TERMS OF REFERENCE

Web Developer/Programmer

CONSULTANCY: DEVELOPMENT OF A PORTAL WEBSITE FOR THE ECOLOGICALLY AND BIOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT MARINE AREAS (EBSAs) AND RELATED WEBSITE ON MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY

Background

About the Convention on Biological Diversity

The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), adopted at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, is one of the key agreements on a comprehensive strategy for sustainable development. The Convention has 193 Parties and three main goals: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources. The overarching implementation framework is the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) in October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan. Additional information on the Convention can be found on the CBD website at www.cbd.int. The Secretariat is located in Montreal, Canada. Refer to www.cbd.int.

Context on Work to be Undertaken

In decision X/29, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties and other Governments, and other relevant organizations, to establish a repository for scientific and technical information and experience related to the application of the scientific criteria on the identification of ecologically and biologically significant areas (EBSAs) that shares information and harmonizes with similar initiatives, and to develop an information-sharing mechanism with similar initiatives (paragraph 39). In the same decision, the COP invited Parties and other Governments to provide for inclusion in the repository, scientific and technical information and experience relating to the application of the scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats or other relevant compatible and complementary nationally and intergovernmentally agreed scientific criteria to areas within national jurisdiction (paragraph 43).

Pursuant to this decision, a prototype EBSA repository and information-sharing website was created, with the support of the Government of Germany. In decision XI/17, the COP requested that the Executive Secretary further develop the prototype repository and the information-sharing mechanism into a fully functional repository and information-sharing mechanism, noting the need to have a clear distinction between the repository containing the information included on the basis of decisions by the Conference of the Parties as called for in paragraph 39 of decision X/29 and other information entered in the information-sharing mechanism (paragraph 16).
Pursuant to the above request, the CBD Secretariat has been developing the EBSA repository as part of main Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) website of the CBD. The CBD Secretariat is also in the process of designing a website for the Sustainable Ocean Initiative, which will support capacity building activities for the EBSAs.

In this regard, a consultant is to be hired by the CBD Secretariat, under the supervision of the Principal Officer of the division of Scientific Assessment and Monitoring and the Environmental Affairs Officer for marine and coastal biodiversity, and referring to the guidance provided by the above-mentioned decisions of the Conference of the Parties, to support the development of a portal website for the ecologically and biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) linked to the current EBSA repository in CHM as a fully functional information-sharing mechanism for EBSAs, to refine the current EBSA repository being developed in the CHM, and to refine a related website for the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) in support of EBSA capacity building activities.

Tasks and Deliverables
The incumbent web developer shall be required to provide the following services:

- Support the development of a portal website for the ecologically and biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) linked to the current EBSA repository in CHM as a fully functional information-sharing mechanism for EBSAs, to refine the current EBSA repository being developed in the CHM, and to refine a related website for the Sustainable Ocean Initiative using MVC design patterns and the AngularJS framework.
- Collaborate with web developers and a web designer to create robust, reusable, and efficient server-side and front end components, tools and functionalities.

The consultant shall closely collaborate with the Secretariat, in particular the Environmental Affairs Officer for marine and coastal biodiversity and the information technology staff, and with a designated web designer to ensure that the above mentioned websites are fully consistent and interoperable with the CBD website front-end and back-end infrastructure.

The consultant is expected to commence work immediately upon signing of the contract and to prepare the following products:

a. Detailed proposal for EBSA website, refined EBSA repository, and SOI website (drafted in collaboration with web designer) : by 1 March 2014
b. Test version of EBSA website, refined EBSA repository and other supporting marine website for review by Secretariat and selected external partners, as appropriate, for further refinement : by 31 March 2014
c. Final, fully functional EBSA website and repository and other supporting marine website : by 28 April 2014

The web developer's work and deliverables will include the following:

- Liaise with relevant programme officers, team members, CBD web developers, and the web designer to understand users' needs and identify corresponding user interface requirements, workflows, and functionalities.
- Create wireframes, storyboards and prototypes to propose options for implementation.
- Integrate components in the CHM to allow review and testing, and make corresponding adjustments based on feedback received.
- Liaise with relevant programme officers and team members to ensure that they are able to maintain and adjust the EBSA website, repository, and related as necessary in the long-term
- Carry out other relevant web-related tasks as requested.

This project can be worked on remotely and at flexible hours, but applicants in Montreal, QC area may be given preferential consideration.
Qualifications

Education and Work Experience
Candidates should demonstrate their qualifications and proven experience in the graphic design and technical implementation of user interfaces in a web-based environment. Candidates should provide a portfolio containing examples of their achievements.

Technical Skills and Expertise
- Solid understanding of user interface design principles and conceptual design
- Passion for staying up-to-date on the latest web technologies and trends
- Advanced level of proficiency using industry-standards for web development
- Solid experience in using web technologies HTML5, JavaScript, Bootstrap, jQuery and consuming and creating web services
- Expert knowledge of .NET, SQL, and C# and server-side UI design patterns
- Expert knowledge of Angular JS and similar front-end JavaScript frameworks

Languages
Fluency in English is required

Duration
The whole period of consultancy is 2 months.

Remuneration
The contract will be billed hourly and will not exceed 20,000 USD.

Applications should be sent to secretariat@cbd.int by 18 February 2014.