

## Call for expression of interest to join the Group of Experts to assist the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO with the preparation of internationally accepted guidance on Marine Spatial Planning/MSPglobal (2019-2021)

The objective of this call for expression of interest is to identify suitable candidates to be part of the Group of Experts on Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning, established in the framework of the IOC/EU-MARE Joint Roadmap to accelerate Marine Spatial Planning worldwide, and MSPglobal project (2019-2021).

### MSPglobal PROJECT

The overall objective of MSPglobal project is to support international marine/maritime spatial planning (MSP) for the sustainable development of the blue economy, by enhancing cross-border and transboundary cooperation where it already exists as well as through the promotion of MSP processes in areas where it is yet to be put in place. The specific objective aims at improving planning of sustainable economic activities at sea by promoting the establishment of MSP plans and by creating an environment conducive to transnational cooperation through the development of international guidance for cross-border and transboundary MSP.

The selection of the experts will be done through a public call of interest for experts willing to join the group. All applicants will be requested to provide a CV (Europass format) and a detailed explanation on their potential contribution to the development of the MSPglobal International Guidelines, as well as, other potential activities of the project in which they could be directly or indirectly involved. The MSPglobal Steering Group will do the selection of the members of the expert group.

### FIELD OF EXPERTISE

IOC-UNESCO is looking for experts with relevant experience in **marine spatial planning** and **sustainable blue economy** related to one or more of the following fields:

#### Maritime/blue economy, maritime engineering and technologies

- Fisheries, aquaculture, seafood industry
- Coastal and maritime tourism
- Maritime services, waterborne transport, ports
- Ocean engineering, shipping, shipbuilding
- Marine renewable energy, offshore and underwater technologies
- Marine biotechnology
- Innovation and SME business development
- Maritime clusters

#### Marine environment

- Marine biology
- Marine ecosystems
- Integrated coastal zone management
- Marine environmental policies
- Fisheries science
- Marine litter
- Marine ecosystems restoration

#### Skills for the blue economy

- Education and training for maritime professions

### Cross-cutting marine/maritime action areas

- Marine knowledge and research, ocean observation and monitoring, oceanography
- Maritime security and surveillance
- International ocean governance
- Maritime economy
- Marine and maritime data and information processing and analysis
- Regional Seas Governance
- Community-Led Local Development

## COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP

To the extent possible, the group of experts will be made up of established and recognised experts of high scientific standing in one or more key areas of expertise relevant to marine spatial planning from all regions of the world (Europe, North America, Latin America and Caribbean, Africa, Asia and Oceania). As far as possible, the members of the Group will represent the diverse expertise relevant to marine spatial planning and sustainable blue economy.

Gender balance will be an important consideration in the selection of the experts. The Group of Experts will be facilitated by the Project Coordinator of MSPglobal, acting as focal point, and moderator of its meetings. A representative from each of the two pilot projects (Western Mediterranean and Southeast Pacific) will attend the group's meetings. Depending on their background, experience and willingness, experts may be invited to join other specific activities of the project.

## ROLE OF THE EXPERT GROUP

The group of experts will assist the MSPglobal Project Coordination Team with advice and deliver professional opinion on any matter in the areas of work described in this terms of reference.

Selected experts will meet at regular intervals both physically (at least once per year) and virtually (4 times per year) through web-based conferences to ensure communication and consultation.

Experts will be invited to define and contribute to the contents of the MSP International Guidance. They may also participate in relevant events identified by the Project Coordinator, such as the International Forum on MSP established under the Joint Roadmap on MSP adopted by EC-MARE and IOC-UNESCO (Action IX). The experts contributing to the MSP Guidance will be considered as co-authors of the publication.

The first meeting of the group of experts will take place during the first semester of 2019.

Experts will not receive remuneration but are entitled to travel and subsistence allowance in accordance with IOC-UNESCO's policy for reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses.

## HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in applying, please submit a letter of motivation with a detailed explanation on your potential contribution to the development of the MSPglobal International Guidelines and your detailed CV (Europass format recommended) to [MSPglobal@unesco.org](mailto:MSPglobal@unesco.org)

The call for expression of interest is opened until **28 February 2019 23.59h (Paris time)**.

Experts will be selected based on the technical skills, thematic knowledge, international experiences and multilingual skills needed in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment and absence of conflict of interests.

In addition, we will seek a balanced composition within the expert groups in terms of various skills, experience, knowledge, geographical diversity and gender.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

By submitting your application, you provide authorization to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO and the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Commission to collect, store and process your data for the purpose of organising events, reporting and dissemination of both MSPglobal Project and activities related to the Joint Roadmap to accelerate Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning worldwide. This includes the necessary organisational communication, photo gallery, videos and its dissemination in official social networks, websites and publications.

Your rights to access your personal data, to correct it or to delete it from our databases are protected by the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1528874672298&uri=CELEX%3A32016R0679>

Registration as member of the Expert Group does not automatically mean that you will be selected for task assignments.

Experts will be required to agree to a code of conduct (including confidentiality aspects) and to confirm that there is no conflict of interest for each assignment.

**IOC-UNESCO is committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.**