



CALL FOR TECHNOLOGY AND SOLUTION DEVELOPERS

Background

1 The GEF-UNDP-IMO GloFouling Partnerships project (the Project) is a 6-year global initiative from the International Maritime Organization (IMO), in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to protect marine ecosystems from the negative effects of invasive species transferred through biofouling on ships and other marine structures. The Project drives actions in developing countries through capacity building, awareness raising and facilitating legal, policy and institutional review.

Workshop and technology demonstration

2 GloFouling Partnerships is organising an international workshop and demonstration site focused on managing biofouling in marine protected areas (MPA), Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA) and other high value marine areas. The workshop will bring together MPA managers from the 12 countries participating in the Project, plus experts from other regions around the world to share practices, develop recommendations and stage practical demonstrations to showcase some of those practices. The workshop will be held from 6 to 9 June 2023, in Puerto Ayora, Galapagos Islands, Ecuador.

3 During the workshop, sessions will be dedicated to the demonstration of technologies and solutions that can assist MPAs in the management of the biofouling vector, prevent the introduction or detect and contain non-indigenous species.

Call for technology and solution developers

4 GloFouling Partnerships is calling for proposals for participation from developers and providers of technologies or solutions aimed at different aspects related to biofouling management and invasive aquatic species. Areas of specific interest are:

- Technologies for aiding the in-water inspection of ship hulls and/or their niche areas (e.g., cameras, drones or robots, etc.) operated either pier/quay-side, at anchorage or with divers.
- Anti-fouling solutions with minimal impacts to the marine environment.
- Solutions for contention of invasive aquatic species.
- Software-based solutions for risk management of ships, including reporting, underwater imagery assessment, etc.
- Survey and monitoring of marine species (specifically species related to the biofouling vector).

5 Selected companies will be allocated a suitable timeslot during the workshop to showcase their technology. Timeslots and the conditions for the demonstration will be coordinated between the Project and the selected companies. It should be noted that the demonstrations are not commercial presentations, but practical demonstrations of the advantages and use of the technologies for their intended purpose.

Travel to the Galapagos islands

6 The cost of travel to Ecuador and the Galapagos islands for participants and materials shall be covered by IMO. Travel will be arranged by IMO as per the Organization's travel rules. Due to the limited capacity of the venue of the workshop, in most cases, only one participant per company will be allowed. Transport of materials will be subject to compliance with export and biosecurity requirements for the Galapagos islands, which will responsibility of the company (IMO, in coordination with local authorities, will provide assistance, where possible).

Conditions of participation

7 Companies or businesses with an interest to participate in the workshop should contact GloFouling Partnerships by email at glofouling@imo.org. For the purpose of aiding the selection of participants, the following information should be provided:

- Name of company
- Website address
- Name of contact person
- Email of contact person
- Name and brief description of technology proposed for the demonstration site
- Other relevant information

8 Slots for participation are limited and selection will prioritise innovative solutions and adaptability to biosecurity and operational constraints that are common to MPAs. Selected companies will be responsible for any insurance in relation to the travel of their representative and the transport and/or performance of their technology. During the workshop, all participants shall adhere to the code of conduct of IMO.

Deadline for submissions: 11 March 2023

All companies will be contacted for a more detailed analysis of their technology and the feasibility of their participation in the workshop.