A Call is being published for the provision of <u>full-time</u> expert services in the field of marine ecology taxonomic analyses, identification and sampling, for a maximum duration of THREE (3) months, within the ambit of the Interreg Italia-Malta 2014-2020 SenHAR project.

1. Applications are invited for an external expert to work on SenHAR (*Campagne di sensibilizzazione per un'armonizzazione Italo-Maltese per un buono stato dell'ambiente*), a project financed by the InterregV-A Programme in which the Department of Geosciences at the University of Malta is a partner with Universita' degli Studi di Palermo (www.senhar-italiamalta.eu).

2. The main tasks of the engaged expert include the following:

- Taxonomic analyses and identification of the marine benthic species collected during the previous TWO (2) SENHAR sampling campaigns/surveys conducted at HoFra z-Zghira in May and October 2022;

- Coordination of and active participation within the third SenHAR SCUBA diving sampling campaign at Hofra z-Zghira, tentatively to be conducted in spring 2023;

- Participation within the final SENHAR project meeting being held in Sicily towards the end of the project, with the corresponding travelling expenses being borne by the University of Malta;

- Statistical analysis of the data coming from the collected samples after having attended to two workshops held by Primer-E in Italy with the corresponding subscription and travelling expenses being borne by the University of Malta;

- Delivery of (i) a report on the work conducted (i.e. containing the results of the taxonomic analyses and identification of the benthic fauna collected during the previous 2 SENHAR sampling campaigns) to the SENHAR Principal Investigator Prof. Alan Deidun as well as of (ii) a draft text for a peer-reviewed journal publication based on the outcomes of the same study by the 31st July 2023 by the very latest.

3. The University of Malta will make available to the selected awardee all the raw and processed data collated through the previous SENHAR benthic surveys.
4. The ideal candidate needs to have at least a Masters degree in Biology and needs to be a fully-qualified SCUBA diver with at least 5 years of experience in SCUBA diving.
5. Additionally, a previous participation in EU-funded research projects, especially Interreg Italia-Malta 2014-2020 ones, will be positively assessed.
6. Given the nature of the project, is preferred fluency in Italian language, both written and spoken
7. The awardee needs to be in possession of his own transport and the fuel will not be reimbursed.
8. The engagement will last for a maximum of THREE (3) months from receipt of appointment letter, over the period February-April 2023, with the selected candidate expected to invest a minimum of 40 logged hours per week over the same period (3 months) and for being responsible to transfer the results of the taxonomic analysis to Prof. Alan Deidun by 30th April 2023 by the latest. The candidate needs to log the hours spent within the University of Malta's laboratories on a monthly basis within time-sheet templates provided by the University of Malta. Payment will be transferred by the University of Malta payable against the issuance of monthly VAT invoices following the provision of monthly timesheets and final report by the selected candidate.
9. Total remuneration for the engagement is that of 7,500 euros, exclusive of 18% VAT and the same engagement can be extended beyond the 30th April 2023 if further SENHAR project funds are available.

Application deadline: Friday 13th January 2023