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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF A NATIONAL CONSULTANT IN NATURE-BASED COASTAL AND MARINE SOLUTIONS IN GHANA**

### **1. Context and justification**

As part of the implementation of its Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2021-2030, the Fisheries Committee of the Central Western Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is implementing the project "Use of marine spatial planning in the Gulf of Guinea for the implementation of payment for ecosystem services and nature-based coastal solutions" (MarEcoPlan).

This project, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF-7), is being implemented over a period of three years (January 2024 – January 2027) and aims to strengthen the sustainable management of coastal and marine ecosystems in the Gulf of Guinea region.

In order to facilitate the implementation of this project, particularly its component 3 at the national level, and to ensure better coordination with national institutions and local actors, the FCWC wishes to recruit a national consultant in NBS who will work closely with the international consultant in NBS and under the supervision of the Project Coordinator.

### **2. Mission Objective**

Support the mission of the NBS international consultant in data collection, coordination with national and local stakeholders, as well as the institutional and operational anchoring of nature-based coastal and marine solutions (NBS).

The specific objectives are to:

- Collect and analyze national information related to coastal and marine ecosystems;
- Conduct consultations with national institutions, local communities, and other stakeholders;
- Identify priority sites and opportunities for implementing NBS;
- Support the organization of national workshops and capacity-building activities;

### **3. Tasks and responsibilities of the consultant**

The national consultant will have the following main responsibilities:

#### **a) Data collection and analysis**

- Coastal Hazards and Climate data (floods, waves, storm surge, tidal waves coastal erosion etc);

- Ecosystem Extinct Condition data (Mangroves distribution and intensity, wetlands and lagoons, etc.) to know the degradation and regeneration or restoration trends;
- Ecosystem functions and performance protection data (flood water retention capacity, erosion reduction rate, etc.);
- Land use and Land cover data;
- Socio-economics and livelihood data;
- Cost benefit or Cost Effectiveness data;
- Identify existing studies, data and initiatives related to nature-based solutions;
- Facilitate access to data from national institutions and existing projects;
- Contribute to the analysis of the ecological, socio-economic and institutional context.

#### **b) National coordination and facilitation**

- To serve as the national technical focal point for the international consultant's mission;
- Facilitating contacts with public institutions, NGOs, research centers and local communities;
- Organize consultation meetings with stakeholders;
- Ensure logistical coordination of field missions in collaboration with the project national focal point.

#### **c) Technical support for the identification of NBS**

- Contribute to the identification of priority areas for the implementation of nature-based solutions;
- Provide local expertise on coastal dynamics and existing management practices;
- Support the technical validation of the proposed options.

#### **d) Organization of workshops and capacity building**

- Support the preparation and organization of the national consultation and training workshop;
- Facilitate the participation of national stakeholders;
- Contribute to the preparation of technical and communication materials.

#### **e) Support in drafting deliverables**

- Contribute to the preparation of reports and technical documents;
- Provide the necessary national contributions to the various deliverables;
- Support the national validation of produced documents.

#### **4. Expected Deliverables**

The national consultant will be required to produce the following deliverables:

- A Compiling Report of national data and existing initiatives related to coastal and marine ecosystems;
- A report of national consultations with stakeholders;
- A Report of the National Workshop to Validate Draft Reports;
- A final mission report.

#### **5. Mission duration**

The mission is planned for a period of thirty (30) working days, during the year 2026, in accordance with the schedule of the international consultant's mission.

#### **6. Supervision and coordination**

The national consultant will work under the supervision of the MarEcoPlan project coordinator and in close collaboration with:

- the international consultant ;
- the national focal points of the project;
- the national institutions concerned.

#### **7. Consultant Profile**

- University degree (minimum Master's) in coastal zone management, environmental science, marine ecology, geography or equivalent field;
- At least 5 years of professional experience in coastal and marine resource management or environmental projects;
- Good knowledge of the institutional context and coastal ecosystems of the country;
- Experience in facilitating consultations with stakeholders;
- Good ability to write technical reports;
- Proficiency in the country's official language.

#### **8. Submission Procedures**

Interested candidates are invited to submit:

- A detailed curriculum vitae (maximum 5 pages);
- A technical proposal (including understanding of the Terms of Reference, the methodology for implementing the mission and an indicative timetable);
- A financial proposal for the fees, excluding associated costs.