

# **RULES**

## **2<sup>ND</sup> CALL FOR SMALL GRANT PROJECTS FOR MEDITERRANEAN MPAS**

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> call for small grant projects for Mediterranean MPAs

Le réseau des gestionnaires  
d'Aires Marines Protégées  
en Méditerranée



The network of managers  
of Marine Protected Areas  
in the Mediterranean



## SOMMAIRE

<b>1</b>	<b>Presentation of the small grant projects call</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Objectives of the small grant projects call</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Eligibility criteria</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Eligible countries	5
3.2	Eligible project leaders	5
3.3	Eligible Topics	6
<b>4</b>	<b>Types of interventions expected</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Project funding terms</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Selection Procédure</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>File submission</b>	<b>12</b>

## 1 PRESENTATION OF THE SMALL GRANT PROJECTS CALL

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The MedPAN Secretariat launches the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Small Grant Projects for Mediterranean MPAs for 2012-2013. The Small Grant Call is aimed at strengthening the MPA management efficiency in the MedPAN Network by conducting actions in the MPAs.

### Field of proposed activities:

- management planning/evaluation,
- innovative funding mechanisms,
- communication and environmental education actions,
- stakeholder consultation and mediation processes,
- sustainable management of tourism,
- sustainable management of fisheries,
- surveillance at-sea,
- ecological and socio-economic monitoring,
- monitoring of invasive species,
- monitoring and/or adaptation to climate changes impacts.

Between January 2011 and March 2013, the MedPAN Organization is providing the funds to develop approximately 20 projects. During this period, 2 calls for projects are launched. For each small grant projects call, 5 to 10 of the best projects will be selected.

*This small grant call is supported by the French Global Environment Fund, the Albert II de Monaco Foundation and the Mava Foundation.*

## 2 OBJECTIVES OF THE SMALL GRANT PROJECTS CALL

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- Implementation of field projects on MPAs in the Mediterranean to improve marine conservation
- Strengthening the network of managers
- Providing knowledge, skills, and/or facilities to enhance the management of existing MPAs.
- Identification and dissemination of managers' experience and know-how
- Expertise-sharing and exchange visits between MPA managers
- Field application of knowledge acquired during training sessions attended in the Mediterranean

## 3 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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### 3.1 Eligible countries

Almost three quarters of the funds will be allocated to non-European Union countries: Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Albania.

The remaining quarter can be allocated to all the other Mediterranean countries:

- European Union countries: Spain, France, Italy, Slovenia, Greece, Cyprus, Malta
- Non-European Union countries: Monaco, Israel, Autonomous Palestinian Territories

### 3.2 Eligible project leaders

Project leaders must be:

- either **MPA manager** (that **must be or become member of the MedPAN organization prior to project implementation – or that must be existing partner of the MedPAN organization**) to be eligible for the call for small projects. The membership needs to be validated by the Board of Directors. *This procedure can take place once your project is selected if you are not yet a member or partner.*

OR

- **Moral entity** (NGO, Institution, ...) that is **involved with the management of the MPA** and/or work in close collaboration with the management body of the MPA and that is already partner of the MedPAN organization to be eligible for the call for small projects. If the project leaders are not the MPA managers, they should then provide proof that the MPA legal management body fully supports the proposal they put forth and that the two entities work in partnership. Proof of collaboration documents is required by MedPAN to be sent with the project proposal.

**The types of eligible structures are the following:**

- States directly managing MPAs through ministerial departments or public institutions (such as national agencies for the protection of coastal areas/ for protected areas) managing MPAs;
- NGOs involved in MPA management or MPA creation (with a letter of support from the relevant Ministry & Authority);
- Research structures involved in MPAs (with a letter of support or proof of collaboration – eg. MoU – from the MPA management or Authority responsible for the creation of the MPA);
- Territorial collectivities directly managing MPAs (ex. local authorities).

**The structures must have:**

- a legal status allowing them to receive grants (structures without legal status can be supported by a recognized organization, provided that the project allows the eventual recognition of the beneficiary);
- confirmed experience and competence in MPA management and related activities.

Project proposals arising from MPAs under development which are not yet officially created can be taken into account and may be supported but they will have less priority than projects proposed by

existing MPAs. A document of support from the entity legally responsible for MPAs in country will be required.

MPA managers supported by the MedPAN North project (led by WWF France), MedPAN South project (led by WWF MedPO) and MedMPAnet project (led by the RAC/SPA) may submit project proposals. They will however be required to provide documents on the project underway or completed that also present the outcome/results of these initiatives. Also, they will have less priority in the project selection since they have already received funds for the implementation of actions through other sources. This may be tempered by demonstrating the 'added value' of the proposed project.

MedPAN members and partners involved in the Board of Directors, the Scientific Committee or the Advisory Committee of the MedPAN Organization or in the Coordination Committee of this Small Grant Call are not eligible for the Call.

### 3.3 Eligible Topics

Eligible topics	Examples of eligible activities
Improving at-sea monitoring and regulation enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information programme on regulation enforcement in the MPA (zoning, regulation, signboards),</li> <li>- Training of MPA personnel to better apply police procedures and at-sea inspection or cooperation procedures with the corresponding authorities</li> <li>- Implementation and training on MPA surveillance and control legal tools (laws, charters, ...)</li> </ul>
Implementing phases of management planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of participative processes for the elaboration of management plans (consultation meetings, drafting and initiating activities of the plan) as part of potential initiatives resulting from the small project.</li> <li>- Update and strengthening of management plans.</li> </ul>
Assessing management efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collection of information to lead a management efficiency assessment study</li> </ul>
Elaborating business plans, innovative funding mechanisms to provide financial resources to the MPAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drafting of business plans for MPAs (long-term funding plans indicating resources and uses as well as annual balances).</li> <li>- Implementation of business plan recommendations: cost-cutting plans and/or resource recovery improvement plans.</li> <li>- Project for the implementation of innovative funding</li> </ul>

	mechanisms for the MPA.
Implementing communication and environmental education actions intended for MPA users and the general public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communication tools (web, leaflets, newsletter...),</li> <li>- Educational tools (educational kits for schools),</li> <li>- Information tools for the visitors (exhibitions, species/habitats cards, information boards on site...),</li> <li>- Underwater trails,</li> <li>- "Awareness-raising patrols"</li> <li>- Volunteer programmes,</li> <li>- Visitor centers</li> <li>- Field courses</li> </ul>
Implementing consultation and mediation processes with the MPA stakeholders (tourism, fisheries, elected representatives...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of a consultation process relying on mediation experts that should result on the improvement of the management efficiency or the reduction of impacts and pressure on the MPA.</li> </ul>
Implementing sustainable management of tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elaboration, implementation of best practice guides and charters (related to visits, diving activities, recreational boating activities, catering, etc)</li> <li>- Training of guides, dive clubs, boating and catering professionals,</li> <li>- Tourism development controlled strategy around the MPA</li> <li>- Implementation of ecotourism label</li> <li>- Development of sanitary infrastructures or waste collection/recycling equipment in connection with the welcome on the site.</li> </ul>
Implementing sustainable management of fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elaboration, implementation and dissemination of best practice guides and professional and recreational fishing charters,</li> <li>- Participative elaboration, with professional fishermen, of regulation and fishery resource management plans,</li> <li>- Study on the promotion of fishery resources in the MPA (brands, development of local networks to sell the fishery products...)</li> <li>- Studies on the development of alternative livelihoods and/or income generating activities for the fishermen</li> <li>- Studies on the creation of artificial reefs (feasibility studies)</li> </ul>
Implementing technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of a Geographic Information System on</li> </ul>

tools to facilitate MPA management and monitoring	<p>the MPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of a database that includes all the monitoring data of the MPA</li> </ul>
Strengthening ecological and socio-economic monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ecological (species, habitats) and socio-economic monitoring (professional fishing, recreational fishing, tourism/visitor use, urban development)</li> <li>- Evaluation of the benefits of the MPA for the local economy</li> </ul>
Improving the monitoring of terrestrial and marine invasive species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring presence and distribution of the invasive species in the MPA (including alien invasive species)</li> <li>- Management plan including components related to invasive species (including alien invasive species) – including raising awareness</li> <li>- Tested actions against invasive species</li> </ul>
Monitoring and/or adaptation to climate changes impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring of the indicators related to climate changes</li> <li>- Management plan including components related to climate changes</li> <li>- Raise awareness of climate change issues among decision makers and the general public</li> </ul>

## 4 TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS EXPECTED

The Small Grant Projects Call will strengthen the MPA management efficiency of the MedPAN Network through small actions involving external experts or through expertise-sharing between MPA managers and exchange projects between the sites. Thus, three types of projects are promoted:

1. Small projects led by MPA managers requesting expertise and willing to strengthen the skills of their team on the different topics listed above.
2. Small projects led by MPA managers willing to implement technical exchanges with another site in the Mediterranean.
3. Small projects for the application of knowledge acquired during training organized by MedPAN and partners (MedPAN North, MedPAN South, MedMPAnet projects).

## 5 PROJECT FUNDING TERMS

The global amount of the project has to be **10 000 euros** at least.

For each project, the MedPAN Organization maximum contribution will amount to **20,000 Euros**.

Concerning the rate of financing from MedPAN Organization, it depends on the 3 cases presenting below:

- if the project benefits from International co-funding (international donors, international NGOs or private companies), **the maximum rate of financing from MedPAN will be 50% of the global amount of the project,**
- if the project benefits from co-funding from local partnerships (contributions from populations, NGOs, local territorial collectivities), **the maximum rate of financing from MedPAN will be 75% of the global amount of the project,**
- if the project presents a self-funding that could be an evaluation of time spent by their personnel or through material supply (ship, equipment...); **the maximum rate of financing from MedPAN will be 75% of the global amount of the project.**

Therefore, all the files for which the co-funding percentage requested to MedPAN Organization is greater than 50% or 75% (depending on the different cases above) will not be examined.

Project duration: **maximum of 12 months for this 2<sup>nd</sup> call**. In all cases, projects must be completed on 31 March 2013 at the latest.

A single project leader can submit several application files for a single call for projects but only one proposal can obtain a grant.

The number of project proposals selected per country may be limited.

The grant application forms must include realistic objectives and results (including figures) expected at the end of the project.

## 6 SELECTION PROCEDURE

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The selection procedure is divided into the following steps:

1. First evaluation of the application by the Scientific Officer of the MedPAN Organization according to the eligibility criteria and a pre-established notation grill based on the content expected & described in the present Rules. The Scientific Officer will eliminate the projects which are not compliant with the framework of the Small Grant Call.
2. The Steering Committee of the Small Grant Projects Call will review the list of applications and carry out an evaluation according to pre-established criteria. A short list of applications should then be established.

3. For projects including technical or scientific complexities, the Secretariat **may ask**, if necessary, the opinion of Scientific Committee experts in order to validate the technical capacity and feasibility of some applications.
4. Selected local experts may be consulted to give their opinion on the local background and complete the documents if necessary (focus of the actions, detailed budget, work programme, etc) in connection with the small project leading structure.
5. Final list of applications are submitted to the MedPAN Board of Directors for a decision.
6. Financial partners (FGEF, Albert II de Monaco Foundation) will be presented with the selection in order to provide validation through non-objection.

Projects will be assessed according to a rating grill including the following criteria:

- Eligibility of the topics and planned activities with regard to the objectives of the set in the Rules
- Feasibility of the project based on budgeted financial resources
- Project justification (issue covered by the project) demonstrating the 'added value' of implementing the project
- Technical and socio-economic objectives and feasibility of the project
- Adapted organizational and institutional framework for the proper implementation of the project
- Methodology for implementing activities
- Long-term achievements of the activities implemented

The selection process shall not exceed 2 months as from the closing date of the call for project. During this period, added information may be asked to the project leader.

MedPAN will notify each applicant of whether their proposal(s) has been selected.

## 7 IMPLEMENTATION

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The MedPAN Organization is responsible for the implementation of the programme. The beneficiary shall sign the funding agreement with the MedPAN Organization.

All the projects will systematically be subject to a final evaluation. Projects, depending on their nature, may also be subject to a mid-term evaluation. The Secretariat will provide support to project leaders for self-assessing progress and with reporting. The Secretariat will also provide templates for the financial report and activity report.

### **Grants will be disbursed in several installments:**

- For projects lasting less than one year: 50% of the funds when signing the convention and 50% upon submission of the final report,

- For projects lasting more than one year: 50% of the funds when signing the convention, 25% upon submission of the intermediate report and 25% upon submission of the final report.

## 8 FILE SUBMISSION

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The grant application form is available online and can be downloaded on the MedPAN website:

[www.medpan.org](http://www.medpan.org)

Only the application forms duly completed in accordance with the template form will be examined. The file shall be **submitted in Word format and PDF format**, in English or in French.

If possible, please provide:

- A copy of the legal document relating to the creation of (or intent to create) the MPA
- A map of the MPA to show its location and zoning if existing
- A copy of the management plan if one exists
- In case you are not the direct MPA manager, a letter of support and/or MoU and/or Collaboration document from the legal MPA managing entity

The file must be sent by email to: [chloe.webster@medpan.org](mailto:chloe.webster@medpan.org)

Grant application forms shall not be sent by post to the MedPAN Organization.

### **IMPORTANT**

In order to facilitate the selection process, please comply with the following indications:

- please name your file with the name of the your country and the name of the project leader (e.g. ALGERIA – AFED);
- please use the following template in your e-mail subject: COUNTRY-Name of MPA-Name of Project Leader-(number of proposal if several)
- please number the pages.

Only the applications received within the deadlines indicated on the MedPAN website and below will be examined.

*The dates for the next calls for projects are:*

*Closing of 2nd call: 06.02.2012    Decision 2nd call: 15.03.2012*

Applications can be received until 6:00pm (Paris time, GMT+1) on the closing day indicated above.

[Download the grant application form \(Word\)](#)