



Madrid – March 26, 2012

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1173 / 2012

**SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE – CALL FOR TENDERS – GBYP 01/2012
ICCAT/GBYP PHASE 3**

- A) Tagging Programme 2012
- B) Biological and Genetic Sampling and Analyses
- C) Tagging Programme 2012 & Biological and Genetic Sampling and Analyses

I have the honor to transmit to you the attached the Terms of Reference - Call for Tenders GBYP 01/2012 for the above research tasks 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.


Driss Meski
Executive Secretary

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Attachment: Terms of Reference – Call for Tenders GBYP 01/2012.

CALL FOR TENDERS ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012
TAGGING PROGRAMME 2012
AND
BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC SAMPLING AND ANALYSES
ATLANTIC-WIDE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA
(ICCAT/GBYP – PHASE 3)

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. 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 two of the main activities to be carried out in Phase 3 (May-December 2012). The first part of this Call for Tenders concerns the Tagging Programme 2012 (ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 A); the second part concerns the Biological and Genetic Sampling and Analyses (ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 B); and the third part concerns the two activities combined, Tagging Programme 2012 and Biological and Genetic Sampling and Analyses (ICCAT-GBYP 2012 C).

A. TAGGING PROGRAMME 2012 (ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 A)

One of the major research tasks under the ICCAT Atlantic-wide Bluefin Tuna Research Programme (GBYP) is 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 2012, along with simultaneous recapture operations, according to the GBYP tagging design already approved in 2011 by the GBYP Steering Committee, after the recommendations of the design of tagging experiment(s) that would address several specific objectives. 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 be possibly active in the western North Atlantic and in the Gulf of Mexico. The program should target the main areas and size-classes identified by the Tagging Design.

Tagging in 2012 shall include 10,000 to 20,000 conventional tags and about 100 internal archival tags. Additional 50 miniPATs, will be implanted in the Mediterranean areas on juvenile bluefin tunas. Tag recaptures will be also conducted by the same team(s) in charge of the tagging activity. Biological samples will be collected during the tagging activities, according to the opportunities and the scheme that will be defined by the ICCAT-GBYP operational meetings in spring 2012. An experienced coordinator, to be hired by the tender, and who will maintain in constant close contact with the ICCAT-GBYP Coordinator, shall be exclusively dedicated to coordinate all the activities, such as selecting and training the tagging teams, monitoring the related field activities, i.e., supervising the teams to be involved, the operating tasks of the fishing vessels and their crews, all related data handling and processing, until their input into the ICCAT tagging database and the collection and delivery of the biological samplings taken during the tagging activities.

The specific objectives of the tagging activity in the medium term (according to the 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) and the tag-recapture activity included in the tagging programme in 2012.
- 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.

Background and objectives

Many assumptions used in the previous 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 2012, 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 the second year of activity (2012) it was decided to continue carrying out the conventional tagging, mainly on juvenile bluefin tuna (already initiated in 2011), particularly taking into account the budget and operational constraints. The single-barb spaghetti tags shall be used in 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 in all areas, while miniPATs will be implanted in the Mediterranean areas only. The final scheme for implanting these electronic tags will be defined in detail by the GBYP Operational Meeting on Tagging, to be held in April 2012 before beginning the field activities.

The Report of the First 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, providing 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.

Scientific institutes, *ad hoc* consortia, and public or private entities are asked to submit tenders for carrying out the tagging programme.

Contractor tasks

The Contractor, 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 GBYP Tagging Design provided in <http://www.iccat.int/GBYP/en/Products.htm>. 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 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 fishermen and industries when carrying out tagging within national jurisdictions. The necessary tags will be provided by ICCAT/GBYP.

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

The budget for the tagging activity in 2012 is considered sufficient to tag from 10,000 to 20,000 bluefin tuna individuals, with 40% double tagging, and for implanting 100 internal archival tags and 50 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.

This contract is for the period up to December 2012. However, it is likely that in Phase 4 of the GBYP (i.e., in 2013) a third call for tagging will be announced with a level of funding to be defined based on the achievements of Phase 3. The objectives of this third call will possibly be the same as those for the second 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 third contract may be awarded for 2013 without going through a third bidding process. This will depend on an evaluation of the work to be conducted by the ICCAT-GBYP Steering Committee.

The Tender shall provide a proposal to achieve the ICCAT/GBYP objectives for Phase 3, including:

- a) Conventionally tagged bluefin tuna should be in a range between 10,000 and 20,000 individuals, with 40% double tagging;
- b) 50 miniPATs should be equally shared among the various Mediterranean areas 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;
- c) A number of internal archival tags (a minimum of 100 tags) should be implanted, equally sharing them among all areas where conventional tagging will be carried out; these electronic tags will be implanted by the same team in charge of conventional tagging;
- d) The age range of tagged fish shall be 1 to 3 years, possibly following the tagging design already approved for the tag distribution by area and age;
- e) The time-frame for tagging shall be mid-August 2012 to mid-October 2012;
- f) Baitboats shall be the type of vessel to be used for tagging, as purse-seiners imply too high mortality and difficult operations at sea;
- g) Tag-recovery operations shall be carried out by the same vessels in the same areas and recovered tagged fish shall be recorded, possibly increasing the number of observers on board the same vessel;
- h) It shall be necessary to further implement cooperative agreements with ICCAT/ROP observers at bluefin tuna farm installations to ensure complete tag reporting and recovery of any tagged fish;
- i) It should 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 of any tuna fishing vessel and trap, to ensure complete tag reporting and recovery of any tagged fish;
- j) It shall be paramount to reach a cooperative agreement with Croatia, with the local scientific institutions, the local tuna farms and the ROP observers working there to ensure complete tag reporting and recovery of any tagged fish, as this is one of the very few fisheries targeting juvenile bluefin tunas;
- k) It shall be necessary to carry out biological sampling during the tagging activities; the details will be defined by the ICCAT-GBYP Operational Meetings on Tagging and on Biological and Genetic Sampling to be in April 2012, before releasing any contract.

In order to fulfil these objectives, the Tender shall ensure the following:

- The hiring 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 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**).

- The hiring of a minimum of three baitboat vessels to carry out the activities in the Bay of Biscay, in the Gibraltar area, in the western Mediterranean and in the Adriatic Sea. Possibly, additional small baitboat vessels could be hired in the Gibraltar area, to improve tagging in this area and in the western Mediterranean Sea as well. The total time at sea should be an average of two (2) months per vessel, for a total of six (6) months/vessel.
- 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, for a total of six (6) months/person, with some additional time for training and travel.
- All necessary permits for accessing and operating in the waters under the jurisdiction of each CPC concerned.

The Tender should endeavor to ensure full coverage of all areas and bluefin tuna size groups as indicated in the Tagging Design. Therefore, proposals including entities across geographic areas will be preferred. In the case of a consortium or group of entities, an administrative and a scientific responsible entity should be identified, along with a Scientific Committee 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. 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 vessels 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 gbyp@iccat.int by **April 27, 2012**, including:

- a) Acknowledgment of this Call for Tenders (**ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 A**)
- b) A detailed offer, based on the Tagging Design, 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 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 GBYP tagging activity 2012, 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, 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 subcontracting activities;
- j) A declaration that the offering institution will follow the ICCAT/GBYP Tagging Design and the ICCAT/GBYP *Tagging Manual* provided by the ICCAT/GBYP 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**) (**November 27, 2012** at the latest).

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 **May 7, 2012**, 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 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**;
- #2** An update of the short report on the activities to be submitted at the latest by **September 17, 2012**, 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, 2012**, to inform the ICCAT Commission;
- #4** The draft final report to be submitted at the latest by **November 27, 2012**, 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 GBYP Tagging Manual);
 - c) Maps of the areas in which the tagging was carried out, according to the 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 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 **December 14, 2012**, at the latest.

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.

B. BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC SAMPLING AND ANALYSES (ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 B)

Background and objectives

One of the main objectives of the GBYP is to improve the understanding of key biological and ecological processes for Atlantic bluefin tuna. As part of this Programme, biological sampling of the main bluefin fisheries (i.e., baitboats, purse seine, longline, handline, traps and recreational fisheries), already started in 2011. This concerned the collection of data on age, length, weight, sex, maturity, fecundity and for genetic analyses for identification of sub-populations. The work to be carried out in Phase 3 will be basically the same, possibly extending sampling also to areas not covered in 2011, according to the ICCAT-GBYP sampling design.

The report of the GBYP Operational Meeting on Biological Sampling (February 17, 2011) provides an outline of the objectives and the work to be carried out, while the initial Sampling Design was carried out under an earlier call. As part of this Programme, scientific institutes and public or private entities are asked to submit tenders to carry out the project.

Contractor tasks

The tender will work in close consultation with the ICCAT-GBYP and will conduct biological and genetic sampling and analyses from various fisheries and areas according to the GBYP Sampling Design which is available at http://www.iccat.int/GBYP/Documents/Biological_Sampling_Plan_GBYP_2011.pdf. The document is provided in the original language only, as delivered to ICCAT. This involves sampling by strata and bluefin size classes, according to the Sampling Design. However, any proposed change or adjustment to the Sampling Design must be fully justified (for example, the proposed sampling levels are based on size information, which are not necessarily appropriate for sampling across all the different biological material.) Also, duplication (i.e., of existing sampling programmes) must be avoided.

The Tender will be responsible for all necessary agreements with local fishermen and industries when carrying out sampling within national jurisdictions. The Tender will be also responsible for defining the necessary

agreement with the team(s) in charge of the GBYP tagging activity, which shall also collect biological samples. This will be better defined by the ICCAT-GBYP Operational Meeting on Tagging and Biological and Genetic Sampling, to be held in April 2012. The biological samples collected and analysed will be property of the ICCAT-GBYP at the end of the contract. In the meantime, the Tender should provide appropriate storage for any biological samples and hard parts collected.

The Contractor(s) shall be responsible for data management and for establishing a database in agreement with the ICCAT Secretariat.

The budget for the biological and genetic sampling and analyses in 2012 is considered sufficient to collect and analyze the samples specified in the Sampling Design. However, if costs estimated in the original design are deemed insufficient, then this should be indicated in the Tender.

This contract is for the period up to December 2012. However, it is likely that in following phases of the GBYP (i.e., in 2013 and on) a third call for biological and genetic sampling and analyses will be announced with a level of funding to be defined based upon the results of Phase 3. The objectives of this third call will be the same as those of the first and second calls and the sampling design and analyses will be improved based on those on the current calls and the recommendations of both the ICCAT-GBYP Steering Committee and the SCRS. Therefore, upon successful completion of work under this call, a third contract may be awarded for 2013 without going through a third bidding process. This will depend on the ICCAT-GBYP Steering Committee's evaluation of the work conducted.

The Tender shall provide a proposal including the following:

- a) Number of samples by stratum and bluefin size group;
- b) Specification of the biological data and samples to be collected; i.e., otoliths, other hard parts, genetic samples, sex, maturity, fecundity, including a clear prioritization under the budget.
- c) Protocols for the biological and genetic sampling and the analyses to be conducted (e.g., individual weight and length should always be recorded for all samples).
- d) Type and number of analyses (ageing, micro-constituents, genetic, histology, etc.) that will be conducted on the samples collected and their respective cost per analysis;

The Tender should endeavor to ensure the full coverage of all strata and analyses of all samples, also taking into account the samples to be collected during the tagging activities, to be more precisely defined by the ICCAT-GBYP Operational Meetings. Therefore, proposals including entities across geographic areas will be preferred. In the case of a consortium or group of entities, an administrative and a scientific responsible entity should be identified, along with a Scientific Committee on which each entity carrying out a scientific duty will be represented. The Tender(s) can optionally apply for a specific task or sub-set of areas/coverage with a detailed description of the modifications and the research proposal.

The Tender can utilize the ICCAT Regional Observers Programme (ROP) and the team(s) in charge of the ICCAT-GBYP tagging activities to coordinate sampling and data collection in constant, close contact with the GBYP officer.

Contractor minimum qualifications

- Documented multi-year experience in bluefin tuna biological studies; previous experience in large-scale biological sampling.
- For the micro-constituent specialist(s): documented multi-year experience of micro-constituent analysis; previous studies on tuna species will be preferential.
- For the genetic specialist(s): documented multi-year experience of genetic analysis; previous studies on tuna species will be preferential.
- Availability of sufficient qualified scientific staff to carry out the duties.
- Availability of at least one specialist in managing biological 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 ICCAT Executive Secretary (driss.meski@iccat.int) and, in copy, to the ICCAT-GBYP Coordinator (gbyp@iccat.int) by **April 27, 2012**, including:

- a) The detailed offer, based on the Sampling Design, describing the strata where the sampling will be conducted (taking into account the sampling to be done during the ICCAT-GBYP Tagging activity), the minimum number and type of samples to be collected, the expected variance associated, if applicable, the number and type of analyses to be conducted, the protocols to be adopted, the structure of the data bank, and the sub-area --for the purpose of the draft final report (**Deliverable #4**) and the final report (**Deliverable #5**). Departures from the Sampling Design may be made with justification.
- b) The curricula of the scientific staff.
- c) The curriculum of the institution(s) or entity(ies) applying for the GBYP Biological and Genetic Sampling and Analyses for 2012, with any documented experience in these fields, including 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) The preliminary estimated budget for the biological and genetic sampling, the analyses and the data bank, to be detailed by individual components (e.g., biological sampling, genetic sampling, age determination, micro-constituent analysis, genetic analysis, data bank, personnel cost, travel, 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), while subcontracts can be allowed up to a maximum of 40% of the budget and must be detailed in the proposal.
- e) The name, address, and telephone number of the tendering body.
- f) The institutional and administrative background of the tendering body (e.g., statutes, type of institution, annual budget, budget control procedures, etc.).
- g) A detailed list of any subcontracting activities.
- h) A declaration that the offering institution will follow the Scheme for the Biological Sampling design provided by ICCAT-GBYP along with the present Call for Tenders, and/or approved modifications agreed upon, and the administrative rules specified in the contract.
- i) A declaration that all the comments eventually made on the draft final report (**Deliverable #4**) will be incorporated in the final report (**Deliverable #5**) prior to the submission to the ICCAT SCRS.
- j) A declaration that the staff and all the subcontract staff will be covered by a full insurance for the biological and genetic sampling activities to be carried out according to the Call for Tenders, excluding the ICCAT from all the responsibilities concerning the job to be done by each offering institution;
- k) Acknowledgment of this Call for Tenders (if applicable) (**ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 B**).
- l) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions included herein.

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 for any ICCAT-GBYP inspector at any time, on short notice.

The ICCAT Secretariat will make a selection of the offers and, in consultation with the ICCAT-GBYP Steering Committee, will decide the contract(s) to be awarded. The ICCAT Secretariat will notify the result of the selection process by **May 7, 2012**, at the latest.

Deliverables

- #1** A short report on sampling activities, including all protocols for samplings and the analyses, and the agreement with team(s) engaged in the ICCAT-GBYP Tagging activity and/or the ICCAT/ROP observers, including the description of the work carried out up to that date, to be submitted at the latest 30 days after the signature of the contract.
- #2** An update of the short report on the sampling and analyses activities to be submitted at the latest by **September 17, 2012**, including the description of the work carried out up to that date and a short PowerPoint presentation, to be used also for informing the SCRS.
- #3** Another short report for further updating the previous reports by **November 5, 2012**, to be used for informing the ICCAT Commission;
- #4** A draft final report to be submitted at the latest by **November 27, 2012**, including comments on:
- I. The scientific report, taking into account relevant scientific literature, containing:
 - a) A full description of the work carried out during the biological and genetic sampling and analyses;
 - b) A detailed description of the methodology and protocols;
 - c) Maps of the areas in which the sampling was carried out, in accordance with the biological sampling design;
 - d) Detailed tables with the definitive number of samples by stratum, fishery, and type, with the related statistical analysis;
 - e) A detailed description of the analysis carried out on the samples and results.
 - f) A detailed description of the data bank and its structure; link(s) with the ICCAT Secretariat database;
 - g) An Executive Summary of the final report.
 - 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, and to be submitted by **December 14, 2012**, at the latest.

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 the final report (**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. The format of the data bank shall be agreed with the ICCAT Secretariat. 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.

For further information concerning this Call for Tenders, please contact the ICCAT/GBYP Coordinator at the following address: antonio.dinatale@iccat.int.

<p>C. TAGGING PROGRAMME 2012 AND BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC SAMPLING AND ANALYSES (ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 C)</p>

Request for bids

Taking into account the fact that, as decided by the GBYP Steering Committee, the two main GBYP research activities described above under point **A (Tagging Programme)** and point **B (Biological and Genetic Sampling and Analyses)** are linked, and the fact that all the scheduled dates and conditions are the same for both activities, interested entities who would like to propose a bid for both activities combined should submit an offer to the ICCAT Executive Secretary (driss.meski@iccat.int) and, in copy, to the ICCAT-GBYP Coordinator (gbyp@iccat.int) by **April 27, 2012**, specifically indicating the Call for tenders **ICCAT-GBYP 01/2012 C**.

All terms and conditions specified above under point A. (Tagging Programme) and B (Biological and Genetic Sampling and Analyses) must be met and combined in the offer.

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 the final report (**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. The format of the data bank shall be agreed with the ICCAT Secretariat. All documents submitted must be in English, French or Spanish.

Copyright

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Duties and Responsibilities of the Tagging Coordinator

The duties and responsibilities of the Tagging Coordinator shall be as follows:

- Be the liaison officer between the Contractor and 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) and tag recapture activities of the GBYP 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 GBYP are properly recorded, transcribed into electronic form and provided to 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 GBYP Coordinator, draft articles describing the GBYP tagging program 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 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 GBYP tagging program;
- Work in constant, close cooperation with the ICCAT-GBYP Coordinator, keeping him informed of all the details, any possible difficulties, and progress made.