**ATTACHMENT 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCE LOT1**



Terms of Reference for IUCN Green List Reviewer for IUCN Med

**LOT 1:**

**IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Reviewer for the Mediterranean Marine Region for the Interreg Euro-MED GL4MMPAs project**

**Objective of the Consultancy**

This consultancy has the following objective(s):

1. To fulfil the role of Reviewer within the IUCN Green List Process in the Mediterranean Marine Region
2. To support the establishment of a new Mediterranean marine EAGL (Activity 2.3 of the GL4MMPAs project)
3. To support the operation of the Mediterranean marine EAGL (Activities 2.4 and 2.5 of the GL4MMPAs project)

**Background**

 Project Reference: P04431

**About IUCN**

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world’s largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of more than 1,400 Member organisations and around 15,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people’s well-being.

[www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org)

<https://twitter.com/IUCN/>

**About the IUCN Green List**

The **IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Programme (Green List)** was officially launched in 2014 at the World Parks Congress to recognise and promote successful protected and conserved areas (PCAs) around the world. The main objective of the Green List is to encourage PCAs to measure, improve and maintain their performance through globally consistent criteria on good governance, sound design and planning, effective management, and successful conservation outcomes. At the heart of the IUCN Green List Programme is the Green List Standard and a set of Generic Indicators, defining performance levels that protected and conserved areas must meet to achieve ‘Green List’ status. More details on the IUCN Green List programme can be found at [https://iucngreenlist.org/.](https://iucngreenlist.org/)

All participants in the Green List Programme shall operate according to the [Green List User Manual](https://iucngreenlist.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/IUCN-Green-List-User-Manual-Version-1.2.pdf)´s rules and procedures. **Green List Reviewers** are independent qualified auditors or individuals with relevant experience working in a specific jurisdiction or across various jurisdictions. Their primary role is to ensure that the rules and procedures of the [Green List User Manual](https://iucngreenlist.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/IUCN-Green-List-User-Manual-Version-1.2.pdf) are consistently applied in the Green List process. They do this in a cooperative manner that aims at building capacity and enabling an unobstructed Green List process. The Reviewer role includes activities such as reviewing the proposed membership of Expert Assessment Group for the Green List (EAGLs), if required, delivering trainings on the Green List User Manual and COMPASS to EAGLs, implementing partners and PCA site representatives, and the ongoing validation of EAGL activities relating to the evaluation process of applicant protected and/or conserved areas seeking Green List approval.

**About the GreenList4MMPAs project**

The Adapting IUCN Green List Standard to the Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas’ (GL4MMPAs) is a study project funded by the Interreg Euro-MED Programme that aims to promote the effective and equitable management of Marine Protected and Conserved Areas (MPAs) in the Mediterranean through the IUCN Green List process. The project will: 1. Provide guidelines on how the IUCN Green List can be applied to the Mediterranean marine context and 2. Support the establishment of an EAGL for the Mediterranean marine area (Med marine EAGL). The project started in January 2024, will run until March 2026 and is formed by a partnership of 6 members from 5 different countries across the Mediterranean, including IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med). More details on the project in: <https://greenlist4mmpas.interreg-euro-med.eu/>

**Description of the Assignment**

The Reviewer shall ensure that the rules and procedures of the Green List User Manual are consistently applied in the Green List process within the Mediterranean marine areas. The Reviewer will be expected to support IUCN and the project partnership with the implementation of Work Package 2 of the GL4MMPAs project, which aims to create the Med marine EAGL. More concretely, the Reviewer will contribute to Activity 2.3 (Selection of experts and establishment of Med MPA EAGLs committee), Activity 2.4 (Training of selected Med MPA EAGL experts on IUCN Green List) and Activity 2.5 (Contribution of Med MPA EAGLs on IUCN Green List adaptation to Med MPAs).

Specifically, the Reviewer will assume the following responsibilities within the framework of the Green List implementation:

**1: Support establishment and initial training of the Med marine EAGL**

* Review and approve the proposed membership of a Mediterranean MPA EAGL area for required competence, independence, commitment and representativeness, and discuss the EAGL composition with the relevant WCPA Regional Vice Chair as needed (Activity 2.3 GL4MMPAs)
* Support the initial training for the new Med marine EAGL, if needed (Activity 2.4 GL4MMPAs)

**2: Support the ongoing operation of the Med marine EAGL and General communication activities**

* Supervise Med marine EAGL activities, participation in EAGL meetings relating to the general operation of the Med marine EAGL, when requested, including the development or internal operational procedures and support (Activity 2.4 and 2.5 GL4MMPAs)
* Verify that any adaptation process for Generic Indicators within a jurisdiction is in accordance with IUCN policies, standards, directives, guidelines and advice notes, and harmonised with other similar standards, based on EAGL notes and records (Activity 2.5 GL4MMPAs)
* Maintain regular communication with the Green List Operations Team and ASI in relation to the implementation of the IUCN Green List in the Mediterranean marine area
* Maintain regular communication with the Mediterranean EAGLs, Operations team, mentors and implementing partners in relation to the Green List process in the Mediterranean marine area

*As needed*:

* Deliver additional user Manual and COMPASS training to EAGLs, Implementing Partners and MPAs
* Participation at EAGL in-person or online meetings
* Participation at field visits relating to the evaluation of applicant MPAs (as needed/requested)
* Participation at promotional events and meetings relating to the Green List in Mediterranean MPAs
* Contribute to and validate EAGL investigations into potential Triggers for unscheduled reviews of Green List PAs
* Verify that any adaptation process for Generic Indicators within a jurisdiction is in accordance with IUCN policies, standards, directives, guidelines and advice notes, and harmonised with other similar standards, based on EAGL notes and records

**Duration of the Assignment**

From 01/12/2024 to 30/03/2026

**Activities, Workload and Timeline**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Estimated workload** | **Timeframe** |
| 1. Support the establishment and training of the Med Marine EAGL | 3 days | December 2025 – March 2025 |
| 2. Support Med marine EAGL operation and General communications activities | 17 days | April 2025 – March 2026 |

**Deliverables and Payment Schedule**

The following timetable summarises the chronological order of deliverables and indicates milestones at which IUCN will pay the Consultant.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Deliverable** | **Timeframe** | **Milestone payment** |
| Mediterranean Marine Region Green List Reviewer Workplan  | Upon signature  | 30% |
| Mid-term report on Mediterranean Marine Region Green List Reviewer progress (fupon EAGL Establishment support activities - project Deliverable 2.3.1).  | By June 2025 | 30% |
| Final report on Mediterranean Marine Region Green List Reviewer progress (focus on EAGL Operations support activities - project Deliverable 2.4.1 and 2.5.1).  | March 2026 | 40% |

**Budget**

The maximum budget available for this consultancy is 15,000 EUR (VAT and any other taxes included).

**Travel**

Any necessary travel shall be agreed upon in advance, with all associated expenses to be borne by IUCN.

**Skills and Experience**

The consultant must have the following skills, education and experience as a minimum:

* Lead auditor training or qualification in ISO/IEC 19011, ISO 9000 or ISO 14001, or FSC forest management or other relevant experience
* At least five years of work in conformity assessment as a lead auditor or in relevant other role
* Experience in evaluating stakeholder consultation processes
* Ability to communicate well with individuals at any socioeconomic, professional, political, or educational level
* Strong negotiating skills
* Ability to analyse and integrate diverse information from various sources and derive a conclusion from this information
* Strong oral and written communication skills, ability to craft and deliver messages in an articulate manner
* Understanding of relevant ecosystem, cultural and social issues in the Mediterranean marine region
* Good command of written and spoken English
* Working knowledge of at least one Mediterranean language(s). Knowledge of additional Mediterranean languages will be considered an asset.

**Supervision and coordination**

The consultant will work under the supervision of Green List Officer within the Ecosystem Resilience and Spatial Planning team. at IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation.