

CALL FOR APPLICATION

Position title:	ENhancing Socio-Ecological RESilience in Mediterranean coastal areas (ENSERES) and the SPAMI twinning programme Projects Officer
Duty station	Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC), Tunis- Tunisia
Type of contract	Fixed-term contract (May 2023 to December 2023, accompanied by a probationary period of 3 months)
Expected start date	Early on May 2023
Application period	10 April 2023 – 24 April 2023
Application deadline	24 April 2023

The Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) is the main body of the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) which coordinates the implementation of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean. It further implements the Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity and sustainable management of marine resources (Post-2020 SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean Region (2003), develops management plans, information tools for monitoring, and promotes awareness campaigns and the circulation of information among specialists and relevant international organisations including NGOs.

The ENSERES Project (ENhancing Socio-Ecological RESilience in Mediterranean coastal areas) is an ENI CBC Med capitalisation project aiming to mainstream available ecosystem-based management tools in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) processes for preserving coastal and marine ecosystems as sustainable livelihoods for coastal urban communities through integrated management of human activities.

The ENSERES project aims particularly to empower practitioners and local communities in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and its surrounding territories to benefit from sustainable financing schemes and tools for effective management and protection of biodiversity and strengthen the resilience of both these communities and ecosystems to global changes.

The twinning programme aims essentially at developing and strengthening an effective management of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs). It is implemented in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the Italian Ministry for Environment, and energy security.

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, in order to promote networking and standardize management. More specifically, the programme aims at supporting best practices and experience sharing between the twin SPAMIs/MPAs, building capacities, and involving NGOs.

The ENSERES Project officer will work under the overall authority of the SPA/RAC Director and in collaboration with the SPA Programme Officer. The incumbent will liaise as necessary with the other SPA/RAC Program Officers and staff members.

She/He will be responsible for the implementation of the ENSERES project activities and the SPAMI twinning programme activities and, in particular, will:

1. Design the content and determine the consistency of the twinning agreements between twinned SPAMIs in the SPAMI Twinning Program for the 2022-2023 biennium within the framework of the ENSERES project and the Cooperation Agreement with the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition.

2. Prepare, organize and coordinate the signing of twinning agreements between the identified SPAMIs and the implementation of exchange activities.
3. Plan, organize and launch calls for projects for the involvement of local civil society organizations in the management of SPAMIs and monitor their implementation within the framework of the ENSERES project and the Cooperation Agreement with the Ministry of the Italian Ecological Transition.
4. Plan, prepare and implement the organisation of all the activities relative to the celebration of SPAMI Day.
5. Assist the Director for the general coordination of SPA/RAC activities within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement with the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition
6. Represent the SPA/RAC at relevant meetings convened by other organizations as required and decided by SPA/RAC direction.
7. Develop and disseminate communication material relating ENSERES project and the SPAMI Twinning Programme, in collaboration with the relevant SPA/RAC staff members.
8. Prepare and deliver presentations and oral communications on progress, results and lessons learned from the SPAMI Twinning Program at relevant national and international meetings and conferences.
9. Organize exchange workshops among projects awarded by SPA/RAC to local civil society organizations in the management of SPAMIs within the framework of the ENSERES project and SPAMI Twinning Programme.
10. Ensure the financial and administrative management of experts/consulting firms and all other contracts when performing the above-mentioned tasks.
11. Prepare all progress and final reports on ENSERES Project and SPAMI Twinning Program activities in accordance with SPA/RAC and UNEP/MAP governance policy and donor requirements.
12. Perform any other related task as required.
13. Implement any other tasks assigned by SPA/RAC director, as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education

Master's degree on Marine Natural Resources Management, Marine Biology or Ecology, with a relevant combination of academic and professional qualifications.

Knowledge of monitoring of Mediterranean marine biodiversity, marine resource management, marine biology or ecology, fisheries science or in a fields related to the conservation of marine biodiversity.

Knowledge of the Barcelona Convention and UNEP/MAP System as well as relevant European directives (EU WFD and EU MSFD) are an asset.

Work Experience

- At least five years' experience of project implementation in coastal and marine biodiversity.
- Experience in Mediterranean countries.
- Experience regarding budget, financial and administrative management related to environmental projects.
- Experience in international meetings, workshops and events organisation.

Languages

Fluency in oral and written English and French is required. Knowledge of Arabic and other Mediterranean languages is an asset.

Other desirable skills

- Fully proficient computer skills and use of relevant software and other applications, e.g., text processing, spreadsheets, and internet.
- Experience in development, planning, implementation, evaluation and reporting of project activities, including governance issues.
- Knowledge of the administrative procedures within institutions of the UN system or the European Union will be an asset.
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- Good communication skills.

CONTRACT DURATION

The finalisation of the selection process is foreseen for no later than the end of April 2023.

The contract will start as soon as the selection procedure is terminated and according to the availability of the retained candidate, but no later than 1 May 2023.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants are invited to send the hereafter detailed documents, before 24th April 2023 CoB, by email to car-asp@spa-rac.org. Please, mention the position, name in the email subject line ENSERES project and SPAMI Twinning Projects Officer

The application file must include:

- Motivation letter describing the candidate's motivations and suitability for this position (in English);
- Detailed curriculum vitae
- Copies of original (or certified copy) university diploma(s)
- Work or Internship certificate or any other documentation concerning experience and skills acquired relevant to the job position.

Incomplete application files will not be considered.

Application files that do not comply with the submission procedure of this call for applications will be rejected.

Any application reaching the SPA/RAC after this deadline will be rejected.

EVALUATION OF THE APPLICATIONS

A first selection will be based on the applications, the best three candidates will be invited to an oral interview on the following themes relevant to the job position: Barcelona Convention/Mediterranean Action Plan, Marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean, SPA/BD Protocol, Mediterranean Regional Action Plans for the conservation of threatened and/or endangered species and habitats, Monitoring and assessment, Ecosystem Approach, Language and Communication skills.