CALL FOR CONSULTANCY N°46/2026_SPA/RAC

Clarifications

Tunis, 02 November 2026.

This note is sent to all bidders and forms part of the call for consultancy documents.

Q1. National and regional questionnaires (D2).

Could you confirm whether the questionnaires referred to in Deliverable 2 have already been prepared and released to the Contracting Parties and regional partners? If so, what is the deadline for their responses? If not, what is the expected release date? This will help us tailor the proposed work plan.

SPA/RAC answer:

The national questionnaire (Lime Survey platform) was released to all Contracting Parties through the Post-2020 SAPBIO National Correspondents in August 2026. The deadline for responses, initially set at the end of September 2026, was extended to 3 November 2026. The responses received to date, and those received after that date, will be made available to the consultants at contract signature.

The questionnaire addressed to regional organisations was released by SPA/RAC, the deadline for responses expected by 19 November 2026.

Q2. Timeline for D4, D5 and D6.

Deliverable 5 (20 January 2027) is expected to incorporate the advanced draft of the MCPA/OECM Strategy evaluation, which is scheduled for 31 January 2027, the same date as Deliverable 6. To make sure the findings for Targets 1.4 and 1.5 and Action 15 are properly integrated and consistent across both reports, would SPA/RAC consider extending the deadline for Deliverable 6 by 7 to 10 days? Or are there institutional constraints, such as the Advisory Committee calendar or others, that require the preliminary draft by 31 January 2027?

SPA/RAC answer:

The advanced draft of the MCPA/OECM Strategy evaluation report scheduled for 20 January 2027as indicated within the table of the section 4 which is 10 days before the deadline of D6.

No extension of the deadline of D6 is therefore necessary.

Typographical correction: the deadline of D3 is 20 December 2026.

Q3. Validation with National Correspondents.

The CfC requires the sub-regional findings to be validated with the National Correspondents. Could you confirm that this validation will take place through meetings facilitated by SPA/RAC, for example one online session per sub-region, rather than individual bilateral meetings with each National Correspondent?

SPA/RAC answer:

Validation of the sub-regional findings will take place through a single online meeting with all Post-2020 SAPBIO National Correspondents, convened and facilitated by SPA/RAC; on the basis of the preliminary draft (D6) already discussed with the Advisory committee. Then no sub-regional sessions and no individual meetings with National Correspondents are foreseen; written follow-up on specific gaps is handled by e-mail through SPA/RAC. The outcomes of this meeting are incorporated in D7A (25 April 2027).

Q4. Scope of work after Deliverable 7B.

Deliverable 7B is due 15 days after the 18th SPA/BD Focal Points meeting (26–28 May 2027, TBC), while Article 8 sets completion "no later than 30 September 2027" and Section 4 states that the remaining months are devoted to presenting the report to the governing bodies and revising it. Could you clarify: whether the consultants are expected to provide further support between Deliverable 7B and 30 September 2027 (e.g. additional revisions, clarifications or presentations), and if so, of what nature; whether participation in the Advisory Committee, the 13th National Correspondents meeting and the 18th SPA/BD Focal Points meeting, including travel days, is expected to be covered within the 7 working days allocated to Deliverable 7; and, should additional work be expected after Deliverable 7B, whether the number of working days could be adjusted accordingly.

SPA/RAC answer:

D7A (25 April 2027) is the draft submitted as the working document of the 13th Meeting of the National Correspondents (25 May 2027). The final report (D7B), reflecting the conclusions of the 13th Meeting of the National Correspondents as recorded by SPA/RAC, is presented by the lead consultant to the 18th Meeting of SPA/BD Focal Points (26-28 May 2027), which endorses it and agrees on its transmission to the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points and COP 25. Any adjustments requested by the Focal Points are made by the consultants during the meeting, so that the endorsed version is handed over to SPA/RAC at the close of the meeting. The deadline of 15 days after the meeting mentioned in the Terms of Reference is therefore not applicable.

No deliverable, revision or support is expected after the 18th Meeting of SPA/BD Focal Points. The date of 30 September 2027 in Article 8 is the administrative end of the contract (final acceptance and payment of the balance).

Participation of the lead consultant in the 13th Meeting of the National Correspondents and the 18th Meeting of SPA/BD Focal Points (25-28 May 2027, held back-to-back) is expected and is included in the 7 working days allocated to D7. Travel days are not counted as working days; travel and daily subsistence allowances are covered by SPA/RAC in accordance with Article 5.

The total of 40 working days is a fixed limit and will not be adjusted. Bidders may propose, in their work plan, a different distribution of the days across deliverables and between the two consultants, within this limit.