

Madrid, 20 April 2018

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 2478/2018

### SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE – CALL FOR TENDERS – ICCAT SMTYP BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES COLLECTION FOR GROWTH, MATURITY AND GENETICS STUDIES

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached Call for Tenders ICCAT SMTYP for the “Biological samples collection for growth, maturity and genetics studies”.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.



Driss Meski  
Executive Secretary

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**Attachment:** Call for Tenders ICCAT SMTYP.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE – CALL FOR TENDERS**  
**SMALL TUNAS YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM - BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES COLLECTION**  
**FOR GROWTH, MATURITY AND GENETICS STUDIES**

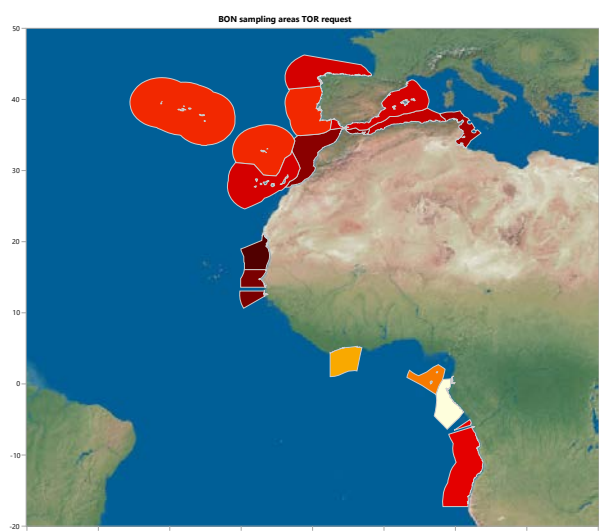
**Background and objectives**

The ICCAT Small Tunas Year Program (SMTYP) was adopted by the Commission in its 2012 meeting in Agadir (Morocco). The main objectives of this project are to improve historical Task I and II data and to collect biological data for small tunas (SMT), especially the growth, the maturity and stock structure data which are necessary for their assessment in the near future and thus provide scientific advice to ICCAT for their management.

As approved by the SCRS in 2017, the SMTYP aims in 2018 to continue collecting biological samples aiming growth, maturity and stock structure studies on small tunas species. The 2017 Small Tuna Species Group intersessional meeting it was decided to prioritize three species: Little tunny (LTA) (*Euthynnus alletteratus*), Atlantic Bonito (BON) (*Sarda sarda*) and Wahoo (WAH) (*Acanthocybium solandri*), based on their economical importance and the lack of knowledge on their biology.

The main objective of this Call for tenders is to collect biological samples for estimating the growth parameters, assessing the maturity (size/age at the first maturity, spawning season) and stock structure (mainly genetic analysis) of three prioritized species in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea. Secondly, this Call for tenders aims at start analyzing the samples collected, namely as regards the biological parameters mentioned above. In particular, the preliminary analysis of stock structure of one of the three species.

As part of this biological study, scientific institutes and public or private entities are asked to submit tenders to provide biological data and samples for LTA, BON and WAH. The organization of scientific institutes in a consortium to submit one single offer project would be preferable. All the data collected under the SMT research program shall be used only for scientific purposes and in accordance with ICCAT rules. Any other use of these data should be specifically authorized by ICCAT. Given the limited budget available in 2018, priority will be given to the collection of samples of LTA, BON and WAH from geographical areas that the Small Tunas Species Group identified as of high priority (see map and table below).



CPC EEZ	BON	LTA	WAH	Total
Algerie	109	80		189
Angola	105	93		198
Brazil			171	171
Cabo Verde		85	184	269
Côte d'Ivoire	81	92	122	295
EU.España	107	98	165	370
EU.Portugal	98	56		154
Gabon	52	67		119
Liberia		73		73
Maroc	116	72		188
Mauritania	123	96	196	415
S. Tomé e Príncipe	87	77	163	327
Senegal	118	109		227
Tunisie	113	97		210
<b>Total</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>1001</b>	<b>2995</b>

Minimum number of samples to be collected by species and CPC EEZ.

## Contractor tasks

The Contractor will work in close consultation with the ICCAT Secretariat. The Contractor will provide a detailed description of the biological sampling scheme explaining how the biological activities should be conducted. For stock structure (genetics), the Contractor shall also provide a preliminary results of the stock structure of one the three species identified above. It must be noted that for biological sampling and analysis, small-scale and short term sampling is considered of little use for meeting the project objectives. As such tenders should be made on a **regional and collaborative basis**.

The tender should be responsible for the following:

- a) The Contractor must provide the Secretariat with a detailed description of the biological sampling scheme (biological sampling ports, type of biological samples to be collected and analyzed (gonads, otoliths, spines, tissue), number of fish to be sampled by month, biological parameters to be estimated, etc.). The biological sampling period should be as long as possible. A detailed description of the methodology to be used for identify stock structure, the expected results for this analysis, and the full cost of stock structure analysis.
- b) The Contractor must follow strictly the protocols in the ICCAT Manual for the collection and analysis of the growth and maturity data ([click here](#)).
- c) The Contractor shall provide a detailed report summarizing the sampling results and the preliminary stock structure results.

## Contractor minimum qualifications

- Documented multi-year experience in small tuna's research and/or research on large pelagic species with experience on fishery data collection.
- University degree in one of the following: fisheries science, marine biology, statistics, natural sciences, biological sciences, environmental sciences or closely related fields (in case of individual scientists).
- Excellent working knowledge of one of the three official languages of ICCAT (English, French or Spanish). A high level of knowledge of English is desirable.

## Deliverables

1. A **SCRS document and a power point presentation** of the preliminary results to be provided to the 2019 Small Tunas intersessional meeting or the ICCAT SCRS 2019 Species Group meeting.
2. The **draft report** to be submitted at the latest by **7 December 2018**, and shall include:
  - a) Executive Summary;
  - b) Full description of the work carried out;
  - c) Detailed description of the sampling carried out for each of the three areas of research: Growth, Reproduction and Stock structure for each of the three species (LTA, BON, WAH);
  - d) Detailed description of preliminary genetics results of the chosen species;
  - e) References and literature cited.
3. The **final report** shall be updated taking into account the comments provided by the ICCAT Secretariat and the Small Tunas Species Group rapporteur and be submitted by **21 December 2018** at the latest.

## Submission of bids

Scientists and public or private Scientific Institutes or entities interested shall submit detailed offer(s) only to the attention of Mr. Driss Meski, the Executive Secretary of ICCAT, at the following address: [driss.meski@iccat.int](mailto:driss.meski@iccat.int) by **4 may 2018**, including:

- a) A detailed offer shall include: i) detailed description of the biological sampling scheme (as specified in the item (a) of the Contractor tasks), full cost of the collection of biological samples and the estimation of the growth and maturity parameters.
- b) The curriculum vitae of the tender (in case of individual scientists) and of any collaborator.
- c) The curriculum vitae of the institution (if an institution is the tenderer), with any documented experience in research on small tunas, or other large pelagic species or in data collection, 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) The name, address, and telephone number of the tendering body.
- e) The institutional and administrative background of the tendering body (e.g. statutes, type of institution, annual budget, budget control procedures, etc.) if applicable.
- f) A detailed list of any subcontracting activities.
- g) The declaration that the offering entity shall follow the ICCAT procedures and formats for data to be provided.
- h) A declaration that all the comments eventually made on data and/or documentation reported will be incorporated prior to submission to the ICCAT SCRS.
- i) Acknowledgment of this Call for tenders (if applicable).
- j) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions and provisions herein included.

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

The Contractors can be either research institutes 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.

The ICCAT Secretariat will make a selection of the offers. Following the selection process, the ICCAT Executive Secretary will notify the entity selected for the contract by **11 May 2018**.

## Payment details

Disbursement will be made according to the following schedule:

- 40% of the total amount of the contract upon signing of the contract;
- 40% after the reception of the draft final report by the ICCAT Secretariat;
- 20% after the approval of the final report by the ICCAT Secretariat, upon incorporation of comments made by the ICCAT Secretariat.

## Logistics

All documents provided by the Contractor must be in open format ODF 1.2 ([click here](#)) such as MS word or "\*.odf" de Apache OpenOffice y LibreOffice, figures 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.

Data must be provided in the standard ICCAT format for statistics. The biological data must be submitted in a format to be defined by the ICCAT Secretariat.

## **Copyright**

All the material produced by the Contractor will remain the property of ICCAT, 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 information concerning this Call for tenders, please contact the ICCAT Secretariat at the following address: [info@iccat.int](mailto:info@iccat.int)