**ATTACHMENT 2 – TERMS OF REFERENCE LOT2**



Terms of Reference for IUCN Green List Reviewer for IUCN Med

**LOT 2:**

**IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Reviewer for the Southern European Region for the GBMF-IUCN Partnership for the Green List**

**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 Southern Europe region
2. To provide ongoing support and supervision to the Italian and Spanish EAGLs, and to support the formation of new EAGLs in the Southern European region as needed

**Background**

 Project Reference: P04404

**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), 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. In addition, the Green List counts on an Independent Assurance Provider (currently Assurance Services International (ASI)), which acts as an expert body ensuring the independence of standard-setting and evaluation as well as adequate levels of competence of the parties involved in the Green List process.

**The Green List in the Southern European region**

The [Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation](https://www.moore.org/) (GBMF) has awarded the International Union for the Conservation of Nature a grant to support the implementation of the [Green List Programme](https://iucngreenlist.org/) until 2030, with the objective of implementing the new Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and the 30x30 ambitions to secure biodiversity and climate benefits. The project will allow to scale-up IUCN Green List in all dimensions, including enabling conditions, capacities, and essential components, considering regional priorities.

Three Southern European countries have been involved in the Green List Programme since its inception: Italy, Spain and France. The implementation of the Green List in the region is supported and coordinated by the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med), in collaboration with the IUCN French National Committee who are responsible for supporting and supervising sites in France. The Italian EAGL, established and trained in 2019, is steadily advancing in with the assessment of candidate sites. In Spain, the process was relaunched 2020 by forming its EAGL, adapting the Standard to the Spanish context and starting to assess candidate sites.

The IUCN has identified priorities for strengthening the implementation of the Green List at the regional level. In Southern Europe, the primary objective is to consolidate commitments from existing countries and to engage new countries, focusing on Portugal, Greece, Croatia, Montenegro and Albania as strategic priorities. In addition, State Parties to the Barcelona Convention are another strategic focus to promote the Green List as a standard for MPA management effectiveness, leveraging on the endorsement of the Green List as a Flagship Initiative under the Barcelona Convention’s Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development. Notable progress towards these regional priorities has been achieved in Albania, who joined IUCN as a State Member in 2024, highlighting the Green List as key area for collaboration with IUCN, with work already underway to align the Vjosa Wild River National Park with the Green List standard. IUCN-Med is collaborating with the IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECARO) and the global IUCN Green List team to promote and support the amplification of the Green List within the Balkan countries, exploring the establishment of a regional EAGL.

**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 Southern European region, as requested. The geographic area is extended to cover the Southern European space, including, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain and Türkiye.

The Reviewer will be expected to work alongside IUCN to provide ongoing support for the operation of the Spanish and Italian EAGL, including supporting the renewal of the Spanish EAGL. The Reviewer will also be expected to support the coordination and formation of new EAGLs in the area, as requested.

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

**1: General Activities**

* Regular communication with IUCN and ASI in relation to the implementation of the IUCN Green List in the Southern European region
* Regular Communication with EAGLs, IUCN-Med, IUCN, mentors and Implementing Agencies in relation to the Green List process in Italy and Spain and the wider Southern European region.
* Support to the update process of the Green List User Manual (as needed)

**2: Support the operation of the Italian and Spanish EAGLs, and the other countries within the extended geographic area (see above)**

* Supervision of EAGL activities, participation in EAGL meetings relating to the general operation of EAGLs in Italy and Spain, including the development or internal operational procedures and support
* Renewal process of the Spanish EAGL, including revision of candidate EAGL members, initial training of the new EAGL
* 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”

*As needed:*

* Participation at EAGL in-person or online meetings (decision making on new PAs to join the Green List)
* Participation at field visits relating to the evaluation of applicant PAs
* Participation at promotional events and meetings relating to the Green List
* Review the proposed membership of new EAGLs in the area for required competence, independence, commitment and representativeness, and discuss the EAGL composition with the relevant WCPA Regional Vice Chair as needed
* Approve the proposed membership of new EAGLs, ensuring it has the required competence, independence and commitment
* Deliver an initial training for new EAGL members

**Duration of the Assignment**

From 01/12/2024 to 30/09/2025

**Activities, Workload and Timeline**

The consultant will provide the following deliverables and carry out the following activities:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Deliverable/Activity** | **Estimated workload** | **Timeframe** |
| 1.General Activities | 1 day | December 2024 – September 2025 |
| 2. EAGL operations | 6 days | December 2024 – September 2026 |

 **Deliverables and Payment Schedule**

The Timetable below summarises the chronological order of deliverables. IUCN will pay the consultant a single lump-sum payment once the deliverables have been completed.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Deliverable** | **Deadline** | **Milestone payment** |
|  IUCN GL Reviewer workplan | By December 2024 | 40% |
| Report on Green-List reviewer activities in the Southern European region | By October 2025 | 60% |

**Budget**

The maximum budget available for this consultancy is 5,400 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 Southern European region
* Good command of written and spoken English
* Working knowledge of Italian and Spanish. Knowledge of other Southern European language(s) will be considered an asset.

**Supervision and coordination**

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