Terms of Reference

Production of a policy paper on Marine Renewable Energies in the Mediterranean

Issue date: 12th October 2023
Deadline for submission of offer: 5th November 2023
1 Context and objectives

“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 development of marine renewable 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. 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 can maintain and increase their value over time (Plan Bleu, 2022).

Offshore wind is considered as the most promising Marine Renewable Energy sector. The exploitation of these resources can contribute to sustainable energy production, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and enhance the energy security of the region. However, 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 (Plan Bleu, 2022).

To facilitate informed decision-making and policy development in this field, Plan Bleu’s Regional Activity Centre of UNEP/MAP - seeks the services of a consultancy to prepare a concise policy paper.

2 Task description

The primary objective of this consultancy is to produce a policy paper up to 6 pages that provides an overview of the current state of marine renewable energy development in the Mediterranean region and offers key policy recommendations for its sustainable growth. The consultant will draw mainly on the work carried out in two publications piloted by Plan Bleu: "Towards Sustainable Development of Marine Renewable Energies in the Mediterranean", published in 2022, and "Using Ecological sensitivity to guide Marine Renewable Energy Potentials in the Mediterranean Region", published in 2021, produced as part of the Interreg-MED Blue Growth Community and Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community projects, as well as the State of Play of MRE legislations, regulations and strategies in the Mediterranean, currently worked out by Plan Bleu and a contractor.

In addition to mastering the content of the publications mentioned above, the selected candidate will be expected to:

- review existing literature, reports and research after 2021 on MRE in the Med region,
- analyse existing policies, incentives, and regulatory frameworks related to MRE at regional level,
- identify best practices and lessons learned from other regions with successful MRE initiatives,
- Develop practical and actionable policy recommendations to promote the sustainable development of MRE in the Mediterranean region,
- Highlight the economic, environmental, and social benefits of such policies.

1 www.planbleu.org
The policy paper must not exceed 6 pages, excluding references. The paper should be well-structured, clear and focused, with a balance between data-driven analysis and policy recommendations. The paper should be written in an objective and informative tone.

3 Timeline

The consultant is expected to start working by mid-November 2023 and conclude its work by 28th February 2024. The following section describes the estimated workload.

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<th>Activity/Deliverable</th>
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<td>Take an in-depth look at Plan Bleu publications on MRE and review the literature when updates are necessary (e.g. new MRE projects in the Mediterranean since 2021, new policies, regulatory frameworks, etc.).</td>
<td>12th January 2024</td>
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<td>Draft policy paper of up to 6 pages for review, including recommendations for decision-makers</td>
<td>31st January 2024</td>
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| - Production of a final policy paper incorporating feedback and suggestions from Plan Bleu,  
- a PowerPoint presentation of the policy paper. | 15th February 2024 |

4 Work assessment

The consultant will be supervised by Plan Bleu’s Programme Director, Dr Céline Dubreuil cdubreuil@planbleu.org and Plan Bleu’s Director, François Guerquin fguerquin@planbleu.org. 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. The graphic design and layout of the policy document will be carried out by Plan Bleu. The costs should therefore not be included in the service provision.

5 Selection of the consultant

- Previous relevant experience in drafting report or policy documents towards policy-makers
- Demonstrated expertise in marine renewable energy policy and related fields
- Knowledge of the energy landscape and regulatory environment in the Mediterranean region
- Good knowledge of stakeholders and governance processes in Mediterranean countries
- Strong conceptual and synthesis ability combined with good writing and communication skills
- Ability to mobilise information and existing knowledge in an efficient way
- Fluency in English as well as proven technical writing skills is required.

This consultation can be carried out by an individual consultant or a group of consultants. The selection of the consultant 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. The evaluation will be based on the best bidder principle, with 75% of the score based on technical criteria and 25% on financial criteria. Acceptance of successful bids will imply acceptance of the conditions and timetables detailed in these Terms of Reference. The final selection of the candidate may require an interview that will take place online.

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. The payment schedule will be as follows:

- 50% upon signature of the contract
- 50% upon validation of the final deliverables

7 How to apply

- Applications must be submitted no later than 5th November 2022
- Applications must be submitted through Plan Bleu website: www.planbleu.org and by e-mail at: cdubreuil@planbleu.org
- Applications must contain a technical offer (incl. a methodology for the development of the governance framework), an economic offer (in Euros), as well as a letter of interest and a resume making reference to these Terms of Reference.

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, cdubreuil@planbleu.org and François Guerquin, fguerquin@planbleu.org