

Terms of Reference (TOR) for Consultancy services

Post title: Expert on Air Quality Assessment

Duration: 01.09.2020 - 16.06.2020

Duty station: REC Caucasus Armenia

Project: EU BSB Joint Monitoring for Environmental

Protection in BSB countries

Supervision: REC Caucasus Director

Project Background

Project “Joint Monitoring for Environmental Protection in BSB countries” is aimed at solving common problems of nature parks and protected areas in the Black Sea Basin (BSB). The overall project objective is to contribute to increasing the level of availability of cross-border compatible environmental monitoring data and information in nature parks and protected areas in BSB. The major project outcome will be the creation of an intelligent platform for the collection, processing and analysis of environmental data via Web-based cloud service for automatic data collection from wireless sensor networks and Web-based cloud service for video content. An Online Monitoring System (OMS) for environmental data in BSB will integrate the measurement data and will serve as a platform for the dissemination of the collected information and data. The developed smart technologies and intelligent wireless sensor networks will also be used for conducting a monitoring of the condition of natural habitats and the availability of invasive species, and for distance observation of territories which are most dependent on climate change and anthropogenic influences. A cross-border team of researchers will be formed who will develop a common methodology for monitoring the condition of natural habitats and the availability of invasive species and conduct the monitoring. The methodology will guarantee the collection of compatible data and topical information about the location and size of damaged areas, the types of pressure and the evaluation of potential sources and forms of threat. We will use distance methods (satellite/drone photographs) for territories most dependent on climate change and anthropogenic influences etc. For each nature park or protected area, permanent sampling control sites will be designated in which experts and volunteers will perform annual field observations. Based on the collected monitoring information Report on the assessed existing and potential sources and forms of pressure on key areas within protected territories of the Black Sea Basin will be developed and a List of proposed measures to be undertaken towards pollution preservation and restoration of the monitored key areas.

Main duties

- To gather background information on the air quality near Dilijan National Park maps, historical and socio-economic information,
- Develop methodology for monitoring the state of air quality in Dilijan National Park.
- Ensure collection of compatible data, up to date information on location,
- Analysis of the available information about state of air quality in protected territories included in the project,
- The collected information will be updated with remote sensing data through the developed smart technologies and it will be accessible (ensure accessibility of collected data in collaboration with project team and experts)

- In collaboration with smart eco monitoring expert to ensure use of smart technologies and conducting joint monitoring of the Dilijan National Park
- Regular participation in the meetings, cross border discussions and events within the project
- Conduct necessary field trips to collect data and perform analysis of necessary information at spot,
- Prepare project field reports regularly, after each field visit,
- Prepare progress reports and final report with results of activities, analysis of compatible data, description of actions, assessment of potential sources and forms of pressures,
- Represent the project and give presentations at conferences and workshops, when necessary,
- Lead development and implementation of technical aspects of activities nationally,
- Lead the conceptualization, development and implementation of analytical methodology in collaboration with project team,

Required Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in Environmental management, Air quality management or an MBA with at least five years' relevant experience; a relevant university degree in combination with qualifying experience in the area may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.
- Good knowledge on atmospheric physics;
- At least five years of experience in relevant field, experience working in air quality management planning, demonstrated experience in team work. Experience working with international donor funded projects is an asset;
- Good analytical skills,
- Demonstrated experience in liaising and co-operating with government, local administration, donors, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders;
- Good analytical skills, ability to express ideas clearly and concisely both orally and in writing.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, with an ability to communicate with a wide range of audiences;
- Strong ability to work in a team setting within multi-cultural environment with sensitivity and respect to diversity
- Fully proficient computer skills, especially in word processing, Internet and database utilization
- Fluency English and Russian is an asset.

Outputs, Terms and Conditions for provision of services

- Report on background information on the air quality near Dilijan National Park maps, historical and socio-economic information,
- Report on results of research on air quality assessment of the Dilijan National Park,
- The collected information will be updated with remote sensing data through the developed smart technologies and it will be accessible (ensure accessibility of collected data in collaboration with project team and experts),
- In collaboration with smart eco monitoring expert to ensure use of smart technologies and conducting joint monitoring of the Dilijan National Park,
- Regular participation in the meetings, cross border discussions and events within the project,
- Conduct necessary field trips to collect data and perform analysis of necessary information at spot,
- Prepare project field reports regularly, after each field trip,
- Prepare progress reports and final report with results of activities, analysis of compatible data, description of actions, assessment of potential sources and forms of pressures,
- Represent the project and give presentations at conferences and workshops, when necessary,
- Lead development and implementation of technical aspects of activities nationally,

- Lead the conceptualization, development and implementation of analytical methodology in collaboration with project team,
- Participation in preparation of final package of documents and reports,
- Reports on field trips targeting implementation of above mentioned tasks in a team with the national and international experts.

Languages: Fluency in Armenian (writing, reading, speaking) is necessary. Proficiency in English (writing, reading, speaking) is also necessary.