



Madrid, 25 September 2023

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 10427/2023

**SUBJECT: ICCAT CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS ON TROPICAL TUNAS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION (MSE) (to be held online, 13 October 2023)**

I am pleased to inform you that the ICCAT Secretariat has recently awarded a short-term contract to a Consortium of experts on management strategy evaluation (MSE) to prepare and develop two capacity building workshops on MSE. Dr David Die from the USA will be the coordinator, and Dr Rodrigo Sant'Ana and Dr Bruno Mourato from Brazil have developed the materials and will be the instructors of the workshops. The expected outcomes of these workshops include that the participants learn:

- the basic concepts of MSE
- about the state of development of tropical tunas MSEs
- how to contribute to the MSE process

The second of these workshops has been scheduled for 13 October 2023, and will have an online format with interpretation in all three ICCAT official languages. The general objective of this workshop is to increase the capacity of fishery managers to participate in the development and implementation of MSE for tropical tuna species.

Depending on the level of participation by managers, some additional scientists may be allowed to attend. It will therefore be necessary to establish a selection process for scientists, involving a Selection Panel composed of the SCRS Chair, the Contractor and the ICCAT Secretariat. Preference shall be given to:

- Scientists from developing country CPCs
- Scientists from a diversity of CPCs
- Scientists involved in the Commission process
- Scientists involved in the SCRS process

Based on the above, fishery managers and scientists interested in attending the second workshop should send their expressions of interest to the Secretariat ([info@iccat.int](mailto:info@iccat.int)) by **3 October 2023 at the latest**, together with a supporting letter from the Head Delegate. The participants will be contacted by the Contractor and will be provided with the essential material for the workshop as well as other instructions.

I would appreciate it very much if you could distribute this announcement to those fishery managers and scientists who may be interested in participating in the workshops. This announcement will shortly be published on the ICCAT [current meetings webpage](#).

Please receive 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
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SCRS Chair:	C. Brown		

– **Head Delegates / Head Scientists**

**Attachment:** Additional information on the Second ICCAT capacity building workshop for managers on tropical tunas MSE.



**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**ICCAT CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP ON TROPICAL TUNAS**  
**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION (MSE)**  
*(online, 13 October 2023)*

**Instructors**

The course coordinator is Dr David Die, who will be assisted by Dr Bruno Leite Mourato and Dr Rodrigo Sant'Ana.

**Prerequisites**

Prior to the workshop, the invited participants must review and complete the pre-workshop materials that will be made available. Participants will receive confirmation of participation and instructions on how to access the pre-workshop materials prior to the workshop.

**Workshop outcomes**

- Understand what management strategy evaluation is, and how it can be used to address some of the current management challenges faced in ICCAT fisheries, for fisheries that target tropical tuna stocks;
- To become familiar with the key concepts and the terminology of MSE used in ICCAT;
- To understand the basic structure, design, and implementation of simulation testing of management procedures;
- To become familiar with the state of development of MSE for tropical tunas in ICCAT and other tRFMOs.

**Duration**

The contents of this course will be delivered through four 1.5 hours sessions in a single day. There will be two short breaks of 30 minutes between sessions 1 and 2 and sessions 3 and 4, and a 1-hour break for lunch in the middle of the day. Final times will be announced in early October 2023. The schedule will be designed to be as appropriate as possible to facilitate the participation of scientists of West African CPCs.

1. Welcome and introductions – 15 mins (D. Die)
  - a) General introduction of participants and trainers
  - b) Overview and objectives of the course
2. Course expectations – 15 min (participants)
3. Introduction to Management Procedures (MPs) – 60 mins (D. Die)
  - a) Elements of MPs
    - i. Spotlight on setting Management Objectives
    - ii. Current management at ICCAT
    - iii. Spotlight on Harvest Control Rules
  - b) Benefits of MPs

*Break (30 min)*



4. Introduction to Management Strategy Evaluation – 60 mins (R. Sant'Ana/ B. Mourato)

- a) Elements of MSE
- b) What are the benefits of MSE?
- c) MPs and MSE at ICCAT

5. Demonstration of MSE application – 30 min (D. Die)

*Lunch break – 1 hr*

6. MSE exercise – 90 min (Mourato/Sant'Ana/Die)

*Break – 30 min*

7. State of tropical tunas MSE development – 60 mins

- a) Multi-stock MSE (D. Die)
- b) Western skipjack MSE (B. Mourato/ R. Sant'Ana)

8. Review and conclusions – 30 min (participants)