

**Invitation to submit an offer to a STOA project - IP/G/STOA/FWC-2013-1 - LOT 3 - Environment, including climate change - 'Technology options for deep seabed exploitation - Tackling economic, environmental and societal challenges'**

**Abstract:**

This project will identify which challenges and advantages deep-sea resource exploration and exploitation could represent for the EU, based on their technical-economic feasibility, environmental impact and legal framework complexity. The study will outline a cost-benefit analysis of activities aiming at harnessing the deep-sea sources of raw materials and its potential for biomedical, biochemical and pharmaceutical research and applications. It will be carried out in two parts to be performed in parallel.

The first part will investigate the state of the art of deep-sea exploration, and the role EU could play in supporting it. Attention will be paid, in particular, to the relevant marine law, International conventions and agreements and the general societal impacts. The second part will focus on the assessment of technologies for deep seabed exploitation covering economic, environmental, technical and logistic issues.

**Deliverables:**

The deliverables for this project are a presentation of interim results, a final report, a policy options brief and a presentation to the STOA Panel.

**Timeline:**

4 months

**Place of contract execution:**

Home-based-/Brussels/ Strasburg

**Required profiles:**

- 1 Project Leader with 15 years of experience in research and evaluation of deep-sea resource exploration and exploitation and their technical-economic feasibility, environmental impact and legal framework complexity.

Fluency in English and French.

- 1 senior (10 years of experience) and 1 junior (5 years of experience) researchers with experience in cost-benefit analysis of technologies for deep seabed exploitation, covering environmental, economic, technical, legal and logistical issues and their impact, for the whole cycle of processes and operations, from research to disposal of products. An asset will be the knowledge of deep-sea exploitation in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean, especially the Arctic area.

Fluency in English and French.

**Deadline for the submission of the candidature (CVs):**

05/09/2014