

Competitive tender for procurement of specialist marine data services for the Living High Seas project

OPEN CALL FOR TENDERS

Call reference	Specialist marine data services for the Living High Seas project
Date of publication	12 October 2026
Closing date for tenders	9 November 2026
Tender type	Open, competitive tender – single stage
Anticipated contract start date	1 January 2027
Contract duration	42 months (to end June 2030)
Contract value	Up to EUR 1.1M
Contracting organisation	Seascope Consultants Ltd
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Purpose of this document

This call for tender specifies what tasks and services Seascope Consultants Ltd (the **Contracting Authority**) intends to procure under the contract resulting from this procedure, including timelines, meetings and deliverables. It provides general information on the procedure, including who may participate and how, and sets out the criteria that will be applied to determine the successful contractor among the tenders received. It also provides information on how to submit a tender. The technical specifications set out in this call for tenders will form Annex I to the contract resulting from this procedure and will be binding on the contractor during the period of performance of the contract.

Indicative tender procedure timetable		
Milestone	Date	Notes
Call publication date	12 October 2026	
Closing date for queries	2 November 2026	Questions submitted by 17:00 BST ¹
Closing date for tender submission	9 November 2026	Tenders submitted by 17:00 GMT ¹
Evaluation of tenders	10-19 November 2026	Indicative
Notification of tender outcome	20 November 2026	Indicative
Contract signature	11 December 2026	Indicative, but must be completed before end 2026

¹ Note that the UK switches from British Summer Time (BST) to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) on 25 October 2026

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1. Scope and description of this call for tender

1.1 Context

Seascope Consultants Ltd seeks to contract a highly qualified and experienced team of marine spatial data experts to assist with the collation, management and assessment of scientific and technical data within an international, multi-partner ocean conservation project – Living High Seas.

1.2 About the Living High Seas project

Living High Seas (www.livinghighseas.org) is a multi-year project funded under Germany's [International Climate Initiative](#). The project aims to support implementation of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction ([BBNJ Agreement](#)) through the co-development of proposals for area-based management tools (ABMTs), including marine protected areas (MPAs) in selected areas of the world's ocean.

Living High Seas is coordinated by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), together with a range of implementing organisations (of which Seascope Consultants is one), partner countries, regional teams and local (country-based) action partners. A comprehensive summary of the project, its objectives, target regions and technical components is provided in Annex 1. The full project description will be shared with the successful tenderer.

1.3 About Seascope Consultants Ltd

Established in 2010, [Seascope Consultants Ltd](#) specialises in the provision of high-level advice to the marine sector, including regulatory bodies, policymakers, industry and NGOs. Our expertise includes coordination of marine scientific research, translation of scientific results to policy, strategic environmental management planning, stakeholder consultation and engagement, ocean governance issues and the management of marine knowledge. We work alongside leading scientists around the world, and are partners in a number of research programmes addressing marine issues. A key component of our portfolio is providing coordination and secretariat support for the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI; www.gobi.org), a role we have provided since 2013. Via GOBI, Seascope is involved as an implementing partner in the Living High Seas project, undertaking coordination and management of the process to identify, collate and analyse scientific data and other relevant marine knowledge necessary to build the evidence base that will underpin potential proposals for area-based management tools in the five Living High Seas target areas (Output I of the project).

1.4 About the contract awarded under this call for tenders

This call for tender will result in the award of a single fixed-term contract. A specimen contract is provided in Annex 2 for reference. In drawing up their bid, applicants should bear in mind the modalities laid out in the contract, particularly those on payments, performance of the contract, confidentiality, checks and

audits, and processing of personal data. Any limitation, amendment, or denial of the contract terms will lead to automatic exclusion from the procurement procedure.

1.5 Contract value and duration

The maximum budget available for this contract is EUR 1,100,000 (one million and one hundred thousand Euros). It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded by the end of December 2026, with a maximum duration of 42 months (to end no later than 30 June 2030).

1.6 Scope of work

1.6.1 Overview and objectives

As the partner responsible for Output 1 of Living High Seas, Seascope Consultants Ltd seeks to contract a team of marine spatial data experts to assist with the coordination, management and assessment of scientific and technical data within the project, mainly in relation to activities under Output I and (to a lesser extent) Output II of Living High Seas (see detail in the project description, Annex 1).

The team will be required to set and oversee the application of appropriate data protocols and standards, liaise with and support regional project teams on data issues, source relevant global environmental datasets to support the project's work, provide GIS and cartographic mapping support, undertake spatial data analyses, provide advice and technical guidance on spatial/jurisdictional aspects of ocean governance, input advice on ecosystem-based management and spatial management practices and approaches appropriate to areas beyond national jurisdiction, and provide – where necessary – relevant training and capacity development to the project's regional/local data teams.

Facilitation of technical regional workshops involving a range of stakeholders to drive decisions on the areas to be taken forward as ABMT/MPA proposals is a key role for the data team. It is anticipated that this process will draw on best practice and lessons learned from other international efforts on place-based ocean conservation and management, such as the CBD process for describing ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, FAO guidance on identifying vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the ISA's work to establish areas of particular environmental interest and regional environmental management plans.

It is important to note that the philosophy of Living High Seas is that the technical work is very much driven and led by the regional and local teams, with the guidance and support of the project's global teams. From the data perspective, this means that the local teams have responsibility for curating and managing data for their region, with oversight, support and guidance from the Living High Seas core data team. Project progress in each of the target regions is likely to advance on different timescales.

General objectives of the contract to be awarded:

1. Develop the Living High Seas global data coordination model to support the project's scientific and technical activities, based on international best practices in marine data management and spatial data analysis.
2. Working with the project's regional and local teams, ensure effective implementation of the data coordination model in the target regions, with consideration for any local capacity or infrastructure needs or adaptations.
3. Support and guide the project's regional teams to identify, compile and assess the best available biological, environmental and oceanographic data, scientific information and knowledge to create

a robust and validated knowledge base for each project scoping area, including information on threats and pressures on marine biodiversity, and identifying knowledge gaps.

4. Support the project's regional teams in the process of selecting sites meeting the criteria for ABMTs/MPAs as set out in the BBNJ Agreement and, where appropriate, collaboratively preparing ABMT/MPA proposals for selected candidate site(s), including consolidating the scientific and knowledge case, quantifying pressures and threats, and distilling evidence-based management needs and recommendations.
5. Provide input to the co-development of innovative, scalable and replicable ABMT/MPA management concepts for proposed sites, including on monitoring, control and surveillance approaches.
6. Where necessary and indicated by the baseline capacity assessment, provide relevant training and capacity development to the project's regional/local data teams.

A scoping study to explore options for the Living High Seas data coordination and operation was undertaken during the project's preparatory phase in 2025. The specifications described below draw on and build on the outcomes of that study, an extract of which is provided in Annex 3. The full study will be made available to the successful tenderer after contract signature.

1.6.2 Tasks and deliverables

This section describes the minimum level of tasks to be undertaken by the successful tenderer. The technical offer (see Section 3.3.1) should encompass a description of how and when the elements below will be achieved and delivered, set within the context of the broader Living High Seas objectives and activities (see Annex 1).

T1: Assess data capacities and infrastructure requirements in the target regions

- Input to the design of and analyse outcomes of the project's baseline capacity assessment to determine levels of data competence and infrastructure in the different target regions, and their implications for the design and implementation of the project data coordination model.
- Work with regional and local teams to determine capacity development priorities to support operationalisation of the data workflows and analyses necessary to achieve project goals.
- **Deliverable:** Capacity development approach for data management and spatial analysis activities in each of the project target regions, for incorporation into the project-wide capacity development strategy. To be delivered by end Q1 2027.

T2: Develop and implement the Living High Seas data coordination model

- Work with the relevant project teams to establish a data coordination model for the Living High Seas project that details how knowledge and data should be managed within the project, and what regional adaptations/flexibilities need to be implemented to make the system functional.
- Development of the data coordination model should include, *inter alia*, the assessment of and recommendations for:
 - the data standards, methodologies and best practices that should be adopted by the project;

- relevant global datasets that could/should be used in the project in addition to locally sourced data;
- a data provisioning workflow for making those global datasets available to regional teams;
- optimal data system architecture and functionalities, both at the global level and in the target regions.
- With the project's local and regional teams, establish an internal network of data managers and analysts. Convene regular meetings to discuss operational issues, resolve problems, ensure standardised approaches wherever possible, and identify opportunities for learning and development.
- **Deliverable:** An operational Living High Seas data coordination model, documented in a handbook that outlines the procedures, standards, protocols, workflows etc. to be observed throughout the project. This should be maintained as a live document throughout the project, regularly reviewed as necessary, and provide a basis for reflections on lessons learned at the end of the contract. Initial version to be delivered by end Q1 2027.

T3: Support the compilation and assessment of data and knowledge to guide selection of areas for ABMT/MPA proposals

- Work with the project's regional/local teams to guide the identification, compilation and assessment of the best available biological, environmental and oceanographic data, scientific information and knowledge to create a robust and validated knowledge base for each project scoping area. This should include information on threats and pressures, assessment of data coverage and identification of knowledge gaps.
- Support the regional/local teams in analysing the knowledge base to identify areas that may be suitable to consider as the basis for ABMT proposals according to the criteria and requirements laid out in the BBNJ Agreement. This process will involve online and in-person meetings, culminating in a regional technical workshop for each target region that engages all stakeholders to assess site options and come to a consensus recommendation on which (if any) areas have potential to develop into an ABMT proposal. This process should draw on lessons learned from other similar workshop-driven processes, such as that used by the CBD to describe EBSAs.
- Support regional/local teams to carry out an assessment of sites that have potential for consideration as ABMTs but which don't yet have sufficient data coverage, and help identify pathways to fill knowledge gaps – both at site level and in the wider region.
- **Anticipated timing:** This portion of the Output I process is currently anticipated to run through to Q3 2028.

T4: Support the development of ABMT/MPA proposals

- Work with local teams to support co-development of ABMT/MPA proposals for selected sites, based on the knowledge gathered during T3 activities and in line with the emerging BBNJ Agreement requirements for such proposals. This will include:
 - technical advice on jurisdictional/boundary issues;
 - expert advice on application of the ABMT indicative criteria, drawing on experience from other relevant criteria-based governance processes;
 - input to develop innovative, scalable and replicable management concepts, including on monitoring, control and surveillance;

- cartographic support (as required) to produce the necessary maps and spatial analyses for the proposals;
- Provide continued support and advice through the ABMT proposal review and iteration process, as required.
- **Anticipated timing:** This portion of the Output I process is currently anticipated to run from Q3 2028 to Q2 2030.

1.6.3 Meetings and travel

It is anticipated that appropriate representation from the core data team will be required at the following meetings as a minimum. Locations of in-person meetings are not yet known. Note that the regional technical workshop hosting budgets (covering venue costs, catering, external (non-LHS partner) participant travel, etc) are held centrally and do not need to be factored into the tender financial offer.

In person meetings	Online meetings
LHS global partnership meeting – annual	LHS Coordination Team meetings – bi-weekly; attendance as required by agenda topics
Regional technical workshops – one per scoping/target region, timing anticipated 2028/2029 depending on progress in each region	LHS Regional Team meetings – bi-weekly; attendance as required by agenda topics
Small-scale technical workshops in the target regions – as required (and may include capacity development activities); estimate 2-3 per year	Technical progress monitoring meetings with regional/local data teams – frequency to be decided
International conferences and external meetings – on an ad hoc basis; estimate at least 1 per year	Output I coordination team meetings – weekly

1.6.4 Intellectual property

If the results, outputs or activities proposed are not fully created for the purpose of the contract this should be clearly stated in the tender. Information should be provided about the scope of pre-existing materials, their source and when and how the rights to these materials have been or will be acquired.

In the tender all quotations or information originating from other sources and/or to which third parties may claim rights must be clearly marked or cited (such as: source publication including date and place, creator, number, full title etc.) in a way allowing easy identification.

1.6.5 General requirements

Activities under this contract shall be executed in line with the International Climate Initiative's Safeguarding Policy, available at <https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/PUBLICATION1675-1>.

2. Information on the tender procedure

2.1 Conditions of tender process

Tenders must be submitted according to the process set out in Section 4 of this document.

Tenderers must ensure that their submissions contain all the information and documents required as set out in this document and its annexes.

After submitting a tender, but before the deadline for receipt of tenders, a tenderer may definitively withdraw their tender. In this case, the tenderer must send written notification that they wish to withdraw their bid to tenders@seascopeconsultants.co.uk

No more than one tender can be considered per tenderer. If a tenderer submits more than one bid, neither of which has been withdrawn as described above, only the latest tender will be considered. The tenderer may not refer to earlier submitted tenders to complement, clarify or correct its latest tender.

Submission of a tender implies acceptance of all the terms and conditions set out in this procurement document and its annexes and, where appropriate, waiver of the tenderer's own general or specific terms and conditions. The submitted tender is binding on the tenderer to whom the contract is awarded for the duration of the contract.

All costs incurred for the preparation and submission of tenders are to be borne by the tenderers and will not be reimbursed.

Tenders shall remain valid for at least 90 days after the deadline for submission, subject to extension. During this period, tenderers may not modify the terms of their submitted tender in any respect.

This call for tender is in no way binding on the contracting authority, Seascope Consultants Ltd. The contracting authority's contractual obligation commences only when the contract with the successful tenderer is signed by both parties. Up to the point of signature of the contract, the contracting authority may cancel the procurement procedure without tenderers being entitled to claim any compensation.

2.2 Eligibility

This call for tender is open to single organisations or legal entities who pass the exclusion criteria detailed in this procurement document and its annexes, and who possess the technical capacity, expertise and know-how to successfully deliver the services detailed in this document. Tenders from consortia or groups of organisations will not be considered.

2.3 Subcontracting

Subcontracting of any part of the work under this contract is not permitted.

2.4 Queries and clarifications

Questions of clarification about the process, submission procedure or technical specifications can be emailed to tenders@seascopeconsultants.co.uk up to one week (7 days) before the call closure deadline. Queries will be answered by email within 4 working days of receipt.

2.5 Data protection

If submission of a tender to this call involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as name, address and CV), such data will be processed pursuant to the [UK General Data Protection Regulation \(UK GDPR\)](#) and the UK [Data Protection Act 2018](#). Unless indicated otherwise, any personal data will be processed solely for the purposes of tender evaluation and any subsequent procurement audit checks as required by the project funding institution.

3. Tender evaluation and award

3.1 Exclusion criteria

The objective of the exclusion criteria is to assess whether tenderers are in any of the exclusion situations summarised below. Tenderers found to be in an exclusion situation will be rejected.

Exclusion criteria include:

- Organisations that are bankrupt, subject to insolvency, liquidation processes or winding-up procedures;
- Organisations that are in breach of its obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions in accordance with the applicable law;
- Organisations that have been legally judged to be guilty of grave professional misconduct by having violated applicable laws, regulations or ethical standards, including in relation but not limited to: gross negligence, fraud, distortion, corruption, infringing intellectual property rights, incitement to discrimination, hatred or violence, money laundering, terrorist activities or financing thereof, human trafficking, and child labour.

As evidence of non-exclusion, tenderers shall submit with their tender a **Declaration of honour**, provided in Annex 4. The declaration must be signed by an authorised representative of the entity providing the declaration.

The documents mentioned as supporting evidence in the declaration on honour need to be provided whenever requested and where this is necessary to ensure the proper conduct of the procurement procedure within a deadline given by the contracting authority.

Before the selection decision, the contracting authority may request documentary evidence on compliance with the exclusion criteria set out in the technical specifications. All tenderers are invited to prepare in advance the documents related to the evidence, since they may be requested to provide such evidence within a short deadline. Failure to provide valid documentary evidence within the deadline set by the contracting authority shall lead to the rejection of the tender from the award of the contract, unless the tenderer can justify the failure on grounds of material impossibility. A request for documentary evidence in no way implies that the tenderer has been successful.

3.2 Selection criteria

The objective of the selection criteria is to assess whether the tenderer has the legal, regulatory, economic, financial, technical, and professional capacity to perform the contract.

The selection criteria for this call for tenders, including the minimum levels of capacity, the basis for assessment, and the evidence required, are specified in the table below.

Bids submitted by tenderers not meeting the minimum level of capacity will be rejected. The contracting authority reserves the right to reject a tenderer where it is established that it has conflicting professional interests which may negatively affect the performance of the contract.

When submitting their tender, tenderers shall declare on honour that they fulfil the selection criteria for the calls for tenders. The declaration of honour template is provided as Annex 4. The initial assessment of whether a tenderer fulfils the selection criteria will be performed based on the submitted declarations.

The selection criteria will be assessed as a first step by the evaluation committee. Failure to comply with these criteria will result in the tender not being evaluated further by the evaluation committee. Tenderers may be asked to provide additional proof, or to clarify the supporting documents, related to the selection criteria within a specific timeframe.

All evidence listed in the table below must be provided with the submission of tender. All tender documents must be prepared in English.

Selection criteria – submission of evidence	
A. Legal and regulatory capacity	
Requirement	All tenderers are required to prove that they are authorised to perform the contract under the applicable national law
Evidence required	Completed legal identification form (Annex 5), signed by the organisation's bank Copy of statute, company registration document or other document verifying legal identity
Submission	With submission of tender documents
B. Economic and financial capacity	
Requirement	Tenderers must be in a stable financial position and have the economic and financial capacity to perform the contract Tenderers must demonstrate, for each of the past three financial years for which accounts have been closed, annual turnover of at least EUR 750,000 (seven hundred and fifty thousand euros)
Evidence required	Simplified financial statement (use template provided in Annex 6) completed and signed by a legally authorised representative for the tenderer
Submission	With submission of tender documents
C. Technical and professional capacity	
Tenderers must comply with the following selection criteria in order to prove that they have the necessary technical and professional capacity to perform the contract:	

Requirement	The tenderer must have extensive and demonstrable experience of at least 10 (ten) years in providing expert services in the area of marine geospatial data management and ecological analysis in the high seas. In particular, the tenderer must demonstrate experience in providing expert technical support to international marine spatial management and governance processes, the ability to work with multiple stakeholders who may have conflicting views and priorities, and of working in diplomatically sensitive areas.
Evidence required	1. Description of the organisation Summary (max. 500 words) of the tendering organisation, its expertise and track record in the technical areas relevant to this call for tender. 2. Human resources CVs (max. 3 pages each) detailing the educational and professional qualifications of the tenderer's project manager as well as those of the technical and scientific staff, indicating the required professional experience as follows: a) <u>Team Leader/Principal Investigator:</u> CV documenting a proven track record of managing expert teams delivering high-quality, internationally recognised marine geospatial data services focused on the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, including: – minimum 10 years' experience in successfully managing international marine geospatial data initiatives; – detailed knowledge of marine data-driven processes in underpinning conservation and spatial management efforts - in particular the CBD EBSA process and area-based management provisions in the BBNJ Agreement; – in-depth familiarity with international conventions and protocols dealing with marine conservation, sustainable use of marine resources, spatial planning and ocean governance; – experience in providing high-level advice to governments, sectoral bodies and other competent authorities on ocean governance issues and spatial protection measures; – proven skills in facilitating international scientific/technical workshops to achieve consensus decision making through criteria-based assessments of scientific data. b) <u>Technical Coordinator:</u> CV demonstrating at least 8 years' experience in coordinating technical programmes of work in the field of marine geospatial data analysis, including: – detailed knowledge of international marine data standards, protocols and best practices; – analyses combining marine geospatial and ecological data at a variety of scales to inform decision-making and spatial management/conservation strategies; – application of the latest GIS and remote sensing technologies as well as new modelling approaches to underpin marine protection efforts; – practical knowledge of jurisdictional issues and boundary challenges in the context of marine spatial planning;

	– experience of working on international projects with multiple partners of varying skill levels and capacities; – track record of delivering successful capacity building and learning activities in relation to marine data management and spatial analyses. c) <u>Project Manager:</u> CV demonstrating at least 5 years' experience in managing projects and grants in relevant fields, including: – Appropriate knowledge of the relevant technical subject(s); – Successful monitoring and management of project resources to achieve timely delivery of project objectives and compliance with contract conditions; – Establishment of efficient reporting mechanisms (both technical and financial aspects), including liaising with institutional administrative teams, to ensure effective and timely reporting to the contracting authority; – Effective liaison between technical teams, wider project communities and external stakeholders to ensure smooth flow of information and communication of project activities. d) <u>Scientific and technical staff:</u> Minimum 4 (four) CVs, each documenting a minimum of 5 years' relevant professional experience in the fields of marine geospatial data management and analysis, sufficient to meet the requirements laid out in Section 1.6.
	3. Relevant experience and track record in providing comparable services A list of at least 5 (five) projects/contracts awarded directly to the tenderer in technical areas relevant to this call, each with a minimum value of EUR 200,000 (two hundred thousand Euros), completed within the last 5 years. <u>In addition</u>, list at least two relevant projects/contracts completed in the last 5 years funded by different regional or international competent authorities with ocean management mandates. The list of projects/contracts must be provided using the template provided in Annex 7. Full details must be provided for each project listed, as required by the table. To be considered relevant, the projects/contracts must collectively demonstrate the tenderer's experience and expertise in carrying out tasks similar to those listed in Section 1.6 of this document. Where the projects/contracts have been performed by a consortium of organisations, the value taken into account shall be limited to the share of the project/contract performed by the tenderer itself. In case of projects/contracts still ongoing, only the portion completed to date will be taken into consideration. As supporting documents for each project/contract referenced in the tender, the contracting authority may request statements issued by the clients and make contact with them.
Submission	With submission of tender documents

	4. Relevant products and outputs At least 5 (five) examples of relevant data products, reports or other technical outputs, produced in the past 5 years, to demonstrate the tenderer's capabilities of producing quality data-driven outputs to inform decision making. The list of products/outputs must be provided using the template provided in Annex 8. Full details must be provided for each product listed, as required by the table.
Submission	With submission of tender documents

3.3 Tender evaluation and award criteria

The assessment method used to determine the choice of the tender will be based on the most advantageous tender in terms of its quality (technical merits) and its financial value (price), according to the criteria and weightings given in the following sections. Only tenders meeting the exclusion and selection criteria will progress to this stage of technical and financial evaluation.

3.3.1 Technical merit

Tenderers are required to provide a **technical offer** addressing all the services, tasks and mandatory requirements described in Section 1.6 and providing the information requested in relation to all the award criteria below.

Technical offers should be limited to a maximum of 10 pages of A4 size, using a minimum font size of 10 point, a clear font (e.g. Aptos, Arial, Calibri or similar), minimum 1.15 line spacing, and standard A4 page margins of 2.5 cm. The page limit excludes references and table of contents, but includes figures, tables and annexes. If a technical offer exceeds the 10-page limit, only the first 10 pages will be considered. Note that the technical offer document may refer to, but should not duplicate, the documentary evidence requested to prove a tenderer's technical and professional capacity (Section 3.2, criteria group C).

Tenders will be evaluated following the criteria set out in the table below, producing a total potential technical merit score of 420 points.

Evaluation of the technical offer will be carried out alongside scoring of the quality of the evidence provided against the technical and professional capacity criteria (Section 3.2, criteria group C) to give an overall technical score. Only tenders that achieve the minimum number of points for each award criteria group and at least 75% of the potential maximum overall score (i.e., a total of 315 points) will be considered for the next stage of evaluation, and the final ranking and award of the contract. Tenders that do not pass the minimum technical score threshold will be regarded as unsuitable.

Award criteria – technical evaluation scoring			
No.	Award criteria	Max points	Min points
1.	Technical offer evaluation	130	97.5
1.1	Interpretation of objectives		
1.1.1	Interpretation and understanding of objectives in the tender specifications	(10)	

1.1.2	Critical examination of tasks	(10)	
1.2	Understanding of context		
1.2.1	Understanding of relevant processes and frameworks	(10)	
1.2.2	Understanding of relevant actors and institutions	(10)	
1.2.3	Understanding of relevant regional and international dynamics	(10)	
1.3	Strategic approach to the work		
1.3.1	Approach to developing the LHS data coordination model	(10)	
1.3.2	Building relationships with the relevant actors	(10)	
1.3.3	Consideration of capacity baselines and development opportunities in the target regions	(10)	
1.3.4	Approach to sourcing and utilising relevant scientific data and knowledge to support potential ABMT site selection	(10)	
1.3.5	Approach to supporting ABMT proposal development	(10)	
1.3.6	Distribution of roles, responsibilities and effort across the core data team	(10)	
1.4	Project management		
1.4.1	Appropriate monitoring and reporting processes	(10)	
1.4.2	Institutional finance/admin management support	(10)	
2.	Technical and professional capacity: Organisation	30	22.5
2.1	Organisation track record		
2.1.1	Track record of delivering relevant expert services as required by the tender specifications	(10)	
2.1.2	International standing/reputation	(10)	
2.1.3	Diplomacy and sensitivity	(10)	
3.	Technical and professional capacity: Personnel	160	120
3.1	Team leader		
3.1.1	Professional technical qualifications	(10)	
3.1.2	Knowledge and experience in relevant technical fields	(10)	
3.1.3	Leadership and management	(10)	
3.1.4	Technical workshop facilitation	(10)	
3.1.5	Experience and knowledge of relevant international processes	(10)	
3.2	Technical coordinator		
3.2.1	Professional technical qualifications	(10)	
3.2.2	Knowledge and experience in relevant fields	(10)	
3.2.3	Coordination of relevant technical activities	(10)	
3.2.4	Capacity building in relevant topics	(10)	
3.3	Project manager		

3.3.1	Professional technical qualifications	(10)	
3.3.2	Knowledge and experience in relevant fields	(10)	
3.3.3	Project management and monitoring	(10)	
3.3.4	Liaison and communication	(10)	
3.4	Scientific and technical team (minimum 4 staff)		
3.4.1	Professional technical qualifications	(10)	
3.4.2	Knowledge and experience in relevant fields	(10)	
3.4.3	Overall spread/complementarity of technical skills	(10)	
4.	Technical and professional capacity: Project record	50	37.5
4.1	Portfolio relevance		
4.1.1	Relevance of projects presented – subject area	(10)	
4.1.2	Relevance of projects presented – client/funder	(10)	
4.2	Portfolio quality		
4.2.1	Role of tenderer in projects presented	(10)	
4.2.2	Recentness of projects	(10)	
4.2.3	Impact of projects	(10)	
5.	Technical and professional capacity: Products/outputs	50	37.5
5.1	Portfolio relevance		
5.1.1	Relevance of products presented – subject area	(10)	
5.1.2	Relevance of products presented – client/funder	(10)	
5.2	Portfolio quality		
5.2.1	Variety of products presented	(10)	
5.2.2	Recentness of products	(10)	
5.2.3	Impact/uptake/useability of products	(10)	

3.3.2 Financial offer

Tenderers are requested to submit a detailed **financial offer** giving the all-inclusive price in **EUR** by completing the template attached as Annex 9 to these tender specifications. All tenderers must quote their prices in EUR regardless of their location or local currency. The financial offer must include all applicable charges, noting that overheads (indirect costs) are limited to a maximum of 25% of direct costs. The price quoted may not be revised as a consequence of exchange rate movements. It is for the tenderer to bear the risks or the benefits deriving from any exchange rate variation.

Only those tenders passing the minimum technical score threshold will have their financial offer evaluated. Assessment of the financial offer will be based on i) the appropriateness of budget and resource distribution to achieve the work proposed in the technical offer, and ii) value for money against the market rate. Financial offers will be evaluated according to the score matrix in the table below.

Award criteria – financial evaluation scoring		
No.	Award criteria	Max points
6.	<i>Budget considerations</i>	60
6.1	Overall scope of budget – does it adequately cover all elements of work?	(10)
6.2	Appropriate allocation of budget to non-labour categories	(10)
6.3	Distribution of effort among team members	(10)
6.4	Distribution of effort and resources across project years	(10)
6.5	Price index, calculated as: (lowest-priced tender passing the technical evaluation threshold / price of tender in question) x 20	(20)

3.4 Tender outcome and award

The contract shall be awarded to the tender achieving the best (highest) combined score from the technical and financial evaluations.

Tenderers will be notified of the outcome of this procurement procedure by e-mail to the address provided by the tenderer at the time of submission. The same e-mail address will be used by the contracting authority for all other communications with the tenderer. It is the tenderer's responsibility to provide a valid e-mail address and to check it regularly.

3.5 Contracting process

Following acceptance of the contract award by the successful tenderer, the contract signature process will be concluded as quickly as possible. A sample contract is provided in Annex 2; the terms of this contract are non-negotiable. The tender specification documentation forms Annex I to the contract that will be issued by Seascope; the tenderer's successful bid forms Annex II.

Up to the point of signature, the contracting authority may either abandon the procurement or cancel the award procedure, without the tenderers being entitled to claim any compensation.

4. Form and content of tender

4.1 How to submit the tender

Tenders must be received by email to tenders@seascopeconsultants.co.uk no later than 17:00 GMT on Monday 9 November 2026. Submissions received after this deadline (according to the email timestamp on the receiving inbox) will not be considered.

Tenderers must ensure that their submitted tenders contain all the information and documents required as set out in this procurement document.

4.2 Document submission checklist

The full list of documents required to be submitted by tenderers in response to this call is as follows:

Document submission checklist		
Document	Guidance	Template
Declaration of honour	Sections 3.1 & 3.2	Annex 4
Legal identification form	Section 3.2, part A	Annex 5
Copy of statute, company registration document or other document verifying legal identity	Section 3.2, part A	-
Financial statements for the past 3 closed financial years	Section 3.2, part B	Annex 6
Technical and professional capacity evidence: description of the tendering organisation and staff CVs	Section 3.2, part C	-
Technical and professional capacity evidence: List of relevant projects/ contracts	Section 3.2, part C	Annex 7
Technical and professional capacity evidence: List of relevant products/outputs	Section 3.2, part C	Annex 8
Technical offer	Section 3.3.1 – note page limit	-
Financial offer	Section 3.3.2	Annex 9

4.3 Confidentiality

Once the contracting authority has opened a tender, it becomes its property and shall be treated confidentially, subject to the following:

- For the purposes of evaluating the tender and, if applicable, implementing the contract, performing audits, benchmarking, etc. the contracting authority is entitled to make available any part of the tender to its staff as well to other persons and entities working for, or cooperating with, the contracting authority, provided that they are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.
- After the signature of the contract arising from this call for tender, unsuccessful tenderers whose tenders were received in accordance with the submission and eligibility modalities can make a written request to be notified of the name of the tenderer to whom the contract is awarded, the characteristics and relative advantages of the successful tender and its total financial tender amount.
- The contracting authority may decide to withhold certain information that it assesses as being confidential, in particular where its release would prejudice the legitimate commercial interests of economic operators or might distort fair competition between them.
- The contracting authority will disregard general statements that the whole tender or substantial parts of it contain confidential information. Tenderers must mark clearly the information they consider

confidential and explain why it may not be disclosed. The contracting authority reserves the right to make its own assessment of the confidential nature of any information contained in the tender.

5. List of Annexes

The following Annexes form part of this call for tender and are provided as separate documents:

Annex 1	Description of the Living High Seas project
Annex 2	Sample contract
Annex 3	Living High Seas data coordination model scoping study
Annex 4	Declaration of Honour
Annex 5	Legal identification form
Annex 6	Simplified financial statement template
Annex 7	Relevant projects/contracts list template
Annex 8	Relevant products/outputs list template
Annex 9	Financial offer template