QUOTATION REFERENCE: CfQ-WA-002

Call for Quotations for the provision of consultancy services in catchment hydrology and hydrogeology in connection with the project WET_ADAPT under the INTERREG ITALIA-MALTA

Date Issued: **2nd November 2026**

Closing Date: **13th November 2026**

address and contact details of entity:
BIRDLIFE MALTA
57/28, Abate Rigord Street,
Ta' Xbiex, Malta
Email: info@birdlifemalta.org

The following Call for Quotations will be published on the following website:
https://www.birdlifemalta.org
https://italiamalta.eu

Section 1: Specifications

1.0 General Background

BirdLife Malta is requesting quotations for consultancy services in catchment hydrology and hydrogeology in connection with WET_ADAPT (project C2-2.1-101), co-financed under the Interreg VI-A Italia–Malta Programme 2021–2027.
WET_ADAPT is a 30-month cross-border project aiming to strengthen the resilience of Mediterranean coastal wetlands to climate change and human pressures through an integrated catchment-based approach. BirdLife Malta, as Lead Partner, coordinates the project and leads activities at Simar Nature Reserve and the surrounding Pwales catchment.
Expenditure may be claimed under the project subject to the approved Application Form, applicable Programme rules and the latest Manual on Expenditure Reporting and Management Verification. Selection shall be undertaken in accordance with the procurement requirements applicable to BirdLife Malta and the project. The award criterion shall be the lowest-priced technically compliant offer.

2.0 Requirements

The appointed Consultant shall support the hydrological and hydrogeological characterisation of the Pwales catchment and Simar wetland, the design and interpretation of monitoring, conceptual and numerical modelling, and technical assessment of adaptation measures. Services shall be provided in coordination with BirdLife Malta and relevant project partners.

2.1 Scope of Services

Review the approved WET_ADAPT Application Form and technical information; confirm the study area, methodology, work programme and data-acquisition needs.

Compile and review geological, hydrogeological, hydrological, meteorological, water-quality, land-use and groundwater-abstraction records, studies, maps and spatial datasets.

Delineate the Pwales catchment and relevant groundwater boundaries; characterise topography, drainage, geology, hydrostratigraphy, land use and water uses.

Assess rainfall, evapotranspiration, infiltration, runoff, surface flows, flood generation, storage and seasonal variability; prepare a conceptual catchment water balance.

Characterise aquifer recharge, groundwater flow and gradients, storage, level variability and discharge processes influencing the wetland.

Assess surface-water–groundwater exchanges, coastal influences, seasonal changes, wetland hydrology and salinity regulation.

Evaluate anthropogenic pressures and climate-related risks, including abstraction, agriculture, drainage, urbanisation, drought, extreme rainfall and sea-level rise.

Assess existing monitoring networks and advise on additional groundwater, surface-water, meteorological and water-quality monitoring points and their specifications.

Provide technical advice during monitoring installation and initial operation; review, quality-check and interpret monitoring data.

Prepare maps, cross-sections, flow diagrams, water-balance calculations and an integrated catchment–wetland conceptual model.

Support the WET_ADAPT numerical model/digital twin through data preparation, conceptualisation, parameterisation, calibration and scenario assessment.

Assess the feasibility, hydrological benefits, risks, monitoring and permitting implications of potential adaptation measures.

Assist with baseline and post-intervention assessment and participate in technical and stakeholder consultations as requested.

2.2 Project Deliverables and Outputs

The Consultant shall provide technical inputs, analyses and editable supporting materials for the following WET_ADAPT deliverables, as relevant to BirdLife Malta's assignment:
D.2.1.1 – Hydrological Characterisation of Coastal Wetlands.
D.2.1.2 – Ecological Characterisation of Coastal Wetlands (hydrological inputs).
D.2.1.3 – Design of Hydrological and Climatological Monitoring Networks.
D.2.2.1 – Characterisation of the Catchment Sustaining the Wetland.
D.2.2.2 – Integrated conceptual model (hydrological and hydrogeological components).
D.2.2.3 – Water Catchment Numerical Model (Digital Twin) and Scenario Modelling.
D.2.3.1 – Demonstration Technology Installation and Operation (technical advice).
D.2.3.2 – Monitoring infrastructure installation and commissioning (technical support).
D.2.4.1 – Cross-Border Community of Practice on Wetland Management (participation when requested).

2.3 Attendance, Reporting and Timesheets

The work shall primarily be undertaken from the Consultant's office. The Key Expert may be required to attend meetings at BirdLife Malta's offices or other relevant locations with at least 48 hours' notice, where practicable.

The Consultant shall submit quarterly activity reports and corresponding timesheets identifying work dates, hours, tasks, progress, outputs, meetings, issues and proposed follow-up actions. Reports and timesheets must allow BirdLife Malta to verify the services delivered and hours claimed.

2.4 Qualifications and Experience

The proposed Key Expert must possess at least MQF Level 7 (or equivalent) qualification in Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Water Sciences or a related field, and be able to communicate effectively in written and spoken Maltese and English.
The draft technical specifications additionally require evidence of:
Participation during the past five years in at least three EU-funded water-resources-management projects.
Publication or co-publication during the past ten years of at least three peer-reviewed papers concerning water resources management in the Maltese Islands.
Experience developing numerical groundwater models in the Maltese Islands.
Demonstrable experience implementing EU water legislation.
Bidders shall provide the proposed Key Expert's detailed CV and copies of relevant qualification certificates, together with evidence supporting the above experience requirements.

2.5 Contract Duration and Pricing

The proposed execution period is 24 months from the order to start works. The contract shall end when the contracted hours have been used or when the 24-month period expires, whichever occurs first. The estimated procurement value stated in the technical draft is €10,000 excluding VAT.

Bidders shall quote an hourly rate excluding VAT. The maximum number of billable hours and any ceiling on total expenditure must be agreed and recorded in the contract before award. No additional expenses shall be reimbursed unless expressly authorised in writing.

2.6 General Conditions

The Consultant shall act independently and with due professional care, meet agreed deadlines, disclose conflicts of interest, safeguard confidential information, and provide

outputs in editable formats where applicable. All project information and deliverables shall remain available to BirdLife Malta for project and audit purposes.

Any provisions for delay penalties, insurance or indemnities should be confirmed by BirdLife Malta before publication; the technical draft proposes a €50-per-day delay penalty and termination when penalties reach 30% of contract price.

3.0 Submission and Contact Details

Interested bidders shall submit a completed Section 2, a detailed CV and qualification evidence for the proposed Key Expert, and a signed declaration of acceptance of the specifications. All financial offers shall state the hourly rate excluding VAT and the applicable VAT separately.

Clarifications must be requested in writing at info@birdlifemalta.org by 8th November 2026. Quotations must be submitted to **info@birdlifemalta.org** by **13th November 2026**, with subject "WET_ADAPT – Catchment Hydrology Consultancy – CfQ-WA-002".

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to seek clarifications consistent with the applicable procurement rules and to reject non-compliant submissions.

3.1 Award and Payment

The contract shall be awarded to the lowest-priced offer meeting the stated administrative and technical requirements. Payments shall be made quarterly, subject to acceptance of the activity report, timesheet and invoice.

BirdLife Malta | WET_ADAPT | CfQ-WA-002

Section 2: To be Completed by Interested Bidders

Quotation date: _____

Field	Details
Company / Consultant name	
Contact person	
Proposed Key Expert	
Address	
Telephone / Mobile	
Email	
VAT Registration Number (if applicable)	

Financial Offer

Description	Rate excluding VAT
Hourly rate for catchment hydrology and hydrogeology consultancy	€ _____
Applicable VAT rate	_____ %

Estimated number of hours / total contract ceiling: to be confirmed by BirdLife Malta before award.

I confirm that I have read and accept the specifications and conditions of this Call for Quotations, that the proposed Key Expert meets the stated requirements, and that the quoted rate covers the services described.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name and Surname: _____
Company Stamp (if applicable): _____