

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 30 April 2024

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 04032/ 2024

SUBJECT: CALL FOR TENDERS – SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL CARIBBEAN DATA COLLECTION TO IMPROVE REPORTING AND DATA ANALYSIS – PHASE 1

I should like to transmit a Call for Tenders for Support for Regional Caribbean Data Collection to Improve Reporting and Data Analysis – Phase 1.

I would be grateful if you could distribute this Call for Tenders to qualified people and institutions that may be interested.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

DISTRIBUTION:

- **Commission Officers:**

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|
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- **Head delegates/Head Scientists**
- **Cooperating Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities**

Attachment: Terms of Reference – Support for Regional Caribbean Data Collection to Improve Reporting and Data Analysis.



Terms of reference

Support for Regional Caribbean Data Collection to Improve Reporting and Data Analysis, Phase 1

1. Background and objectives

Following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the U.S. government conducted a Natural Resource Damage Assessment to evaluate needs for environmental restoration. In 2016, a U.S. court approved a financial settlement through which the company responsible committed to pay up to \$8.8 billion in damages to address natural resource injuries. A panel of experts identified species that would be prioritized for restoration project funding, which included Atlantic yellowfin tuna and Atlantic blue marlin. As a result, in 2023, the United States provided a voluntary contribution to ICCAT through the Deepwater Horizon Caribbean Restoration Fund. This financial contribution is intended to complement the work of ICCAT's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) by strengthening data collection and analysis in data-poor areas of the western-central Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and southern Gulf of Mexico. The project will identify gaps in data and infrastructure, analyze the impacts of these limitations, and provide support for future data collection activities and restoration work, where appropriate, to address natural resource injuries from the oil spill.

Many Caribbean nations operate fisheries for ICCAT species including artisanal/small-scale longline, drift-gillnet, and handline (trolling, dropline) fisheries for commercial, subsistence and recreational purposes. Yet some critical information on tunas and tuna-like species caught in these fisheries is unknown or poorly estimated because of limited fisheries monitoring and minimal analysis of existing data sources. Although some of these fisheries are conducted by ICCAT Contracting Parties, or Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, others in the region are not members of ICCAT. In light of limited data availability, an earlier ICCAT-funded study identified some possible next steps to develop a comprehensive approach to data aggregation and compilation in the region (Arocha, 2019).

The objectives of Phase 1 of this project are to evaluate current information available from Caribbean fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species, and to identify gaps in data and infrastructure that highlight opportunities for future restoration, with a particular focus on yellowfin tuna and blue marlin (although not limited to these species).

2. Contractor activities

- a) Review and evaluate available information on data collection systems for ICCAT fisheries in the wider Caribbean.
- b) Consider other possible sources of data, as appropriate, including those for Non-Contracting Parties.
- c) Conduct an analysis of data gaps and scientific capacity limitations, and compile these in a document for the SCRS.

NOTE: It is expected that these activities may also characterize the fisheries data and facilitate the reporting of other ICCAT species, irrespective of the emphasis on yellowfin tuna and blue marlin.

- d) Recommend next steps to improve data collection, including data that are not yet being reported to ICCAT, as the basis for strengthening scientific capacity building and future restoration.



3. Contractor minimum qualifications

- Documented multi-year experience in research on large pelagic species with experience in fishery data collection.
- University degree in one of the following: fisheries science, marine biology, statistics, natural sciences, biological sciences, environmental sciences or closely related fields (in case of individual scientists).
- Excellent working knowledge of one of the three official languages of ICCAT (English, French and Spanish). A high level of English is desirable.

4. Deliverables

- 1) A web-based document repository for work products (e.g., Google drive or SharePoint). The SCRS Chair, SCRS Tropical Tunas Species Group Coordinator, SCRS Small Tunas Species Group Rapporteur, SCRS Sharks Species Group Rapporteur, SCRS Billfish Species Group Rapporteur, SCRS Subcommittee on Statistics Convener and the Secretariat's Statistics Department will have access to project files and may choose to engage in the project at their individual discretion.
- 2) A paper containing a detailed description of current data collection systems and databases, including data gaps and scientific capacity limitations, together with a list of recommended actions to be presented to the September 2024 SCRS Species Group and Plenary meetings.
- 3) Draft Proposed Terms of Reference to develop an information system that will facilitate analysis of fisheries data across the region, consistent with ICCAT's data confidentiality requirements. The proposed Terms of Reference for Phase 2 should include coordination with CPCs and the Secretariat, and additional data workshops and capacity building efforts as needed to inform future restoration planning efforts.

The Contractor shall submit the Deliverables #1, #2 and #3 by **9 September 2024**.

The Contractor shall present Deliverables #2 and #3 at the SCRS Species Groups (Billfish, Sharks, Tropical Tunas and Small Tunas) meetings (16-21 September 2024) and at the SCRS Plenary meeting (23-27 September 2024).

Final versions of the Deliverables #2 and #3 shall be prepared taking into account any comments provided by the SCRS and/or the ICCAT Secretariat and submitted by **30 September 2024**.

5. Payment details

Disbursement will be made according to the following schedule:

- 1) 40% of the total amount of the contract upon signing of the contract and after receiving a regular invoice which may be submitted at the latest 30 days after signature of the contract.
- 2) 40% of the total amount of the contract upon receipt of Deliverables #1, #2 and #3 and after receiving a regular invoice.
- 3) 20% of the total amount of the contract upon receipt of the final version of Deliverables #2 and #3 and their acceptance by the Secretariat, and after receiving a regular invoice and a complete set of documents concerning the expenses incurred under the contract.



6. Submission of proposals

The proposals should be developed according to the Terms of Reference herein attached. The detailed offer(s) shall be submitted **only to the attention of Mr Camille Jean Pierre Manel** (camille.manel@iccat.int), the Executive Secretary of ICCAT, and Cc'ing Ms Stasa Tensek (stasa.tensek@iccat.int), by **22 May 2024 (18:00, Madrid time)**, including:

- a) A detailed offer that shall include: i) a detailed description of the activities to be carried out; and ii) a detailed (breakdown) budget.
- b) The *curriculum vitae* of the tenderer (in the case of individual scientists) and of any collaborator (sub-contractor).
- c) The *curriculum vitae* of the institution (if an institution is the service provider), with any relevant documented experience.
- d) The name, address, and telephone number of the tendering person/entity.
- e) The institutional and administrative background of the tendering person/body (e.g., statutes, type of institution, annual budget, budget control procedures, etc. (if applicable)).
- f) A list of any relevant subcontracting activities.
- g) The declaration that the offering person/entity shall follow the ICCAT procedures and formats for the provision of data.
- h) A declaration that all the comments eventually made will be incorporated into the final reports prior to submission to the ICCAT Secretariat.
- i) Acknowledgment of this Call for Tenders (if applicable).
- j) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions and provisions included in the attached Terms of Reference.

For further information concerning this quotation request, please contact the ICCAT Secretariat at the following address: miguel.santos@iccat.int

7. Selection of proposals

The ICCAT Secretariat will review the offer(s). Following the review process, the ICCAT Executive Secretary will notify the entity selected for the contract, as soon as the selection process is completed. The contract will be awarded on the basis of competitive tendering and the evaluation of proposals will be undertaken objectively, consistently and without bias towards particular suppliers.

The proposal(s) will be evaluated against a pre-determined set of criteria, which include: (i) cost; (ii) proven track record; (iii) technical merit based on work plan; and (iv) flexibility in relation to future changes to requirements.

8. Logistics

All documents provided by the Contractor must be in open format ODF 1.2 ([click here](#)) such as MS word or "*.odf" of Apache OpenOffice and LibreOffice, figures must be in Excel format or compatible, figures and pictures must be in JPEG or TIFF format or compatible. All documents submitted must be in English.

Data must be provided in the standard ICCAT format for statistics. The biological data must be submitted in a format to be defined by the ICCAT Secretariat.



9. Copyright

All the material produced by the Contractor will remain the property of ICCAT, will be kept confidential, and cannot, in any case, be circulated by the Contractor selected. The scientific use of the data by the Contractor shall always be notified to ICCAT in advance for clearance.

For information concerning this quotation request, please contact the ICCAT Secretariat at the following address: miguel.santos@iccat.int

Reference

Arocha F. 2019. Comprehensive study of strategic investments related to artisanal fisheries data collection in ICCAT fisheries of the Caribbean/Central American Region: Draft Final Report. Collect. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT, 75(8): 2319-2368.