

Tender for a Performance Review on Functioning of the LDAC (Ej.14-18 June 2020-May 2025)

Introduction:

The LDAC made on its own initiative a performance review divided in two phases due to workload and budgetary reasons. Both PR reports are available on the LDAC website:

- Phase 1 (2018-2019) – Internal functioning and production of advice:

https://ldac.eu/images/LDAC_web-compressed_Performance_Review.pdf

- Phase 2 (2019-2020) – External relations, communications and outreach, gender issues:

https://ldac.eu/images/FINAL_PerformanceReview_II_v5.2_compressed_26_05_2020.pdf

On 8 December 2021, the EC adopted its Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/204 where it inserted a new article 7a with a legal obligation for all Advisory Councils *“to subject itself at least once every five years to an independent performance review”*. It also states that *“this review shall aim to identify best practices and shortcomings, list recommendations aiming at improving the functioning of the Advisory Council and assess its overall contribution to the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy as set out in Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013. The results of these reviews shall be made public and, where shortcomings in the functioning of the Advisory Council are identified, shall be accompanied by an action plan setting out concrete actions and a clear timeframe for their implementation”*.

The LDAC is now due to perform a second performance review at the end of year 18 (2024-2025) as its first one was completed in year 13 (2019-2020).

Goalsⁱ:

- Carry out an external and objective assessment of the functioning of the internal bodies and constituencies of the LDAC such as the General Assembly, Executive Committee, Working Groups and others (ad hoc seminars or focus groups).
- Track recommendations and identify whose actions have been completed and whose are outstanding to improve (and change) the functioning of the ACs.
- Identify examples of good practices in other organisations/ACs potentially useful for the LDAC.
- Tackle or reply to the specific questions addressed in the appended document (ToR).

Working Methodology/planning:

- Auditors to observe/attend (online and/or in person) the forthcoming LDAC plenary meetings (5 full working days: 3 day Working Groups in mid-March 2025, 1 day Executive Committee + General Assembly + 1 day high level seminar in late May 2025) in the first half of 2025; as well as other specific meetings organized by the LDAC (Focus Groups) or external parties (Inter AC coordination meetings, Brexit forum, EFCA...), with possibility of hybrid/online participation.
- Structured interviews to LDAC Chairs and Vicechairs, Secretariat staff and key LDAC members, European Commission representatives (DG MARE) that coordinate or participate in LDAC work, participating Member States representatives and other active observers.
- Additional methods recommended by the selected expert/consultant.

Deadline for delivery of technical proposal and economic offer (incl. VAT):

Friday 3rd of January 2025 17.00h CET/GMT+2.

Requested documentation to provide by bidder:

It is requested that all proposals include details of similar work that has been carried out previously by the bidder, as well as a short CV for the person and/or team who would be entrusted with the assessment. Furthermore, the proposal must include a work plan broken down by activities/deliverables and with an estimation of the necessary time (in hours) for it.

Languages:

All bids are to be presented in English or Spanish.

Estimated budget:

- The maximum amount foreseen for this work is EUR 10,000 (taxes incl.)
- An upfront payment of 50% will be completed at the beginning of the period once the contract has been agreed and signed by both parties.
- The outstanding balance will be paid upon completion of the work and handing over of the final report.
- Travel and accommodation costs will be reimbursed separately under justified circumstances prior approval of the LDAC Executive Secretary. Payment will be made in accordance with the LDAC rules of reimbursement.

Tentative timeline for completion of work for awarded contractor:

- Provisional deadline for delivery of preliminary conclusions: 31 May 2025.
- Final delivery date for the full performance review: 31 July 2025.

Project languages: Spanish and English.

Documents of interest provided and useful references:

- Specific auditing objectives of the LDAC Secretariat (Terms of Reference)
- Statutes, and Code of Conduct of LDAC
- LDAC web page: www.ldac.eu (meetings, publications, media, legislation, etc.)
- EC DG MARE - Advisory Councils https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/partners/advisory-councils_en

ⁱ Excluded from the performance review are aspects of administration and finance which are already annually audited.