



Madrid, 20 March 2017

ICCAT GBYP CIRCULAR # 0436 / 17

**SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE - CALL FOR TENDERS - ICCAT GBYP (02/2017)
AERIAL SURVEY FOR BLUEFIN SPAWNING AGGREGATIONS. ATLANTIC-WIDE
RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA (ICCAT GBYP Phase 7)**

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached Call for Tenders ICCAT-GBYP 02/2017 for "Aerial survey for bluefin spawning aggregations" of the ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (ICCAT/GBYP).

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.



Driss Meski
Executive Secretary

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Attachment: Call for Tenders ICCAT GBYP 02/2017.

TERMS OF REFERENCE
CALL FOR TENDERS GBYP 02/2017
AERIAL SURVEY ON SPAWNING AGGREGATION
ATLANTIC WIDE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA (ICCAT GBYP Phase 7)

Background and objectives

The ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP) is required to improve basic data collection, the understanding of key biological and ecological processes, assessment models and management.

An important element of this programme is to carry out aerial surveys by transects in the Mediterranean Sea, where and when schools are traditionally sighted close to the surface to support the development of a fishery-independent index. As part of this programme, scientific Institutes and public or private entities are asked to submit tenders to carry out the surveys.

Contractor tasks

The Contractor, who will work in close consultation with the ICCAT GBYP Coordinator and the Steering Committee, will conduct aerial surveys of one or more sub-areas covering spawning aggregations, identified in the attached maps, according to the sampling design attached. The four sub-areas to be surveyed are the following: Balearic Sea (area A), southern Tyrrhenian Sea (area C), central-southern Mediterranean Sea (area E) and Levantine Sea (area G). The Contractor is responsible for obtaining the flight permits.

The operational budget for this survey campaign is sufficient for several replicates (surveys) for each area, according to the survey design (plus a maximum of 20% of the days as stand-by time for adverse weather conditions). The offer is to specify the following: (a) type of aircraft (adequate for aerial spotting, possibly with upper wings, two propellers and good forward visibility, mandatorily equipped with bubble windows, one on each side); (b) availability of a pilot and a professional tuna spotter; (c) availability of two scientific spotters, who pertain to scientific institutions independent from the fishing industries; d) the number of surveys and survey time provided for each sub-area.

The surveys will be conducted only on bluefin tuna spawning aggregations in the period from May 29, 2017 to June 30, 2017, by each aircraft in each sub-area, at a spotting altitude of 300 m. The distance covered in a one-hour flight should be about 100 nm, with about 6 flight hours on duty per day. It is reasonable to take into account adverse weather forecast of 20% of the days (bad weather conditions mean winds over 3 on the Beaufort scale, or low clouds at less than 300 m altitude, or heavy rain, which prevents a reliable observation of tuna schools close to the sea surface). The aerial survey protocol (mandatory to apply) is available [here](#).

The tender should be able to provide a full GPS recording of all flights and sighting positions, together with the necessary way points when relevant. All sightings shall be documented with photos, preferentially using a high resolution, geo-stabilised, GPS tagging, electronic camera. All photos shall be delivered along with the final report.

Each contractor shall provide the sightings forms to ICCAT/GBYP, duly filled, at the end of each week (24 hours maximum after the last flight), in order to allow for real-time checks and corrections.

Each Contractor, in case of award, shall ensure the participation of one official representative, the pilot(s), the professional spotter(s) and the scientific spotters in a training course (max 2 days) to be held at the ICCAT Secretariat at the end of April 2017, at short notice. Participation in the course is mandatory. The Contractor shall provide photos and the personal details of all the staff working on the survey on the first day of the training course, at the latest.

Contractor minimum qualifications

- Documented multi-year experience in bluefin tuna studies and/or aerial surveys or censuses of marine populations; previous experience in tuna aerial survey will be preferential.
- Availability of an adequate aircraft for aerial spotting, including a technical description of the aircraft equipped with two bubble windows (one on each side), piloted by a licensed pilot having documented experience in this field.
- Availability of at least one professional tuna spotter, who has documented multiyear experience in this field.
- Availability of at least two scientific observers, preferably with previous experience in tuna fisheries or biology, aerial surveys and/or census of marine populations, and who pertain to scientific institutions or entities independent of the fishing industries and who hold a university degree in one of the following: Fisheries Science, or Marine Biology or Natural Sciences or Biological Sciences or Environmental Sciences or closely related fields.
- Excellent working knowledge of one of the three official languages of ICCAT (English, French and Spanish). A good command of English is highly desirable.
- Bank or Insurance guarantee for the amount of the contract, to be provided before the signature of the contract.

Request for bids

Interested entities should submit an offer to the ICCAT Executive Secretary (driss.meski@iccat.int) and, in copy, to the ICCAT GBYP Coordinator (antonio.dinatale@iccat.int) by **April 3, 2017**, including:

- a) A detailed offer, describing the sub-area(s) where the aerial survey will be carried out (for the identification of the sub-areas, please refer to the attached maps), the type of spotting aircraft to be used for the survey, the minimum number of flight hours to be guaranteed in total, the maximum number of stand-by days, the date for the interim report and the date for the final report;
- b) The curricula of the pilot, the professional spotter and the scientific observers;
- c) The curriculum of the institution or company applying for the GBYP Aerial Survey 2017, with any documented experience in aerial survey or marine population survey, 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);
- d) A preliminary estimated budget for the aerial survey, taking into account the proportion of the 1°x1° quadrants to be explored over the total of the quadrants where spawning activities were identified on the attached maps, and any discount terms (please use the attached table).
- e) The name, address, and telephone number of the tendering body, along with the contact number of the person responsible for the field activity;
- f) The institutional and administrative background of the tendering body (e.g. statutes, type of institution, annual budget, budget control procedures, etc.);
- g) If the aircraft proposed for the survey does not belong to the tendering body, then a declaration from its owner should be included, to define the availability of the aircraft for this duty and to ensure that the aircraft is properly insured for all risks by a primary insurance company; a copy of the subcontract or MOU should be also provided;
- h) A detailed list of any subcontracting activities;
- i) The declaration that the offering institution will strictly follow the aerial survey design and the protocol provided by ICCAT GBYP prior to the beginning of the surveys, along with the forms to be used for the survey, and the administrative rules specified in the contract;

- j) A declaration that all the comments eventually made on the draft final report will be incorporated in the final report prior to the submission to the ICCAT SCRS;
- k) A completed copy of the operating license and authorization (if applicable) and any administrative document, released by the competent public authority, demonstrating that the offering institution is authorized to operate the aerial survey;
- l) A declaration that the offering institution will provide an insurance guarantee for the full amount of the contract, before its signature;
- m) A declaration that the offering institution will be covered by full insurance for the aerial survey to be carried out according to the Call for Tenders, excluding ICCAT from all the responsibilities concerning the job to be done by each offering institution;
- n) Acknowledgment of this Call for Tenders;
- o) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions herein included.

Offers that fail to furnish the required documentation or information, or reject the terms and conditions of the Call for Tenders may be excluded from consideration.

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

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

The Contractor shall be available to take onboard an ICCAT GBYP inspector or a national observer at any time, at short notice.

The ICCAT Secretariat will make a selection of the offers and will decide the contract(s) to be awarded. The awarded entity(ies) will be notified shortly afterwards.

Deliverables

- 1) The sighting forms concerning the first week of activities to be submitted by e-mail by **June 5, 2017**, at the latest, with the GPS tracks (electronic) and brief notes on specific problems.
- 2) The sighting forms concerning the second week of activities to be submitted by e-mail by **June 12, 2017**, at the latest, with the GPS tracks (electronic) and brief notes on specific problems.
- 3) The sighting forms concerning the third week of activities to be submitted by e-mail by **June 19, 2017**, at the latest, with the GPS tracks (electronic) and brief notes on specific problems.
- 4) The sighting forms concerning the fourth week of activities to be submitted by e-mail by **June 26, 2017**, at the latest, with the GPS tracks (electronic) and brief notes on specific problems.
- 5) The sighting forms concerning the fifth week of activities to be submitted by e-mail by **July 3, 2017**, at the latest, with the GPS tracks (electronic) and brief notes on specific problems.
- 6) The draft final report to be submitted at the latest by **July 7, 2017**, including:
 - a) Full description of the work carried out during the aerial survey;
 - b) Detailed description of the methodology;
 - c) Detailed maps of the areas in which the aerial survey was carried out, according to the aerial survey design;
 - d) Maps with the GPS tracks of the survey, by date;
 - e) Detailed maps of the sightings, with GPS positions;
 - f) Full copy of the official sighting forms, complete with full details;
 - g) Complete copy of the photos and videos taken during the survey (on DVD), including their reference;
 - h) Scientific report, prepared taking into account the aerial survey design and the relevant literature;
 - i) Summary.

- j) A PowerPoint presentation of the main results to the ICCAT SCRS 2017 Bluefin Species Group Session or to any other ICCAT SCRS meeting.
- 7) The definitive final report, to be prepared taking into account the eventual comments provided by ICCAT and to be submitted by **July 19, 2017**, at the latest.

Payment details

Disbursements will be made according to the following schedule:

1. 40% of the total amount of the contract upon signing of the contract;
2. 40% upon providing the Deliverable No. 4;
3. 20% after the approval of the final report upon incorporation of comments made by ICCAT 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. All documents submitted must be in English, French or Spanish.

Copyright

All of the material produced by the Contractor will remain the property of ICCAT GBYP and it must be kept confidential.