



## Terms of Reference for DIMFE Consultant

### Introduction

[The Donors' Initiative for Mediterranean Freshwater Ecosystems](#) (DIMFE) seeks to engage a consultant to refine its strategic approach towards supporting conservation and restoration projects of freshwater ecosystems in the Mediterranean. After three launches of calls for projects, DIMFE aims to enhance its impact and its role by evaluating its efficiency and effectiveness.

### Objectives

The consultant will:

1. Conduct a comprehensive review of the current state of freshwater conservation in the Mediterranean, identifying main issues, opportunities, and effective leverage points for donor influence.
2. Evaluate DIMFE's existing strategy, including its thematic focus and operational tactics, to determine the most impactful approach moving forward.
3. Propose strategic directions for DIMFE, focusing on whether to maintain current operations, become more proactive through specific calls for actions, or support project development more directly.
4. Synthesize key documents of past and ongoing strategies of the main initiatives in the Mediterranean (eg. The MAVA's strategy, the ecosystem profile by CEPF), relevant to DIMFE field of interest and identify DIMFE's unique role.
5. Assess potential synergies with ongoing or upcoming initiatives and suggest entry points to strike collaboration.

### Methodology

The consultant will engage with a diverse set of stakeholders, including NGOs, political actors, and experts in water issues, to gather insights and opinions relevant to DIMFE's strategic focus.

It is expected to adopt an approach combining document review, stakeholder interviews, and strategic analysis.

The consultant will work in close collaboration with the executive committee and the coordinator of DIMFE.

## **Deliverables**

1. A report detailing the current landscape of freshwater ecosystem conservation in the Mediterranean, with an emphasis on identifying key issues and opportunities for DIMFE.
2. An analysis of DIMFE's current strategy and its alignment with conservation needs and opportunities.
3. Strategic recommendations for DIMFE's future direction, including specific action points and potential thematic focuses.
4. A roadmap for enhancing DIMFE's visibility and attractiveness to potential applicants.
5. A written summary of the main findings of the consultancy and the delivery of an oral presentation to DIMFE's board and executive committee.

## **Duration and Budget**

- The consultant is expected to complete the assignment within a timeframe that allows findings to be incorporated before DIMFE's next call for projects (end of August 2024). A proposal with a timeline and budget estimate, considering a deadline before July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, is required from interested consultants.
- A preliminary report is to be submitted by June 10<sup>th</sup> for presentation to the Board. If feasible, the consultant will also conduct an online presentation of this report at the Board meeting scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Proposals should include the consultant's daily rate and an estimated total budget. DIMFE will provide guidance on budget expectations but is open to negotiation based on proposed scope and deliverables.

## **Consultant Profile**

The consultant should have:

- Extensive knowledge of water issues and freshwater conservation strategies in the Mediterranean region.
- Proven experience in strategic planning and organizational development within the environmental conservation sector.
- Strong analytical skills and experience in stakeholder engagement and facilitation.
- Excellent communication skills, with proficiency in English and preferably other languages relevant to the Mediterranean region.

## **Application Process**

Interested consultants are invited to submit a proposal outlining their approach to the assignment, previous relevant experience, proposed timeline, and budget. Proposals should be submitted to DIMFE's executive committee by **April 24<sup>th</sup>** and be sent to [dimfe@fpa2.org](mailto:dimfe@fpa2.org)

Responses will be given before May 10<sup>th</sup>.