 2019 State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean).

This report should include the following parts:

- A State of play on production and use of marine renewable energies (wind power, tidal energy etc.) and the growth opportunities in the Mediterranean region;

- An analysis of the policy framework of the sector and the division of competences between National, Regional and local levels and an analysis of the EU National/Regional Operational Programmes related to MRE sector in seven EU member States, potential targets for transferring & mainstreaming processes (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain)

- A collection of best available technologies on marine renewable energies shared (incl. conditions for transferability);

- An identification of levers and recommendations to foster the implementation of innovations.
This report should help to identify complementary tools to the ones developed by our Modular projects and will provide some keys to fostering transfer process of blue energy innovations on Mediterranean territories. This capitalization output will support the organization of a capitalization event on Blue energy issue planned in October/November 2020 in the framework of the Blue Growth community project. The selected expert will participate in this Capitalization event (online event or located in Marseilles, depending on health situation). The report will also be presented at the next Barcelona Convention COP22 (December 2021).

### 4. Deliverables and calendar

The expert is expected to start working Mid-September 2020 and conclude its work by 30th November 2020. The following section describes the estimated workload.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/Deliverable</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents proposed to Plan Bleu for validation</td>
<td>End of September 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Literature review, incl. analysis of outputs/deliverables produced by Blue Growth projects</td>
<td>Mid-October 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Production of a State of Play</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis of the EU National/Regional Operational Programmes related to MRE sector in seven EU member States (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain)</td>
<td>1st week of October 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production of a draft report</td>
<td>Mid-october 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to the organization (e.g. facilitation of session) and participation to the Capitalization event (Oct/Nov 2020) organised by the Blue Growth community on Marine Renewable energies</td>
<td>Oct/Nov. 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production of a final report, taking into account outputs of the Capitalization event</td>
<td>1 week after the CAP event</td>
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Work organization

Each of the above described steps will be validated by Plan Bleu. Regular calls and meetings with Plan Bleu will be planned during the activities development to ensure a smooth development of the tasks and that the results are adapted to the needs. Travel costs associated with the participation to the Capitalization event will be covered by Plan Bleu (if it is not an online meeting).

The graphic design and layout of the policy document will be carried out by Blue Growth partners directly. The costs should therefore not be included in the service provision.

5. Selection of the expert

- Masters or PhD or equivalent degree in policy and/or environmental studies
- Previous relevant experience in drafting report or policy documents towards Euro-Mediterranean policy-makers
- Previous relevant experience on blue economy matters
- Experience in the Mediterranean region strongly desired and a good knowledge of actors and governance processes in Mediterranean countries
- Strong conceptual and synthesis ability combined with good writing and communication skills
- Ability to mobilize information and existing knowledge in an efficient way
- Relevant project and publications references
- Fluency in English as well as proven technical writing skills is required.

The selection of the expert will be done based on a presentation of a technical offer, an economic offer, as well as a letter of interest and a resume making reference to these Terms of Reference.

6. Contractual and financial terms

The acceptance of the offer of the successful tender will implicate the acceptance of the conditions and schedules detailed in this ToR. A duly-issued invoice will be required for payment at the presentation of the final document. The payment term for the invoice will be by bank transfer 15 days after the invoice date (bank account details should be detailed). The tax legislation in force at the date of acceptance of the offer will be applied.

7. Intellectual property

In the spirit of cooperation and exchange, the ownership of the work covered by the contract related to this ToR is open to the public and free of rights. The deliverables and results of the project should be accessible and available for free to the
general public in a usable format.

The authorship of the work covered by the contract related to this ToR is co-shared between the author and the IBG project partners.

8. How to apply

- Applications must be submitted no later than 6th September 2020
- Applications must be submitted through Plan Bleu website www.planbleu.org or by e-mail at: cdubreuil@planbleu.org
- Applications must contain a technical offer, an economic offer (in Euros) as well as a letter of interest and a resume making reference to these Terms of Reference. The budget for this consultancy should be around 9,000 Euros (VAT included), excluded the participation to the Capitalization event in Marseilles. Proposals with amounts larger than this should be clearly justified.

Additional information required for consultancy firm:
- Certificate of incorporation or other legal proof of your company’s registration, delivered from the appropriate authority in your country (incl. fiscal number)
- Kbis extract issued within the last 3 months for French companies

Additional information required for individual consultants:
- Registration certificate to the Directory of Enterprises and Institutions
- Document or Certificate stating the right to practice this profession (e.g. registration certificate) delivered from the appropriate authority in your country (incl. fiscal number)

For any questions related to this call for applicants please contact:

Dr. Céline Dubreuil, Programme officer, Plan Bleu
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Tel: +33 6 43 08 30 15

9. Useful references

Blue Growth community project: https://blue-growth.interreg-med.eu


MAESTRALE project: https://maestrale.interreg-med.eu

PELAGOS Project: https://pelagos.interreg-med.eu

BLUE DEAL Project: https://blue-deal.interreg-med.eu

Blue Growth strategy from EU Commission: