

Ex-post Socioeconomic Evaluation of Relevant Regional Measures for Biodiversity Descriptors - Los Palamos City Case Study

1 Context and objectives

As part of its 2023 work program within the ABIOMMED project, Plan Bleu is tasked with conducting an ex-post socioeconomic evaluation of relevant regional measure(s) pertaining to biodiversity descriptors and implemented under the UNEP/MAP (United Nations Environment Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan) framework. The study aims to address the following key questions:

- What are the benefits and costs associated with the implementation of the regional measure at both the national (pilot) and overall regional level?
- How are these costs and benefits distributed among different stakeholders?
- What are the specific aspects related to the measure that concern multiple countries?
- How can the evaluation results be effectively utilized in decision-making processes?

2 Task description

Contextualized within a regional framework (Barcelona Convention Plans), the study to be produced will focus on the city of Los Palamos (Catalonia), which has been identified as an exemplary case that could serve as a regional example. By implementing a Long-Term Management Plan (LTMP) that restricts the fishing of deep-sea red prawns (*Aristeus antennatus*), Los Palamos has successfully protected the species from overfishing and, more broadly, established more sustainable fishing practices (across all species). Additionally, the plan seems to have been well accepted by fishermen. The plan's measures include closed seasons, regulations on mesh size (increasing mesh size), and reduction of fishing effort (number of vessels) to protect juveniles and reduce the overall impact of fishing on the stock. Overall, it is expected that the more sustainable fishing practices in Los Palamos have resulted in benefits for numerous species, including various cetaceans, which should be documented. A paper

on how the small fishing community has taken charge of managing the local red shrimp fishery is [available here](#) (see Chapter 10).

The mission will consist of 3 tasks.

Task 1: Preparatory work - Developing a concept note outlining the socioeconomic evaluation framework to be used (which economic sectors, types of costs and benefits, methodologies for quantification). The concept note should include a brief literature review related to similar ex-post socioeconomic studies.

Task 2: Interviews with stakeholders, data collection, and cost-benefit assessment - Based on data generated/collected through desk research (including available information from the "[Fishermen's Brotherhood of Palamos](#)" website - in Catalan), interviews, and consultations with stakeholders (managers, fishing and tourism professionals, representative organizations), the aim is to gather necessary data and quantify (in monetary terms) costs and benefits. The socioeconomic analysis should rely on quantitative data obtained, but may also incorporate qualitative data as supplementary. This task will explore the costs and benefits (direct and indirect) associated with the implementation of measures in Los Palamos in monetary terms, considering direct and indirect impacts on local communities, industries, and the overall economy. It will also evaluate other aspects (e.g., social, cultural). It is crucial that the study illustrates impact distribution, aiming to identify how induced costs and benefits are distributed among different stakeholders. This analysis can also consider factors such as income levels, employment patterns, and social vulnerability to understand the potential uneven distribution of impacts.

Task 3: Preparation of the publication - This should include an executive summary, a brief presentation of Los Palamos, a description of the methodology (and its potential limitations), presentation of results (including a summary table detailing different costs and benefits and their distribution), discussion of specific aspects of measures concerning other countries, and explanation of how evaluation results can be used in decision-making processes. Indeed, while centered on Los Palamos, the study should fit within a regional framework and generate concrete recommendations that could be applied in the decision-making processes of other countries/regions within the Mediterranean (ensuring replicability). Additionally, it should address the specific aspects of measures that have implications for other countries (including potential transnational aspects in the Mediterranean).

Expected Deliverables

The mission will produce a preliminary deliverable: the concept note (Task 1). The second deliverable is the main publication.

All documents will be produced in a single language (English).

3 Schedule of Services and Deliverables

The consultancy mission is planned to take place between Monday, September 4th, 2023, and Friday, November 17th, 2023.

Task 1	Preparation of a Concept Note for the Evaluation	September 15th, 2023
Task 2	Stakeholder Interviews, Data Collection, and Cost-Benefit Assessment	October 13th, 2023
Task 3	Publication Production	November 17th, 2023

4 Consultant Selection Criteria

This mission is open to consulting firms, consultant associations/consortiums, and individual consultants. Evaluation will first be based on the relevant implementation methodology for preparing the aforementioned deliverables.

Qualified candidates for this mission should also meet the following criteria:

Education:

- **Minimum of a master's degree** in a field relevant to this mission
- Education in the field of economics is desirable

Experience and Skills:

- Minimum of **5 years of relevant experience** in environmental economics and ecology
- Experience working in the **Mediterranean region** is highly desirable
- Excellent **writing, analysis, and synthesis skills**
- Familiarity with **methods of quantifying socio-economic impacts**
- Knowledge of **stakeholders** and issues related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean region
- **Fluent English proficiency**. Proficiency in Catalan and/or Spanish would also be an advantage.

5 Consultant Selection

The selection of the expert will be based on the evaluation of their technical proposal (their skills in relation to the required qualifications described above and the proposed methodology) and an assessment of the most economically advantageous offer. The maximum budget for this consultancy amounts to 9,500 Euros (VAT included). The financial proposal should detail all costs, incidental expenses, and taxes (including any applicable VAT).

Candidates are required to provide references to their previous work on similar topics and relevant documents via email to the address indicated below if these are not provided through an active web link.

Furthermore, candidates must demonstrate their legal capacity to sign contracts and issue invoices according to the legislation of their country. For this purpose, they must also include the following documents in their proposal:

For consulting firms:

- Recent KBIS extract (less than 3 months old) for France
- Document confirming company registration in their country, including the indicated tax number (for foreign countries)
- Full bank account details (BIC, IBAN or BBAN) provided by the bank.

For individual consultants:

- Certificate of registration in the Directory of Companies and Establishments.
- Document certifying the right to practice this profession (such as a registration certificate) according to the legislation of their country, including the tax number (for foreign countries).

- Full bank account details (BIC, IBAN or BBAN) provided by the bank.

The final selection of the candidate may require an interview. In such a case, candidates will have the option to participate in an in-person interview in Marseille (France) or through a video conference.

6 Contractual, Financial, and Practical Conditions

Acceptance of the selected offer implies acceptance of the conditions and schedules detailed in these terms of reference, including the following payment schedule:

50% of the total amount after the delivery and acceptance by Plan Bleu of Deliverable 1;

50% of the total amount after the delivery and acceptance by Plan Bleu of Deliverable 3.

A duly issued invoice will be required for each of the scheduled payments.

The payment term for invoices will be as follows: bank transfer 15 days after the date of receiving the invoice (bank account details must be specified, and complete bank account details must be provided).

The applicable tax legislation on the date of offer acceptance will be applied.

To Respond to this Call for Proposals

Plan Bleu invites interested consulting firms, consultant associations/consortiums, and individual consultants for this mission to express their interest by submitting a response to this call for proposals, including a letter of expression of interest, CVs of experts, as well as a detailed financial and technical offer in response to these terms of reference.

The technical offer should specify if any in-situ mission days are required. If so, provide a detailed mission schedule.

Application files must be submitted no later than August 30th, 2023, on www.planbleu.org and by email to ctsakas@planbleu.org and planbleu@planbleu.org. For further information, please contact:

Constantin Tsakas, Program Officer, Socioeconomic Analysis and Blue Economy, ctsakas@planbleu.org.

