

Terms of reference (ToRs) for the procurement of services below the EU threshold

Study Valuing Marine Ecosystems in the SICA region

**Project number/
cost centre:
12.9215.0-001.00**

0. List of abbreviations	2
1. Context.....	3
2. Tasks to be performed by the contractor	4
3. Concept.....	5
Technical-methodological concept	6
Project management of the contractor	6
4. Personnel concept	6
Lead Expert.....	6
5. Costing requirements	7
6. Inputs of GIZ or other actors.....	7

0. List of abbreviations

AVB	General Terms and Conditions of Contract (AVB) for supplying services and work 2020
BBi	Bio-Bridge Initiative
BMU	Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCAD	Central American Commission for Environment and Development
CTMB	Technical Committee for Oceans and Biodiversity
IKI	International Climate Initiative
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
SICA	Central American Integration System
ToRs	Terms of reference

1. Context

a. Brief Information on the Project

In the framework of the International Climate Initiative (IKI), the Strategic Environmental Dialogues project advises the **Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)** on knowledge exchange and dialogue with decision-makers at the political level in developing and emerging countries, including the participation of representatives from the private sector, civil society, and science. This helps to reconcile interests, creates learning opportunities, and identifies joint solutions for sustainable development that protect the environment and reduce carbon emissions. The project coordinates high-level policy dialogues, expert group meetings, training courses, and international as well as regional conferences to strengthen the exchange between Germany and its partner countries. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with its Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), and the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework are key in this context.

The aim of the **Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI)** is to facilitate technical and scientific cooperation among Parties to the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** and to its Protocols, under Article 18. As part of its mandate, seed funding support may be provided to incubate projects and partnerships that promote exemplary technical and scientific cooperation approaches, particularly South-South and triangular cooperation, to address biodiversity-related issues and challenges. The CBD Secretariat has accepted proposals under the Bio-Bridge Initiative's new round of demonstration projects in 2020.

b. Initial situation

Strategic Environmental Dialogues together with the GIZ implemented triangular cooperation "Application of innovative tools for coral reef conservation and restoration" and IKI project "Blue Solutions", supported the partner countries in **Honduras** together with Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic to hand in a proposal for the BBI competition. **The proposed project aims to foster regional dialogue and cooperation on the economic valuation of marine ecosystems in Central America and the Dominican Republic.** Despite the ecological and economic importance of marine ecosystems many past public and private economic incentives have been focused solely on expanding economic activity regardless of their likely environmental harms. A clearer understanding of the immense value and the high manmade risks of a likely loss of marine ecosystems shall help towards the aim of changing behaviors and policy decisions.

The proposed project is part of the efforts to promote the transformation of economic interventions towards more sustainable development. With clearer knowledge of the economic value of marine ecosystems, economic (recovery) policies will have to consider not only job creation and the sustainability of funding but also the protection and restoration of the oceans. Showing the "hidden" value of marine biodiversity can correct the incentives of decision-makers by raising awareness among these actors. Central America and the Dominican Republic have gained some understanding of the economic value of their ecosystems. In 2018 the Dominican Republic for example showed that coral reefs in Punta Cana, Bayahibe and Samaná have a total value of 1.140 Million USD per year. This has helped tourism companies, among others to visualize the importance of these ecosystems in their business models.

Even with these first advances, there are still many marine ecosystems and areas in the region that have not been assessed although ecosystem valuation is a key objective of national biodiversity strategies. Furthermore, the results of the assessments are not fully comparable due

to different applied methodologies. So, more assessments must be conducted with desirably regionally consolidated approaches to have more comparable data.

The CBD Secretariat has acknowledged the BBI proposal and will publicize it and present it on its website, together with the other selected projects (<https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/projects/selected>). Besides, the project will be integrated into the broader TSC community of practice and its outcomes and knowledge products will be supported and disseminated under the BBI outreach and communication strategy. The funding for the implementation of the proposal comes from BMU.

These ToR are for a contract to implement two interlinked key activities of the BBI project proposal which contribute to strengthening marine ecosystem restoration and sustainable management efforts in the region: 1. two virtual workshops/dialogues and 2. a study that includes a regional guidance manual for valuing marine ecosystems. This consultancy aims to collect experiences and solutions from practice in economic valuation methods that can be applied in the Central American region for marine ecosystems. The outcomes of the dialogue inform the study under this contract and support the technical guideline for a regional approach of economic valuation of marine ecosystems.

The **Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD)** will be a key counterpart throughout this process in the region as it is responsible for regional coordination of the Ministries for the Environment. CCAD is part of the Central American Integration System (SICA) which unites the 8 countries in the region. Once the contractor has been contracted the full project proposal will be shared.

2. Tasks to be performed by the contractor

The contractor is responsible for providing the following services:

1. Design and facilitate two regional virtual workshops on the economic valuation of marine ecosystems in Central America and the Dominican Republic:
 - Experts from Central America and the Dominican Republic shall share the progress that has been made on assessing the values of marine ecosystems and their services. GIZ will support the contractor with the identification of suitable experts and assume speaker fees if necessary. The contractor shall present input on international good practices on valuing marine ecosystems and invite experts who do a presentation on this subject. GIZ will assume speaker fees if necessary.
 - The workshops shall help to identify a) existing methods in the economic valuation in the SICA region, as well as b) at the international level.
 - Furthermore, they shall help to discuss possibilities for creating regional consolidated approaches for the economic valuation of marine ecosystems in the SICA region to create comparable results of assessment efforts in the future.
 - The workshops shall be held virtually in Spanish, and GIZ can offer its existing IT platforms (MS TEAMS). Up to 50 participants will be able to join the two virtual half-day workshops (up to 4 hours each).
2. Conducting a study including a regional guidance manual for the economic valuation of marine ecosystems
 - Based on the previous workshop and further research, existing ecosystem service valuation approaches by SICA member states as well as international good practices in this area shall be analysed.

- The principal aim of the study is to offer a regional guidance manual for the economic valuation of marine ecosystems. It shall compile the most appropriate regional and international valuation methods and tools for assessing the economic value of the marine ecosystem services of the region.
 - It is planned that beyond this contract, the manual will be used in marine ecosystem valuations in the region in order to reveal the value of ecosystem services and help sensitize and engage the private sector and other stakeholders in ecosystem conservation and restoration. Therefore, the applicability of the methodologies and techniques is crucial.
 - The study shall have up to 50 pages (excluding annexes) and include the following outline items, among others: Executive summary, Introduction, Definitions, Analysis of valuation methodologies and techniques, regional and international initiatives (selection based on the two workshops), practical guidance manual for the valuation of marine ecosystems in the SICA region, Conclusions and Policy recommendations, case studies and lessons learned.
 - As part of this initiative, the Technical Committee for Oceans and Biodiversity (CTMB) of the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD) will be involved. Members of the CTMB are Directors within the Ministries for the Environment and serve as an advisory body for CCAD on regional coordination of environmental strategies and policies. The contractor shall validate with the members of the CTMB the guidance manual. GIZ will therefore ask CCAD to include the presentation in the official agenda of one of the CTMB meetings in 2021.
 - The study will be published on behalf of BMU together with CCAD through its networks, on the CBD webpage and through the PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet network and communicated along with other relevant platforms including existing CHMs in the region.
3. The entire process shall be systematized in order to document the experience. Therefore, the contractor shall use the report template provided by CBD. This includes a work plan and reporting template (2 pages, to be updated twice throughout the implementation), and a Final Narrative Report. The final report should include a brief news article, ideally with pictures that will be published by CBD.

Certain milestones, as laid out in the table below, are to be achieved by certain dates during the contract term:

Milestone	Deadline
Workplan	20.06.2021
Virtual Workshops	13.08.2021
Final version of study	15.11.2021

Period of assignment: From 15.06.2021 until 30.11.2021.

3. Concept

In the bid, the bidder is required to show how the objectives defined in Chapter 0 are to be achieved, if applicable under consideration of further specific method-related requirements (technical-methodological concept).

Technical-methodological concept

Strategy: The bidder is required to consider the tasks to be performed with reference to the objectives of the services put out to tender (see Chapter 1). Following this, the bidder presents and justifies the strategy with which they intend to provide the services for which they are responsible (see Chapter 0).

The bidder is required to present the actors relevant for the services for which they are responsible and describe the **cooperation** with them.

The bidder is required to present and explain their approach to **steering** the measures with the project partners and their contribution to the results-based monitoring system.

The bidder is required to describe the key **processes** for the services for which they are responsible and create a schedule that describes how the services according to Chapter 0 are to be provided. In particular, the bidder is required to describe the necessary work steps and, if applicable, take account of the milestones and contributions of other actors in accordance with Chapter 0.

The bidder is required to describe their contribution to knowledge management for the partner and GIZ and promote scaling-up effects (**learning and innovation**).

Project management of the contractor

– Not applicable –

4. Personnel concept

The bidder is required to provide personnel who is suited to filling the position described, on the basis of the CV (see Chapter 7), the range of tasks involved and the required qualifications.

The below specified qualifications represent the requirements to reach the maximum number of points.

Lead Expert

The Lead Expert is responsible for the implementation of tasks mentioned under Chapter 2:

Qualifications of the Lead Expert

- Education/training (2.1.1): University qualification (Master's Degree) in Environmental Sciences, Environmental Politics and Governance, Ecological Economics or comparable
- Language (2.1.2): High-level working proficiency in Spanish and English
- General professional experience (2.1.3): 10 years of professional experience in Marine Ecosystem Management and Economic Assessments
- Specific professional experience (2.1.4): 10 years in Marine Ecosystem Valuation and 5 years working experience in Facilitation of Multi-stakeholder Dialogues
- Regional experience (2.1.6): 8 years of experience in projects in South and Central America
- Development Cooperation (DC) experience (2.1.7): 8 years of experience in DC projects

5. Costing requirements

Lead Expert: Assignment for up to 35 expert days in total. Of these 10 days are for facilitation of the workshops and the remaining 25 days for desk research, elaboration of the study and reporting.

Travel

Due to current travel restrictions, the entire consultancy shall be implemented through virtual tools. Therefore – Not applicable –

6. Inputs of GIZ or other actors

GIZ and/or other actors are expected to make the following available:

- Speaker Fees for Workshops if necessary
- IT Platform (MS TEAMS) for Workshops