



Madrid – March 6, 2013

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 971 / 2013

**SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE – CALL FOR TENDERS – GBYP 01/2013
TAGGING PROGRAMME 2013 (ICCAT/GBYP Phase 4 – 2013)**

I have the honor to transmit to you the attached the Terms of Reference - Call for Tenders GBYP 01/2013 for the “**Tagging Programme 2013**” of the ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP).

This information has been translated to French and Spanish by the ICCAT Secretariat.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

p.e. 

Driss Meski
ICCAT Executive Secretary

DISTRIBUTION:

– **Commission Officers:**

Commission Chair:	M. Miyahara	COC Chair:	C. Rogers
First Vice-Chair:	M. Aguilar Sanchez	PWG Chair:	T. El Ktiri
Second Vice Chair:	M.G. Tackey	STACFAD Chair:	S. Lapointe
SCRS Chair:	J. Santiago		

- **Head Delegates**
- **Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities**
- **Head Scientists**

Attachment: Call for Tenders GBYP 01/2013

CALL FOR TENDERS ICCAT/GBYP 01/2013
TAGGING PROGRAMME 2013
ATLANTIC-WIDE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA
(ICCAT/GBYP – PHASE 4)

ICCAT/GBYP General Background and Objectives

The main objectives of the ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Bluefin Tuna Research Programme (GBYP) are to improve: (a) the understanding of key biological and ecological processes, (b) current assessment methodology, (c) the management procedures, and (d) advice.

Key tasks are to reduce uncertainty in stock assessment and to provide robust management advice. This requires improved knowledge of key biological processes and parameters. However, currently almost all the data used in stock assessments are obtained from the fisheries-dependent data. It is therefore important to obtain data from alternative sources, such as tagging studies, in order to verify the assumptions made when conducting the assessments.

This Call for Tenders concerns one of the main activities of the GBYP to be carried out in Phase 4 (May-December 2013), the Tagging Programme 2013, as it was recommended by the GBYP Steering Committee, with a series of various tagging activities.

TAGGING PROGRAMME 2013

One of the major research tasks under the ICCAT Atlantic-wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP) is to carry out a large, wide and intensive scientific tagging program to address several important biological and ecological topics regarding Atlantic bluefin tuna as well as to possibly provide independent estimates of abundance and/or fishing mortality rates. This particular call is for carrying out the field research tagging activities in 2013, partly according to the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design approved in 2011 by the GBYP Steering Committee, and including recommendations of the design of tagging experiment(s) that addresses several specific objectives, and partly according to the additional recommendations provided by the GBYP Steering Committee in December 2012. As scheduled, the scientific tagging program effectively started in 2011 and was intended to be possibly active for 3 to 5 years, with wide geographic distribution in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea, while a parallel programme will possibly be active in the western North Atlantic and in the Gulf of Mexico. The programme should target the main areas and size-classes identified by the Tagging Design, as well as those specifically identified by the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee in 2012.

Tagging in 2013 shall include 10,000 to about 15,000 conventional tags, 12 internal archival tags and 25 miniPATs, to be implanted in all areas both on juvenile bluefin and adult tunas. Biological samples will be collected during the tagging activities, according to the opportunities, possibly collecting a minimum of 60 samples by activity and area. An experienced coordinator, to be hired by the tender offering for two or more activities. This coordinator will maintain in constant close contact with the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator, shall be exclusively dedicated to coordinate all the activities within the same offer, such as selecting and training the tagging teams, monitoring the related field activities, i.e., supervising the teams involved, the operating tasks of the fishing vessels and their crews, all related data handling and processing, up to their input to the ICCAT tagging database, and the collection and delivery of the biological samples taken during the tagging activities.

The specific objectives of the tagging activity in the medium term (according to the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design) are:

- a) Validation of the current stock status definitions for populations of bluefin tuna in the Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea. If the hypothesis of two stock units (western and eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stocks) holds, the tags should provide estimates of mixing rates between stock units by area and time strata (ICCAT main area definitions and quarter at least). It is also important to consider possible sub-stock units and their mixing or population biomass exchange, particularly in the Mediterranean Sea.

- b) Estimation of biological parameters such as growth, natural mortality rates (M) of bluefin tuna populations by age or age-groups, possibly provide fishery independent estimates of abundance, etc.
- c) Estimation of tagging reporting rates for conventional tags, by major fishery and area, also using the observer programs currently deployed in the Mediterranean fisheries (ICCAT ROP-BFT).
- d) Evaluation of habitat utilization and large-scale movement patterns (spatio-temporal) of both ~~the~~ juveniles and the spawners.
- e) Estimation of the retention rate of various tag types, due to contrasting experiences in various oceans.
- f) Estimation of the feasibility of tagging bluefin tunas in traps and purse-seiners by divers getting at the same time reliable size estimates.

Background and objectives of the Tagging Programme

Many assumptions used in previous bluefin tuna stock assessments, such as stock structure and natural mortality, have been called into question by recent studies, e.g. Carlsson *et al.* (2003) who suggests that bluefin have a complex population structure with genetic differences within the Mediterranean and central North Atlantic. The GBYP also included an Aerial Survey and therefore knowledge about behavior that influences sighting probability, such as vertical habitat utilisation and movement between survey areas, is important in deriving indices of abundance. The mixing between the bluefin tuna management units, the existence of meta-populations is an important issue to be considered. A well-designed tagging programme, developed over a schedule of several years and with a progressive methodological approach, will therefore be important in improving the understanding of bluefin tuna ecology and ethology and for developing better stock assessment methods.

The use of electronic tags, included in the programme for 2013, will be important for improving the understanding of both the vertical and horizontal movements of bluefin tuna-and their use in the marine habitat.

Several tagging options have been considered by the tagging design. However, for this third year of activity (2013), it was decided to continue carrying out the conventional tagging, mainly on juvenile bluefin tuna (initiated in 2011), particularly taking into account the budget, the operational constraints and the experience in 2012. The single-barb spaghetti tags shall be used for all fish to be tagged, while double-barb spaghetti tags (small for small-medium tunas and large for medium-large tunas) shall be used as second tags on 40% of the fish to be tagged, for the purpose of comparatively studying the retention rate according to the tag type. Internal archival tags will be implanted only in the Adriatic Sea, while miniPATs will be implanted in various areas. The report of the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee dated December 2012 provides additional background information. (http://www.iccat.int/GBYP/Documents/GBYP_STEERING%20COM_REPORT_DEC_2012_SETE.pdf). Further details will be defined by the GBYP Operational Meeting on Tagging, to be held in April 2013, prior to the start of the field activities.

The Report of the First ICCAT/GBYP Operational Meeting on Tagging, held in February 2011, provides additional background elements (http://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2011_GBYP_WORKSHOPS_ENG.pdf). The ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design, product of an earlier call for tenders, which provides the optimal distribution of tagging activities among the various fisheries, as well as the ICCAT/GBYP *Tagging Manual* are available at: <http://www.iccat.int/GBYP/en/Products.htm>. Both documents are provided in the original language only, as delivered to ICCAT.

In case of budget constraints, the costs and benefits of alternative strategies in meeting the objectives of the Tagging Programme, within the approved tagging design framework, should be evaluated and provided by the Tenders in order to allow research priorities to be identified.

Taking into account that some preliminary offers of complimentary vessel days, and if these entities are interested in submitting regular bids, then the complimentary vessel days will be used to increase the number of tagging opportunities or to reduce tagging costs in these areas. If complimentary vessel time is included in any bid, then this should be clearly indicated.

Scientific institutes, *ad hoc* consortia, and public or private entities are asked to submit tenders for carrying out the Tagging Programme. Each tenderer can bid for all, one or more activities.

Contractor tasks

The Contractor(s), who will work in close consultation with the ICCAT/GBYP Coordination, will conduct the tagging activity in the various areas and on the bluefin tuna age classes according to the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design provided in <http://www.iccat.int/GBYP/en/Products.htm> and the recommendations set by the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee <http://www.iccat.int/GBYP/en/scommittee.htm> (http://www.iccat.int/GBYP/Documents/GBYP_STEERING%20COM_REPORT_DEC_2012_SETE.pdf). This involves tagging by area and bluefin size classes, according to the Tagging Design, while changes or adjustment can be made to the Tagging Design according to the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee recommendations or with the condition to provide full justification. For example, a more focused strategy to obtain a better balance between tagging costs and the tagging activity might imply using more local vessels across the area.

Although ICCAT Recommendation 11-06 provides the means to ensure better conditions while carrying out tagging activities in international waters and those under jurisdiction of coastal States, most of which are ICCAT CPCs, the Tender will be responsible for all necessary agreements with local authorities, local fishermen and industries when carrying out tagging within national jurisdictions. The necessary tags will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP.

The Contractor(s) shall be responsible for the basic data management and for including all data in the ICCAT database on tagging, on the forms provided by ICCAT.

The budget for the tagging activity in 2013 is considered sufficient to tag from 10,000 to 15,000 bluefin tuna individuals, with 40% double tagging, and for implanting 12 internal archival tags and 25 miniPATs. However, if costs not included in the original design mean that funding is insufficient, then this should be stated in the tender and the tagging activity adjusted accordingly. If any previously tagged fish are recaptured, they shall be registered and included in the ICCAT forms.

This contract is for the period up to December 2013. However, it is likely that in Phase 5 of the ICCAT/GBYP a fourth call for tagging will be announced with a level of funding to be defined based on the achievements of Phase 4. The objectives of this fourth call will possibly be the same as those for the third call and the Tagging Design and analyses will be eventually improved based on those in the current call and the recommendations of the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee and the SCRS. Therefore, upon successful completion of work under this call, a fourth contract may be awarded for 2014 without going through a fourth bidding process. This will depend on an evaluation of the work to be conducted by the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee.

The Contractor(s) shall provide one or more proposals to achieve the ICCAT/GBYP objectives for Phase 4, including:

A) Conventional and electronic tagging of juvenile bluefin tunas by baitboats

Offers under GBYP Tagging 01/2013 item A shall ensure the following:

- a) Conventionally tagged bluefin tuna should be in a range between 5,000 and 10,000 individuals, with 40% double tagging; The age range should be between ages 1 and 3, preferably from ages 1 and 2.
- b) A minimum of 13 miniPATs should be shared between the Bay of Biscay (7) and the Strait of Gibraltar (6), where conventional tagging will be carried out; these electronic pop-up tags will be set for the longest possible time frame and will be implanted by the same team in charge of conventional tagging; the conventional tags of various types, the applicators and the miniPATs will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP;
- c) The time-frame for tagging shall be mid-August 2013 to mid-November 2013;
- d) Baitboats shall be the type of vessel to be used for tagging in both areas; the total number of vessels by area shall be sufficient for reaching the final objective; the number of vessels in the Bay of Biscay shall be a minimum of one, possibly two, while in the Strait of Gibraltar it shall be a minimum of two vessels. The vessel time available for this tagging activity by vessel shall be set at two months.
- e) It would be useful to reach a cooperative agreement with national observers on board baitboats in the Bay of Biscay, and also with all national observers on board any tuna fishing vessel and trap, to ensure complete tag reporting and recovery of any tagged fish;
- f) Carry out biological sampling during the tagging activities; a minimum of 60 biological samples by area shall be collected both in the Bay of Biscay and in the Strait of Gibraltar, according to the protocols

adopted by the contractor(s) in charge of the biological and genetic sampling and analyses; the samples shall be shipped to the laboratory in charge.

- g) The hiring of a Coordinator for tagging activities who has specific experience in large-scale tagging on tunas; this tagging Coordinator could be hired under a short-term contract. The Tagging Coordinator, who would work in close, constant contact with the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator, shall be responsible for directly managing all field activities, the vessels, the scientific teams on board, and their training and monitoring; (due to the key relevance of this figure, the Terms of Reference for this position are provided in **Annex 1**).
- h) The hiring of tagging teams for each baitboat vessel with short-term contracts or using its own crew. Each team should possibly include a tagging specialist and a student in training in order to reduce costs. The total time at sea should be an average of two (2) months per person/vessel, with some additional time for any training and travel.
- i) All necessary permits for accessing and operating in the waters under the jurisdiction of each CPC concerned.

B: Conventional tagging of juvenile and/or adult bluefin tunas by purse-seiners in the western Mediterranean Sea, including the Tyrrhenian Sea

Offers under GBYP Tagging 01/2013 item B shall ensure the following:

- a) Conventionally tagged bluefin tuna should be in a range between 1,000 and 2,000 individuals, possibly with 40% double tagging; The age range should be between ages 1 and 3 for the juveniles while adults should be over age 3. The conventional tags of various types and the applicators will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP.
- b) At the moment no miniPATs are to be implanted during this tagging trial; if any become available, then the bid shall include the availability of the tagging team for implanting the tags, which will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP;
- c) The time-frame for tagging shall be mid-May 2013 to mid-October 2013.
- d) The area shall be the western Mediterranean, with two possible options: the Balearic Sea and the Tyrrhenian Sea.
- e) Purse seiners shall be the type of vessel to be used for tagging; the total number of vessels by area shall be sufficient for reaching the final objective, with a minimum of one vessel. The vessel time available for this tagging activity by vessel shall be set at a minimum of two weeks. Any complimentary vessel time should be clearly mentioned in the offer.
- f) Juvenile bluefin tuna shall be tagged on board a small vessel, catching them from the seine with hand-lines, equipped by hooks having no barbs; they shall be measured individually, according to the standard protocols; tagging data shall be recorded on the ICCAT form.
- g) Adult tunas shall be tagged by divers directly underwater; fish can be kept in the seine or moved into a cage, according to the best choice for the offering institution; each fish shall be tagged by a diver using a pole; a second diver shall be equipped with an underwater stereoscopic camera having a laser system able to more precisely estimate the length of each individual tagged fish; the sequence of tags, pictures and laser estimates shall be properly recorded for future uses and controls, while the number of each tag and the length estimate shall be properly recorded on the ICCAT forms. Divers shall be hired by the tendering entity.
- h) Carry out biological sampling during the tagging activities; a minimum of 60 biological samples by area shall be collected according to the protocols adopted by the Contractor(s) in charge of the biological and genetic sampling and analyses; the samples shall be shipped to the laboratory in charge.
- i) The hiring of a scientific tagging team for each purse seine vessel with short-term contracts. This team shall take care of registering all tags and necessary data on the ICCAT forms; the tagging team shall also be in charge of tagging juvenile tunas; in this case, the tagging team shall include a tagging specialist with previous experience. The total time at sea should be an average minimum of two (2) weeks per person/vessel, with some additional time for any training and travel.
- j) All necessary permits for accessing and operating in the waters under the jurisdiction of each CPC concerned.

C: Conventional and electronic tagging of juvenile bluefin tunas by purse-seiners in the Adriatic Sea.

Offers under GBYP Tagging 01/2013 item C shall ensure the following:

- a) Conventionally tagged bluefin tuna should be in a range between 1,000 and 2,000 individuals, with 40% double tagging; The age range should be between ages 1 and 3, preferably ages 1 and 2. The conventional tags of various types and the applicators will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP.
- b) 12 internal electronic archival tags and a minimum of 7 miniPATs are seek to be implanted during this tagging trial; these electronic pop-up tags will be set for the longest possible time frame and will be implanted by the same team in charge of conventional tagging; the internal archival tags and the miniPATs will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP;
- c) The time-frame for tagging shall be mid-May 2013 to mid-October 2013.
- d) The area shall be the Adriatic Sea.
- e) Purse seiners shall be the type of vessel to be used for tagging; the total number of vessels shall be sufficient for reaching the final objective, with a minimum of one vessel. The vessel time available for this tagging activity by vessel shall be set at a minimum of two weeks. Any complimentary vessel time should be clearly mentioned in the offer.
- f) Juvenile bluefin tuna shall be tagged on board a small vessel, catching them from the seine with hand-lines, equipped by hooks having no barbs; they shall be measured individually, according to the standard protocols.
- g) Carry out biological sampling during the tagging activities; a minimum of 60 biological samples shall be collected, according to the protocols adopted by the Contractor(s) in charge of the biological and genetic sampling and analyses; the samples shall be shipped to the laboratory in charge.
- h) The hiring of a scientific tagging team for each purse-seine vessel with short-term contracts. This team shall take care of registering all tags and necessary data on the ICCAT forms; the tagging team shall be in charge also of tagging juvenile tunas and it shall include a tagging specialist with previous experience. The total time at sea should be an average minimum of two (2) weeks per person/vessel, with some additional time for any training and travel.
- i) All necessary permits for accessing and operating in the waters under the jurisdiction of each CPC concerned.

D: Conventional tagging and electronic tagging of adult bluefin tunas in traps in the eastern Atlantic Ocean, Moroccan waters.

Offers under GBYP Tagging 01/2013 item D shall ensure the following:

- a) Conventionally tagged bluefin tuna should be the maximum number allowed by the tunas remaining within the trap at the end of the annual fishing operations, possibly with 40% double tagging; all age classes can be tagged. The conventional tags of various types and the applicators will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP;
- b) A minimum of 5 miniPATs are seek to be implanted during this tagging trial; a team of specialists shall be made available for tagging these fish according to the protocols adopted by the ICCAT/GBYP in Phases 2 and 3; these electronic pop-up tags will be set for the longest possible time frame; the miniPATs will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP.
- c) The time-frame for tagging shall be May 2013 to June 2013.
- d) The area shall be the eastern Atlantic Ocean, in Moroccan waters where several traps are actively fishing.
- e) Tuna trap shall be the type of fishing gear to be used for tagging; the number of tuna traps shall be sufficient for tagging several hundred fish, possibly close to 1,000, depending on the total number of available tunas kept in the traps; the minimum is one trap. The trap time available for this tagging activity shall be set at a minimum of two weeks. Any complimentary trap time should be clearly mentioned in the offer.
- f) Adult tunas shall be conventionally tagged by divers directly underwater; each fish shall be tagged by a diver using a pole; a second diver shall be equipped with an underwater stereoscopic camera, having a

laser system able to more precisely estimate the length of each individual tagged fish; the sequence of tags, pictures and laser estimates shall be properly recorded for future uses and controls, while the number of each tag and the length estimate shall be properly recorded on the ICCAT forms. Divers shall be hired by the tendering entity.

- g) Carry out biological sampling during the tagging activities; a minimum of 60 biological samples shall be collected, according to the protocols adopted by the Contractor(s) in charge of the biological and genetic sampling and analyses; the samples shall be shipped to the laboratory in charge.
- h) The hiring of a scientific team for each trap with short-term contracts. This team shall take care of registering all tags and necessary data on the ICCAT forms. The team shall also include a specialist in electronic tagging. The total time at sea should be an average minimum of two (2) weeks per person/trap, with some additional time for any training and travel.
- i) All necessary permits for accessing and operating in the waters under the jurisdiction of the CPC concerned.

E: Conventional tagging of adult bluefin tunas in traps in the Mediterranean Sea, Sardinian waters.

Offers under GBYP Tagging 01/2013 item E shall ensure the following:

- a) Conventionally tagged bluefin tuna should be the maximum number allowed by the tunas remaining within the trap at the end of the annual fishing operations, possibly with 40% double tagging. All age classes can be tagged. The conventional tags of various types and the applicators will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP;
- b) At the moment no miniPATs are seek to be implanted during this tagging trial; if any become available, then the bid shall include the availability of the tagging team for implanting the tags, which will be provided by the ICCAT/GBYP;
- c) The time-frame for tagging shall be May 2013 to June 2013.
- d) The area shall be the Mediterranean Sea, in Sardinian waters where some traps are actively fishing.
- e) Tuna trap shall be the type of fishing gear to be used for tagging; the number of tuna traps shall be sufficient for tagging several hundred fish, possibly close to 1,000, depending on the total number of available tunas kept in the traps; the minimum is one trap. The trap time available for this tagging activity shall be set at a minimum of two weeks. Any complimentary trap time should be clearly mentioned in the offer.
- f) Adult tunas shall be conventionally tagged by divers directly underwater; each fish shall be tagged by a diver using a pole; a second diver shall be equipped with an underwater stereoscopic camera, having a laser system able to more precisely estimate the length of each individual tagged fish; the sequence of tags, pictures and laser estimates shall be properly recorded for future uses and controls, while the number of each tag and the length estimate shall be properly recorded on the ICCAT forms. Divers shall be hired by the tendering entity.
- g) Carry out biological sampling during the tagging activities; a minimum of 60 biological samples shall be collected, according to the protocols adopted by the contractor(s) in charge of the biological and genetic sampling and analyses; the samples shall be shipped to the laboratory in charge.
- h) The hiring of a scientific team for each trap with short-term contracts. This team shall take care of registering all tags and necessary data on the ICCAT forms. The total time at sea should be an average minimum of two (2) weeks per person/trap, with some additional time for any training and travel.
- i) All necessary permits for accessing and operating in the waters under the jurisdiction of the CPC concerned.

In addition to the above detailed requirements, all Tenders shall ensure the following:

- j) It shall be necessary to further implement cooperative agreements with ICCAT/ROP observers at bluefin tuna farm installations and traps to ensure complete tag reporting and recovery of any tagged fish;
- k) It would be useful to reach a cooperative agreement with national observers on board of any bluefin tuna fishing vessel and trap, to ensure complete tag reporting and recovery of any tagged fish;

The Tender should endeavor to ensure full coverage of all areas and bluefin tuna size groups as indicated in the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design, the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee Report of December 2013 and according to the Task(s) included in the offer. Therefore, proposals including entities across geographic areas and tasks are preferred. In the case of a consortium or group of entities, an administrative and a scientific responsible entity should be identified; if the consortium includes more than five entities, then a Scientific Committee shall be included on which each entity carrying out a scientific duty will be represented. The Tender(s) can optionally apply for specific task or sub-set of areas/coverage with a detailed description of the modifications and proposal research. Each proposed modification of any of the terms detailed for each objective of the Tagging Programme (A to E) shall be justified.

Sub-contracts can be admitted up to a limit of 40% of the total budget and they shall be detailed in the proposal.

Contractor minimum qualifications

- Documented multi-year experience in bluefin tuna or tuna-species studies; previous experience in large-scale tagging or local multi-year tagging will be preferred.
- Availability of sufficient qualified scientific and technical staff to carry out the duties.
- Availability of the necessary vessel(s)/trap(s) to carry out the duties.
- Availability of at least one specialist in managing tagging databases.
- Excellent working knowledge of one of the three official languages of ICCAT (English, French, Spanish). A high level of knowledge of English is highly desirable.

Request for bids

Interested entities should submit an offer to the attention of Mr. Driss Meski, the Executive Secretary of ICCAT, at the following address: driss.meski@iccat.int and, in copy, to gby@iccat.int by **March 25, 2013**, including:

- a) Acknowledgment of this Call for Tenders (**ICCAT/GBYP 01/2013**)
- b) A detailed offer, based on the objectives of this Call for Tenders (A to E), clearly specifying the objective(s) for which the tender is submitted, describing the strata where the tagging will be conducted, the minimum number and size of bluefin tuna to be tagged, the protocols to be adopted, and the structure of the data bank, and sub-area, for the purpose of the draft final report (**Deliverable #4**) and the final report (**Deliverable #5**). Departures from the Tagging Design or the recommendations set by ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee in December 2012 may be made with justification.
- c) The curricula of the scientific staff;
- d) The curriculum of the institution(s) or entity(ies) applying for the ICCAT/GBYP tagging activity 2013, with any documented experience in these fields, to include recent and relevant contracts for the same or similar items and other references (including contract numbers, points of contact with telephone numbers and other relevant information);
- e) A preliminary estimated budget for the tagging activity and for including the data into the ICCAT tagging database, to be detailed by individual components (e.g., tagging staff, organization staff including the time for data input, vessel rent, trap costs, operational costs, travels, consumables, etc.) and any discount terms (overhead to cover administrative and general costs could be admitted within a maximum limit of 10% of the personnel costs).
- f) The name, address, and telephone number of the tendering body;
- g) The bank account of the tendering body, (bank name, account number, IBAN and SWIFT codes), and the IVA=VAT identification code;
- h) The institutional and administrative background of the tendering body (e.g., statutes, type of institution, annual budget, budget control procedures, etc.).
- i) A detailed list of any sub-contracting activities;
- j) A declaration that the offering institution will follow the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design, the ICCAT/GBYP *Tagging Manual* provided by the ICCAT/GBYP, the GBYP Steering Committee

recommendations as well as the present Call for Tenders, and/or approved modifications agreed upon, and the administrative rules specified in the contract;

- k) A declaration that all the comments eventually made on the draft final report (**Deliverable #4**) will be incorporated in the final (**Deliverable #5**) prior for submission to the ICCAT SCRS.
- l) A declaration that the staff and all the subcontracted staff will be covered by full insurance for the tagging activities to be carried out according to the Call for Tenders, excluding ICCAT from all responsibility concerning the job to be done by each offering institution;
- m) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions herein included, particularly specifying the date for the draft final report (**Deliverable #4**) and the date for the final report (**Deliverable #5**).

The ICCAT Secretariat will make a selection of the offers in consultation with the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee. The ICCAT Secretariat will notify the result of the selection process by **March 27, 2013**, at the latest.

Offers that fail to furnish the required documentation or information, or that reject the terms and conditions of the Call for Tenders will not be considered.

Contractors can be either research institution, such as government or private laboratories, universities, or private consultancy firms, or individual scientists or other entities having the qualifications required.

The Contractor should be available to report to any meeting requested by ICCAT.

Deliverables

- #1** A short report on tagging activities, including the identification of the tagging Coordinator, all protocols for tagging, the vessel chartering agreements or the trap availability and the short description of the work carried out up to that date, to be submitted at the latest **30 days after the signature of the contract (for all objectives from A to E)**;
- #2** An update of the short report on the activities to be submitted at the latest by **June 30, 2013 for objective D and E**, and by **September 20, 2013 for objectives A, B and C**, including the description of the work carried out up to that date and the number of tagged tunas in the various areas by tag type, and a short PowerPoint presentation, to be used also to inform the SCRS;
- #3** Another short update on the number of tunas tagged in the various areas by **November 5, 2013 for objectives A, B and C**, to inform the ICCAT Commission;
- #4** The draft final report to be submitted at the latest by **July 19, 2013 for objectives D and E**, and by **December 12, 2013 for objective A, B and C**, including comments on:
 - I. The scientific report, taking into account the relevant scientific literature, containing:
 - a) Full description of the work carried out for the tagging activities in the various areas, with the total number of tagged tunas and specification of the double tagged tuna;
 - b) Detailed description of the methodology and protocols (particularly if tagging was carried out strictly according to the ICCAT/GBYP *Tagging Manual*);
 - c) Maps of the areas in which the tagging was carried out, according to the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design;
 - d) Detailed tables with the definitive number of tagged specimens by area, size composition and type of tag (small double-barb, large double-barb, single barb);
 - e) Copy of the data input worksheets from the ICCAT tagging database;
 - f) Any possible recommendations for adjusting the tagging strategy for conventional tagging in ICCAT/GBYP Phase 3;
 - g) An Executive Summary.

II. An updated PowerPoint presentation of the main results.

#5 The final report, to be prepared taking into account any comments provided by ICCAT, and the full administrative report including copies of all the administrative documents, to be submitted by **July 31, 2013 for objectives D and E**, and by **December 23, 2013**, at the latest **for objectives A, B and C**.

When more than one objective (task) is included under the same offer, then the latter date is to be considered for the deliverables).

To facilitate the reporting requirements, the ICCAT/GBYP could possibly provide a template for the reports.

Payment details

Disbursements will be made according to the following schedule:

1. 30% of the total amount of the contract upon **signing of the contract**;
2. 25% upon completion and acceptance of **Deliverable #1**;
3. 25% upon completion and acceptance of **Deliverable #2**;
4. 20% after the approval of **Deliverable #5** upon incorporation of comments by the ICCAT/GBYP Steering Committee and the approval of the administrative documents.

Logistics

All documents provided by the Contractor must be in MS Word or compatible software; tables must be in Excel format or compatible; figures and pictures must be in JPEG or TIFF format or compatible. Tagging data shall be input in the ICCAT tagging database. All documents submitted must be in English, French or Spanish.

Copyright

All the material produced by the Contractor will remain the property of the ICCAT/GBYP, 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 further information concerning this Call for Tenders, please contact the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator at the following address: antonio.dinatale@iccat.int.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Tagging Coordinator

The duties and responsibilities of the Tagging Coordinator (objective A; however, the duties will be extended to other activities if those are included in the same bid) shall be as follows:

- Be the liaison officer between the Contractor and the ICCAT/GBYP for all practical issues concerning the tagging activities;
- Selection and training of the staff engaged in the tagging programme at sea, organising the necessary training course;
- Implement the logistical and operational components of the tag release activities (conventional and electronic tagging) including cruise planning, tagger training and supervision of all aspects of the operational releases;
- Participate in tagging cruises, acting as cruise leader, involving up to 2 months at sea;
- Ensure that all data collected as part of the release activities of tags under the ICCAT/GBYP are properly recorded, transcribed in electronic form and provided to the ICCAT data manager;
- Ensure the collection of all biological samples requested by the contract (only for those samples to be collected during the tagging activities) and ensure their delivery to the team (s) in charge of the biological and genetic sampling and analyses, according to the sampling protocols specified;
- Arrange, on behalf of the Contractor, for vessel chartering, contracting staff for tagging operations and while purchasing any of the gears required to implement properly the tagging program;
- Prepare written reports, as required, summarizing all tag release and recovery activities and also, in strict cooperation with the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator, draft articles describing the GBYP Tagging Programme for promotional purposes;
- Prepare all necessary documents for requesting the permits for accessing the national waters under the jurisdiction of each CPC concerned (to be formally requested by the Contractor), informing the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator of any need for assistance and/or support;
- In collaboration with the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator, implement tag promotional and recovery activities including those specifically recommended by the GBYP Steering Committee. This will possibly entail extensive travel to major bluefin landing ports and direct liaison with fishing industry and scientist involved with bluefin fisheries.
- Other activities, as required, to ensure the successful implementation of the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Programme;
- Work in constant, close cooperation with the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator, keeping him informed of all the details, any possible difficulties, and progress made.