

Athens, 23/10/2025

Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP – Med)
Legally and lawfully represented by the non-profit society
MEDITERRANEAN INFORMATION OFFICE FOR ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – MIO ECSDE

ANNOUNCES THE PRESENT CALL 60/2025/Drin II FOR OFFERS
For the Development of a Multi-Purpose Transboundary Monitoring Programme
in the Extended Drin River Basin.

SUBMISSION OF OFFERS BY: 07/11/2025, at 17:00h CET

MAX AVAILABLE BUDGET: USD 85.000,00 including VAT.

This amount includes all other costs, income taxes, VAT and any other amount payable or cost that may be required for the completion of the work/service, including travel-related costs.

AWARD CRITERION: The Award criterion is the most economically advantageous tender on the basis of best price / quality ratio.

Description of the Assignment

GWP-Med is announcing the present Call for Offers for the Development of a Multi-Purpose Transboundary Monitoring Programme in the Extended Drin River Basin in the framework of the GEF Project “Implementing the Strategic Action Programme of the Drin Basin to strengthen transboundary cooperation and enable integrated natural resources management

The objective of this assignment is to perform an assessment of existing national monitoring programmes identifying capacities, gaps and needs across the Drin River Basin and develop a multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programme to be considered by the Drin Core Group for adoption.

The aim of the Assignment under the Call is to Develop a Multi-Purpose Transboundary Monitoring Programme in the Extended Drin River Basin based on a series of Tasks as described in the ToR.

For a detailed description of the Assignment, please refer to the respective ToR.

Procurement

The procurement will proceed having regard to:

- ✓ General principles of EU law on procurements.
- ✓ Internal Rules and Regulations of MIO-ECSDE/GWP-MED which can be found at <https://mio-ecsde.org/about-us/our-accountability> and at <https://www.gwp.org/en/About/who/Governance-Funding/>.
- ✓ The present CALL FOR OFFERS and its supporting documents.

Offer Submission

Interested participants should submit an their offer electronically including the following:

Folder A containing the:

Technical Offer form (available in Annex 2)
Solemn Self Declaration (available in Annex 1)

Folder B (password protected) containing:

Financial offer (available in Annex 3)

Please read carefully the section “How to submit an offer” of the present call, on how exactly you are required to submit your offer

Offers must be submitted for the entire Assignment.

Offers for part of the Assignment will not be accepted.

The Participants shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of their offer.

The Contracting Authority will in no case be responsible or liable for such costs, whatever the conduct or outcome of the procedure.

The Contracting Authority will neither be responsible for, nor cover, any expenses or losses incurred by the participants for any site visits and inspections or any other aspect of their offer.

The Contracting Authority may ask Participants to submit supporting documents concerning their offer (references, certificates, publications etc.)

The language of this procedure, the tender documents and the offers is English. Any documentation (certificates, etc) submitted in any other language should be accompanied by

a translation in English, certified by a lawyer or public authority **otherwise the application will be rejected.**

Deadline for submission of offers

The **deadline** for submission of offers is set to be **07/11/2025, at 17:00h CET.**

The successful participant will be informed within 10 working days following the submission deadline.

The results of the present call for offers will be published at the GWP-Med Website <https://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-Mediterranean/>

Clarifications

1. Clarifications on the published Call for Offers

Requests for clarifications should be submitted by email, the latest, seven (7) days before the closing date of this call for offers.

The answers / additional information will be published on the website of GWP-Med four (4) days before the closing date of this call for offers.

2. Clarifications during the (technical and financial) evaluation of offers

The Contracting Authority may, during the evaluation of offers, ask the Participants to provide clarifications on the documents submitted with their offers, within reasonable time.

Any clarifications and/or additional documents submitted by the Participants not in the context of a request for clarifications posed by the Contracting Authority are not taken into account for the evaluation of offers.

During the evaluation of offers the Contracting Authority, by applying the principles of equal treatment and of transparency, may request from participants, when the information or the documentation they are obliged to submit are or appear incomplete or wrong, including those in the Solemn self-declaration, to submit, to complement or to clarify the relevant information or documentation, within a time-frame of at least 10 calendar days, with a maximum of 20 calendar days from the date the participants receive the relevant request from the Contracting Authority.

Eligibility Conditions – Participation Requirements

Participation in the present call for offers is open, on equal terms, to any natural or legal person or entity who meet the legal, financial and technical conditions laid down in this Call where they possess adequate professional experience and capacity.

Grounds for exclusion – disqualification (ON/OFF)

Participants should verify by submitting a **solemn declaration** (annexed to the present Call) that they are not bankrupt or subject of proceeding for a declaration of bankruptcy, that they are in good standing, operate under no legal restrictions, are not under any liquidation procedure or the subject of proceedings for declaration of liquidation or any similar situation and that they have not been convicted for any one of the following legal offences: participation in a criminal organization, corruption, bribery, fraud, money laundering, terrorist, child labour and human trafficking.

Please refer to the **Solemn Self-Declaration Statement in Annex 1 which should be filled in and signed as indicated. Failure to comply with the requirements included in the Self Declaration is considered ground for exclusion.**

Selection Criteria (Pass/Fail)

Successful participants must:

- Provide proof of their average annual turnover for the last three (3) fiscal years being at least equivalent to the maximum amount of this Call. As supporting documentation, the participant must provide their official Financial Statements, stamped, and signed by the legal representative of the company.
- Be enrolled in one of the official professional or trade register kept in their country of registration
- Have Minimum duration of operation of Ten (10) years. Proof to be provided by the related chamber (date of registration).

Failure to comply with the above pass / fail requirements and provide relevant proof with the application is considered ground for exclusion.

Qualification and Experience

Participants in the call are required to have solid experience in developing and managing complex projects in the field related to the tasks described in the ToR. This needs to be demonstrated in the Technical Offer to be submitted as part of the application. A template for the Technical Offer form is provided.

The Technical Offer Form consists of the following sections:

- Section 1: Expertise and work experience
- Section 2: Approach and Methodology

Regarding Section 1 Expertise and work experience:

- Participants in the call are required to demonstrate substantial experience in designing, implementing, and managing complex projects related to surface water and groundwater monitoring, and aquatic ecosystem evaluation. Participants must provide evidence of at least three relevant projects completed within the past ten years that reflect a comparable level of technical complexity and thematic relevance (e.g., transboundary water resource assessments, monitoring programme development or integrated water management planning).
- The assignment requires an interdisciplinary team of qualified experts with demonstrated experience in domains directly relevant to the scope of work. The team must collectively cover all mandatory areas of expertise outlined under the minimum requirement for key team members below. Experts whose qualifications span multiple areas may be assigned to more than one domain. Failure to ensure coverage of all required areas will result in disqualification.
- In addition, the Consultant may propose - as they deem appropriate - additional experts covering other specific areas of expertise. It is highly recommended to propose at least one expert from each of the Drin basin countries (local experts), so the acquisition and assessment of local data is more efficient as well as consultation and coordination activities.
- The requirements presented below are the minimum requested. Qualifications additional to the minimum requested per category will receive additional score under the evaluation process.

Minimum requirement for key team members

Key Expert 1: Team Leader - TL (Water monitoring expert and project management)

- Advanced university degree (master's or equivalent) in water resources engineering, water management, environmental science or equivalent. A degree in a related discipline may be considered if directly relevant to the assignment and supported by substantial professional experience. (Required ON/OFF)
- Minimum 15 years of relevant professional experience in water management. (Required/Evaluated)
- At least 10 years of project management experience leading multidisciplinary teams, in the context of WFD implementation and related EU directives. (Required/Evaluated)
- At least 3 projects in last 10 years with outputs related to the with implementation of the UNECE guidelines and/or EU WFD/CIS guidance documents and/or development of related monitoring programmes. (Required/Evaluated)
- Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF);
- Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)

Key Expert 2: Hydrology/Hydrogeology Expert

- Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in hydrology, geology, water resources, civil engineering. A related degree may be accepted if aligned with the assignment scope and supported by relevant experience. (Required ON/OFF)
- Minimum 15 years of experience in hydrological/hydrogeological data analysis, water balance studies, hydrological modelling, environmental flow assessment. (Required/Evaluated)
- Demonstrated involvement in at least three projects over the past 10 years, undertaking tasks relevant to hydrological/hydrogeological assessment groundwater system characterization, aquifer dynamics in accordance with EU FWD monitoring requirement as outlined in the ToR. (Required/Evaluated)
- Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF);
- Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)

Key Expert 3: Environmental Chemistry Expert

- Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in environmental chemistry, analytical chemistry, or water quality science. A related degree may be accepted if relevant to the assignment and supported by professional experience. (Required ON/OFF)
- Minimum 15 years of experience in monitoring programmes, pollutant sampling and analysis, QA/QC procedures under EU WFD, and interpretation of physico-chemical data for surface water, groundwater and marine waters. (Required/Evaluated)
- Demonstrated experience in at least three projects in last 10 years involving chemical monitoring, data interpretation, and compliance with WFD chemical status thresholds. (Required/Evaluated)
- Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF);
- Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)

Key Expert 4: Aquatic Ecology Expert

- Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in aquatic ecology, biology, or environmental science. A related degree may be accepted if relevant to the assignment and supported by professional experience. (Required ON/OFF)
- Minimum 10 years of experience in biological monitoring (phytoplankton, benthic invertebrates, macrophytes, fish), ecological status assessment, and use of biological indicators. (Required/Evaluated)
- Demonstrated experience in at least three river basin management projects within the past 10 years, specifically involving ecosystem monitoring and ecological assessments aligned with WFD requirements. (Required/Evaluated)
- Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF);
- Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)

Key Expert 5: Data management and GIS expert

- University degree in geography, informatics, agriculture, natural sciences, mathematics or equivalent related to GIS, mapping, databases, data processing or equivalent (Required ON/OFF).
- Fluency in both written and spoken English-(Required ON/OFF).
- At least 5 years of experience in data management: GIS, mapping, databases, data processing applied in integrated water management or other related areas - (Required/Evaluated).
- Working experience in projects related to water monitoring design and/or implementation – at least one project (Desired/Evaluated)

Table 2: Workload of the key experts envisaged

Key Experts	Workload (envisaged in expert days)
1: Team Leader (Water monitoring expert and project management)	40
2: Hydrology/hydrogeology Expert	80
3: Environmental Chemistry Expert	50
4: Aquatic Ecology Expert	40
5: Data management and GIS expert	15

Notes:

- There is no limitation on the number of experts per area of expertise, but only the lead expert per area of expertise will be evaluated according to the detailed evaluation/scoring. Thus, please indicate the lead expert for each area of expertise.
- If the qualification of an expert covers the requirements of more than one area of expertise, that expert can be also proposed for these other areas.
- Additional experts, covering a range of other related expertise considered and justified as necessary by the participant will be evaluated in addition.
- The number of planned man-days per expert/area of expertise need to be indicated in the Participant's proposal. The estimated number of required expert-days per area of expertise should be indicated for all key and non-key experts.
- Failure to cover all areas of expertise is considered grounds for disqualification.
- The Participant should demonstrate ability to cooperate with local authorities for the efficient collection of data. **Inclusion of local experts (from the Drin riparian's) will be evaluated in addition.** These experts may or may not be lead experts per area of expertise.

The Award criterion is the most economically advantageous tender on the basis of best price / quality ratio.

The participants should pass through two stages of evaluation, the first stage is On/Off selection criteria, who will pass through this stage will be Qualified and eligible to the second stage of evaluation which is Award Criteria according to the following criteria, please notice that the evaluation will be based on a percentage of 20% Financial and 80% Technical.

Offers qualified in terms of exclusion grounds and selection criteria will be further evaluated on the basis of the requirements presented under section "Qualification and Experience", as follows:

(1) Criterion	(2) Weighting (w)	(3) Points of criterion (c)	(4) Score= (2) x (3)
Section 1: Expertise and work experience	80 % of total		
Participants in the call are required to demonstrate substantial experience in designing, implementing, and managing complex projects related to surface water and groundwater monitoring, and aquatic ecosystem evaluation. Participants must provide evidence of at least three relevant projects completed within the past ten years that reflect a comparable level of technical complexity and thematic relevance (e.g., transboundary water resource assessments, monitoring programme development or integrated water management planning) - (Required/Evaluated)	15%		
Key expert 1: Team Leader - TL (Water monitoring expert and project management)	15%		
Advanced university degree (master's or equivalent) in water resources engineering, water management, environmental science or equivalent. A degree in a related discipline may be considered if directly relevant to the assignment and supported by substantial professional experience. (Required ON/OFF)			
Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF)			
Minimum 15 years of relevant professional experience in water management. (Required/Evaluated)	5%		
At least 10 years of project management experience leading multidisciplinary teams, in the context of WFD implementation and related EU directives. (Required/Evaluated)	3%		
At least 3 projects in last 10 years with outputs related to the with implementation of the UNECE guidelines and/or EU WFD/CIS guidance documents and/or development of related monitoring programmes. (Required/Evaluated)	5%		
Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)	2%		

(1) Criterion	(2) Weighting (w)	(3) Points of criterion (c)	(4) Score= (2) x (3)
Key Expert 2: Hydrology/Hydrogeology Expert	15%		
Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in hydrology, geology, water resources, civil engineering. A related degree may be accepted if aligned with the assignment scope and supported by relevant experience. (Required ON/OFF)			
Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF)			
Minimum 15 years of experience in hydrological/hydrogeological data analysis, water balance studies, hydrological modelling, environmental flow assessment. (Required/Evaluated)	6%		
Demonstrated involvement in at least three projects over the past 10 years, undertaking tasks relevant to hydrological/hydrogeological assessment groundwater system characterization, aquifer dynamics in accordance with EU FWD monitoring requirement as outlined in the ToR. (Required/Evaluated)	7%		
Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)	2%		
Key Expert 3: Environmental Chemistry Expert	15%		
Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in environmental chemistry, analytical chemistry, or water quality science. A related degree may be accepted if relevant to the assignment and supported by professional experience. (Required ON/OFF)			
Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF)			
Minimum 15 years of experience in monitoring programmes, pollutant sampling and analysis, QA/QC procedures under EU WFD, and interpretation of physico-chemical data for surface water, groundwater and marine waters. (Required/Evaluated)	6%		

(1) Criterion	(2) Weighting (w)	(3) Points of criterion (c)	(4) Score= (2) x (3)
Demonstrated experience in at least three projects in last 10 years involving chemical monitoring, data interpretation, and compliance with WFD chemical status thresholds. (Required/Evaluated)	7%		
Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)	2%		
Key Expert 4: Aquatic Ecology Expert	10%		
Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in aquatic ecology, biology, or environmental science. A related degree may be accepted if relevant to the assignment and supported by professional experience. (Required ON/OFF)			
Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF)			
Minimum 10 years of experience in biological monitoring (phytoplankton, benthic invertebrates, macrophytes, fish), ecological status assessment, and use of biological indicators. (Required/Evaluated)	4%		
Demonstrated experience in at least three river basin management projects within the past 10 years, specifically involving ecosystem monitoring and ecological assessments aligned with WFD requirements. (Required/Evaluated)	5%		
Fluency in at least one Drin language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)	1%		
Key Expert 5: Data management and GIS expert	10%		
University degree in geography, informatics, agriculture, natural sciences, mathematics or equivalent related to GIS, mapping, databases, data processing or equivalent (Required ON/OFF).			
Fluency in written and spoken English (Required ON/OFF)			
At least 5 years of experience in data management: GIS, mapping, databases, data processing applied in integrated water management or other related areas - (Required/Evaluated).	5%		
Working experience in projects related to water monitoring design and/or implementation – at least one project (Desired/Evaluated)	4%		

(1) Criterion	(2) Weighting (w)	(3) Points of criterion (c)	(4) Score= (2) x (3)
Fluency in at least one local language is desirable. (Desired/Evaluated)	1%		
Section 2: Approach and Methodology	20% of total		
Approach to the requested Assignment: detailed description of the methodology of how the Consultant will achieve all objectives and tasks and deliver all outputs as described in the Terms of Reference of the assignment (including the activity plan), keeping in mind the appropriateness to local conditions. The approach should include also composition of the team (listed key and non-key experts), with envisaged No of WDs, Risks / Mitigation Measures including a) description of the potential risks for the implementation of this assignment that may impact achievement and timely completion of expected results as well as their quality, and b) description measures that will be put in place to mitigate these risks.	20%		

Failure to provide the minimum required qualifications is considered ground for disqualification.

Scoring for each evaluated section will be made as following:

Section 1 – Expertise and work experience: score starts at 100 points (when minimum requirements are met) and can reach 150 points depending on the description of the participant and the number of projects implemented in excess of those required as a minimum. (100p Base +10p for extra criteria over base up to 50 additional points)

Section 2 – Approach and Methodology: score starts at 100 points and can reach 150 points depending on the length, detail, depth, and structure of the information provided.

Each Section/evaluation criterion is evaluated autonomously. The final scoring of each evaluation criterion is the outcome of its scoring multiplied by the corresponding weighting factor. The overall score of the technical offer is the sum of the final scoring of all the Sections/evaluation criteria.

The overall score of the technical offer is calculated on the basis of the following formula:

$$B_i = w_1 \times c_1 + w_2 \times c_2 + \dots$$

For the overall score which will determine the ranking of offers, technical evaluation will be weighted with 80%, and the financial offer with 20%.

The final listing of the most advantageous offers will be made on the basis of the following formula:

$$\Lambda_i = 0.8 * (B_i/B_{max}) + 0.2 * (K_{min}/K_i).$$

Where:

- B_{max}: the max score received by the best of the technical offers received
- B_i: the score of the technical offer
- K_{min}: The cost of the financial offer with the minimum price offered.
- K_i: The cost of the financial offer

The most advantageous offers is the one with the greater value of Λ .

In case of equality of overall scores, the winning proposal is the one whose corresponding technical proposal received the highest rating.

Duration of the Contract

The overall duration of the contract will be maximum 6 months.

Contract Price, Deliverables and Schedule of Payment

The maximum fee for this assignment is **85.000,00 USD**. This amount includes all other costs, income taxes and any other amount payable or cost that may be required for the completion of the work/service, including VAT.

For a detailed description of Tasks, please refer to the ToR. Deadlines to be possibly adapted based on the actual dates that the workshops will take place.

Schedule of payments:

1a	▪ Preliminary Action Plan	1. Preliminary Action Plan	2	20%
1b	▪ Inception report	2. Inception report	8	
2	▪ Inventory and review of existing monitoring systems in the Drin Riparian Countries	3. Report: Inventory and review of existing monitoring systems in the Drin Riparian Countries	14	40%
3	▪ Design of a multi-stage transboundary monitoring programme with data sharing and reporting framework	4. Multi-staged Drin Transboundary Monitoring Programme with data sharing and reporting framework (Draft)	20	
	▪ Presentation of the draft design of multi-stage transboundary monitoring programme with data sharing and reporting framework	5. Summary Report; Report of the EWG Meeting	22	
4	▪ Finalisation and submission of the Multi-staged Drin Transboundary Monitoring Programme with data sharing and reporting framework	6. Multi-staged Drin Transboundary Monitoring Programme with data sharing and reporting framework (Final)	24	40%

GWP-Med may order additional services from the successful candidate to complement the task described in the ToR if specific needs arise that cannot be anticipated at this moment. In any case the value of any additional service requested cannot exceed 50% of the amount of the present call.

The successful consultant must Provide before contract signature.

- 1) Certification of payment of Taxes,**
- 2) Certification of payment of Social Insurance contributions.**

Termination / cancelation / repetition / reformulation of the procurement procedure

Termination of a procurement procedure, partial cancellation and repetition of a procedure, reformulation of procedure results.

1. GWP-Med/MIO-ECSDE may, by a reasoned decision, and after the opinion of the competent body, cancel the procurement procedure by annulling the respective Call, either due to failure to submit a tender or the rejection of all tenders or the exclusion of all Participants in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Call.

2. Cancellation of the procurement procedure may take place by a reasoned decision of the GWP-Med/MIO-ECSDE, in the following cases:

- i. due to the irregularity of the procurement procedure
- ii. if the financial and technical parameters related to the award process have changed substantially and the execution of the contractual object is no longer of interest to GWP-Med/MIO-ECSDE
- iii. if due to force majeure, the contract cannot be properly executed
- iv. if the tender selected is deemed not economically advantageous
- v. in case of expiry of the bids
- vi. in case the needs of GWP-Med/MIO-ECSDE and / or of the beneficiary (-ies) of the project have changed
- vii. in case the circumstances have changed resulting in the inability to deliver the contract / project (eg local community reactions, inability to fund, etc.).
- viii. in case of other imperative reasons of public interest such as for purposes of public health or environmental protection.

3. If errors or omissions are found at any stage of the award procedure, the GWP-Med/MIO-ECSDE may, after the opinion of the competent body, either cancel the proceedings partially or reshape the outcome accordingly or decide to repeat the procedure from the point where the error occurred. or omission.

4. GWP-Med/MIO-ECSDE also reserves the right, after the opinion of the competent body, to decide, in addition to the cancellation of the procurement procedure or the annulment of the Call, the repetition of any phase of the concluding procedure, as well, with or without modifying its terms or recourse to the negotiation process, provided it is in conformity with the Internal Rules and Regulations of GWP-MED /MIO-ECSDE.

5. Under no circumstances shall GWP-MED /MIO-ECSDE be obliged to pay to Participants any compensation for expenses or other positive or consequential damages that may have been incurred by their participation in the proceedings.

Objections

Objections against any act of the Contracting Authority can be submitted within five (5) days from the notification of the Contracting Authority's act.

An objection to the call for offers can be submitted within a period that extends up to half the period from the publication of the call in the Contracting Authority's website and the final date of submission of offers. For the calculation of this period's deadline, the dates of the publication of the call and the submission of the offers are considered. Objections are submitted in written, by courier, by fax or by email.

Objections are submitted to the Contracting Authority, which shall decide within ten (10) days from the notification of the objection. In the event of an objection to the call for offers, the Contracting Authority shall decide in any case before the closing date for the submission of offers. In case the Contracting Authority has not answered within the above deadline, the rejection of the objection is presumed.

How to submit an Offer

The submission of offers can will be done electronically via e-mail.

Therefore, you are kindly requested to prepare and send an email to procurement@gwpmed.org writing in the email subject line: 60/2025/DRIN II, before the above-mentioned closing date for submission of offers the following two folders:

1. A compressed folder (**Folder A**) (.zip or .rar) containing the Technical offer, the Solemn Declaration and any other supporting documents
2. **A password-protected compressed folder(Folder B) (.zip or .rar)** containing only your financial offer. The password for opening the password protected folder with your financial offer should be sent to the same email address ONLY at the request of the contracting Authority which will send a follow up email to all participants that their technical offer has passed the technical evaluation.

In case the password is sent together with the offer file, the offer will be rejected.

In case the financial offer is not password protected, the offer will be rejected.

Offers submitted after the specified date and time shall not be taken into consideration.

The Contracting Authority bears no liability whatsoever for any late delivery of offers or for the contents of its accompanying folders.

For any clarifications on the present call for offers please contact:

Novak Cadjenovic, GWP-Med Senior officer

e-mail: novak.cadjenovic@gwpmed.org

The present call for offers is posted on the website of GWP-Med (www.gwp-med.org).

The Chairman of GWP-Med/MIO-ECSDE

Prof. Michael J. Scoullios