

Call for Expression of Interest
Outcome Evaluation of the Barcelona Convention / United Nations Environment Programme -
Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP - MAP) Five Year Programme of Work 2010-2014

In 1975, under UNEP's umbrella, 16 Mediterranean countries and the European Community adopted the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP-MAP) which aims to assist the Mediterranean countries in the assessment and control of marine pollution, and the formulation of national environment policies which protect natural resources and identify alternative and more sustainable patterns of development. The Parties also adopted the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution – the Barcelona Convention. The Barcelona Convention/UNEP-MAP is presently recognized as the key environmental governance structure in the Mediterranean, with an advanced environmental legal framework, a longstanding pollution monitoring programme, a network of focal points in partner countries and a diversified network of regional activity centers that offer their expertise to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols in the Mediterranean countries. Today MAP involves 21 countries bordering the Mediterranean as well as the European Community.¹

The 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Morocco, 2009) adopted a 5-year (2010 - 2014) strategic and integrated Programme of Work (PoW). At the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Turkey, 2013), UNEP/MAP Secretariat was requested to carry out an external evaluation of this PoW in 2014 as its results will be an important input into the UNEP Medium-Term Strategy for the period 2016-2021.

The Outcome Evaluation of Barcelona Convention/UNEP-MAP Five Year Programme of Work (2010-2014) will be carried out in the period **March - August 2014** and will be undertaken to assess programme performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine outcomes and likely impacts (actual and potential) stemming from the Programme, including their sustainability. More specifically, the evaluation will: (a) Review the 5 Year Strategic Programme of Work (2010-2014) of UNEP/MAP with a view to determine the relevance and contribution of the activities carried out to the objectives of the 6 year Programme, the Convention, Protocols, regional strategies and action plans for the purposes of lesson learning and enhancing effectiveness of future Mid-Term Strategies; and (b) Review the status of the outcomes achieved and the key factors that have affected (both positively and negatively, contributing and constraining) this result. It will include an inception phase to detail the evaluation framework and define the data collection and analysis methods, followed by implementation, synthesis and report writing. The final evaluation report, expected to be complete by August 2014, will then be submitted for adoption by the Contracting Parties at its 19th Meeting scheduled for 2015.

To undertake this assignment, UNEP is now looking for a team of two consultants with substantive experience in conducting programme evaluations, including using a Theory of Change approach. The consultants should possess a high-level degree in Environmental Law, Environmental Sciences or related disciplines, good technical understanding of sustainable management of natural resources, and combine at least 20 years of relevant work experience in the environment sector (professional work experience in the Mediterranean Sea basin area is an asset). Excellent writing and editing skills in the English language is required.

Interested individual candidates or consultancy firms are invited to submit an Expression of Interest, including a cover letter and the consultants' curriculum vitae, by February 20, 2014 addressed to: Michael Spilsbury, Chief, UNEP Evaluation Office (Email: michael.spilsbury@unep.org Cc. pauline.marima@unep.org)

¹ For more information, please visit the MAP website www.unepmap.org