

CALL FOR APPLICATION

Posting Title: Projects Officer

Department/Office: SPA/RAC

Posting Period: Fixed-Term Contract

Deadline: 25 August 2017

Planned start date: September 2017

Presentation of SPA/RAC

The Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC) is the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) body which coordinates the implementation of the Barcelona Convention Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean. Its implementation instrument is the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean Region (2003). SPA/RAC supports implementation of species and protected areas management plans, tools for environmental monitoring, promotes awareness campaigns and the collection and circulation of biodiversity information among specialists and relevant international organisations, including NGOs.

The Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way, as stated by the Convention on Biological Diversity. It goes beyond examining single issues, species, or ecosystem functions in isolation. Instead, it recognizes ecological systems for what they are: rich mixes of elements that interact with each other continuously. This understanding is particularly important for coasts and seas, where the nature of water keeps systems and functions connected.

The main added value of the Ecosystem Approach in the context of the Barcelona Convention is a renewed emphasis on implementation and integration that will strengthen the ability to understand and address cumulative risks and effects as well as to better focus action on priority targets. The EcAp brings MAP's many sectoral analyses and management measures into a single integrated framework which will result in an adaptive management strategy that will be periodically monitored, evaluated and revised through rigorous Six-year Management Cycles.

The project "Implementation of Ecosystem Approach in the Adriatic Sea through Marine Spatial Planning" (EcAp South Adriatic) aims to support UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention and South Adriatic Mediterranean Contracting Parties (Albania and Montenegro) to implement the EcAp Roadmap agreed in Decision IG. 21/3, through assisting them in establishing new monitoring programmes in line with EcAp. In addition, the project will address some specific challenges of the EcAp Roadmap implementation, strengthening science-policy interface, addressing sub-regional implementation needs, and responding to data and information challenges in the sub-region. The project is jointly implemented by SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC and UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit in collaboration with relevant institutions of the countries.

The project will identify specific country needs, in order to implement EcAp monitoring requirements, based on country-capacity assessments, identification of knowledge gaps (data, methodologies, scales of assessment, etc...) and follow-up bilateral consultations. It will organise training workshops, field data collection and their processing. It will further assist the preparation of national monitoring programmes.

The project "Support to mitigation of incidental catch of vulnerable species" (Bycatch project) aims to support UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention and South and East Mediterranean Contracting Parties (Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey) to identify and test measures to reduce impact of fisheries on marine mammals, birds, turtles and elasmobranchs. The project is jointly implemented by a partnership including SPA/RAC, GFCM, ACCOBAMS, Birdlife, MEDASSET and IUCN. The project activities in Tunisia will be managed by SPA/RAC and implemented in collaboration with relevant institutions of the country. Its goals are to:

- Improve Knowledge on species and habitats affected by unsustainable fishing practices
- Awareness raising of fishers and other target groups
- Capacity building of relevant actors (NGOs, fisher organisations, administrations) for implementing sustainable fishing practices
- Implement demonstration projects on sustainable fishing practices

Job Description: Missions and Tasks

The Projects Officer will work under the overall authority of the SPA/RAC Director and the supervision of the SAP BIO Coordinator.

For the EcAp South Adriatic project the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit will provide general guidance and the incumbent will liaise as necessary with the EcAp South Adriatic Project Officer at SPA/RAC. S/he will support the implementation of the project activities as follows:

1. Development and implementation of EcAp South Adriatic project activities related to biodiversity and NIS, such as support to field surveys organisation and country-specific EcAp monitoring implementation plans
2. Research, analysis and presentation information gathered from diverse sources in collaboration with the external consultants by aiding supervising the activities linked to the project
3. Supervision of reviews, assessment and analysis responses linked to the project
4. Provision of substantive support to consultative and other meetings, conferences and training
5. Support the activities related to budget, funding, and preparation of related documents/reports in accordance with project plans, contractual agreements, UNEP/MAP policy and requirements
6. Preparation of written outputs, i.e. draft background papers, analysis, inputs to publications, etc.
7. Participation in field missions, expected mainly in the Mediterranean region
8. Other duties as required and specified in the Annual Work Plan and Communication Plan of the EcAp South Adriatic project

For the Bycatch project s/he will liaise as necessary with the project focal point appointed by the GFCM Secretariat for Tunisia and the Species Programme Officer at SPA/RAC, as well as assist exchanges with project partners. S/he will support the implementation of activities by SPA/RAC as follows:

1. Assist the setting of the field teams to monitor bycatch in Tunisia
2. Aid to collect knowledge on fisheries, species and habitats affected by unsustainable fishing practices
3. Support actions for awareness raising of fishers and other target groups
4. Contribute to capacity building of relevant actors (NGOs, fisher organisations, administrations), including meetings, training seminars and workshop on sustainable fishing practices
5. Assist implementation demonstration projects on sustainable fishing practices
6. Support the activities related to budget, funding, and preparation of related documents/reports in accordance with project plans, contractual agreements, UNEP/MAP and MAVFA Foundation policy and requirements

QUALIFICATIONS

Education

Master's degree on Marine Natural Resources Management, Marine Biology or Ecology, Fisheries Science, with a relevant combination of academic and professional qualifications. Knowledge of monitoring of Mediterranean biodiversity, fisheries and relevant European directives (EU WFD and EU MSFD) is 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 issues related to environmental projects.

The Projects Officer will also support (when needed) other activities related to the implementation of the programmatic activities managed by SPA/RAC

Languages

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

Other desirable skills

- Experience in wildlife monitoring
- Experience in fisheries science/fishing gears
- Knowledge on species vulnerable to incidental catch
- Fully proficient computer skills and use of relevant software and other applications, e.g. text processing, spreadsheets, internal databases, GIS, 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.
- Experience in technical and logistical aspects of meetings organisation.
- Good communication skills.

CONTRACT DURATION AND OTHER CONDITIONS

The project covers the period of 24 months. The contract is for an initial period of three months, with possibility of renovation. Start on duty is planned for September 2017. The finalisation of the selection process is foreseen in August 2017.

Application

Candidates should send by e-mail their application no later than **25 August 2017**, to the address detailed as follows:

Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC)
United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP)
B.P. 337 - 1080 Tunis Cedex - TUNISIA
Ref.: EcAp South Adriatic project post
Fax: + 216 71 206 490
Email: car-asp@spa-rac.org

Documents to be included in the Application:

- Written request
- CV
- Motivation letter
- Certified copies of university diploma(s)
- Work or Internship certificate or any other documentation concerning experience and skills acquired relevant to the job position

Evaluation of the Applications:

A first selection will be based on the applications, the first three candidates will be invited to an oral interview on the following themes relevant to the job position: Barcelona Convention and its Protocol on SPA/BD, Mediterranean Action Plan, Marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean, biodiversity monitoring and assessment, fisheries Science, EcAp, meetings/workshops organisation and management, awareness and outreach.