



NLA INTERNATIONAL

Project Proposal & Statement of Work (SOW)

“Wind in the Sails (WITS)” Seabed 2030: From Concept to Reality



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Client Organisation: The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project

Version	Main Author	Note
1.7	G Hesling	Costed SoW for Phase 3 Objective 9

Wind in the Sails (WITS)

Seabed 2030 – From Concept to Reality

1.0 Context

The Nippon Foundation notes that the world's seas and oceans face a variety of problems as well as opportunities, including maritime crime, environmental pollution, and depletion of food resources, whilst maximising the ability to harvest the untapped wealth of the oceans in a sustainable manner. Resolving these problems, moreover, requires human resources to tackle these issues. Even if there are people and organisations who share this sense of crisis for the future of our ocean, they are not able to work together and effectively realize their full potential. A foundation is needed that connects these people, bodies, and agencies, to protect and pass on the ocean's riches to future generations.

2.0 User need

To deliver its stated objectives, the Seabed 2030 project needs to collect and collate a robust evidence base that clearly articulates the environmental, social, and economic benefits that will be achieved if the seabed of the world's oceans can be mapped to the defined resolution of the project by 2030.

3.0 Headline aim of the Wind in the Sails project

The aim of this three-phase project is to unite the global hydrographic community around a global seabed mapping survey list, underpinned by a robust evidence base, which articulates the true value of mapping the seabed.

4.0 Objectives of the Wind in the Sails project

To achieve the project aims ten discrete consecutive objectives must be met and delivered across three phases. This Statement of Work covers Phase 3 Objective 9 only.

Preamble to Objective 9, and WITS Objective 7 continuity

WITS Objective 7 work identified and defined Seabed Mapping Prioritisation toolkit for Seabed 2030 that comprises two prioritisation models, Model I and II.

Model I - Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Assessment Part I [A Strategic Assessment Analysis and Visualisation – A Grid Scoring of Ocean Areas], supports a Strategic Assessment Analysis and Visualisation through A Grid Scoring of Ocean Areas. This is proposed to operate on a grid score basis with a use benefit-driven weighting applied to each grid cell / area. Use-Benefit weighting will bring through pre-agreed priority application areas / potential uses for the seabed mapping.

Model II - Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Assessment Part II [Assessing prioritisation associated with candidate new seabed mapping data acquisition survey areas], supports the Assessment of prioritisation associated with candidate new seabed mapping data acquisition survey areas. Here, the Seabed 2030 seabed mapping prioritisation model will provide users with a Prioritisation Assessment Model (a decision framework capability), that assesses prioritisation for candidate new seabed mapping data acquisition areas according to a (to be defined) set of criteria including: Economic Value Score, (and considering different economic sector interests), Social Value Score, Environmental Value Score, Policy / Regulatory Score, Science Score, Seabed Mapping Operational Feasibility - Complexity Rating, and other grading / scores that are to be identified.

Model I is the focus of Tasks 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 and Model II is the focus of the additional Task 9.4.

5.0 Objective 9 – Produce the Seabed 2030 Interactive Priority Action Map

Prioritisation Assessment of Ocean Areas with Evidenced-based reporting – Conduct a strategic assessment analysis and visualisation of global ocean areas [to enable a baseline ‘Prioritisation Grid Scoring for ocean areas seabed mapping] with strategic evidence-based documentation.

Objective 9 Sub-Activities / Tasks include:

9.1 Produce a global grid score (baseline) seabed mapping prioritisation reference map.

Details / Requirements / Assumptions (Context)

This Prioritisation Model will provide a prototype Strategic Assessment Analysis and Visualisation based on a Grid Scoring of Ocean Areas approach, the context being that this model should provide users with an ‘overview’ strategic level assessment analysis to inform prioritisation for all ocean areas. The prototype is proposed to operate on a grid score basis with a use benefit-driven weighting applied to each grid cell / area. Use-Benefit weighting will bring through pre-agreed priority application areas / potential uses for the seabed mapping. The wider Seabed 2030 benefits analysis, sector and use case development work [WITS Objective 6 and 7 work] will inform the prototype initial - baseline weighting. Any score matrix will ideally be informed by a Seabed 2030 nominated informed user counterpart available for engagement from time to time during delivery.

For context, this model approach will potentially bring through a global / regional policy and strategic evidence perspective to prioritisation assessment and may be useful for evidencing and securing investment to drive a major phase of global seabed mapping data acquisition by interested parties led globally and regionally. For example, an ocean area importance for climate change, sea level rise, marine protected area, sensitive habitat areas for marine biodiversity, offshore renewable energy potential, tsunami propagation modelling areas, among others, may receive a higher assessment score rating compared to other ocean areas.

Delivered: Across 4 months (16 weeks elapsed time)

Deliverable: Seabed 2030 global grid score (baseline) seabed mapping prioritisation reference map prototype.

9.2 Assess and review the baseline seabed mapping prioritisation reference map and document the outputs in the format of a strategic intelligence report for Seabed 2030 (focusing on recommended prioritised areas for seabed mapping enablement).

Details / Requirements / Assumptions (Context)

WITS Objective 7 work confirmed that the Seabed 2030 seabed mapping prioritisation toolkit should provide a Prioritisation Reporting Capability [both models I and II] to produce and present strategic assessment intelligence and status reports to inform management, and for sharing and communicating seabed mapping prioritisation ‘requirements’, ‘outcomes’ and ‘progress’ for use by and to inform Global, Regional and National/Local user tiers, supporting collaboration and cooperation in seabed mapping ‘anywhere globally’.

This task will define and produce a prototype set of Model I strategic intelligence reports for Seabed 2030 (e.g., these reports will potentially inform Seabed 2030 to rapidly identify recommended prioritised ‘hotspot’ areas for seabed mapping enablement).

The reports will focus on routine intelligence reporting (e.g., for quarterly release) with the development of a proposed template for ongoing use and may contain prototype strategic seabed mapping prioritisation assessment intelligence, such as the reporting on identified key global / regional seabed mapping indicators and identified requirements hotspots. The intelligence reports will be designed for use in both digital dashboard reporting and digital softcopy format for download (e.g., pdf).

The intelligence reports can include actual data from the Seabed 2030 nominated informed user counterpart if / where made available.

Delivered: Across T3 months (12 weeks elapsed time)

Deliverable: Seabed 2030 Seabed Mapping Strategic intelligence report prototype.

9.3 Produce an evidence-based justification case for the enablement of the recommended prioritised areas for seabed mapping (focusing on the areas identified in 9.1 and 9.2 above).

Details / Requirements / Assumptions (Context)

The outputs from task 9.1 and 9.2 above will be collated and used together to provide an evidence base (as a preliminary/baseline justification case) to be available for future use and towards delivering Seabed 2030 Objective 10 – the production of a Seabed 2030 Seabed Mapping Strategy Document. The evidence base will include both global and regional perspectives as applicable.

Delivered: Across 1 month (4 weeks elapsed time)

Deliverable: Seabed 2030 Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Area Assessment Baseline Evidence-base Justification Case [Document].

9.4 Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Toolkit [Focus on Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Assessment Model II - Assessing prioritisation associated with candidate new seabed mapping data acquisition survey areas]

Details / Requirements / Assumptions (Context)

WITS Objective 7 has identified / defined two prioritisation models. Prioritisation Model I is addressed in tasks 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 above. Task 9.4 is an additional task and will provide a Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Toolkit Model II Implementation Plan which can then be implemented as part of Objective 10 activities. *WITS has recommended this so that Seabed 2030 can be able to provide a GIS-toolkit for use at national / regional level on a case-by-case basis, e.g., for use by SIDS, while avoiding user confusion with other seabed mapping prioritisation tools currently in use of that may be rolled out in future Nationally / Regionally, e.g., AusSeabed, Canada, US, UK, among others going forward.*

Delivered: Across 3 months (12 weeks elapsed time)

Deliverable: Seabed 2030 Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Toolkit Model II – Implementation Plan [Document].

9.5 PR/Communications – Write an article for Seabed 2030

Details / Requirements / Assumptions (Context)

Write an article for Seabed 2030 which promotes the needs and importance to map the world's oceans. The scope and structure of the article is to be defined and agreed by Seabed 2030.

Delivered: Across 1month (4 weeks elapsed time)

Deliverable: An article for Seabed 2030 to use promoting its mission and Wind in the Sails activities.

Outputs include:

- Seabed 2030 global grid score (baseline) seabed mapping prioritisation reference map prototype.
- Seabed 2030 Seabed Mapping Strategic intelligence report prototype.
- Seabed 2030 Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Area Assessment Baseline Evidence-base Justification Case [Document].
- Seabed 2030 Seabed Mapping Prioritisation Toolkit Model II – Implementation Plan [Document].

- An article for Seabed 2030 to use promoting its mission and Wind in the Sails activities.

Objective 9 will take approximately six calendar months to complete (subject to availability of external stakeholders. It is proposed that work commences on 8 October 2024 and envisaged to be completed by 31 March 2025.

6.0 Reprographic Styling

Seabed 2030 will provide reprographic styling guidance, review drafts, and ensure brand and styling requirements are shared and adopted.

7.0 Fee Structure

We propose a fixed fee structure, excluding expenses and VAT, for this project.

Milestone	Fee	Invoice Plan
Project Acceptance	£10,500	On completion of Take-On meeting
Objective 9 Sub-Tasks 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 9.4 will be completed across months 1-5 of the project.	£8,400	End of month one
	£8,400	End of month two
	£8,400	End of month three
	£8,400	End of month four
	£8,400	End of month five
Subject to funding being available (decision to be made in February 2025) Objective 9 Sub-Task 9.5 will be completed across month 6 of the project.	£2,500	End of month six
Total	£52,500 (£55,000)	

Expenses related to any meetings with key stakeholders considered essential or valuable will be invoiced at cost.

8.0 High-level Terms

- Mileage will be charged at £0.45 per mile.
- Expenses and disbursements (by prior agreement) charged at cost.
- UK travel will be standard class rail, economy air, hire car & fuel when necessary.
- International travel will be agreed with Seabed 2030 before booking.
- Payment fourteen days after invoice date.
- Any disbursements and/or expenses and unforeseen agreed costs (i.e., variations) will be invoiced by agreement.

We look forward to discussing this proposal with you further.

[ENDS]