

Sustainable Blue Economy Project

West Africa Sustainable Ocean Program (SBE-WASOP)

Terms of reference

Title of the mission	Key expert on the challenges of the Blue Economy in Cape Verde (WASOP-SBE)
Country or geographical area	Based in Cape Verde, ideally in Praia. Plan missions across the country and work sessions within the WASOP SBE project office.
Project reference	Sustainable Blue Economy project- West Africa Sustainable Ocean Program (SBE - WASOP)
Mobilization	30 days of expertise
Start date desired	March 2025



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I. Context

Expertise France, a **public agency for international technical cooperation**, works alongside partner countries to advise and support them in strengthening their public policies. To this end, the agency coordinates and implements projects of national or regional importance in the main areas of public policy:

- democratic, economic and financial governance;
- peace, stability and security;
- climate, biodiversity and sustainable development;
- Health and human development.

The West Africa Sustainable Ocean Program (WASOP) aims to strengthen the protection and conservation of the marine environment and promote the sustainable and integrated use of ocean resources in West Africa, by stimulating inclusive economic growth. It addresses the factors of degradation of natural ocean resources and climate change that exacerbate social, economic and environmental tensions in West Africa.

The WASOP project, which is being funded by the European Union with €59 million, has three pillars:

- Pillar I - Oceans Governance
- Pillar II - Sustainable and inclusive blue economy
- Pillar III - Ecosystem protection and restoration

The European Union, through the European Union delegation (UE) to Cape Verde which ensures coordination, has delegated the implementation of pillar II to Expertise France. The objective of pillar II «Sustainable Blue Economy» (SBE WASOP, €28.5 million) aims to support the development of a sustainable blue economy in West Africa, based on climate-smart, inclusive and innovative approaches. All sectors are engaged, including the private sector, integrating governance issues, conservation and economic development of oceans and coastal areas.

SBE-WASOP also coordinates the program to ensure overall consistency with all implementing partners. The programme is implemented by a complementarity of partners: FAO, EFCA, IUCN and the regional fisheries commissions SRFC/FCWC in partnership with ECOWAS and for the benefit of 13 West African coastal countries: Cape Verde, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria.

European Union delegations are involved in the programme, in particular the EUDs of Senegal and Ghana, leads on pillars I and III of the programme.

The operations of WASOP SBE Pillar II started in January 2025; the project is in the start-up/inception phase until November 2025. This phase is dedicated to diagnostic and reference studies in order to create the basis for the development of a project implementation strategy. This strategy is based on the operationalization of the three main areas of intervention:

- the Technical Assistance facility known as the “Blue Facility”,
- the call for projects to support innovative pilot actions related to BE in the region,
- the Blue Economy practitioners' network in West Africa.

It is planned to hold a kick-off workshop in October 2025 to bring together the members of the Steering Committee of the programme (DUE, member states, ECOWAS, implementing agencies) to validate the implementation strategy and formally launch the 3 activities.

In this context, Expertise France is the regional implementation team for the WASOP-SBE project, based in Praia. The project aims to recruit technical experts, operating remotely.

The object of the present terms of reference (ToR) is the recruitment of an expert dedicated to the elaboration of a national project approach specific to Cape Verde.

II. Description of the mission

Objectives and organization

Based on the regional strategy of the SBE-WASOP project, the expert will develop a specific national strategy to exploit the potential of the blue economy in Cape Verde.

The mission will include:

- (i) Proposing a national version of the WASOP-SBE strategy;
- (ii) supporting the operationalization of this strategy through project activities in Cape Verde.

The expert will be led by the SBE-WASOP technical team, including the Technical Assistance Coordinator and the Grants Coordinator.

He/she will be involved in the technical coordination meetings of the WASOP SBE project and may interact directly with the Cape Verde DUE and authorities, regarding the needs for intervention in Cape Verde.

Activities

1. Sectorial watch on Blue Economy in Cape Verde [continuous, 10 days]

In general, the expert's mission is to:

- (i) Collect needs from project beneficiaries: DUE, local authorities,
- (ii) identify opportunities for synergies with technical and financial partners in Cape Verde on the topics of blue economy and sustainable management of ocean resources,
- (iii) Identify successes and good practices related to the blue economy in Cape Verde that can feed regional coordination and inspire project actions for the benefit of other countries.

The expert implements these three missions and reports regularly on the results to the coordination team.

The expert will begin the mission by meeting with the SBE-WASOP team: this meeting will aim to frame the mission (priorities, deadlines, exchange modalities, etc.).

Regularly, the expert will perform the following tasks:

- Identification and regular updating of a list of key contacts, partners, specialists, partnerships, etc.;
- Identification of priority topics relevant for the SBE-WASOP intervention: needs, synergies, good practices;
- Identification and regular updating of forums, events related to the theme;

- Regular interviews with project beneficiaries: support of the project team during meetings, or even individually if necessary;
- Participation in events on the theme.

Deliverables 1:

A - Background note on the EB and its specificities in Cape Verde;

B - List of stakeholders with references on the theme: initial basis and updated once a quarter. This list should present the relevant contacts, their themes of intervention, the associated issues (needs, synergies, good practices).

C - Quarterly census of forums/news and recommendations of positions in support of WASOP stakeholders. This deliverable may take the form of a “newsletter” on the Blue Economy in Cape Verde.

This thematic monitoring will feed the framing activities of the SBE-WASOP intervention strategy in Cape Verde, namely:

2. Supporting diagnostic studies [8 H/d]

At the inception phase, the project will deploy diagnostic studies related to (i) the blue economy in West Africa and (ii) its financing. A set of deliverables will be produced by these two complementary operational studies and will form the basis for the development of concept notes that will propose intervention modalities for the 3 levers of action of the SBE-WASOP project:

- the establishment of the Blue Facility for Technical Assistance,
- the sizing of the call for projects to support innovative pilot actions related to EB,
- the design of the “Practitioners’ network”.

The expert will support the development of these studies, specifically for Cape Verde:

- Discussions/ working sessions with the teams in charge of studies to facilitate the identification of past or ongoing interventions related to the blue economy or sustainable management of oceans in Cape Verde
- Contribution to the framing of the mission conducted in Cape Verde: relevant appointment proposals, contacts, etc.
- Participation in certain key meetings (DUE, ministries, etc.)
- Proofreading and technical validation of intermediate deliverables
- Proofreading and technical validation of the 3 concept notes: (i) “Blue Facility” (ii) Pilot Project (iii) Partitionner network

From the 3 conceptual notes produced by the study, the expert will produce a version of the framework documents for action adapted to the specific characteristics of Cape Verde.

Deliverables 2:

D - List of relevant actors to be maintained/ met in the context of diagnostic missions: national institutions, ministries, PTFs, agencies, private actors, NGOs, etc. and briefing on priority themes to

be addressed. This deliverable may be in the form of a table or matrix (see Appendix 1 – Matrice template). Appendix 1 – Matrix template

E - Framework documents for project action (including the intervention packages of the “Blue Facility”), adapted to the Cape Verde context.

3. Supporting the SBE-WASOP intervention at the Blue Economy Forum organized by the EUD in Cape Verde [6 days]

In collaboration with the Cape Verdean authorities, the European Union Delegation plans to organise a forum on the blue economy in June 2025. In this context, the expert will:

- Identify the needs and issues related to this forum in relation to DUE and national authorities;
- Identify possible partnerships with European companies, local partners and technical and financial partners present in Cape Verde that can benefit from support from the SBE-WASOP project;
- Support SBE-WASOP’s participation in the forum;
- Support the mobilization, if appropriate, of complementary expertise.

Deliverables 3:

F - Outline of intervention of SBE-WASOP at the forum (2 pages max) accompanied by the intervention program SBE-WASOP at the forum

G - Strategic communication proposal for the workshop (1 page max)

H - Workshop Report

I - ToR for the mobilization of complementary expertise if necessary

4. Support for the preparation of the project launch workshop in Cape Verde [9 H/d]

The project plans to hold a kickoff workshop in October 2025. This workshop will be held in Cape Verde over several days and will be facilitated by the project’s reference experts. It will bring together all stakeholders (DUE, representatives of the ministries involved in the 13 countries, civil society, private sector) to validate the proposed strategy for the deployment of project activities.

Technical workshops will be held in parallel to the Steering Committee, notably on the Blue Facility, the call for projects and the Practitioners’ network. There is also a study visit planned around a remarkable Cape Verdean blue economy initiative: the purpose of this visit is to show the potential of the sustainable and inclusive blue economy to all stakeholders and to introduce the possibility of exchanges of experiences between WASOP beneficiaries.

The expert will:

- Propose a list of relevant Cape Verdean actors for participation in technical workshops, including:
 - Institutions eligible for SBE-WASOP support in technical assistance through the Blue Facility;
 - Projects that may benefit from the call for projects;
 - Stakeholders that may join the Practitioners’ network.

- Propose a study visit programme: identify one or more initiatives, contact with the project;
- Support the engagement of relevant Cape Verdean stakeholders for technical workshops and visits;
- Identify opportunities for exchanges between Cape Verdean stakeholders and other actors (sub-regional counterparts, private actors, WASOP team) in parallel with the workshop, in a networking perspective;
- Make a presentation of the national implementation for Cape Verde of the SBE-WASOP strategy.

Deliverables 4:

J – List of relevant Cape Verdean actors for participation in technical workshops

K – Study visit program

L – Workshop Interview Program

M – Presentation support for the SBE-WASOP strategy for Cape Verde

N - Workshop report

III. Organization of the mission

The expert is engaged by a service contract, working through purchase orders. His/her mission is estimated at about 35 days, from March to December 2025. He/she works remotely and will have to travel to the SBE-WASOP project office and travel to Cape Verde.

The purchase order number 1 is expected to cover the launch of the mission until the forum in June 2025.

The mission's forecast schedule could be as shown in Appendix 2 – Forecast Schedule

IV. Desired profile

1. Qualifications

Master's/PhD in international relations, science, management, relevant themes related to the blue economy/sustainable management of ocean resources.

2. Required Experience

- **Minimum of 10 years' experience** in topics related to the blue economy, sustainable management of **oceans**, entrepreneurship, public policies relating to the blue economy.
- Very good knowledge **of the authorities and public administration in Cape Verde**.
- Very good knowledge of the **technical and financial partners** in Cape Verde, knowledge of the European Union and the instruments of cooperation is an asset.
- Experience in **innovative and blue economy financing** is an asset.
- Experience **of project leaders, economic fabric and entrepreneurship** linked to the blue economy is an asset.
- Knowledge of **networks, relevant European players with the blue economy is an asset**.

3. Skills



- Writing and interaction skills in English, Portuguese and French
- Autonomy
- Assertiveness
- Networking capability

4. Additional information

Documents to be provided by March 7:




- A CV
- A letter of motivation
- A one-page methodological note on the proposed approach for the mission including a timeline
- A financial offer showing the volumes of H/d proposed and the daily fees
- Three professional references including email and phone contacts





The applications received will be examined upon their receipt, Expertise France may contact the candidates before the final date.




V. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Matrix template

This template is an example; the version developed by the expert will have to be completed, in particular by a column listing the proposals for synergies to be explored with WASOP.

Rental	Institution	Description	Theme(s)
Brest	<p>IFREMER National Institute for Ocean Science</p> 	<p>A pioneer in ocean science and a key actor in the fishing sector, IFREMER's cutting-edge research is grounded in sustainable development and open science. As an integrated marine sciences research institute, IFREMER's four scientific departments contribute to national research and innovation as well as to the European research landscape.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public research towards sustainable fisheries management Possible visit to a shipyard specialized on oceanographic ships
Brest	<p>IRD Institute for Development Research</p> 	<p>IRD is part of the IFREMER campus in Brest, located among the Technopôle Brest-Iroise, a European oceanology center. IRD focuses its scientific research on Ocean Sciences, through the themes of tropical climate, modelling, fisheries, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific research towards sustainable fisheries management, with a focus on tropical climates and emerging countries Socio-economic approach of ecosystem and resource management Fisheries modelling
Brest	<p>IUEM European Institute for Marine Studies</p>  <p>UBO Brest University of West Brittany</p>	<p>The European Institute for Marine Studies (IUEM) is a multidisciplinary institution in the field of marine and coastal sciences, whose activities are focused on 3 missions: research, training and observation. As part of the University UBO Brest, it includes several research units related to sustainable fisheries management.</p>	<p>Scientific research towards developing sustainable maritime and coastal activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecosystem management and public policies Observation, data and methodology Sustainable development goals across the globe Innovations in support of economics and public policies Modelling

			
Brest	<p>SHOM <i>Marine hydrographic and oceanographic service</i></p> 	<p>The SHOM is a public organization, under the tutelage of the French Ministry of Armies. Its mission is to produce coastal and maritime geographical data, with an end goal to support public policies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal and maritime geographic information as a decision-making tool • Data acquisition and processing • Shipyard specialized on oceanographic ships
Brest	<p>The fishermen of Brittany <i>Producers' Organization</i></p> 	<p>Producers' organisations are EU-authorized structures similar to fishing cooperatives, with solid organisations working alongside scientists and specific expertise on fish stock management.</p> <p>Its goals are to ensure a rational approach to fishing coupled with the improvement of the production conditions and market access of its adherents.</p> <p>This organisation is among the largest in the EU and frequently works alongside research scientists.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing stock management for the private sector • Economic aspect to fisheries management • Implementing fishing public policies • Market and production data
Brest	<p>CLS <i>Satellite Location Collection</i></p> 	<p>CLS, a subsidiary of the French Space Agency CNES and of CNP, is a private company providing monitoring and surveillance solutions. Its mission is to deploy space-based solutions for data gathering and sustainable resources management.</p> <p>The company works in 5 areas of activity, including sustainable fisheries management and maritime surveillance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector operator • Sustainable fisheries management solutions: VMS, ERS, FMC, artisanal fishing monitoring, etc. • Maritime security and surveillance solutions: law enforcement, maritime compliance, fleet management, etc.
Corsen	<p>CROSS Corsen <i>Regional Centre for Surveillance and Rescue Operations</i></p>	<p>CROSS are public centres related to the State Secretary for the Sea. Beyond its sea rescue missions, the CROSS Corsen, is in charge of maritime navigation surveillance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maritime surveillance • Nautical data collection and transmission • Sea and maritime policy application • French and European ocean policies
Nantes	<p>NAMO DIRM <i>Interregional Direction for the Sea – North-Atlantic Channel West</i></p>	<p>This Direction related to the State Secretary for the Sea is in charge of all administrative aspects related to the sea, and especially the regulation and support to maritime value chains.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of public policies regarding fishing activity • Fishing authorizations • Resource management regulation

	 SECRETARIAT D'ÉTAT CHARGÉ DE LA MER <i>Liberté Égalité Fraternité</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination and protection of professional organisations • Coordination of Surveillance and Rescue Operation Centres • Control of maritime activities • Data and statistics
Rennes	Institut Agro Rennes-Angers <i>Rennes Angers Agronomic Institute</i>  <small>Pôle halieutique, mer, littoral</small>	This agronomic institute includes a Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Center, with research focused on species stock evaluation, sustainability of marine ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research on ecosystems dynamic and sustainability • Fishing stock evaluation
Montreuil	France AgriMer <i>National institution for agriculture and sea products</i>  FranceAgriMer <small>ÉTABLISSEMENT NATIONAL DES PRODUITS DE L'AGRICULTURE ET DE LA MER</small>	France AgriMer is a public institution, related to the French Ministry of Agriculture, with a mission to support agricultural and fishing value chains. It is responsible for providing state subsidies to markets, collecting and processing economic data, organise the dialogue between public policies and value chain actors and supporting exports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic data on fishing production and markets • Data collecting and processing: catch monitoring • Public policy dialogue • Sustainable fishing label

Appendix 2 – Forecast Schedule

		March	April	May	June	July	August	Seven.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Thematic watch	A - Background note	[Shaded]										
	B - Stakeholder Listing	V1			May			May			May	
	C - News Update	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Support for the follow-up of studies	D - List of relevant actors			1	1							
	E - Declension of the docs. frames					2	2	2				
Support for Blue Economy Forum Intervention	F - Framing note and program			2								
	G - Communication					1						
	H - Workshop Report					2						
	I - TDR complementary expertise			1								
Support to the preparation of the launch workshop	J – List of Cape Verdean actors								2			
	K – Study visit program								3			
	L – Parallel Interview Program								3			
	M – Presentation Media									0.5		
	N - Workshop report										0.5	
	Purchase orders			BC1			BC2				etc.	