



Madrid, 12 March 2018

## ICCAT GBYP CIRCULAR # 0277 / 2018

**SUBJECT: CALL FOR TENDERS ICCAT GBYP 02/2018 - AERIAL SURVEY FOR BLUEFIN SPAWNING AGGREGATIONS - AERIAL SURVEY TRAINING COURSE, REAL-TIME MONITORING OF THE DATA AND REAL-TIME SURVEY DATA ANALYSIS. ATLANTIC-WIDE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA (ICCAT GBYP - PHASE 8)**

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached Call for tenders ICCAT GBYP 02/2018 - Aerial Survey For Bluefin Spawning Aggregations - Aerial Survey Training Course, Real-Time Monitoring of the Data and Real-Time Survey Data Analysis. Atlantic-Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (ICCAT GBYP - Phase 8).

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration

  
Driss Meski  
Executive Secretary  


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**Attachment:** Call for tenders GBYP 02/2018.

## CALL FOR TENDERS ICCAT GBYP 02/2018

### AERIAL SURVEY FOR BLUEFIN SPAWNING AGGREGATIONS – AERIAL SURVEY TRAINING COURSE, REAL-TIME MONITORING OF THE DATA AND REAL-TIME SURVEY DATA ANALYSIS. ATLANTIC-WIDE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA (ICCAT GBYP – PHASE 8)

#### 1 ICCAT GBYP 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. Currently almost all the data used in stock assessments are obtained from fisheries-dependent data, which can be affected by changes in exploitation patterns and TACs. It is therefore important to obtain data from alternative sources, preferably fishery independent, in order to verify the assumptions made when conducting the assessments or to improve the current data sets used in OM or MSE.

Accordingly, one of the major research tasks under the ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Bluefin Tuna Research Programme (GBYP) is the aerial survey for spawning aggregations, which has already been carried out under different strategies in 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017 (all documents are available [here](#)), providing a fishery-independent index of relative abundance of spawning stock biomass.

In 2018, the aerial survey will be limited only to the four overlapping areas, following the same strategy and the [design](#) that was developed in 2017. Furthermore, survey data will be monitored in real time, so as to detect any possible bias and immediately correct the survey reporting. Specific sighting forms have already been developed in previous years for the ICCAT GBYP Aerial Survey, along with an [ICCAT GBYP Protocol](#).

Funds will be made available under ICCAT GBYP Phase 8, for covering the costs related to the support activities for the aerial survey for spawning aggregations.

On the basis of the offers submitted in response to this Call for tenders, ICCAT seeks to select a service provider i.e. an individual expert or group of experts, a public institution or a private entity, to provide services in support of the aerial survey activity in 2018.

#### 2 Contractor tasks (TORs)

The Contractor shall deliver various products and services, as detailed below:

- I. Review, and improve if necessary, the aerial survey protocol, the aerial survey sighting forms, in the light of previous experience.
- II. Provide training assistance by two experts on protocol and sighting forms during the ICCAT GBYP Aerial Survey Training Course for activity in 2018 (1 day (date to be decided) in Madrid,) date to be decided), using the available presentations or, if necessary, newly developed improved ones.
- III. Provide real-time assistance in reviewing the contents of the sighting forms to be delivered on a weekly basis by each team involved in the aerial survey activity in 2018, advise individual teams to solve any potential problem and improve data reporting and quality.
- IV. Provide real-time analysis of all data collected by the ICCAT GBYP aerial survey in 2018, by overlapping area, using the same methodology that was applied in previous surveys.
- V. Provide a final comprehensive report.

### 3 Deliverables

- #1 If necessary, an improved version of the ICCAT GBYP aerial survey protocol and the ICCAT GBYP aerial survey sighting forms.
- #2 If necessary, an improved version of the PowerPoint presentations for use by the Contractor during the ICCAT GBYP Aerial Survey Training Course.
- #3 A weekly short report on the desk monitoring activity of the weekly sighting forms submitted by each team, the problems encountered and the remedies adopted for solving them and enhancing the quality of the survey data.
- #4 A draft final report in English shall be submitted at the latest by **23 July 2018**, including the following:
  - Map of the distribution of bluefin tuna spawners by overlapping area (on efforts and off effort).
  - A summary table following the same approach of previous surveys (click [here](#)), with the objective of comparing the aerial survey results by area and year.
  - Data analysis by overlapping area, showing the distribution of sightings according to Distance categories and following the same methodology as used in previous analyses (click [here](#)). Estimates of abundance by overlapping area with appropriate estimates of uncertainty (CV), possibly including sources of additional variance if available.
  - A detailed report concerning the aerial survey carried out in 2018, including an executive summary.
  - A PowerPoint presentation summarizing activities and results for the SCRS.
- #5 The final report, to be prepared taking into account any comments provided by the ICCAT GBYP, and the full administrative report including any administrative documents, shall be submitted by **6 August 2018**, at the latest.

The contract completion date is **6 August 2018**.

### 4 Contractor minimum qualifications

- Documented experience in aerial survey design and analyses; previous experience in aerial surveys for tuna species will be preferred;
- Documented experience in the Distance technique;
- PhD or University degree in biological, natural, environmental or fishery sciences or related fields;
- 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.

### 5 Request for proposal

Interested expert(s) should submit a proposal only to the attention of Mr. Driss Meski, ICCAT Executive Secretary, at the following address: [driss.meski@iccat.int](mailto:driss.meski@iccat.int) by **30 March 2018** including:

- a) Acknowledgment of this Call for tenders (**ICCAT GBYP 02/2018**).
- b) A detailed proposal, based on the Terms of Reference (TORs) of this Call for Tenders. Departures from the TORs may be made with detailed justification.
- c) The *curriculum vitae* of the institution, including the full address.
- d) An estimated total budget for carrying out the work. The budget will be expressed as a lump sum figure.
- e) The name, address, and telephone number for contact purposes of the expert(s).
- f) The bank account of the expert/entity (bank name, account number, IBAN and SWIFT codes) and, if applicable, the VAT/TAX identification code.
- g) A declaration that the expert(s) or entity (s) will follow the terms of this Call for tenders, and/or approved modifications agreed upon, and the administrative rules specified in the contract.

- h) A declaration that the comments eventually made on the draft final report (**Deliverable #4**) will be incorporated in the final report (**Deliverable #5**).
- i) A declaration that the expert(s) or entity(s) is covered by full insurance for the work to be carried out according to this Call for tenders, excluding ICCAT from all responsibility concerning the work to be done.
- j) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions included herein, particularly specifying the date for providing the draft final report (**Deliverable #4**) and the date for the final report (**Deliverable #5**).

The Contractor should be available to attend and report to any meeting requested by ICCAT; these costs will be paid on the basis of an addendum to the contract.

## **6 Payment details**

Taking into account the very strict schedule for carrying out the work, disbursements will be made according to the following schedule:

1. 50% of the total amount of the contract upon **signing of the contract**;
2. 50% after the approval of **Deliverable #5** upon addressing comments by ICCAT.

### ***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.

## **7 Copyright**

All the material produced by the Contractor within the scope of this Call for tenders shall remain the property of the ICCAT GBYP for the uses of GBYP and may not, in any case, be circulated by the Contractor. The scientific use of the data provided under this Call for tenders by the Contractor shall always be notified to ICCAT in advance.

For further information concerning this Call for Tenders, please contact the ICCAT GBYP Coordinator at the following address: [francisco.alemany@iccat.int](mailto:francisco.alemany@iccat.int)