

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

TITLE OF THE EOI:	
Preparation of a Regional Protocol Under the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy on the Principle of Sustainable Use of Marine Living Resources for Blue Economic Growth and Sustainable Development of CRFM Member States	
EOI Number: EOICRFM2023-01	
Date of this EOI: 31 May 2023	Closing Date for Receipt of EOI: 10 June 2023
Address EOI response by email to the attention of: Delmar Lanza, Manager, Finance and Administration	
Email addresses: delmar.lanza@crfm.int and secretariat@crfm.int	
DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION	
<p>1. Background</p> <p>1.1. The Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) is comprised of 17 States, 15 Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and 2 British Overseas Territories that recognize their dependence on the marine living resources in areas under national jurisdiction and on the high seas for achieving sustainable social and economic development.</p> <p>1.2. The Ministerial Council of the CRFM has mandated the development of a regional protocol under the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy to clarify the importance and implications of the principle of sustainable use, reaffirm and reinforce their commitment to the principle, and promote and provide practical guidance to facilitate implementation of policies, programme and measures to ensure short and long-term sustainable use of the marine living resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Caribbean Region.</p> <p>1.3. This protocol will serve as a guiding policy framework for the CARICOM and CRFM Member States in their efforts to conserve, manage and sustainably use the marine living resources, associated ecosystems and biodiversity in the marine environment to achieve long-term blue economic growth and sustainable development.</p> <p>2. Objective</p> <p>2.1. The overall objective of this consultancy is to prepare a draft regional protocol that clarifies and reinforces commitment to the principle and practice of sustainable use of marine living resources for blue economic growth and sustainable development of the CARICOM and CRFM Member States.</p> <p>2.2. The protocol will identify the key challenges and impediments to effective implementation of the sustainable use principle, and provide practical guidelines, standards, and mechanisms to support</p>	

sustainable development of the countries based on the principle of sustainable use of the living marine resources, associated ecosystems and biodiversity in the marine environment.

3. Scope of Work¹

The consultant will undertake the following tasks in the process of developing the protocol:

- 3.1. Review existing international, regional and national policies, frameworks, and strategies related to the sustainable use of marine living resources globally and in the Caribbean. The review will include existing policy commitments regarding sustainable fisheries development, the right to food, food and nutrition security, natural resource use and management; economic, environmental and social resilience including gender, youth and decent work; climate change; and commitments to good governance.
- 3.2. Conduct a thorough analysis of the current challenges, opportunities, and best practices in the sustainable use, management and conservation of marine resources in the region.
- 3.3. Engage in consultations and discussions with relevant stakeholders, including governments (through the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and its Executive Committee), regional organizations, Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organization (CNFO), other NGOs, academia, and local communities, to gather inputs and ensure inclusivity and stakeholder participation in the protocol development process.
- 3.4. Develop a draft comprehensive regional protocol that articulates the region's commitment to the principle of sustainable use, and outlines the principles, objectives, strategies, and actions necessary for promoting sustainable use of marine living resources in CRFM Member States.
- 3.5. Incorporate mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting on the implementation of the protocol.
- 3.6. Provide recommendations for capacity building, technical assistance, and international cooperation to support the effective implementation of the protocol.
- 3.7. Present the draft regional protocol to relevant stakeholders for further review and validation.
- 3.8. Incorporate feedback and inputs received during reviews by the Executive Committee and/or Caribbean Fisheries Forum.
- 3.9. Finalize and submit draft final regional protocol incorporating comments and input from the CRFM Secretariat and other partners.
- 3.10. The Consultant is expected to work remotely to undertake the assignment.
- 3.11. The CRFM Secretariat will assist in convening the consultations with regional stakeholders including Member States, Regional organizations, CNFO, NGOs and academic institutions.**

4. Deliverables

The consultant will be expected to deliver the following:

- 4.1. A brief inception report outlining the consultant's understanding of the task, methodology, and work plan.
- 4.2. A Draft Regional Protocol on sustainable use of marine living resources, including all necessary sections and components.
- 4.3. A brief report summarizing the consultation process and feedback received from stakeholders during consultations and validation exercises including the meeting of the Forum and Executive Committee.

¹ This is a homebases assignment and will not involve travel.

4.4. A Draft Final Regional Protocol addressing comments and inputs from the CRFM Secretariat and other stakeholder.

4.5. The Final Regional Protocol should be comprehensive in scope and concise in format and presentation. **It should be between 8-12 pages long.**

5. Timeline

5.1. The consultancy is expected to be completed within 3 months from the commencement date, as agreed upon by the consultant and the CRFM Secretariat. It is expected to commence during the latter half of June and be completed no later than **22 September 2023**.

5.2. The Final Draft Protocol must be completed in time for submission to the 13th Special Meeting of the Ministerial Council for approval during the week of October 9-13, 2023.

6. Reporting and Coordination

6.1. The consultant will work under the direct supervision of the Executive Director of the CRFM Secretariat and will work closely with the Deputy Executive Director and in collaboration with other senior staff of the CRFM Secretariat.

6.2. Regular progress updates and coordination meetings will be held to ensure effective collaboration and information sharing.

7. Qualifications and Experience

The consultant should possess the following qualifications and experience:

7.1. Advanced degree (masters or doctorate) in fisheries, marine policy, resource economics, natural resource management, international law including law of the sea, or equivalent qualification.

7.2. Extensive knowledge and understanding of fisheries, marine resource use, management, sustainable development, and conservation principles.

7.3. Demonstrated experience in drafting regional protocols, frameworks, or similar documents related to fisheries and living marine resource use, conservation and management or sustainable development.

7.4. Familiarity with the Caribbean region, including the CARICOM regional integration process, and the unique environmental, social, and economic characteristics.

7.5. Strong analytical and research skills, with the ability to gather and synthesize information from various sources.

7.6. Excellent communication and facilitation skills, with experience in conducting consultations and engaging with diverse stakeholders.

7.7. Track record and ability to deliver high-quality reports and documents within agreed timelines.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS / INFORMATION

1. The Expression of Interest must be written in Standard English and provide important information and to demonstrate your suitability, interest, availability in relation to the assignment, including:
 - a. A cover letter confirming interest in undertaking the assignment.
 - b. A description of the consultant's or firm's experience

- c. Summary of work plan/schedule for performing the assignment
- d. Recent CV(s) of key experts
- e. Budget proposal including professional fees. Note that this is a homebased assignment and will not involve travel.

EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS, RECEIPT AND SUBMISSION

Proposals shall be evaluated taking into consideration, but not limited to, the requirements listed below:

- 1.1. Possession of an advanced degree (masters or doctorate) in fisheries, marine policy, resource economics, natural resource management, international law including law of the sea, or equivalent qualification.
- 1.2. Extensive knowledge and understanding of fisheries, marine resource use, management, sustainable development, and conservation principles.
- 1.3. Demonstrated experience in drafting regional protocols, frameworks, or similar documents related to fisheries and living marine resource use, conservation and management or sustainable development.
- 1.4. Familiarity with the Caribbean region, including the CARICOM regional integration process, and the unique environmental, social, and economic characteristics.
- 1.5. Strong analytical and research skills, with the ability to gather and synthesize information from various sources.
- 1.6. Excellent communication and facilitation skills, with experience in conducting consultations and engaging with diverse stakeholders.
- 1.7. Track record and ability to deliver high-quality reports and documents within agreed timelines

Submission

- The completed Expression of Interest must be submitted by end of business **10 June 2023 at 5:00 PM Belize Time**. It should be submitted electronically to:
delmar.lanza@crfm.int **AND** secretariat@crfm.int
- The submission should include:
 1. Cover letter
 2. Completed and signed Vendor Response Form along with proof of Legal Status in the case of a firm / company
 3. Technical and financial Proposal setting out professional fees and any other relevant expenses.
 4. Evidence of qualification and experience
- The email subject line should indicate the Number of the EOI and the name of the Consultant/Firm/Company.

Vendor Response Form

TO: Delmar Lanza, Manager, Finance and Administration **EOI Number:** CRFMEOI2023-01

FROM:

SUBJECT: Preparation of a Regional Protocol Under the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy on the Principle of Sustainable Use of Marine Living Resources for Blue Economic Growth and Sustainable Development of CRFM Member States

*To be completed by the Vendor (All fields marked with an '**' are mandatory)*

Legal Name or Company Name*:	
Contact*:	
Address*:	
City*:	
State:	
Country*:	
Telephone Number*:	
Fax Number:	
Email Address*:	
Company Website:	

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name and Title: _____