



WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

P.O. Box 2356
Kolonia
Pohnpei 96941
Federated States of Micronesia
www.wcpfc.int

INFORMATION PACKAGE

FAD Bycatch Mitigation Research

Terms of Reference to Call for EOI

INTRODUCTION

The Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (Convention) entered into force in June 2004 creating one of the first regional fisheries management organizations to be established since the 1995 adoption of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (Agreement).

The objective of the Convention is to ensure, through effective management, the long-term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) in accordance with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the Agreement. For this purpose, the Convention establishes a Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC). A small Commission Secretariat is based at Kolonia, Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia.

The Convention applies to all species of highly migratory fish stocks (defined as all fish stocks of the species listed in Annex I of UNCLOS occurring in the Convention Area and such other species of fish as the Commission may determine) within the Convention Area, except saurians. Conservation and management measures under the Convention are to be applied throughout the range of the stocks, or to specific areas within the Convention Area, as determined by the Commission. The Commission currently has 25 Members and two Cooperating Non-Members. The three Pacific Overseas Territories of each of France and the US and Tokelau are Participating Territories within the Commission. Additional information concerning the Commission, including copies of recent decisions, is available from www.wcpfc.int

The Commission's Scientific Committee identified a list of high priority projects and a study on scientific issues related with FAD monitoring and management is one of them. This study was recommended by the Scientific Committee but was not funded by the Commission in December 2009. However, the government of Papua New Guinea provided funding support for this study and the Terms of Reference below have been prepared to solicit expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced individuals, institutions or firms to undertake

the study which will commence in 2010. The Expression of Interest (EOI) should include a timetable for delivery of the consultancy outcomes and an estimate of the costs involved in undertaking the consultancy.

Objective:

To develop and test research projects aimed at reducing catches of small tuna, bigeye tuna and non-target species taken in FAD associated sets.

Scope and tasks:

Undertake studies on the behavior of target and non-target species around FADs in relation to FAD gear and FAD fishing strategies with a view to identifying their impact in relation to mitigation measures to reduce catches of juvenile tuna, bigeye tuna and non-target species by purse seine gear.

Outputs and schedule:

Subject to the scope of the proposal, a draft consultancy report, to be submitted to the Secretariat by 31 May 2011 for review, and a presentation at the Seventh Regular Session of the Scientific Committee to be held at Koror, Palau, 9-17 August 2011.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The consultancy(ies) will commence as soon as possible after the selection of the winning bid(s). Bid(s) should include:

- a. a capability statement detailing qualifications and relevant experience for individual team members and/or the agency bidding for the consultancy;
- b. a work plan with milestones, a timetable for delivery of the consultancy outcomes and an estimate of the costs involved in undertaking the consultancy;
- c. contact details for individuals who can comment on previous work by the bidder that is relevant to this consultancy.

Bids should be no more than 8 single spaced pages. In assessing the merits of bids received, cost efficiency and cost effectiveness will be important considerations. Requests for additional information relating to this consultancy and submissions of EOI should be directed to:

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Marked for the attention of the Science Manager

by close of business on **Sunday, 31 October 2010**.