

# LIFE OASIS Project

LIFE23-NAT-ES-LIFE OASIS - 101148343



## Sustainable aFAD fishery implementation - call for economic expert.

**Contractor:** Proyecto Alnitak

**Published:** 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

**Deadline:** 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2024

**Project Region:** Spain, Malta, Italy

### Background

ALNITAK is a Spanish registered cultural association dedicated to the conservation of our marine cultural and natural heritage. It is specialized in building evidence, informing policy and engaging stakeholders and citizens actively in the international biodiversity conservation policy and sustainable development strategies.

Alnitak coordinates the OASIS effect project, an EU LIFE Project, starting from September 2024 until 2029 (LIFE23-NAT-ES-LIFE OASIS – 101148343). LIFE OASIS aims at mitigating the risk for biodiversity derived from bycatch and ghost fishing of pelagic fisheries. Focusing on the loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) as an indicator species, one of the main lines of action of LIFE OASIS is the development of a sustainable anchored Fish Aggregating Device (aFAD) management scheme, to be designed and tested in Malta, Italy and Spain, and later replicated to other regions. LIFE OASIS main work packages focus on:

1. Better understanding the open ocean ecosystem and the “oasis effect”.
2. Mapping and modelling the risk of bycatch and entanglement in ghost fishing (ALDFG).
3. Mitigating the risk of ALDFG and bycatch through basin wide networking on sea turtle rescue and ALDFG retrieval.
4. Developing and testing a sustainable “intelligent” aFAD fishing prototypes.
5. Development of aFAD fishery management scheme.

The actions conducted in the framework of LIFE OASIS focus on the Central and Western Mediterranean as a laboratory for developing and testing technological measures for mitigation.

The project involves three countries, Spain, Italy, and Malta. And nine partners, combining research, environmental action, and technology development.

The project integrates a multi-sectoral Advisory Board with the purpose of facilitating the worldwide dissemination of project LIFE OASIS results and replication the sustainable aFAD management scheme as a contribution to biodiversity conservation and food security.

### Sustainable aFAD fishery implementation - Proposal Context

The key project outcome is the production-ready aFAD prototype and business model for the sustainable aFAD fishery that can be scaled to further markets:

1. To ensure this, the field trials during the project will lead to an aFAD with an expected Technology Readiness Level of 8-9.
2. A business plan will be built and released to enable the economic sustainability of the sustainable aFAD fishery.
3. Developing use cases for the aFAD as data-collecting tools considering the rising interest in oceanographic data.

#### **Related Project Tasks, Deliverables, and Milestones in LIFE OASIS:**

##### **1. Sustainable and intelligent aFAD Prototyping and Management**

**Task: Designing an aFAD fishery sustainable business plan proposal.**

The aim of this task is to develop an economically viable business case for the sustainable aFAD fishery so its long-term adaptation in large scale can be fostered. As foreseen a **business plan** will be built and released to enable the **financial sustainability** of the sustainable aFAD fishery.

It will include the definition of the value creating offer (product and service) for the fishers, the economic viability of a market-first model and the main activities for implementation, distribution, production, as well as timing and resource requirements and scaling strategy for other regions.

**Deliverable** (Month 59): Business plan proposal and manual for implementation – a “Cookbook”- manual describing the implementation of aFAD fishery long-term.

##### **2. Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results**

**Task: Promoting the innovation of the “intelligent aFAD buoy” as an opportunistic data gathering and marine and coastal monitoring tool**

Although the main objective of the project is a robust foundation for a sustainable *Coryphaena* aFAD fishery management scheme, there are a series of possible spin offs or opportunities that we can envision. As the project runs, we expect to identify such opportunities and enhance their best use. Identifying use cases for the **aFADs as data-collecting tools** will be identified and explored in light of the rising interest in oceanographic data and effective mechanisms for marine conservation.

**Deliverable** (Month 59): Report about the opportunity and value of aFADs as coastal monitoring tool – A report about potential use cases and added value of the aFAD as data gathering tool. English

For the successful implementation of the sustainable aFAD fishery Alnitak is looking to contract an expert.

## **Proposal Scope of Work**

### **Goal:**

Facilitated an economic sustainable implementation of the aFAD fishery by:

1. A business plan will be built and released to enable the economic sustainability of the sustainable aFAD fishery.
2. Developing use cases for the aFAD as data-collecting tools considering the rising interest in oceanographic data.

**Tasks and Responsibilities:**

- Perform market analysis in all three sites.
- Develop and implement a sustainable business model for aFAD fishery.
- Development and testing of the implementation plan.
- Identification of use cases for buoy as data management tool for marine conservation.

**Qualifications/Experience**

- Develop projects in a collaborative process (please provide references).
- Implementation of business models (please provide references).
- Network/Stakeholder management and building (please detail stakeholders/network managed).
- A plus: Social entrepreneurship mindset.
- A plus: knowledge of marine conservation.

**Budget:** 190.000€ (taxes included).

## Proposal Requirements

Please provide:

- A detailed description of the approach and strategy for the successful implementation plan for the financially sustainable implementation of the intelligent aFAD fishery.
- Detailed description of services and steps to reach Deliverables.
- The team set-up for project.
- Detailed budget breakdown.

## Evaluation Criteria

The proposal will be evaluated following EU standards of best value for money (Quality: 70%, Price: 30%)

Evaluation Criteria are:

- Relevant experience with collaborative innovation processes.
- Cost-Effectiveness.
- Clarity of deliverables and match with overall project goal.
- Value fit to partners and project objectives.
- A Plus: As we celebrate diversity, we especially care about empowering small companies from underrepresented groups. We are deeply committed to fostering an inclusive environment that breaks down barriers and opens opportunities.