



Madrid, 25 April 2024

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 03801 / 2024

SUBJECT: CALL FOR TENDERS - WORK SUPPORTING A TRIAL OF A RISK EQUIVALENT MANAGEMENT APPROACH FOR A TARGET SPECIES IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE HOW TO IMPLEMENT CLIMATE CONDITIONED ADVICE IN AN ICCAT ASSESSMENT CONTEXT

The 2023 Meeting of the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch reviewed and discussed a presentation on risk equivalency in a fisheries context as well as the related issue of providing climate conditioned advice to managers. Given that the methodology could be implemented in an ICCAT assessment context, it was suggested to trial the approach for an assessed species in order to better be able to review its appropriateness and it was agreed to request financial assistance. The main goal of the trial is to demonstrate how the existing ICCAT advice framework can be updated to include considerations of the effect of environmental variability on stock dynamics and stock status.

For this purpose, I would like to transmit to you the attached Call for Tenders for a trial aimed at demonstrating how one would provide risk equivalent advice for an assessed ICCAT stock that is considerate of the effect of past, present and future climate variability on stock productivity.

I would be grateful if you could distribute this Call for Tenders to qualified people and institutions that might be interested.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

DISTRIBUTION:

- Commission Officers:

Commission Chair:	E. Penas Lado	COC Chair:	D. Campbell
First Vice Chair:	Z. Driouich	PWG Chair:	N. Ansell
Second Vice Chair:	R. Chong	STACFAD Chair:	D. Warner-Kramer
Chairs Panels 1-4			
SCRS Chair:	C. Brown		

- Head Delegates and Head Scientists

- Cooperating Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities

Attachment: Terms of Reference for the Call for Tenders (English version only).



Terms of reference

Work supporting a trial of a risk equivalent management approach for a target species in order to demonstrate how to implement climate conditioned advice in an ICCAT assessment context

1. Background and objective

The 2023 Meeting of the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch reviewed and discussed a presentation on risk equivalency in a fisheries context as well as the related issue of providing climate conditioned advice to managers. Given that the methodology could be implemented in an ICCAT assessment context, it was suggested to trial the approach for an assessed species in order to better be able to review its appropriateness and it was agreed to request financial assistance.

This request for financial support has been approved by the SCRS and the Commission at their 2023 annual meetings. The trial aims to demonstrate how one would provide risk equivalent advice for an assessed ICCAT stock that is considerate of the effect of past, present and future climate variability on stock productivity.

The main goal is to demonstrate the provision of risk equivalent, climate conditioned science advice for a stock subject to regular assessments. Achieving this goal requires that the Contractor address the tasks detailed in the next section.

The Contractor is expected to clearly describe the method and data sources used to provide the complimentary advice so that it can be easily replicated and should ensure that functional relationship between stock productivity and an ecological/environmental covariate are scientifically defensible and a valid source of advice for the management of the stock.

Any publicly available information can be used. Access to the data collated by ICCAT but not publicly available should be accessed after direct consultation with the ICCAT Secretariat.

The trial must clearly show the risks associated with a range of removals and years that are consistent with what was used in the assessment for several plausible climate change scenarios. The outcomes must be included in a sample Executive Summary.

2. Contractor tasks

The main tasks are to:

1. Choose a candidate stock/s that has been assessed which has well defined stock boundaries, has good data availability with respect to its catches, indices of abundance and environmental/ecological covariates.
2. Identify the types of climate change or ecosystem changes that are occurring in the region of interest that are likely to affect stock productivity.
3. Describe the mechanism of action of the external factor/s on the stock, noting the availability and temporal and spatial scale of the data.
4. Obtain the most recent population dynamics model for the stock including input data, model parameterization, output data and projections along with Kobe 2 risk matrix.
5. Identify key driving external variable affecting the stock's productivity and plausible future climate scenarios for that variable to drive future productivity conditions.
6. Produce a *post hoc* conditioning of the advice coming from the assessment based on the ecological or environmental variable identified as having a mechanistic relationship with stock productivity. Include, at a minimum, the empirical modeling approach described by Duplisea *et al.* (2021) in this *post hoc* conditioning.



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7. Produce an SCRS document (and corresponding PowerPoint presentation) describing the trial and include an example Executive Summary that integrates the advice into the current or proposed reporting framework.

3. Deliverables

- #1 The successful bidder must **provide regular verbal or written updates on progress relative to the work objectives** to the chairs of the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch and the ICCAT Secretariat who will communicate any necessary revisions (if applicable) to the Contractor.
- #2 The successful bidder **will provide to the Secretariat an SCRS document (and related Power Point presentation)** describing all the work done, no later than **22 November 2024**. The deliverable will be reviewed by the Subcommittee Co-conveners, the SCRS Chair and the ICCAT Secretariat, who will communicate any necessary revisions (if applicable) to the Contractor and/or inform of approval within 10 days.
- #3 The successful bidder will submit the revised Deliverable #2 (if changes are requested) within 10 days after being notified, but not later than **20 December 2024**. The Contractor will **commit to presenting deliverable #3 at the meeting of the Subcommittee in 2025 (virtual presence accepted)**, tentatively scheduled for May.

4. Contractor minimum qualifications

- Documented multi-year expertise in area of this Call for Tenders.
- Excellent working knowledge of English (one of the three official languages of ICCAT).

5. Submission of proposals

Scientists and public or private Scientific Institutes or entities interested should submit detailed offer(s) only to the attention of Mr. Camille Jean Pierre Manel, Executive Secretary of ICCAT, at the following address: camille.manel@iccat.int and Cc'ing Ms. Stasa Tensek (stasa.tensek@iccat.int) by **13 May 2024 (18:00h Madrid time) at the latest**, including:

- a) A description of methodology to be used
- b) The budget proposal
- c) A short *Curriculum vitae* of the tenderer
- 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) Acknowledgement of this Quotation request
- g) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions herein included.

If the tender is submitted by an institute/University, it must indicate the expert(s) who will be dedicated to the completion of the tasks and that he/she will be available to present the work to the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch. Offers sent after the deadline or that fail to furnish the required documentation or information, or reject the terms and conditions of the Call for Tenders, will not be considered.

Interested scientists and public or private Scientific Institutes or entities interested in applying will provide a detailed budget and clearly identify costs related to main activities of the work (e.g. labour, including estimated number of days of work; travel and subsistence).



6. 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** and after receiving a regular invoice which may be submitted at the latest 30 days after the signature of the contract.
- 2) **20% of the total amount of the contract upon completion and acceptance of Deliverable #1** and after receiving a regular invoice.
- 3) **30% of the total amount of the contract upon completion and provision of Deliverable #2** and after receiving a regular invoice.
- 4) **20% of the total amount of the contract after the approval of Deliverable #3**, and after receiving a regular invoice according to work proposal and a complete set of documents concerning the expenses incurred under the contract.

7. Selection of proposals

The ICCAT Secretariat will review the offer(s). Following the revision process, the ICCAT Executive Secretary will notify the entity selected for the contract as soon as the selection process is completed. The contract will be awarded on the basis of competitive tendering and the evaluation of proposals will be undertaken objectively, consistently and without bias towards particular suppliers.

Proposal(s) will be evaluated against a pre-determined set of criteria, which include: i) cost (30%); ii) proven track record (30%); iii) technical merit based on work plan (30%); and iv) flexibility as regards future changes in requirements (10%).

8. Logistics

The text report will be in MS Word or compatible software. All other documents provided by the Contractor must be in Open Office, Latex or compatible software. All documents submitted must be in English.

9. Copyright

All the material produced by the Contractor will remain the property of ICCAT. All software written by the Contractor will be licensed under GPL or similar open-source license.

For additional information concerning this Call for Tenders, please contact ICCAT Secretariat at the following address: miguel.santos@iccat.int.

References

Duplisea, D.E., Roux, M.J., Hunter, K.L. and Rice, J. 2021. Fish harvesting advice under Climate Change: A risk-equivalent empirical approach. [PloS one, 16\(2\), p.e0239503](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0239503).