

## **Modalities Outline**

### **Ocean Governance Studies**

#### **I. Background**

The project document foresees that national level inventory and analyses of legal and institutional frameworks for ocean governance will be undertaken in selected beneficiary States. The outcomes of these analyses will not only reinforce the States' abilities to more effectively build their ocean governance frameworks (including through partnerships with other development partners) but also help identify further capacity-building needs to be addressed through this Project. Such analyses will be prepared by consultants under the overall supervision of DOALOS.

#### **II. Goals**

The goals of the ocean governance study are to:

1. Provide a high-level overview of the State's legal and institutional framework for oceans.
2. Promote integrated ocean management by enhancing the awareness within the beneficiary State regarding its overall legal and institutional framework for oceans, including potential linkages, overlaps and gaps.
3. Facilitate the analysis of the compatibility of the national legal and institutional framework with the core requirements under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related applicable international frameworks.
4. Assist beneficiary States in the identification and prioritization of capacity gaps in the development and implementation of frameworks for oceans.
5. Provide a knowledge base of the national legal and institutional frameworks for oceans.

#### **III. Process**

The preparation of the studies would include:

1. Identification of beneficiary States, including through regional consultations and outreach.
2. Consultations with beneficiary State officials, relevant regional organizations and other national stakeholders.
3. Preliminary national institutional mapping.
4. Preliminary desktop research to identify key laws, regulations and policy documents, including on the basis of information provided by the beneficiary State.
5. Preparation of questionnaire(s)/survey(s) to be compiled by the beneficiary State regarding the legal and institutional framework for oceans on the basis of the requirements in UNCLOS and related instruments, including with respect to capacity needs. Administration of additional questionnaire/survey instruments as may be required and collate background and source material.
6. Preparation of a first draft study report, for review by DOALOS and then the beneficiary State.
7. Finalization of the study report on the basis of the comments received.
8. Adoption of the report by the beneficiary State.
9. Consultations on capacity-building needs and prioritization with beneficiary State.

#### **IV. Output**

The output of the study would comprise the following components:

1. A chart summarizing the key national components of the legal and institutional framework for oceans under UNCLOS and related instruments.
2. A narrative description of the legal and institutional framework for oceans in the beneficiary State, including a sector-specific component for the priority sector(s) identified by the beneficiary State. This would constitute a broad overview aimed at policymakers and not describe in detail the legal instruments and institutional structures.
3. A compilation of relevant national legal instruments (as provided by the beneficiary State) and a list of international instruments relating to oceans to which the recipient State is a signatory or party.
4. A prioritized inventory of identified capacity-building needs.

#### **V. Expected commitments from beneficiary States**

Beneficiary States would be requested to confirm their commitment to:

1. Identify at least one National Focal Point who will serve as the primary point of contact for DOALOS in the implementation of the Project, as well as be responsible for the timely coordination of the in-country Project activities.
2. Engage in consultations with the project to identify priority areas for analysis.
3. Arrange for and participate in consultations between the Project and relevant officials and stakeholders of the beneficiary State.
4. Provide relevant information and documentation, in a timely manner, including through the completion of a survey(s) and similar instruments.
5. Coordinate and participate in review and finalization processes for Project documents.
6. Engage in consultations with the Project and other relevant entities to identify further capacity-building needs and priorities.

For more information, see [www.un.org/oceancapacity](http://www.un.org/oceancapacity) or contact the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea at [doalos@un.org](mailto:doalos@un.org).