

Announcement of Opportunity: Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Services and Poverty Reduction

The closing date for this AO is 16:00 GMT, 1 November 2007.

NERC, DFID and ESRC invite applications for a situation analysis of the challenges to the sustainable management of marine and coastal ecosystems to maximize poverty alleviation.

The purpose of the marine and coastal situation analysis is: to identify and make recommendations on knowledge management issues, research capacity limitations and key researchable constraints related to the interaction between a) changes in the availability of, and access to, ecosystem services from marine and coastal resources and b) poverty amongst people who depend upon those marine and coastal resources.

The Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Services and Poverty Reduction situation analysis is designed to complement the four regional situation analyses commissioned through a previous call . Together these regional terrestrial and marine situation analyses will inform the design of a much more comprehensive implementation programme.

The situation analysis is not designed to make recommendations about policy, but rather to guide the design of the larger programme through recommendations on knowledge management, research capacity and addressing researchable constraints at the poverty/marine and coastal ecosystem services interface.

At this stage the three partner organisations are developing the concept of the Ecosystem Serves for Poverty Alleviation programme. The situation analysis constitutes the first stage in development of the wider programme, which is designed to address how to achieve sustainably managed ecosystems contributing to poverty reduction and wellbeing improvements in developing countries. Final approval of the programme by DFID Ministers is pending. Financial support for the launch of the full programme, following the regional and thematic situation analyses, is dependent upon DFID Ministerial approval and the outcome of the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review.

Please see the Announcement of Opportunity document for full details of the call <http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/programmes/espa/events/ao2.asp>

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