Call for Applicants

ARTEMIS | Interreg Euro-MED

Co-funded by the European Union

ecoacsa

1. Context and Objectives

About Ecoacsa:
Ecoacsa is a Spanish environmental consultancy created in 2012, based in Alcorcón (Madrid, Spain), whose objective **is to promote the value of nature through the involvement of both the public and private sectors,** focusing on outreach, innovation, and understanding its utility for businesses and organizations.

We provide **technical expertise to companies and organizations interested in understanding their interaction with natural capital** to promote decisions that are aligned with planetary boundaries and create value for both people and the planet. This is the best way to drive a transformation that halts the loss of natural capital and contributes to the well-being of all and the health of our planet.

In recent years, Ecoacsa is strongly pushing for the development of **innovative financial solutions** for the integration of **marine natural capital** into political and investment Ocean restoration agendas.

About the ARTEMIS project:

The ARTEMIS project is funded by the Interreg Euro-MED Programme and aims at **accelerating the restoration of *Posidonia Oceanica* and other seagrass meadows and the associated ecosystem services** and ecological functions in the Euro-Mediterranean region by enhancing restoration techniques**, developing financial solutions**, and integrating the values of these seagrass meadows into policies and investment programmes. ARTEMIS integrates the societal and monetary values of ecosystem services (ES) from seagrass meadows into policies and technical investments (cutting-edge restoration protocols), financial (first **payment systems for ecosystem services (PES)** targeting multiple ES), and relevant public and private investments to accelerate the restoration of seagrass meadows in the Mediterranean region.

Background and context:

In the framework of Activity 2.3 of the ARTEMIS project,

- This task relates to establishment of **Natural Capital Accounting tool** and valuation of seagrass ecosystem services per pilot which is due in Period 4, i.e. by the end of 2025.
- **Responsible partners** are Ecoacsa for the NCA tool and ISPRA for the monetary valuation of ES.

2. Task Description

The concept of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) is as a method to quantify the value of natural resources, integrate environmental factors into economic planning, and support market-based conservation funding.

NCA considers both abiotic and biotic assets through three key elements:

- Stocks (natural resources and ecosystems).
- Flows (benefits derived from nature).
- Monetary Valuation (economic assessment of ecosystem services).

Ecosystem services are categorized into provisioning, regulatory, and cultural services, highlighting nature's essential role in the economy. Monetary valuation plays a crucial role in justifying conservation investments by demonstrating financial returns and attracting corporate and governmental support. To ensure transparency and credibility, robust metrics are necessary for tracking progress and building stakeholder confidence in environmental investments.

International Framework for Natural Capital Accounting (NCA)

The NCA framework is divided into stock accounts and flow accounts, each with both physical and monetary components. To implement an effective natural capital accounting system, three key factors must be assessed:

1. Condition and extent of natural assets.
2. Biophysical flow of ecosystem services.
3. Monetary valuation of these services.

Needs

NCA shall be credible and measurable. Thereby, it will be appealing not only to users who will input their seagrass data, but also to potential buyers of Ecosystem Services in a later stage. In the context of ARTEMIS, two key ecosystem services can be effectively quantified in monetary terms:

- Carbon Storage: Requires selecting appropriate valuation methods from existing literature or market-based pricing models.
- Biodiversity Conservation: Should be valued based on management costs incurred by public authorities, establishing a cost per unit (hectare or square meter) to create a marketable monetary value.

📌 **Objective 1:** Help ensure that Ecosystem Services derived from Seagrass meadows (blue carbon capture and storage, and biodiversity protection) are well accounted, assigning a monetary value to these ecosystem services, bridging the gap between ecological science and economic valuation. Consequently, multiple stakeholders involved in the preservation of Mediterranean marine ecosystems can make use of the tool.

3. Timeline of services and deliverables

The duration of the service is estimated at 28 days spread over 2 months (July 2025 to August 2025). Approximately 7 days should be dedicated to the first specific objective and 5 days to the second specific objective.

Regarding the specific objective 1, it is expected that the consulting firm awarded the contract will adhere to the planned deadlines:

#	Services and Deliverables	Date
1	Marine Value Tool (draft): Updates on underwater biophysical and monetary accounts	31/07/2025
2	Marine Value Tool (final version). Tool with underwater cartography layers and user-friendly design	31/08/2025

4. Work assessment

The consulting firm awarded the contract will be supervised by the ARTEMIS team at Ecoacsa.

- Sofia Zerbarini, Environmental Economist, sofiazerbarini@ecoacsa.com
- David Álvarez, CEO of Ecoacsa, davidalvarez@ecoacsa.com

Coordination with ARTEMIS partners won't be expected yet will be possible with ISPRA and pilot partners at a later stage.

5. Requirements requested to candidates

Academic Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering, Software Engineering, or a similar discipline, or a diploma certifying completion of a professional training course in software development or a related field. Having a master's degree in Software and Computer Systems or related areas will be positively valued.

Years of experience:

- A minimum five years of experience in working as a software engineer or related position.

Competencies:

- High level of computer literacy and advanced command over Ecosystem Services valuation tools

Communicating and Information Sharing:

- Facilitate and encourage open communication and strive for effective communication.

Proven knowledge and/or familiarity with environment and development issues in the Mediterranean.

Demonstrated skills in knowledge intensive, data visualization to produce compelling and visually engaging designs for digital biophysical and monetary accounts.

Language Requirements:

- Fluency in Spanish is required, English, Italian and French language are a plus

6. Contractual and financial terms

The acceptance of the offer of the successful tender will implicate the acceptance of the conditions and schedules detailed in the ToRs.

A duly-issued invoice will be required for payment at the presentation of the final document. The payment term for the invoice will be by bank transfer 15 days after the invoice date. The following mandatory information should be provided:

- Full name + address of the service provider
- Tax number (for Spain and non-Spain)
- Invoice issuance date
- Invoice number
- Service description (e.g., name of the deliverable)
- Amount excluding taxes (HT), VAT, and total amount (TTC), in the currency specified in the contract
- Payment due date

The tax legislation in force at the date of acceptance of the offer will be applied.

7. How to apply

Interested candidates are invited to submit the following documents:

- A technical offer, including a resume showcasing relevant experience related to software development and design, working with multi stakeholder cooperation projects and if possible, with a link to environmental issues in the Mediterranean.
- A financial offer with an estimation of working days.

The application files must be submitted no later than June 20 th, 2025 to paula.castillo@ecoacsa.com and mpferrer@ecoacsa.com

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“We promote the value of nature”