



JOB DESCRIPTION: Technical Advisor MPAs

Location: Windhoek, Swakopmund or Lüderitz
Reports to: NIMPA+ Project lead

1. Overall Objective

A Technical Advisor vacancy has become available, based in Windhoek, Swakopmund or Lüderitz, under the Marine and Coastal Conservation Programmatic team housed by the Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF). The team's goal is to strengthen Namibian Islands' Marine Protected Area (NIMPA) management to secure key marine ecosystem services and biodiversity. Supplementary to this, the project aims to secure income opportunities for coastal communities, and the diversification of livelihood opportunities. Focus areas also include working towards the expansion of Namibia's Marine Protected Areas network and exploring other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) at the national level. The Technical Advisor will be responsible for providing technical support to the Marine and Coastal Programmatic team in achieving its goals. High-quality standards must be maintained to uphold the NNF's conservation mandates by carrying out duties that will contribute to the overall protection of our marine and coastal resources and the support of coastal communities.

2. Key Duties & Responsibilities

The Technical Advisor will specifically be required to support the execution of the project deliverables of the marine and coastal programmatic area which will include, but is not limited to the following:

- Support the expansion of Namibia's Marine Protected Areas Network in line with Namibia's national objectives and National Development Plans
- Support identification of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) as potential Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and supporting development of framework and guidelines for recognizing OECMs in Namibia,
- Support political will and public knowledge with regards to the importance of marine conservation and the role of MPAs,
- Support initiatives towards improving technical Capacity of implementers and Sustainable Financing Mechanisms for Marine Conservation in Namibia,
- Support and make contributions for and to the Blue Economy process,
- Support the Marine Spatial Planning efforts of Namibia,
- As appropriate, support Operational Management Plan, regulations, data management and Implementation of NIMPA,
- Support local planning and interventions aimed at strengthening NIMPA's management, expanding the MPA network and supporting the MSP process,
- Contribute to the delivery of outputs related to the BBNJ Walvis Ridge EBSA, including workshop reports and strategic documents outlining protection opportunities,
- Support other relevant land-use planning processes from within the NNF, especially those related to coastal areas as appropriate.
- Coordinate training, workshops and provide technical input,

- Provide regular updates (virtually, and in person where possible) to the team, partners and stakeholders,
- Contribute to written technical donor reports and ensure timely submission of inputs,
- Actively engage and participate in high level dialogues, political advocacy, networking, to push the marine conservation mandate under the mandate of MFMR,
- Help foster a collaboration between MFMR, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) and other government agencies,
- Assist in achieving key national outputs aligned with NNF's objectives,
- Provide regular updates (virtually, and in person where possible) to the team, partners and stakeholders,
- Regularly engage with and update the Marine Coordinator, NIMPA+ Project lead, BCLME partner countries, stakeholders, and partners regarding project actions and progress,
- Contribute to written technical donor reports and ensure timely submission of inputs,
- Travel as and when necessary,
- Meet with donors and other supporting entities where appropriate,

3. Desired qualifications and experience

- Relevant degree in marine biology/ fisheries/ conservation /environment/ natural resource management and/or spatial planning.
- Minimum of 8 years of experience in marine conservation, project coordination, and environmental management.
- Strong understanding of marine and coastal conservation, marine ecosystems, and sustainable fisheries practices.
- Excellent communication, collaboration, and leadership skills.
- Experience with multi-disciplinary teams, as well as in the Southern Africa region (preferably Namibia), would be a strong advantage.
- Knowledge of and experience with monitoring and evaluation of projects; and
- Knowledge of the institutional and legal framework of the environment and conservation in Namibia, as well as of relevant policy issues.
- Knowledge of GIS/spatial analysis is an advantage.

4. Knowledge, skills, and abilities

- Demonstrated experience in developing, implementing, and evaluating strategic plans and policy;
- Experience working with government and with donors / international aid agencies;
- Excellent inter-personal skills, including the ability to develop and maintain strong professional relationships at all levels, including with local communities, government agencies, the not-for-profit sector, and the scientific community;
- Excellent report writing skills and communications skills in English. Command of other local languages would be an advantage;
- Technical experience in relevant aspects of nature conservation and biodiversity management;

- Demonstrable understanding of and commitment to the aims and objectives of the NNF

5. Application Process

Interested candidates should submit the following documents:

- A cover letter detailing their interest in the position and relevant experience.
- A comprehensive CV.
- Contact details of three professional references.

Deadline for Applications: **12 March 2025** @ cv@nnf.org.na