Terms of Reference
Preparation of an Assessment on the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus in the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima (TTA) Region of Morocco

In the framework of the

GEF/UNEP MedProgramme Child Project 2.2 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem NEXUS"

implemented by the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med)

1. Introduction – Background

Activities are carried out in the framework of the **GEF supported Project "*Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem NEXUS*"** (hereinafter referred to as **Child Project 2.2**[1]) which is part of a set of interconnected Child Projects (eight) contributing to a larger programmatic approach in the Mediterranean Sea called the "MedProgramme" (*more information below*). The activities under this assignment focus on one of the (three) priority areas targeted by Child Project 2.2: **the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima (TTA) region of Morocco** (the other focus areas are Albania and Lebanon).

Child Project 2.2 aims to inform the policy and management paradigm of natural resources in the Mediterranean by introducing practical assessment and consultation approaches related to Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem Nexus (Nexus) linked with investment development, allowing the Water and Environmental policy and management approaches at the coastal and marine area to be informed by and/or inform the Energy and Agricultural decision making. The Child Project applies the Nexus approach at a **"Source-to-Sea"** context facilitating sectoral and spatial integration through identifying the causes and the solutions of interlinked challenges faced within and beyond the coastal zone.

Child Project 2.2 operates in close synergy with **Child Project 2.1**[2] addressing the water related issues in the context of ICZM planning ensuring IWRM application including conjunctive management of surface and groundwater, thus developing ICZM Plans (in selected beneficiary countries/areas) in accordance with the **ICZM Protocol of the Barcelona Convention**[3] and relevant national legislations. As a contribution to these ICZM Plans, **Child Project 2.2** will assess and address trade-offs among the Nexus sectors thus addressing linkages that are geographically extending beyond the coastal area. In the case of Morocco, the activities under this assignment will contribute to the elaboration of the **ICZM Plan (the Schéma Régional du Littoral (SRL) of the région Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceïma**.

The GEF/UNEP MedProgramme

The **GEF/UNEP "Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)**: **Enhancing Environmental Security"**[4] **(2020-2025)** represents the first GEF programmatic multi-focal area initiative in the Mediterranean Sea aiming to operationalize priority actions to reduce major transboundary environmental stresses in its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The Barcelona Convention[5] provides

[1] UN Environment/MAP (Lead executing Agency); Executing Partner: GWP-Med.

[2] Child Project "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Water Security, Climate Resilience and Habitat Protection". Leading executing Agency: UN Environment/MAP ; Executing Partners: UNESCO IHP, PAP/RAC, Plan Blue, GWP-Med.

[3] More info on the ICZM Protocol: https://www.unep.org/unepmap/who-we-are/contracting-parties/iczm-protocol

[4] GEF Lead Implementing Agency: UNEP. Other GEF Implementing Agency: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Leading Executing Agency: UN Environment/MAP. Executing partners: UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP), European Investment Bank (EIB), Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), WWF Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF MedPO), IUCN, Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC), Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (Plan Bleu), Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) and the Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Centre (SCP/RAC).

[5] The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (the Barcelona Convention) is a regional convention adopted in 1976 to prevent and abate pollution from ships, aircraft and land-based sources in the Mediterranean Sea. It is developed under the UN Environment Regional Seas Programme and the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) since 1975 has provided the institutional framework for cooperation in addressing common challenges of marine environmental degradation adopted by the Mediterranean States and the European Union. More information on the Secretariat to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols at: http://web.unep.org/unepmap/.

the policy framework under which the MedProgramme operates. The Minamata Convention on Mercury[6], the Stockholm Convention[7], the Basel Convention[8] and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activity (GPA)[9] are also among the key guiding frameworks for the Child Projects focusing on reduction of land-based pollution.

The MedProgramme is implemented in the following **beneficiary countries** sharing the Mediterranean basin: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia. Its **eight Child Projects** cut across four different Focal Areas of the Global Environment Facility (International Waters [IW], Biodiversity [BD], Chemicals and Waste [CW], and Climate Change [CC]) and involve a wide spectrum of developmental and societal sectors, ranging from banking institutions, the private sector, governmental and non-governmental bodies, industry, research, media, and various other organizations. The eight Child Projects are expected to deliver a set of complementary results embracing three categories of priorities identified by the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) for the Mediterranean Sea[10] which are translated into the **three components of the programme**: **i)** Reduction of Land-Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots and measuring progress to impacts; **ii)** Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone; and **iii)** Protecting Marine Biodiversity.

Baseline scenario in Morocco and the Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima Region

Morocco has the highest self-sufficiency ratio in terms of value of agricultural production and trade among the Mediterranean countries of the MENA Region, thanks to steps taken to modernize its agriculture sector, focusing on high-value products and increasing productivity. In the water and agriculture sectors, of key concern is the over-abstraction of groundwater which leads to its growing salinization, locally exacerbated by seawater intrusion. Levels of wastewater treatment remain low, but the sector provides a significant growth opportunity for reuse of treated wastewater. Morocco also plans to significantly increase its desalination capacity aiming to reach 500 million m3 per year by 2030. Both these nonconventional water resources are typical examples of Nexus interlinkages and where a respective approach could yield additional overall efficiencies and benefits. Morocco has essentially no fossil fuel reserves and has to rely on imports to meet its energy needs, importing crude oil and oil products as well as coal and natural gas for electricity generation. It has recently embarked on arguably the most ambitious plan for the development of renewable energy in the Region aiming to reduce both its emissions and its import dependency.

With approximately 447 km of coastline, the **Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima Region** has a geographical position at the crossroads of the two maritime facades (Mediterranean and Atlantic), which gives it a landscape and ecological richness and a strategic place for the economic development of the country, particularly in terms of maritime transport, tourism and maritime fishing. These drivers of development generate growing competition for the allocation and use of coastal and marine resources, including space, requiring a concerted vision and an integrated management approach, so as not to compromise the sustainability of coastal ecosystems. and the services they provide to coastal populations.

[6] More info: http://www.mercuryconvention.org
[7] The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. More info: http://chm.pops.int
[8] The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. More info: http://www.basel.int
[9] It is the only global initiative directly addressing the connectivity between terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems. More info: https://www.unenvironment.org/nairobiconvention/unep-global-programme-action-unepgpa
[10] More info on the TDA (2005): https://iwlearn.net/documents/5183

In this context, the **application of a Nexus approach using the Source to Sea continuum could assist in setting the basis for coordination among different relevant institutions** towards sustainable natural resources management, and in outlining the priorities for such a collaboration.

2. Description of the Assignment

Objective

This assignment should lead to the Preparation of a **Stakeholders Analysis, a Governance Analysis** and an **Assessment on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus** in the Tangier-Tétouan-Al Hoceima (TTA) Region, identifying and analysing key cross-sectoral interlinkages as well as concrete lines of action to capture synergies and address trade-offs towards sustainable management of natural resources and socio-economic development.

Scope

The **Nexus Assessment** to be carried out based on these ToRs, aims to apply a Nexus approach to identify trade-offs and synergies across the Nexus sectors, in order to achieve a higher degree of inter-sectoral coherence in the development and implementation of natural resources related strategic documents, and management plans while identifying concrete priority opportunities for joint, coordinated action that generate cross-sectoral benefits. The Nexus Assessment will lead to the **identification of Nexus Solutions** to address trade-offs and management issues leading to unsustainable management of natural resources, deterioration of the ecosystems and undermining socio-economic development prospects. The Nexus Solutions may be at the level of policy and management actions or at the level of technical interventions of different scales possibly introducing technological novelties to increase cost-efficiency in terms of natural resources management. The end goal is to move towards water, food and energy security to a level and extent that this contributes to the respective National level goals.

As indicated in the introduction, the Nexus Assessment will **contribute to the development of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (Schéma Régional du Littoral (SRL)** for the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceïma region.

While the ICZM plan focuses on the respective geographical area as defined by the ICZM protocol of the Barcelona Convention, the Nexus analysis will cover a geographical area that includes the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima (TTA) Region, the **basins that lie within the Region** (parts of it may extend beyond the Region), the **transitional waters as well as the marine area** that is directly influenced by the freshwater flows (or other important flows such as sediment, biota etc.) from/to the Region to/from the marine area.

Although an independent document itself, the Nexus Assessment should be structured in a way that the individual chapters analysing (i) the **Nexus sectors** at the level of basins/aquifers, coastal and marine areas, administrative areas; and (ii) the **Nexus solutions** can be used respectively:

(i) in the diagnostic analysis of the ICZM Plan for the TTA Region (developed by PAP/RAC with contributions from PB);
(ii) for the development of a programme of measures foreseen in the ICZM plan.

During the development of the Governance Analysis and Nexus Assessment, guidance should be sought from the Steering Committee (SC)[11] of the overall Nexus activities in the country and the

[11] The Commission Régionale de Gestion Intégrée du Littoral de la Région Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima has been suggested by the Moroccan Focal Point (Direction Régionale de l'Environnement - DRE) to undertake the role of the Steering Committee for MedProgramme activities planned in the Region. Final decision on the

Region. Moreover, the perspectives of all relevant stakeholders should be taken into account. In that regard, early in the process and as part of the Inception Report development, the Consultants should conduct interviews with representatives of key institutions starting with the Members of the Commission Régionale de Gestion Intégrée du Littoral de la Région Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima for their insights and up-to-date policy developments and plans. Further, the Consultants will participate in, contribute to the preparation and deliberations of and use the outcomes of **the two Multi-stakeholders Consultation meetings to be organised as part of the Nexus Assessment development**.

To avoid duplication of efforts, the Assignment will also take stock of the findings from recent reports on the status of sustainable development, governance, inter-sectoral (nexus) policy coherence, and natural resource management in the country. The Consultants shall identify and make use of the findings of relevant reports, research papers etc. GWP-Med will facilitate the collection of initial literature of reference as need be.

Tasks – Requested Services

The Consultants should:

1. Prepare an **Inception Report (IR)** to be consulted with GWP-Med for clearance and finalisation prior to the Consultants proceeding to the steps described from task 3 onwards. In the context of the IR, the Consultants should, among others:
   (i) Undertake an **assessment of information/data requirements and availability** for the implementation of the assignment, leading to the identification of information gaps and suggested approaches to address these gaps. The Consultants will be responsible to collect the needed information -including through surveys- while GWP-Med will enable communications with authorities to assist if appropriate in the collection of available/needed information and data.
   (ii) Undertake a **Stakeholder Analysis** building on efforts already undertaken by PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu and based on mixed sources of additional information, literature review, stakeholder interviews, among others.
   (iii) Describe in detail the suggested **approach, methods and tools** for the development of the Assessment, including a workplan with timeline and an annotated Table of Contents for the Assessment including the Governance Analysis.
   (iv) Include as part of the above, suggested methodologies/approaches for the:
      a. **identification of individual policy/thematic areas** in each Nexus sector, for which interdependencies with other Nexus sectors are crucial and strongest, in terms of e.g. impacts, resource flows, management practices, need for policy and regulatory coordination etc. (to be implemented under Task 5.b).
      b. **prioritisation of identified specific interlinkages** (synergies and trade-offs) across policy/thematic areas, in terms of highest potential benefits from enhanced management and policy integration on the short, medium and long term and feasibility/needs in terms of resources (to be implemented under Task 7).
   (v) Prepare a **GIS map** proposing the area of reference for the Nexus Assessment. The Nexus analysis should cover a geographical area that includes the Tangier Tetouan Al Hoceima Region, the basins that lie within the Region (parts of those may extend beyond the Region), the transitional waters as well as the marine area that is directly influenced by the freshwater flows (or other important flows such as sediment, biota etc.) from/to the Region to/from the marine area.

2. Prepare a **Governance Analysis**

composition of the SC for this assignment is still to be confirmed. GWP-Med will inform the Consultants in due course.

Since the outcomes of the Assessment are expected to facilitate coordination of policies and actions across sectors and institutions and to contribute to reconciling conflictive resources uses and in sustainably managing natural resources, the proposals formulated in that document must be based on a clear understanding of the governance of these resources.

The Governance Analysis will support the overall Nexus Dialogue process -including the preparation of the Assessment- by providing information on structure and processes for decision making regarding the management of the Nexus sectors at various jurisdictional levels, accountability, control and behaviour and on how objectives are set and achieved, how risk is monitored and addressed and how performance is optimised, etc.

Among others it will outline and briefly analyse the policies as well as the institutional and legal frameworks at various jurisdictional levels -including the National and regional levels- related to the Nexus sectors and assess their efficiency and enforcement as well as the level of cross-sectoral coordination, including the underlying causes for (possible) ineffective management in these sectors.

As a first step the Consultants will prepare an annotated Table of Contents for the Governance Analysis -being part of the Nexus Assessment- and prepare a brief description of the methodology they plan to use, including the criteria[12] to select indicators relevant to the country context.

Interviews with members of the Steering Committee (SC) of the Nexus Dialogue and other key stakeholders should be done during this phase to gather their feedback. The analysis should integrate gender and vulnerable groups related governance considerations.

The draft Governance analysis will provide input for the discussions during the first Multi-stakeholders Consultation Meeting (see task 3 below). Information provided through the meeting will be used for the finalisation of the Governance analysis.

The Governance analysis will form a chapter of the Nexus Assessment. As such it must contain information that contribute to attaining the objective of the Nexus Assessment.

It should be taken into consideration that Task 6 includes steps for informing and finalising the content of the Governance analysis.

3. Contribute to the realisation of the **first (out of two under the assignment) Multi-stakeholder Consultation Meeting (No 1)**. This will entail the Consultants developing background material and report, facilitating meeting's sessions etc. The meeting will be used to:
    a. Develop ownership among the stakeholders regarding the Nexus Assessment development process as well as the Nexus Solutions (see further below) to be developed.

[12] The criteria used in indicator selection could include the following:

- Specificity to governance. The indicators must relate to processes of governance (such as the accountability, responsiveness, capacity, legitimacy and inclusiveness of government), and are not intended to measure broader socioeconomic trends.
- Relevance. The indicators must be relevant to the most important governance processes.
- Action orientation. The indicators should reflect the performance of government policies and should help to identify priorities for action.
- Appropriateness to the local context. The indicators must be appropriate to the Lebanese context and take account of local specificity. In this respect there is a preference for domestically generated indicators rather than those developed for the purpose of international comparison.
- International credibility. The selected indicators should include issues of concern to international observers and should not exclude controversial subjects.
- Reliability. The proposed indicators should not be prone to large measurement error, biased sampling, unrepresentativeness and comparability problems, and should originate from respected and reliable sources.
- Triangulation from several sources. It is important to provide a balanced presentation of evidence from different sources, including national and international actors, and state and non-state bodies.

b. Develop the Nexus Assessment by tapping into the knowledge as well as by understanding the perceptions of the stakeholders regarding the: natural resources management issues in the Region as well as their causes; trade-offs among the Nexus Sectors.
c. Acquire information to be used for the refinement and finalisation of the stakeholders analysis (including stakeholders mapping and characterisation) for the area.

4. Prepare **a description and analysis of the current state and trends** -including pressures and their effects- **and management issues regarding the Nexus-related resources** as well as the socio-economy in the TTAH Region. Climate change scenarios should be described and taken into consideration and inform the analysis. Related information should be organized in the following chapters:
    - Socio-economic. The socio-economic report should identify the "hierarchy" of Nexus sectors in terms of importance for the development in the TTAH Region. This "hierarchy" of sectors should be taken into consideration when formulating the list of Nexus solutions (see below).
    - Biodiversity and ecosystems
    - Hydrology/hydrogeology
    - Pollution
    - Governance analysis

    The analysis should **cover the geographical area of reference identified through the inception report** to be agreed with GWP-Med. The information contained in this overview should be concise, yet in enough detail to provide adequate factual support for subsequent causal chain analysis and for the development of the Nexus Solutions.

    The information to be covered by each one of the chapters are provided in Annex I (the list under each chapter is not exhaustive).

5. Based on this analysis under Task 4:
    a. Perform a **causal chain analysis** to identify the causes of the management issues or the negative effects to the state of the natural resources and the socio-economy.
    b. Using the methodology to be described under Task 1 (iv)a, and the causal chain analysis identify for each of the Nexus sectors, the **individual policy/thematic areas for which interdependencies with other sectors are crucial and strongest**, in terms of e.g. impacts, resource flows, management practices, need for policy and regulatory coordination etc.

6. For each of the individual policy/thematic areas identified above inform the Governance Analysis chapter as described below:
    (i) Present the related Strategic Documents (strategies, plans etc.) and the relevant decision-making and regulatory frameworks.
    (ii) Assess and describe to what extent the Strategic Documents take into consideration any cross-sectoral interlinkages, either in terms of conflicts in competing for the same scarce resources, or of opportunities from synergic and coordinated actions and planning. Additionally, in coordination with and with the assistance of GWP-Med's Senior Gender Advisor, provide a brief overview of how gender dimensions are addressed in each Strategic Document.

7. Based on (a) analysis of the current status and trends performed under Task 4, (b) the assessment of the policy framework in key policy/thematic areas in Task 6, and (c) the Consultants' expert judgement: **Prepare a list of specific key Nexus-related interlinkages** (trade-offs or synergies) across the identified policy/thematic areas, and **prioritise them** in terms of higher potential to obtain benefits from increased policy integration, using the methodology to be described under Task 1 (iv)b. For each interlinkage, **outline key barriers or gaps** for appropriately addressing trade-

offs and/or capturing synergies through coordinated cross-sectoral action, in terms of e.g. financing needs and instruments, policy coherence, institutional settings for decision making, harmonisation, access to and management of information and data, management plans and instruments, technological solutions (the list not exhaustive).

8. **Analyse in depth the top 2-3** (number to be agreed with GWP-Med) **priority interlinkages** identified in Task 7. Aspects of this analysis should include (the list is not exhaustive):
   (i) How the interlinkage is important for the sustainable management of natural resources and the socio-economic development in the Region and -possibly- the country.
   (ii) What are the benefits from the adoption of an integrated approach for addressing trade-offs /supporting the interlinkages.
   (iii) Which are the key barriers, conflicts or gaps for addressing trade-offs and/or capturing synergies, in terms of e.g. access to finance; overlapping in decision making/regulation; data management, availability or harmonisation; technologies, costs, and applicability etc.
   (iv) Propose further measures enhancing coordinated and coherent planning and development –including of infrastructure- to maximise efficiencies and synergies, and address related key barriers, conflicts or gaps identified above.
   (v) Explore options for coordinated financing of actions.

9. Develop a **programme of Nexus Solutions** to address the identified causes of the management issues or the negative effects to the state of the natural resources and the socio-economy. The programme should be developed using the outcomes of steps under Task 5.a; it will be more detailed for the priority interlinkages using the outcomes of the work under Task 8.

10. Prepare a consolidated **overview of national and international financing schemes and instruments**, as well as of related strategies and priorities of developmental partners active in Morocco, relevant to the Nexus sectors. Using the results of this work and as well as the results of the preceding **analyses, suggest a short-list of concrete Nexus solutions/interventions** the implementation of which have higher chances of being financed.

11. Prepare the **draft Nexus Assessment Report** incorporating all the above and including related tables, graphs, figures and maps, a technical summary, a layman's summary and a factsheet of the key findings of the Assessment.

12. Present the draft Report in the **Multi-stakeholder Consultation Meeting (No 2)**. Contribute to the realisation of this Meeting. This will entail the Consultants developing background material and report, facilitating meeting's sessions etc. The meeting will be used to:
    a. Consolidate ownership among the stakeholders regarding the Nexus Assessment development process as well as the Nexus Solutions (see above) to be developed.
    b. Finilize the Nexus Assessment by presenting and discussing with the stakeholders the draft Assessment Report.

13. Prepare the **final Nexus Assessment Report** incorporating inputs collected during the Multi-stakeholders Consultation Meeting (No 2) and from GWP-Med.

3. Reporting, deliverables, and Milestones

The Consultants are expected to deliver the following deliverables, in English and French as specified below, directly linked to the tasks described in detail under the section "Tasks – Requested Services", as per the below schedule (to be possibly adapted):

Deliverables		Deadline
1.	- Inception Report and Table of Contents (EN) - GIS map proposing the area of reference for the Nexus Assessment - Draft Governance analysis (EN/FR)	1 month after contract signature
2.	- Stakeholders Analysis	2 months after contract signature
3.	- Contribution to the organization of the 1st Multi-stakeholder Consultation Meeting (EN/FR)	tbd
4.	- Analysis of current state and trends -including pressures and their effects- and management issues regarding the Nexus-related resources as well as the socio-economy, including a final Governance analysis (the latter, as per task 6) (EN/FR) - Causal chain analysis - List of policy/thematic areas for which interdependencies with other sectors are crucial and strongest	8 months after contract signature
5.	- List of prioritised specific interlinkages in the policy/thematic areas of priority, identifying key barriers or gaps for coordinated cross-sectoral action	9 months after contract signature
6.	- Analysis of top priority interlinkages - List of Nexus Solutions	9 months after contract signature
7.	- Overview of national and international financing schemes and instruments and of developmental partner's strategies and priorities (EN) - Short-list of concrete Nexus interventions exhibiting strong cross-sectoral relevance and benefits (EN)	10 months after contract signature
8.	- Draft Nexus Assessment Report (EN/FR)	10 months after contract signature
9.	- Contribution to the organization of the 2nd Multi-stakeholders Consultation meeting (EN/FR)	10 months after contract signature
10.	- Final Nexus Assessment Report, as well as technical summary, layman's summary and factsheet of the key findings of the Assessment (EN/FR)	11 months after contract signature

It is required that throughout the implementation of the Assignment, the Consultants closely liaise with the Project Manager and responsible Senior Programme Officer at GWP-Med. Meetings with GWP-Med will be organized at bi-weekly basis to assess and discuss progress and necessary actions for the implementation of the assignment. GWP-Med will provide additional information and resources (reports, background material, etc) to the Consultants as needed for carrying out the assignment. The Steering Committee for this assignment will provide guidance for the implementation of the assignment. The Consultants will participate in the SC meetings presenting the outputs/outcomes as per the agenda of the meetings.

The Consultants are expected to use GIS for the presentation and geo-reference of the information included in the deliverables listed above. The GIS files and the respective database will be among the deliverables of the Consultants.

4. Payment modalities

Accomplishment of deliverable 1-2: **20%** of total contract amount

Accomplishment of deliverables 3-6: **40%** of total contract amount

Accomplishment of deliverables 7-9: **20%** of total contract amount

Approval of final deliverables: **20%** of the total contract amount

5. Contract price, duration

The maximum fee for this assignment is **95,000 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.

The overall duration of the contract will be for a maximum of **11 months** after contract signature.

Payments will be made upon acceptance and verification of the related deliverables, as laid out in section 3. Reporting, deliverables, and Milestones

6. Selection Criteria (pass / fail)

Successful participant (Natural or Legal Person or Entity):

- Must have a record of minimum 3 projects over the last 10 years of comparable nature and degree of complexity relevant to those required for this Contract.

- Must have cumulative annual turnover for the last two financial years at least equivalent to the maximum amount of this call.

- Must be enrolled in one of the official professional or trade register kept in their country of registration.

- Must have the capability to produce GIS maps.

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

7. 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 available in the Call for Offers.

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:

The scope of work requires an interdisciplinary team of skilled experts with previous experience in activities similar to those that this assignment entails. The required qualifications for experts to be engaged in this assignment are presented in Table 1 below. The inclusion of experts so as the team responds to **every area of expertise** defined in the table below is mandatory. If the qualifications of an expert cover the requirements of more than one area of expertise, that expert can be also proposed for these other areas. Qualifications additional to the minimum requested per category will receive

additional score under the evaluation process as described in the section Evaluation Process and Awarding Criterion. In addition, the Participant may propose -as they deem appropriate- additional experts covering other specific areas of expertise.

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

Table 1 – Required qualifications for the Team of Experts

Expert no.	**Areas of Expertise**	**Qualifications**
1.	Water Resources Management expert / Team Leader	o At least University degree (MSc or equivalent) in water resources management, or environmental engineering/management, or a directly related field (**Required**). o Minimum 10 years of professional experience in the field of water resources management (**Required**). o Minimum 3 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to water resources management (**Required**). o At least 1 assignment/project directly relevant to the Nexus approach in the past 5 years (**Desirable)** o Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and French (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)
2.	Energy Policy expert	o At least University degree in the field of Engineering or Energy Policy or a directly related field (**Required**). o Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of energy (**Required**). o Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to renewable energy or energy use efficiency in the water or agriculture sectors (**Required**). o Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and French (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)
3.	Agriculture expert	o At least University degree in the field of Agriculture, or Rural Development, or Forestry or a directly related field (**Required**). o Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of Agriculture, or Rural Development, or Irrigation policies (**Required**). o Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to Agriculture, or Rural Development, or Irrigation (**Required**). o Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and French (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)
4.	Pollution expert	o At least University degree in environmental engineering/management, or Chemistry or a directly related field (**Required**). o Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of pollution (**Required**). o Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to freshwater or marine pollution (**Required**). o Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and French (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)
5.	Environment/Biodiversity expert	o At least University degree in environmental management, or Biology or a directly related field (**Required**). o Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of environmental policy and biodiversity (**Required**). o Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to the environment and biodiversity (Required).

		o Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and French (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)
6.	Institutional/Governance expert	o At least University degree in Law, Political Sciences, International Relations, Water Resources, Environment or any other related field (**Required**). o Minimum 7 years of relevant professional working experience in the field of governance/analysis of policy, legal and institutional frameworks and settings (**Required**). o Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to water/environmental governance and policy (**Required**). o Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and French (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)
7.	Socio-economic expert	o At least University degree in Economics, Political Sciences or any other related field (**Required**). o Minimum 7 years of relevant professional working experience in the field of socio-economic analysis (**Required**). o Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to socio-economic analysis in the environment and/or water sector (Required). o Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and French (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)

8. Evaluation Process and Awarding Criterion

The Award criterion is the most economically advantageous tender on the basis of best price / quality ratio.
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% total**		
Water Resources Management expert - Team Leader	**26%**		
At least University degree (MSc or equivalent) in water resources management, or environmental engineering/management, or a directly related field (**Required**).	**5%**		
Minimum 10 years of professional experience in the field of water resources management (**Required**).	**8%**		
Minimum 3 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to water resources management (**Required**)	**5%**		
At least 1 assignment/project directly relevant to the Nexus approach in the past 5 years (**Required**)	**5%**		
Excellent communication skills in English and French. (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)	**3%**		
Energy Policy expert	**9%**		

At least University degree in the field of Engineering or Energy Policy or a directly related field (**Required**).	**2%**		
Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of energy (**Required**).	**3%**		
Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to renewable energy or energy use efficiency in the water or agriculture sectors (**Required**)	**3%**		
Excellent communication skills in English and French. (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)	**1%**		
Agriculture expert	**9%**		
At least University degree in the field of Agriculture, or Rural Development, or Forestry or a directly related field (**Required**).	**2%**		
Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of Agriculture, or Rural Development, or Irrigation policies (**Required**).	**3%**		
Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to Agriculture, or Rural Development, or Irrigation (**Required**).	**3%**		
Excellent communication skills in English and French. (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)	**1%**		
Pollution Expert	**9%**		
At least University degree in environmental engineering/management, or Chemistry or a directly related field (**Required**).	**2%**		
Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of pollution (**Required**).	**3%**		
Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to freshwater or marine pollution (**Required**).	**3%**		
Excellent communication skills in English and French. (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)	**1%**		
Environment expert/Biodiversity Expert	**9%**		
At least University degree in environmental management, or Biology or a directly related field (**Required**).	**2%**		
Minimum 7 years of professional experience in the field of environmental policy and biodiversity (**Required**).	**3%**		

Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to the environment and biodiversity (**Required**).	**3%**		
Excellent communication skills in English and French. (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)	**1%**		
Institutional/Governance expert	**9%**		
At least University degree in Law, Political Sciences, International Relations, Water Resources, Environment or any other related field (**Required**).	**2%**		
Minimum 7 years of relevant professional working experience in the field of governance/analysis of policy, legal and institutional frameworks and settings (**Required**).	**3%**		
Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to water/environmental governance and policy (**Required**).	**3%**		
Excellent communication skills in English and French. (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)	**1%**		
Socio-economic expert	**9%**		
At least University degree in Economics, Political Sciences or any other related field (**Required**).	**2%**		
Minimum 7 years of relevant professional working experience in the field of socio-economic analysis (**Required**).	**3%**		
Minimum 2 assignments/projects in Morocco relevant to socio-economic analysis in the environment and/or water sector (**Required**).	**3%**		
Excellent communication skills in English and French. (**Required**). Knowledge of Arabic (**Desirable**)	**1%**		
Section 2: Approach and Methodology	**20% of total**		
Approach to the requested Assignment: detailed description of the methodology how the Participant will achieve all objectives and tasks and deliver all outputs as described in the Terms of Reference of the assignment, keeping in mind the appropriateness to local conditions.	**15%**		
Risks / Mitigation Measures: description of the potential risks	**5%**		

for the implementation of this assignment that may impact achievement and timely completion of expected results as well as their quality. Describe measures that will be put in place to mitigate these risks.			

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: For Section 1 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: For Section 2, 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:
Bi = w1 x c1 + w2 x c2 +……
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:
Λi = 0.8* (Bi/Bmax) + 0.2 * (Kmin/Ki).
Where:
- Bmax: the max score received by the best of the technical offers received
- Bi: the score of the technical offer
- Kmin: The cost of the financial offer with the minimum price offered.
- Ki: 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.

9. Monitoring and Progress Controls

Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator and Ms. Lucilla Minelli, Senior Programme Officer at GWP-Med, will be providing oversight and guidance from the side of the Project Team.

Services will be rendered and will be considered completed upon approval of the deliverables by the Project Manager and the GWP-Med Executive Secretary.

10. Place of Performance

This assignment is home based, with field missions for consultations. The tasks will be carried out from a place of the Consultants's preference.

11. Terms and Conditions

- *Language*

The language of the deliverables/outputs is English and French. The consultants will ensure that the text of the draft and final Nexus assessment and its annexes are edited.

- *Data and information*

GWP-Med can assist in the identification of related policy documents, projects and/or stakeholders. The Consultants are responsible to collect all additional information and data necessary for the completion of this assignment. Missing information would not be considered as eligible reason for not completing the tasks.

- Submission of data, reports and other material produced

All primary data, reports, and other documentation produced during this assignment shall be made available to GWP-Med in electronic format. All data acquired, and products developed during the assignment will be in the ownership of the Project and cannot be used by the Consultants without prior written permission.

- Cooperation requirements

The Consultants are expected to work closely with GWP-Med and the beneficiaries

- Review and quality assurance

Review of the work carried out by the Consultants throughout the implementation of the assignment as well as review of the deliverables may be carried out by an independent external expert or expert team. Review of the project final deliverables may be carried out by relevant experts or Expert Working Groups of the beneficiaries.

All relevant comments and suggestions made by the reviewer(s) will have to be taken into consideration by the Consultants and integrated in the final versions of the deliverables.

- Public consultations / meetings

The responsibility for organizing any required workshops or working meetings will be shared between the Consultants and the Project Team. The Consultants shall be responsible for: preparation of **background** working material, technical specifications, **facilitating some of the meeting's sessions** etc. ensuring participation of the key team members as required, preparation of minutes/report etc. The Project Team will be responsible for: preparation of agenda, invitations, distributing the invitations and enabling participation.

Annex I. Information to be covered by each one of the chapters describing and analysing the current state and trends -including pressures and their effects- and management issues regarding the Nexus-related resources as well as the socio-economy in the TTAH Region

The list below is not exhaustive.

Socio-economics

(1) Administrative Division and Governance. (2) Demography and Housing including. (3) Land use, Spatial and Urban Planning including: Land uses; Protected and sensitive areas; Legislation and hierarchy of documents for spatial and urban planning; Urban agglomerations and urbanization of coastal areas; Overview of pressures and impacts from urbanization on natural resources and energy. (5) Macroeconomy including: Macroeconomic aggregates; Public finance; Foreign direct investment and credit rating; Prices and Wages; Labor market, Unemployment and Poverty; Global competitiveness and Human Development Indicators. (6) Education and Healthcare. (7) Overview of applied economic instruments for water management. (8) Agriculture (Organization and specifics of the sector, Arable land utilization, Soil types, Crops, Fertilizer and pesticide use, Post-harvest management practices, Infrastructure and farm mechanization, Irrigation Animal husbandry, Agriculture subsidies and insurance schemes, Agriculture and Climate Change), Fishery (Organization and specifics of the sector, Production and value of commercial fisheries -inland, coastal lagoon, marine and coastal-, Aquaculture, Recreational and Sports fishing), Forestry (Organization and specifics of the sector, Forest areas, production and value of the forestry sector) and overview of pressures from agriculture, forestry and fishery on natural resources and energy. (9) Energy and Industry including: Energy (Organization of the energy supply sector, Energy prices, Primary energy production, Energy consumption, Energy trade and dependency, Energy efficiency and intensity, Electricity production/industry); Industry (Industrial production indexes, Export of industrial goods, UNIDO Indexes for industrial production); Overview of pressures from energy and industry on natural resources. (10) Communal Infrastructure and Services including: Water supply; (Organizational setup for water supply service provision, Service coverage, Overview of technical parameters of public utilities (water supply service)); Wastewater collection and treatment (Wastewater collection (sewerage) service coverage, Wastewater treatment); Solid waste management (Organizational setup for SWM service provision, Management of special wastes); Affordability of communal services. (11) Economic Infrastructure and Services including: Road infrastructure; Railway lines; Airports; Lake ports and ferry terminals. (12) Floods and flood risk management including: Flood areas and flood protection infrastructure; Overview of flood risk management organization. (13) Tourism including: Tourism activities and trends Tourism statistics, Tourism development strategies and plans.

Hydrology and Hydrogeology

(1) Defining the boundaries of analysis and action including description of the: Hydrological system; Relief and natural features; Precipitation; Land and water use; Overview of monitoring. (2) Hydrology: description of basins and surface waters (for each one description of Climate and Hydromorphological and hydrological elements). (3) Transitional waters and interaction with the adjacent marine area including: description of interaction among transitional, coastal and marine waters; Geomorphology and Coastal dynamics; Current, tide, and wave regimes. (4) Hydrology: aquifers and groundwater including description of aquifers extending in the area of focus (overview, hydrogeology, delineation of groundwater bodies, groundwater use) (5) Water uses including: Domestic/industrial water use and

demand; Agriculture (Irrigated areas and animal husbandry) water demand; Industrial use of water; Overall water demand; Trends under different climate change and developmental scenarios (6) Water balance including: Runoff; Water balance scenarios (Scenario 1: Business as usual - Scenario 2: Climate change 1 - Scenario 3: Climate change 2 - Scenario x: Climate change x; Scenario z: Full development etc.). (7) Hydromorphological risks including: Floods risks (information on vulnerability and related drivers and risk assessment); Erosion (Estimation of erosion potential in the different parts of the area; Sediment budget and distribution regime); Coastline erosion (state, trends and causes of effects including information on the possible effect of climate change).

Biodiversity and Ecosystems

(1) General description of the natural system of the area. (2) Habitats including: Terrestrial habitats; Key freshwater, wetland, and brackish ecosystems/habitats; Groundwater-dependent ecosystems; Marine ecosystems/habitats; Habitat-forming species (3) Biological elements of the freshwater ecosystem including: Flora; Fauna; Invasive species; Communities. (Phytoplankton, Zooplankton, Benthic invertebrates; Habitat and species distribution). (4) Biological elements of transitional waters (5) Biological elements of coastal and marine waters (6) Protected areas including description of management arrangements (7) Biological natural resources and their use including: Ecosystem services (Farming, Fishing and aquaculture, Animal husbandry, Wood, Wild food and herb collection, Gravel, Drinking water, Irrigation, Hydropower (?), Waste disposal, Climate change mitigation, Moderation of extreme weather effects, Local climate and air quality, Erosion prevention and maintenance of soil fertility, Wastewater treatment, Habitats for species, Recreation and health, Tourism); Land tenure; Forestry; Fishery and aquaculture; Other (8) State of biodiversity, ecosystems and its components, including description of issues (e.g. loss of biodiversity/ecosystem services) and their causes.

Pollution

(1) Overview of monitoring. (2) Pollution pressures and assessment of pollution loads from: Point sources of pollution (Sewerage discharge, Small and medium-sized enterprises, Large industries, Waste disposal sites and dump sites); Diffuse sources of pollution. (3) Chemical water quality assessment including: Criteria for the characterization of water chemical status; Chemical water quality (Groundwater, Inland surface waters (lakes and rivers),Transitional and coastal surface waters, Sediments)

Governance analysis

Among others it will outline and briefly analyse the policies as well as the institutional and legal frameworks at the National and regional levels related to the Nexus sectors and assess their efficiency and level of cross-sectoral coordination, including the underlying causes for ineffective management in these sectors. It will cover the following:

(1) Institutional Framework (Water resources, Wastewater and solid waste, Urban and territorial planning and land use, Agriculture, fisheries, hunting and forestry, Energy, Nature protection - protected area, Environmental information and transparency). (2) Policies and strategic documents (Water resources, Wastewater and solid waste, Urban and territorial planning and land use, Agriculture, fisheries, hunting and forestry, Energy, Nature protection - protected area, Environmental information and transparency) (3) Legal and Regulatory Framework (Water resources, Wastewater and solid waste, Urban and territorial planning and land use, Agriculture, fisheries, hunting and forestry, Energy, Nature protection - protected area, Environmental information and transparency) (4) Management instruments (5) State and effectiveness of Management (Water resources,

Wastewater and solid waste, Urban and territorial planning and land use, Agriculture, fisheries, hunting and forestry, Energy, Nature protection - protected area, Environmental information and transparency).

The Governance Analysis will provide information on structure and processes for decision making regarding the management of the Nexus sectors, accountability, control and behaviour and on how objectives are set and achieved, how risk is monitored and addressed and how performance is optimised, etc.