Projects Malta Limited are carrying out a concept design proposal for the replenishing of Ghadira Bay. The need for this project came into being following the result of shoreline change analysis carried out between 1957 and 2007, were the 'water-line' moved landwards by 8m to 25m.

Mellieha Bay is part of the Natura 2000 network which is set up under Regulation 6 of the Habitats Protection Regulations. Hence, to avoid the risk of serious potential negative impact on the environment, ERA recommends that Phase 1 and Phase 2 (replenishing of the beach and the construction of sea defences) are to be integrated into one intervention and in addition, an EIA - Marine Environmental Study and an AA - Appropriate Assessment is required.

The Terms of Reference for the EIA requires a detailed description of the proposal and a general description of the project, site and of the Terrestrial, Coastal and Marine Environment; together with detailed studies as follows:

- A hydro-morphological study of all the water bodies (terrestrial and marine)
- A base-line study of the Marine Ecology
- A base-line study of the Terrestrial Ecology
- A study on the Avifauna
- A study on the Archaeological, Historical and Cultural Heritage Assets
- A section on socio-economic aspects (including public health aspects as might be relevant)

For each of the above, the ToR requires the:

(a) Assessment of environmental impacts and environmental risks;
(b) Possible mitigation measures and
(c) a monitoring programme.

Similarly, the Terms of reference for the AA replicates the Marine Ecology, Terrestrial Ecology and Avifauna sections of the EIA, but it requires the formulation and evaluation of the relevant findings in an integrated fashion, in terms of "the way in which the integrity of the site and its species, habitats and ecosystems are likely to be affected by the project". Besides identifying mitigation measures, the AA must clearly identify any Residual Impacts and their implications for the site and its species, habitats and ecosystems.

Hence, the following studies together with estimates of expenditures are listed below;

• A consultant working on the above reports "who shall be responsible for the overall content and presentation" of the reports. Such a coordinator must be duly acknowledged by ERA as having the necessary competence and expertise to undertake the task.	**€139,000**
• Chemical Analysis	**€25,774**
• Seabed Sonar Scans	**€140,000**
• Archaeology	**€35,000**
• Noise Studies	**€20,000**
• Marine ecology Studies	**€201,300**
• A consultant working on the design to determine the areas being influenced/affected and mitigation processes being implemented. Through these working, can the above reports be concluded	**€800,000**
Total	**€1,541,074**