

**Consultancy for the review and  
revision of SCP indicators,  
automation of data collection,  
preparation of fact sheets and other  
related tasks**

**(M&E expert/data analyst)**

July 2020

Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production United Nations  
Environment Programme - Mediterranean Action Plan (SCP/RAC)  
Regional Centre Under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants  
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[www.switchmed.eu](http://www.switchmed.eu)

# Consultancy for the review and revision of SCP indicators

## About the position

The Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC) is seeking an expert to undertake a number of related tasks regarding the current suite of SCP indicators used to measure progress on the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (2016 – 2027). The expert will be responsible for (1) analysing the current suite of SCP indicators and recommending actions to improve their effectiveness in measuring progress towards the strategic and operational objectives of the SCP Action Plan; (2) automating the collection of official and publicly available data for the measurement of the SCP indicators and populating the database of these indicators for years 2016 - 2019; (3) preparing fact sheets for the 25 SCP indicators; and (4) providing recommendations on the potential synergies between the SCP indicators and the SwitchMed Green Entrepreneurs MEAL system.

The duration of this home-based consultancy is estimated at eight months.

## About SCP/RAC

The [Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production](#) (hereinafter SCP/RAC) is a centre for international cooperation on development and innovation based on the sustainable consumption and production approach (hereinafter SCP).

The Centre is one of the Regional Activity Centres established in the framework of the UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan (hereinafter UNEP/MAP), the programme of UN Environment established to support the member countries of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean. The Centre also operates in support of the Stockholm Convention, an international agreement involving 180 countries to fight against the generation of persistent organic pollutants, highly polluting and toxic substances. SCP/RAC has the mandate from the Barcelona and Stockholm Conventions to provide assistance to their Contracting Parties in fulfilling their commitments under those treaties, particularly through the support to the countries to shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns and circular economy.

In the performance of its mandate, SCP/RAC fosters the introduction of solutions on eco-innovation, marine litter/plastic pollution prevention, circular economy and safe alternatives to toxic chemicals through the provision of advisory services, technical assistance, innovative training materials, networking services and accompaniment in the implementation of measures. SCP/RAC also leads a comprehensive support programme for the creation and development of green, circular business models and enterprises.

The Centre is based in Barcelona and it is legally hosted by the Catalan Waste Agency, a public service agency considered a reference organization in waste prevention and management and the promotion of circular economy.

## About the SwitchMed initiative

The SwitchMed initiative aims to stimulate the creation of new and greater business opportunities and decent employment while reducing the environmental footprint of existing economic activities in the Southern Mediterranean. SwitchMed II is building upon the results of the first phase in order to further support and scale up the transition towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) practices which contribute to a green and circular economy in the region. To do so, the

programme is using an integrated and comprehensive approach that targets and involves different actors, thereby addressing the transition at various levels.

The programme has a regional dimension and will continue to work in the eight countries of the Southern Mediterranean region, including Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. This region is greatly affected by many challenges including water scarcity, population growth and rapid urbanization, energy demand increase, environmental challenges and climate change. On the other hand, at global level, natural resource supply to the private sector is threatened by increased competition for the resources, whose shortage or high price volatility coupled with the new environmental and climate challenges, indicate that “business as usual” is no longer beneficial or advisable. Instead there is now a need and an opportunity for building new greener and dynamic business models as market pressure is becoming a key driver, along with enabling factors such as innovation, cooperation, control and incentive mechanisms.

Despite these challenges, the opportunities associated with the adoption of sustainable consumption and production practices have a clear link to supporting stabilization of the region through sustainable and inclusive economic development.

The SwitchMed initiative is a key action carried out under EU-funded regional cooperation with the Mediterranean region and will be implemented by UNIDO; UN Environment, Economy Division; and SCP/RAC of UNEP/MAP, in close coordination with DG NEAR and the EUDs in the beneficiary countries.

Capitalizing on the lessons learned from SwitchMed I, the project is structured around three main components:

- 1) Direct support to the private sector
- 2) Creation of an enabling policy environment
- 3) Coordination, networking and communication

SwitchMed II, through the scaling up and wide dissemination of results already seen in its first phase, is expected to produce an increased number of green business activities, enhanced competitiveness of the private sector by adoption of resource efficiency production strategies, and a more cohesive and enabling policy environment for a sustainable and circular economy. One of the key policy achievements of SwitchMed I was the adoption of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention.

### **About the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean**

The Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP Action Plan) was adopted in 2016 at COP19 (Decision IG.22/5) to complement and work in full synergy with existing national and regional policy frameworks, and to support the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. It is structured around four key economic sectors for the region: (i) Food, Fisheries and Agriculture, (ii) Goods Manufacturing, (iii) Tourism, (iv) Housing and Construction. The SCP Action Plan is an integral part of the MSSD Objective 5 “Transition towards a Green and Blue Economy”, which identifies the promotion of and support to green businesses as key in the transition towards a more circular economy. The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) was also adopted at COP19, as a strategic guiding document for all stakeholders and partners to translate the 2030 Agenda and SDGs at the regional, sub-regional and national levels.

## SCP indicators and the Region Action Plan on SCP

Progress on the Regional Action Plan on SCP is measured with a set of SCP indicators that was developed during SwitchMed I and adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at COP20 (December 2017). The indicators<sup>1</sup> – which encompass six thematic areas and a set of macro-indicators – were selected among existing international indicators or new indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At COP21 (December 2019), the Contracting Parties requested SCP/RAC to undertake three important actions regarding these indicators:

1. Integrate the SCP indicators in the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard<sup>2</sup> for the monitoring and implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 (MSSD);
2. Review the list of SCP indicators and update the corresponding database used to track these indicators for the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention; and
3. Prepare a set of fact sheets for each of the 25 SCP indicators (following the example of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard for the MSSD) to facilitate communication on the progress achieved on the strategic objectives of the SCP Action Plan.

These actions will be carried out in the context of the regional policy component of SwitchMed II and will serve as inputs to the mid-term evaluation (MTE) of the SCP Action Plan that SCP/RAC is currently undertaking.

## Articulation between the SCP indicators and the MEAL system for SCP/RAC's support activities for green entrepreneurs in SwitchMed

In addition to the country-level SCP indicators developed in SwitchMed I, SCP/RAC also prepared a result monitoring framework (RMF) to measure the impact of its support programme for green entrepreneurs within the SwitchMed initiative. This RMF includes four levels of indicators to enable the effective measurement of the Centre's progress on SwitchMed's outputs, outcomes and impacts that address green entrepreneurs. SCP/RAC is currently in the process of operationalizing and enhancing its RMF through the implementation of a Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system for the SwitchMed II sub-component dedicated to 'Support for the creation and development of circular and green economy businesses'. This decision is consistent with a growing trend within public sector organizations and other institutions engaged in development work that have recognized the need to go beyond routine monitoring and evaluation and to leverage data and reporting as an additional means of delivering value to clients and donors, through greater accountability and transparency, learning opportunities and as a basis for more informed decisions on intervention design and investments. An important component of the MEAL system in the context of SwitchMed is the collection of environmental performance data from individual green entrepreneurs and the aggregation of these data at the national level; these activities will enable SCP/RAC to better respond to the request from the European Commission (SwitchMed's financier) to report on environmental benefits generated by its investment. The MEAL system for the green entrepreneurship component of SwitchMed II is expected to be fully operational by the end of 2020.

In the context of SwitchMed II, the European Union has directed SCP/RAC to examine the potential synergies between data collection in the MEAL framework and the monitoring of SCP indicators for

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<sup>1</sup> The full set of indicators is available at the SwitchMed website: <https://switchmed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/scp-indicators-mediterranean.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Information on the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard is available at the Mediterranean Observatory on environment and sustainable development managed by Plan Bleu: [https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/upload/files/SD\\_Dashboard\\_2019.pdf](https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/upload/files/SD_Dashboard_2019.pdf).

the Regional Action Plan on SCP. This is intended to establish a clear link between the impact of SwitchMed's support services for green entrepreneurs and progress on SCP in the region, with the long-term objective of demonstrating the contributions of these entrepreneurs to the achievement of Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and its related ecosystems.

### Tasks of the expert

Under the overall supervision of SCP/RAC's Policy Team Leader, the **M&E expert /data analyst** (the expert) shall undertake the following tasks:

**Task 1:** Analyse the current suite of SCP indicators and recommend actions to improve their effectiveness in measuring progress towards the strategic and operational objectives of the SCP Action Plan

The current suite of 30 SCP indicators adopted in 2017 includes 27 indicators distributed among six categories (land use, water efficiency, energy efficiency, pollution, resource efficiency and behaviour of producers and consumers) as well as three thematic macro-indicators (carbon, water and ecological footprints) (Annex 1). The indicators – classified as either thematic issue or policy response indicators – measure parameters that reflect the degree to which SCP approaches are being mainstreamed in countries, and rely to the greatest extent possible on information that countries have committed to report in the context of the SDG framework or the MSSD. At the time of the adoption of the SCP indicators in 2017, SCP/RAC carried out an in-depth analysis of the availability of data to measure these indicators, which revealed that data would be difficult to gather for 14 of the 30 indicators including those within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) framework. Considering the new data tools and global databases that have emerged in the past three years, there is a need to review the current suite of SCP indicators and evaluate the present level of data availability, the continued validity of the indicators and whether any adjustments are necessary to make the most effective use of available knowledge assets from the UN system and other international organizations and research institutions that maintain and use data relevant to SCP.

For this task, the expert will evaluate the existing set of SCP indicators with respect to:

- The availability of corresponding data (2016 – present) for the Mediterranean countries (including Jordan and Palestine), with references to online data sources;
- Their articulation with the SDGs or international agreements, specifically whether a corresponding SDG target exists for the SCP indicator or whether an existing international agreement includes concrete objectives/targets that are relevant to the SCP indicator;
- Their articulation with the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard, managed by Plan Bleu, under the guidance of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development Steering Committee;
- Their occurrence in the datasets of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA); and
- Existence of other data sources that may yield relevant data that can be used to measure these indicators.

On the basis of the findings of this analysis, the expert will formulate recommendations on updates to the SCP indicators (in terms of the selected indicators or data sources). The resulting analysis and recommendations constitute Deliverable 1.1. The results of this task will also feed into Task 2, which involves improvements to the tools that SCP/RAC uses to gather data on the SCP indicators for the Mediterranean countries.

<b>Deliverable 1.1</b> Analysis and recommendations to improve the current suite of SCP indicators
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**Task 2:** Automate the collection of official and publicly available data for the measurement of the SCP indicators and populate the database of these indicators for years 2016 - 2019

At present, SCP/RAC gathers data on the SCP indicators from online databases (UNStats, FAO Aquastat, OECD, ...) and enters them manually into an Excel spreadsheet for review and analysis. However, Excel and other IT tools have features that enables users to connect spreadsheets to external data sources (e.g., online databases) to automate the collection of data.

For this task, the expert will undertake a rapid analysis of the various tools (including Excel) that enable automatic retrieval and storage of data from online sources on a regular basis, and provide SCP/RAC with recommendations on the tools/solutions that are best suited for the monitoring of the SCP indicators over the long term for the Mediterranean countries (Deliverable 2.1). On the basis of SCP/RAC's decision, the expert will develop the tool and populate a database with available data for the SCP indicators for each of the Mediterranean countries for years 2016 – 2019. In addition, the expert will provide a set of instructions on its use and maintenance and organize a virtual training session for SCP/RAC. The tool, updated database, instructions and training session together represent Deliverable 2.2.

<b>Deliverable 2.1</b>	Rapid analysis of tools for automation of data retrieval and recommendations on a tool for the SCP indicators
<b>Deliverable 2.2</b>	A tool that automates the collection of data for the SCP indicators, instructions on its use, the updated database of SCP indicators and the training session for SCP/RAC

### **Task 3 Prepare fact sheets for the 25 SCP indicators**

Plan Bleu's [Mediterranean Observatory on Environment and Sustainable Development](#) provides access to fact sheets on the MSSD indicators that facilitate the interpretation of indicator data through definitions, infographics, diagrams and trend analyses (see example fact sheet in Annex 2). A similar set of fact sheets will be developed for the SCP indicators in support of the COP decision to integrate those indicators within the MSSD Dashboard.

For this task, the expert will analyse the data collected for the SCP indicators for the Mediterranean countries (Task 2) and propose a standard template for the structure and content of each fact sheet in consultation with Plan Bleu RAC. Once the template is approved by SCP/RAC, the expert will produce the technical content (narrative text, graphs, charts, ...) that will be needed to produce a one-page fact sheet for each of the 25 SCP indicators. The expert will deliver a set of Word documents and source files for images, graphs, charts, data sets, etc. (Deliverable 3.1). The graphic design and layout of the fact sheets are not the responsibility of the expert.

<b>Deliverable 3.1</b>	Template and technical content to produce fact sheets for each of the 25 SCP indicators
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examples of infographics or other data-driven visual tools developed by the expert (to demonstrate experience related to Task 3).

2. A financial offer.

A template for the proposal is provided in Annex 3.

Important: The header of the **technical and financial offers** must clearly note the candidate's data (Name, address, country, telephone, email and fiscal identity number or other official number) and those of the Contractor: « Regional Activity Center for Sustainable Consumption and Production / Agència de Residus de Catalunya / Carrer Dr. Roux nº 80 / 08017 Barcelona, Spain / NIF: **Q-5856373-E** ».

There is a maximum of € 14,999.99 available for this assignment (exclusive of VAT).

- The banking form provided in Annex 4, duly completed by the applicant.

Proposal packages should be prepared in English or French and sent via email to [matthew.lagod@scprac.org](mailto:matthew.lagod@scprac.org) with copy to [moutters@scprac.org](mailto:moutters@scprac.org) with the subject line "SwitchMed – Data analyst for the SCP indicators." Proposals will be accepted until midnight (Central European Time) on 11 September 2020. All applicants will receive an email to confirm receipt of their proposal.

### Selection criteria and notification

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Points	Criteria
Maximum 50 points	Quality of the proposed approach to achieve the objectives of the Tasks A, B and C (technical offer)
Maximum 30 points	Profile and project qualifications
Maximum 20 points	Financial offer

Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for a phone interview. The successful candidate will be notified by email about their selection for the assignment.

### Payments

The payment schedule is the following:

- Submission and approval of Deliverables 1.1, 2.1 and 2.2: 50% of the contract value
- Submission and approval of Deliverables 3.1 and 4.1: 50% of the contract value

Payments will be made within a maximum of 60 days of receipt of the duly submitted invoice, in accordance with European procurement rules. Contractor is not responsible for banking costs that might be applied by the consultant's bank, or for fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

## **Annex 1**

SCP indicators for the Regional SCP Action Plan

(attached)

## SCP indicators for the Mediterranean (SCP/RAC 2017)

Thematic area and associated SCP indicators	Data availability for Mediterranean countries in 2017	Is it an SDG indicator? (Y/N)	If yes, SDG Indicator number	Is it an MSSD indicator? (Y/N)
<b>LAND USE</b>				
1a Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture	No	Yes	2.4.1	No
1b Agricultural area organic, total	High	No	2.4	Yes
2 Global food loss index	No	Yes	12.3.1	No
3a Index of sustainable forest management	No	Yes	15.2.1	No
3b Area of Certified forest	Low	No	15.2	No
<b>WATER (EFFICIENCY)</b>				
1 Freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources (also known as water withdrawal intensity)	Low	Yes	6.4.2	No
2 Water Productivity	High	No	6.4	Yes
3 Degree of integrated water resources management (IWRM) implementation (0-100)	No	Yes	6.5.1	No

### ENERGY (EFFICIENCY)

1	Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	High	Yes	7.2.1	Yes
2	Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP	High	Yes	7.3.1	Yes
3	Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels	No	Yes	12.c.1	Yes

### POLLUTION

1	CO2 emission per unit of value added	High	Yes	9.4.1	No
2	Signatory of 1 to 3 international multilateral environmental agreements (Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions) on hazardous waste, and other chemicals	High	Yes	12.4.1	No
3	Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)	High	Yes	11.6.2	No

### RESOURCE (EFFICIENCY)

1a	Material footprint (MF) per GDP	High	Yes	12.2.1; 8.4.1	Yes
1b	Domestic material consumption (DMC) per GDP	High	Yes	12.2.2; 8.4.2	No

2a	Material footprint (MF) per capita	High	Yes	12.2.1; 8.4.1	No
2b	Domestic material consumption (DMC) per capita	High	Yes	12.2.2; 8.4.2	No
3a	Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels	No	Yes	14.4.1	Yes
3b	Marine Trophic Index (also called Mean Trophic Level (TL) of fisheries landings)	Not freely available	No	14.4	No

### BEHAVIOR (PRODUCERS & CONSUMERS)

1	Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or target into national policies	No	Yes	12.1.1	No
2	SPP/GPP as a percentage of total public procurement (in terms of monetary value)	No international database	No	12.7	Yes
3	Green Patents (also called Patents of Importance to Green Growth and Development of environment-related technologies, % all technologies)	High	No	12.7	No
4	Generation of waste	Low	No	11.6; 12.4	Yes*
5	Organic agriculture (retail sales, all million euro) (also available as euro per person)	Low	No	12	No
6	Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density	No	Yes	14.1.1	No
7	Prevalence of overweight and obesity	High	No	2.2	No

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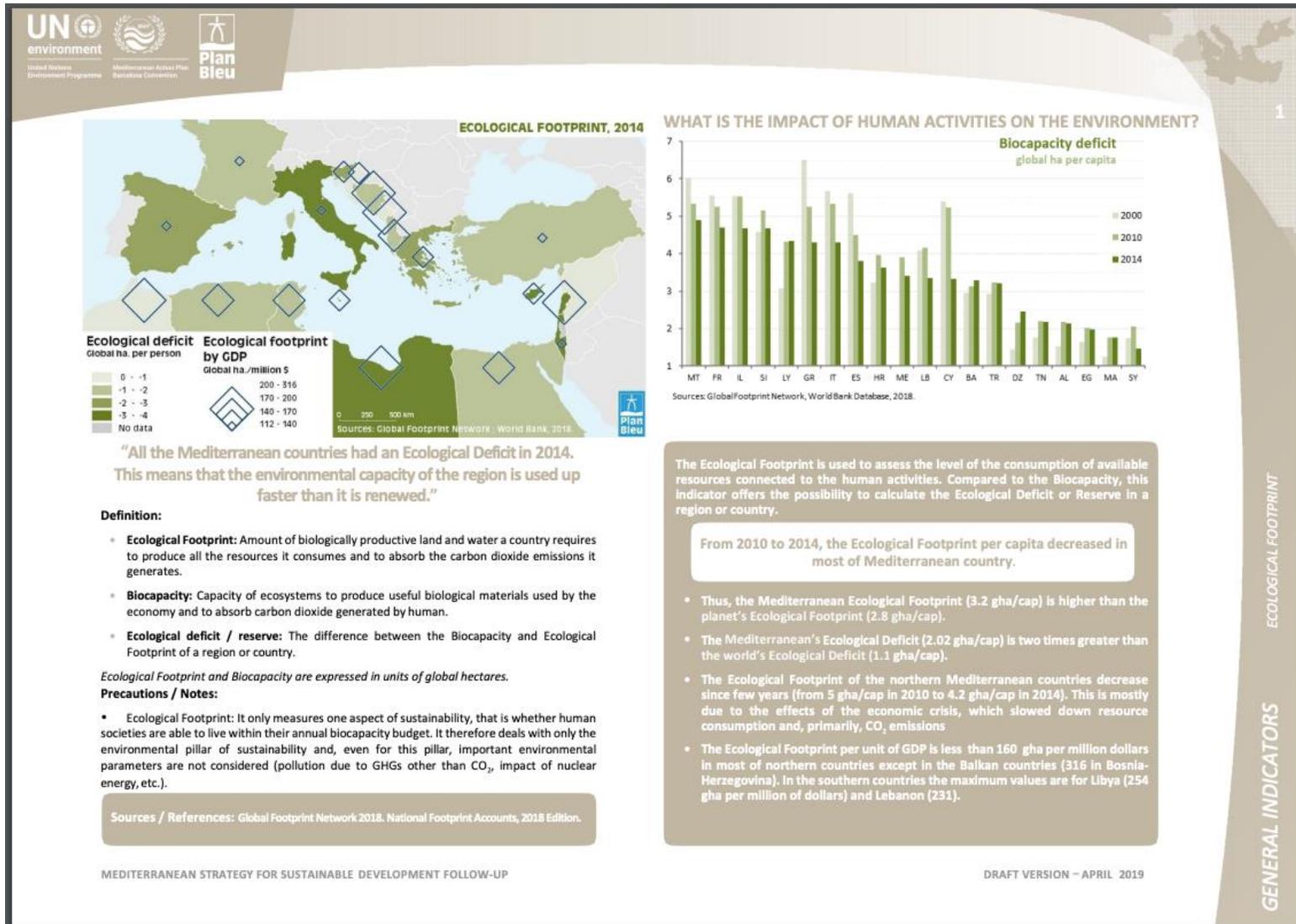
**THEMATIC MACRO-INDICATORS**

1	Carbon Footprint	Low	No	9.4	No
2	Water Footprint	High	No	6.4	No
3	Ecological Footprint	High	No	12.2; 8.4	Yes

## **Annex 2**

Fact sheet from the MSSD Dashboard

Figure 1 Fact sheet



## **Annex 3**

Proposal template

**From:**

**Name: XXXXXX**

**Address: XXXXXXXXXXXXX**

**Country: XXXXXXXXX**

**Phone:**

**VAT nº or Tax ID: xxxxxx**

**To:**

**Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production**

**Agència de Residus de Catalunya**

**C/Dr. Roux núm. 80**

**08017 Barcelona, Spain**

**NIF: Q-5856373-E**

**1) Technical offer**

- a. A proposed approach for the automation of data collection for the SCP indicators (Task 2)
- b. At least two examples of infographics or other data-driven visual tools developed by the expert (to demonstrate experience related to Task 3).

**2) Financial offer**

- a. Statement of the proposed personnel, their daily rates and the estimated number of working days for the assignment (1 day = 8 working hours), as well as any other additional expenses related to their work. A template for the financial offer is provided below. All costs presented should exclude Value-Added Tax (VAT).

Personnel					
Task	Expert (name)	Responsibility <sup>3</sup>	Daily rate (€)	# of days	Total cost (€)
1	Expert 1				
	Expert 2				
2	Expert 1				
	Expert 2				

<sup>3</sup> L = Leads; S = Supports

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Total personnel costs (A):

**Additional expenses**

Description	Unit cost (€)	# of units	Total cost (€)
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Item 1			
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Item 2			
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Total additional expenses (B):

**Total budget**

Total budget (without VAT) (A+B):

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Total budget (with VAT):

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## **Annex 4**

Applicant's bank details

