



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCY

UPDATING COSTING AND FINANCING OPTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE SEYCHELLES MARINE SPATIAL PLAN

1. BACKGROUND

The Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan (SMSP) is a government-led initiative to achieve Seychelles' vision of a shared opportunity and responsibility to use the ocean space for sustainable opportunities, protect areas to improve biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, and provide increased food security. It is supported by financing and facilitation from The Nature Conservancy (TNC), financing from other partners, and is a necessary output of the Seychelles debt conversion that was formalized through the creation of the Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT) in 2016.

The SMSP was launched in 2014. More than 250 stakeholders from 12 marine sectors and civil society are participating in the SMSP initiative. The purpose of the SMSP is to provide government and marine sectors with direction on what and where existing and future activities are allowable. It will be a legally enforceable plan for 1.35 million square km of Seychelles' marine waters. In accordance with international best practice, it uses an ecosystem-based approach and a public, transparent, and participatory process. The Guiding Principles include practicality, equity, transparency, affordability, and feasibility.

The SMSP has three objectives: i) 30% marine protection; ii) address climate change adaptation; and iii) support the Blue Economy Roadmap and other national strategies. The SMSP will result in three main outputs: i) A marine spatial plan that includes zoning that balances ecological, economic and social objectives and an implementation plan; ii) an MSP Policy; and iii) a governance mechanism to implement and be responsible for the overall coordination and adaptive management of the plan over time, including the specific arrangements for the marine areas and zones created by the process.

2. OBJECTIVE & CONTEXT

Implementation of the SMSP will include the development and maintenance of management plans for 13 marine protection areas, supporting capacity, a monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) plan, and enforcement for legal and illegal activities. Since 2020, the Government of Seychelles has been working to develop a governance framework for SMSP implementation, including an estimate of the "cost of administering the SMSP". However, this "cost" is only the administration cost for the governance framework not the full costs associated with the aforementioned MCS plan, marine protection area management plans and other costs associated with effective management. Partial funding for implementation is available from government and SeyCCAT funding sources. However, these are not sufficient to cover all the possible costs (such as staffing, ecological and socio-economic research, monitoring, control and surveillance,

management plan implementation, transportation, training, etc). The majority of existing marine protected areas in Seychelles do not receive sufficient funding for implementation and the aim is for the SMSP areas to have long-term financing options identified.

Globally, the studies on the implementation costs for marine protection are inadequate to enable good estimates for the annual operational costs of implementing more than 400,000 sq km of new marine protections in Seychelles. The available studies are up to 20 years old and provide useful yet equivocal results. For example, Balmford et al. (2004) suggested that USD \$1,200 per sq. km per year can be used in tropical countries for a “no access, no take” ‘area. McCrea and Strub et al. (2011) indicated that the per unit area MPA establishment costs were lower for larger areas than smaller however establishment time significantly increases costs. Ban et al. (2011) concluded that estimating management costs for large MPA by extrapolation had significant limitations however, large no-take areas were generally less expensive than small multiple use areas. Cullis-Suzuki and Pauly (2010) took a different approach and suggested that costs for MPAs were effectively benefits for fisheries subsidies.

In Seychelles, under the Gos-GEF-UNDP Protected Areas (PA) Finance project, a national level Sustainable Financing Plan for Protected Areas was drafted in 2016. This was the first national financial plan for the Protected Areas in Seychelles and its aim was to address both the financing needs of the existing network and a potentially expanded network.

Then, from 2018-2019, working with the SMSP and SeyCCAT, a GoS-GEF-UNDP study on ‘Financing options to implement 400,000 km² of new Marine Protected Areas under the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan’ was developed, building on the 2016 PA Finance project. The objective of the second project was to develop three scenarios for implementing the new marine protection areas (30%) goal and use these scenarios to identify a sustainable financing strategy that ensures the effective management, monitoring, and enforcement of the 400,000 km² of marine protection areas over the next 10 years. This study was done using financial data from 2017 national budgets and the final report to government was submitted in 2019.

Since the 2019 “Financing options” report was finalised, a number of relevant developments have arisen, most importantly:

- In March 2020, Seychelles legally designated more than 30% of its EEZ under biodiversity protection (over 410,000 km²). The 2019 report was based on draft zoning designs for 400,000 km² and legal designation covering 26% of the EEZ; the consultations to reach the 30% goal had not been completed at that time.
- In March 2020, the global Covid-19 pandemic led to a significant economic crisis globally and in Seychelles, with changes to budgetary allocations and spending in MPAs and related sectors, that were assumed in the 2019 costing study.
- In October 2020, there was a change in Government and changes in portfolios and of responsible authorities.
- In 2021, an interim SMSP Implementation Governance Mechanism was identified and approved by Cabinet.

In 2024, the government and SMSP need an updated costing and financing analysis to have current information to inform sustainable financing assessments and implementation options.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment (MACCE) in collaboration with SeyCCAT, with support from the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan initiative seeks to recruit a

consultant (or a team of consultants) to **update the Costing and Financing Options to implement the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan.**

The overall objective of the consultancy is to update the 2019 'Financing options' report and to align with Seychelles national priorities.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

The consultant will review and update the information pertaining to implementation of financing options for the SMSP, including the marine protection areas. Reference to the document "Financing Options to Implement the SMSP (2019)" and with guidance and input from the MACCE, SMSP Core Team, SeyCCAT and SMSP Committees and Technical Working Groups .

The assignment aims to:

- Update the cost estimates of implementing the marine protection areas using the three cost scenarios from 2019.
- Identify and prioritise existing and new financing options that can be scalable for the size of the new MPA system.
- Identify the management models to improve cost effectiveness of implementation (to reduce the amount of financing required).

Specifically, the consultant will undertake the following activities:

1. Convene an inception meeting with the MACCE,, SMSP, SeyCCAT and other selected project stakeholders to review the assignment and clarify the assignment with the project team. Create a detailed work plan and timeline and submit an Inception Report.
2. Prepare and submit a Draft Report based on the following activities 2 through 7:
 - a. Review the 2019 report 'Financing options to implement 400,000km² of new Marine Protected Areas under the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan', and become familiar with the SMSP zoning framework, zoning designs, allowable activities tables, management considerations, MSP policy, and governance arrangements for implementation to understand the scale and scope of the marine spatial plan as is currently underway.
 - b. Review available published and unpublished literature for the cost of implementing marine protected areas, with attention on costs for remote, large scale MPAs, including options for air, sea and remote sensing.
 - c. Update the summary table for the known, published and/or unpublished annual costs and cost per square km for implementing marine protected areas, how those costs shift with time (e.g. as compliance increases costs reduce), including during the Covid-19 pandemic and cite the sources of information. To achieve this, the consultant will:
 - i. Interact with country stakeholders to determine existing economic analyses and components and costs required to manage the new MPAs under high, medium, and low-cost scenarios. The stakeholders should include, but is not limited to Ministry of Agriculture Climate Change and Environment (MACCE), Ministry for Finance, Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority (SMSA), Marine Police, Seychelles' Coast Guard (SCG), and Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA), to understand relevant agency

- policies, systems, capabilities, current financing/budgets and perspectives and compile a revised annual estimate for the cost of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) for the Seychelles EEZ, and specifically for marine protection areas that have been designated by the MSP.
- ii. To review ongoing or completed analyses for the financing of marine protected areas in Seychelles performed in the last 5 years, including GOS-GEF-UNDP Protected Area Financing, BIOFIN projects.
3. Reassess proposed cost-effective management models or activities that were proposed in the 2019 report that would assist to improve implementation and/or improve the cost efficiencies. These were based on below directives:
 - a. Considering the capabilities achieved through regional and international cooperation, such as Regional Fisheries Surveillance Planning.
 - b. Identifying options and provide cost estimates for remote monitoring systems that were available to supplement or improve MCS in Seychelles (such as the existing capabilities, Seychelles VMS) and in consideration of components that have already been completed since the last analysis.
 - c. Providing information on the available providers, annual fees and costs, products and services offered, constraints or limitations of the service (such as proprietary information/data), customer reviews and/or references, length of time in business, success or accuracy rates, and other pertinent information.
 4. Reassess applicability of identified current public and private financing opportunities, as proposed in the 2019 report, to activities linked to the MSP allowable activities and their potential to support the MSP objectives.
 5. Identify new financing options based on a determined criteria matrix (ie. return on investment and institutional, political acceptance, etc.).
 6. Review and revise the road map for addressing the financing gaps outlined in the above tasks. This should include:
 - a. Review of the three proposed options for high, medium, and low-cost scenarios for implementation. For each scenario, update the description, or definition of the scenario, what it delivers in terms of conservation outcomes, maritime security, estimate of staff capacity, and other criteria and indicators related to marine protected area implementation. Identify in each option what will and will not be delivered by that level of financing, and the estimated total cost per year in USD.
 - b. Update the gap analysis for the sustainable financing of the new marine protections being designated by the Seychelles MSP process for the next 10-years.
 - c. Recognize the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, changes in government structure and financing priorities.
 7. Review and update the ranked opportunities to secure new financial assets to enable the effective implementation of the MSP
 8. Present the results of the above analysis at a stakeholder workshop and incorporate comments received during the stakeholder workshop, as well as written comments, into final outputs.
 9. Submit a Final Report with revisions from the draft for 'Financing options to implement 400,000km² of new Marine Protected Areas under the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan' including incorporating comments and inputs from the virtual stakeholder workshop.

10. Prepare a powerpoint version of the Final Report for delivery to SMSP, Cabinet of Ministers and Office of the President, as needed.
11. Prepare an Executive Summary document of no more than 1,500 words summarizing the cost estimates and analysis for the implementation of the Seychelles MSP that can be developed into an information brochure or small booklet.
12. The consultant may be required to develop a high-level briefing note of the analysis for presentation at the Cabinet of Ministers' level. The consultant will be provided with the format for the Seychelles Briefing Note.

4. DELIVERABLES

With reference to the scope of work, the consultant, will be required to produce the following deliverables:

- 1) Inception Report from Activity 1.
- 2) Draft Report from Activity 2-7.
- 3) Prepare and present results at a v stakeholder engagement session for Activity 8.
- 4) Final report for Activity 9.
- 5) Powerpoint presentation of Final Report for Activity 10.
- 6) Executive Summary document for Activity 11.
- 7) High-level Briefing Note for Activity 12.

5. TYPE OF CONTRACT

This is a short-term international consultancy.

6. DURATION AND TIMELINE

The assignment is expected to commence in 1 May 2024, for a duration of 21 working days over a period of 3 months, and end in 31 July 2024.

The consultant may be requested to respond to comments received from stakeholder, the Cabinet of Ministers and/or Office of the Vice President and may be required to be available for presentation to Cabinet after the consultancy ends.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPORTING

The consultant shall report on any matters pertaining to the task directly to the SMSP Project Manager, Ms Helena Sims, with updates provided to the MACCE and SeyCCAT CEO, as per the schedule agreed at the inception meeting.

The deliverables will be submitted to SMSP Project Manager, for review and approval by the SMSP Core Team, with input from the SMSP Executive Committee and relevant Ministries, before payments can be processed.

The consultant will also be expected to be working in partnership with Ministry of Agriculture Climate Change and Environment (MACCE), Ministry for Finance (MoF), Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration (SMSA), Marine Police, Seychelles' Coast Guard (SCG), and Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA).

1. QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRED¹

The consultant should have the following:

Qualifications and experience

- Advanced University Degree in finance, business, law or a related field
- At least three years' experience in financial analyses and maritime security
- At least 5 years' experience in undertaking financial costing for coastal and marine projects.

Competencies and Skills

- Understanding of Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan initiative, Seychelles financial systems, Seychelles maritime security strategy, national and international practices for monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS).
- Familiarity with relevant policies and legal frameworks in the Seychelles, and worldwide for enforcement of marine areas
- Planning, coordinating and organizing – Ability to establish priorities and to plan and coordinate work; ability to effectively coordinate a multi-stakeholder project
- Communications - Excellent communication skills and effective interpersonal and negotiation skills and proven ability to promote teamwork among individuals and stakeholder groups that may not easily collaborate with each other, including, but not limited to senior government officials, business executives, managers, marine park rangers and scientific researchers
- Teamwork – Ability to lead, manage and motivate teams including international and local
- Strong writing, presentation and reporting skills
- consultants and other stakeholders to achieve results
- Strong writing, presentation and reporting skills
- Demonstrated examples of similar work done
- Proven track record of delivering on time for past contracts/project
- Knowledge or past experience working on donor funded projects is an advantage
- Fully Microsoft Office literate

Language

- Full proficiency in English is a requirement
- Working knowledge of French and Seychellois Creole would be an advantage

2. APPLICATIONS

Applications may be submitted by email or as hard copies in sealed envelopes, sent or delivered to the address below. Applications must include the following:

- A cover letter describing experience and qualifications

¹ Note that a scoring system is used, based on these criteria, to assess the technical skills of all applicants.

- A full CV
- A sample of previous works similar to what is being requested in TOR (e.g financial costing for coastal and marine projects)
- A simple work plan or time line. The template provided in Annex 1 may be used.
- A financial proposal linked to the work plan. The template provided in Annex 2 may be used. All costs for travel and logistics, including workshop costs will need to be included in the financial proposal.
- Mark proposals as **SMSP Costing Analysis 2.0**

Proposals should be sent to:

Grants and Fundraising Officer

Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT)

Ocean Gate House, Room 109, Flamboyant Avenue, Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles

Tel (Office): +248 4325806 **Tel (mobile):** +248 2632386

Email: info@seyccat.org or dre naud@seyccat.org or helena.sims@tnc.org

**NOTE: in line with the Covid-19 guidelines from Department of Health,
please book an appointment in advance for hand deliveries**

Closing Date: 4pm Seychelles Time on **20 April 2024** (Late submissions and/or incomplete applications will not be considered. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted).

ANNEX 1

TEMPLATE FOR THE PROPOSED WORK PLAN

The purpose of this template is to provide sufficient details for the proposal to be evaluated, enabling reviewers to see if how you intend to complete the job on time.

NAME: **TEL (248):**

WORK PACKAGE: INSERT CODE/NAME

CONTRACT DURATION:

(Please refer to TOR – you may propose an alternative with adequate justification, noting that that project ends in June 2024)

SCOPE OF WORK AND PROPOSED APPROACH:

(Please refer to TOR – elaborate your proposed approach)

LIST OF DELIVERABLES AND PROPOSED TIMELINE:

(Please refer to TOR – indicate number of days required for each, with breakdown by team members if relevant)

WORK PLAN WITH PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR EACH TASK (table to be revised as needed)

Tasks to be completed (See scope of work in TOR)	Proposed Timeline (months/weeks)									Number of days	Deadline for deliverable
	Month 1										
Sign contract and submit revised/final work plan based on Inception meeting	X										
Etc...											

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS BEING PROPOSED:

(Please refer to the most recent guidelines by Seychelles Department of Health)

ADDITIONAL NOTES IF RELEVANT:

ANNEX 2

TEMPLATE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The purpose of this template is to provide sufficient details for the proposal to be evaluated, enabling reviewers to see if the proposal is realistic to complete the job.

NAME: **TEL:**

WORK PACKAGE: **INSERT CODE/NAME**

ITEM DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY Days	UNIT PRICE Per day (CURRENCY)	TOTAL (CURRENCY)
1. Professional fees	DAYS		
2. Travel costs (if relevant)	DAYS		
3. Public consultations ²	DAYS		
3. Any other cost (<i>please itemize e.g. taxes</i>)			
Additional information			
TOTAL COST (CURRENCY)			

Date:

Signature:

² If permitted by DoH, cost of up to stakeholder workshops (venue, refreshments, lunch, printing etc.) will be borne by the SeyCCAT.