Call for Tenders: Research on renewable energy solutions aligning with nature

In the frame of #RED4Nature, EuroNatur Foundation seeks to commission a scientific study with the overall aim to improve the knowledge of the EU's potential of renewable energy when planned in way that aligns with nature conservation objectives.

The ongoing advocacy on RED4Nature aims at preserving nature and cultural heritage in the EU while achieving a 100% renewable and decentralised energy system by 2040.

Objectives:

The particular objectives of this research are:

- Identifying the potential for shallow[1]/very shallow[2] geothermal, solar on buildings, and small wind energy[3] in select EU countries/regions
- Understanding the impacts on nature of shallow/very shallow geothermal, solar on buildings, and small wind energy
- Identifying mitigation methods to counteract the impacts of shallow geothermal, solar on buildings, and small wind energy

Scope:

In order to gain a comprehensive overview of the renewable energy scenario in different regions of the EU, the research should focus on the following key countries:

- Eastern Europe: Poland, Romania, Bulgaria
- Iberian Peninsula: Portugal, Spain
- Balkans: Slovenia, Croatia
- Western Europe: Germany, Austria and France

Expected deliverables:

The study should comprise the following deliverables:

- A synthesis of EU Energy plans – explaining targets for solar, wind and geothermal; explaining how far the country is to achieve the target and explain how much more infrastructure will be needed to achieve their goal
- A literature review, analysis of available data, and new calculations based on available data (where needed) that can inform on the potential of:
    - shallow geothermal energy and very shallow geothermal
    - energy produced by solar PV installations on buildings
    - small-scale wind energy installations
- A literature review of the potential impacts and impact mitigation methods of:

[1] Defined as systems installed at no more than a depth of 400 m
[2] Defined as systems installed at no more than a depth of 10 m
[3] Defined as wind turbines with a rotor swept area smaller than 200 m2, generating at a voltage below 1000 VAC or 1500 VDC

- Shallow geothermal – in particular impacts on soil flora and fauna and cumulative impacts
- Solar energy on buildings – in particular impacts on resource extraction (including in other parts of the world) and wildlife attraction to panels
- Small wind turbines – in particular impacts on birds and bats and resource extraction (including in other parts of the world)

Timeline:

A first draft of the study should be delivered by 1st of July, after which there will be a 14-day review period for EuroNatur to provide detailed comments. The second draft is then due by 31st of July, followed by another 14-day review period, and a final deadline to submit a final draft by 31st of August.

Submissions

The deadline for submitting an offer is the **27th of May**. Please send these to bruna.campos@euronatur.org

Applicants are requested to submit an offer with a financial breakdown, bearing in mind an indicative budget of € 8000.

The offer should also include a narrative on how the consultant plans to implement the expected deliverables and a justification as to why you are qualified to implement the research. Applicants need to have a legal entity to handle administration and financial aspects of the grant.