



## **TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THE PROVISION OF SCIENTIFIC SERVICES TO THE SIOFA PROTECTED AREAS AND ECOSYSTEMS WORKING GROUP**

### **CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT A BOTTOM FISHING IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR TRAWL AND LONGLINE GEARS IN SIOFA**

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) calls for a short-term consultancy to conduct Bottom Fishing Impact Assessments (BFIA) for trawl and demersal longline fishing gears in the SIOFA Area.

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

SIOFA CMM2019/01 directs the Scientific Committee (SC) to provide advice and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties (MoP) on a SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment (SIOFA BFIA). BFIA in SIOFA are to be undertaken in accordance with the SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment Standard (BFIAS). These are the terms of reference (ToR) for a Consultant to undertake BFIA for trawl and demersal longline fishing gears used in SIOFA. Both BFIA shall be cumulative assessments using fishing data from all relevant Contracting Parties, where possible.

#### **2. TRAWL CUMULATIVE BFIA TIMEFRAMES**

Task	Responsibility	Timeframe
1. Review and agree to methods for estimating spatial footprint and cumulative impacts, including for example those used in other R(F)MOs	Australia, Cook Islands, Japan, Thailand, Secretariat	May 2020 (done)
2. Collate historical spatial trawl data and at finest possible resolution for historic footprint reference period (2000-2015), in collaboration with Secretariat (if required). Collate historical spatial trawl data and at finest possible resolution for recent years (2016-2019), in collaboration with Secretariat (if required).	Australia, Cook Islands, Japan, Thailand	June 2020 (done)
3. Develop terms of reference advertise for tenders to carry out work	Secretariat	August-October 2020

4. Implement agreed methodology and prepare draft report in accordance with SIOFA BFIA to the PAE-WG3	<b>Consultant and Secretariat</b>	November 2020 – mid-February 2021
5. Finalise report and provide cumulative trawl BFIA to PAEWG3 in accordance with SIOFA BFIA	Consultant and relevant CCPs	March – May 2021

### 3. TRAWL CUMULATIVE BFIA WORKPLAN

The Consultant will be tasked to carry out the fourth phase of the Workplan. Using the data from the secretariat databases, the consultant’s mission will be to prepare a draft report in accordance with SIOFA BFIA for PAE-WG3 and then finalize the report of the Bottom Fishing Impact Assessments (BFIA) for trawl to be submitted to the Secretariat.

This work should be done in conjunction with the SIOFA Secretariat and parties to the extent possible. Information should be as detailed and at the finest spatial and temporal scale possible to provide the PAEWG and Scientific Committee with the most accurate information.

### 4. LONGLINE CUMULATIVE BFIA TIMEFRAMES

Task	Responsibility	Timeframe
1. Review and agree to methods for estimating spatial footprint and cumulative impacts, including for example those used in other R(F)MOs	Relevant CCPs	May 2020 (done)
2. Collate historical spatial longline data and at finest possible resolution for historic footprint reference period (2000-2015), in collaboration with Secretariat Collate historical spatial longline data and at finest possible resolution for recent years (2016-2019), in collaboration with Secretariat (if required).	Relevant CCPs	June 2020 (done)
3. Develop terms of reference advertise for tenders to carry out work	Secretariat	August-October 2020
4. Implement agreed methodology and prepare draft report in accordance	<b>Consultant and Secretariat</b>	November 2020 – mid-February 2021

with SIOFA BFIAS to the PAE-WG3		
5. Finalise report and provide cumulative longline BFIA to PAE-WG3 in accordance with SIOFA BFIAs	Consultant and relevant CCPs	March – May 2021

## 5. LONGLINE CUMULATIVE BFIA WORKPLAN

The Consultant will be tasked to carry out the fourth phase of the Workplan. Using the data from the secretariat databases, the consultant’s mission will be to prepare a draft report in accordance with SIOFA BFIAs and then finalize the report of the Bottom Fishing Impact Assessments (BFIAs) for demersal longline to be submitted to the Secretariat.

This work should be done in conjunction with the SIOFA Secretariat and Parties to the extent possible. Information should be as detailed and at the finest spatial and temporal scale possible to provide the PAEWG and Scientific Committee with the most accurate information.

## 6. SOURCE OF INFORMATION (REFERENCES)

Following are important sources of information and references for the Consultant:

- SIOFA Parties are a key information sources. The Secretariat and Chair of the PAE-WG will help the Consultant to contact Parties and seek their inputs.
- The SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment Standard and BFIAs in use by other RFMOs, such as the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation.
- The Secretariat has accumulated relevant information (data on the spatial extent of CCPs historical bottom fishing effort in the Agreement Area, database, meeting documents by MoP, Compliance Committee, Scientific Committee and working group meetings). The Secretariat’s role includes providing validated historical bottom fishing effort data, catch and effort information, and other fishery-related information. The Secretariat will assist the Consultant to provide him such information.
- Contracting Parties submitted individual BFIAs to the third meeting of the SIOFA SC and updates to a number of these BFIA were provided to the fifth meeting of the SIOFA SC. The consultant is encouraged to use these assessments as a support for their work.

## 7. REQUIREMENTS

Following are important sources of information and references for the Consultant:

- The way in which the consultant will address the requirements of the SIOFA BFIAs.
- The methods to be applied and previous experience applying similar methods.

- The consultant's understanding of (or familiar with) relevant SIOFA and/or RFMO measures, processes and protocols relating to bottom fishing impact assessment.
- Costings for executing the study, attendance at meetings and travel.

## **8. SUBMISSION OF THE INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

The Consultant should submit all the information collected to the SIOFA Secretariat (excluding that sourced from the Secretariat). The consultant shall not release confidential data provided for conducting this study to anybody, or any organisation, other than SIOFA Secretariat. Such information will remain the property of the SIOFA Secretariat, and subject to agreements by data providers and owners may be used for future SIOFA SC activities subject to SIOFA confidentiality rules in force.

The consultant shall delete all the data collected immediately after the termination of the contract

## **9. REPORT**

The Consultant shall compile a draft report in accordance with the SIOFA BFIAS. The report shall also contain an executive summary and advice and recommendations for future work.

## **10. PAYMENTS**

The maximum allocated budget for this consultancy is 57870 euros and includes the consultant travel costs to meetings (PAEWG3 and/or SC7).

- The secretariat will pay 25% of the contract value at the signature of the contract
- The secretariat will pay 35% upon submission of the draft report.
- The secretariat will pay the remaining 40% contract value within 2 weeks from the date the final report has been approved.

## **11. PARTICIPATION TO 3<sup>RD</sup> PAEWG MEETING**

Participation of the Consultant to the 3<sup>rd</sup> PAEWG (Date and location to be decided) is highly desirable. The Consultant will present the results of the Assessment.

## **12. CV FOR APPLICATION**

Announcement of Call for the Consultant will be placed in the SIOFA home page for 3 weeks and

will be circulated to all Cooperating and Contacting Parties (CCPs). The applicants should send the CV (max 3 pages) to Mr Thierry CLOT, Executive Secretary [thierry@siofa.org](mailto:thierry@siofa.org) by 5 November 2020.

### 13. TIMELINE

The consultant shall follow the timeline described in the following table.

Activities	
2020	
	Call for the consultant through the SIOFA web site and also through the circulation to Cooperating and Contacting Parties (CCPs).
	Selection of the Consultant by Secretariat in consultation with the Co-Chairs PAE-WG. After selection, the Secretariat will make a contract with the Consultant and pay 25 %
2021	
	Working period of the Consultant and submission of the data and a draft report to Secretariat. Participation of the consultant to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> PAE-WG (dates to be decided) is desirable, the Consultant should present results of the scoping study. The Secretariat will pay 35% of the consultant fee upon the submission of the draft report.
	Review of the draft report by CCPs. Requests for additional works and/or revisions will be provided to the consultant by May 2021.
	Following any requests for additional works/or revisions the consultant will complete the requests and submit the final report and all information/data to the Secretariat.
	The Secretariat and PAE-WG Chairs will review the final draft and information/data submitted. If acceptable, the Secretariat will pay the rest of the consultant fee within 2 weeks

### 14. CONTACT PERSONS

SIOFA Secretariat

Thierry CLOT, Executive Secretary [thierry@siofa.org](mailto:thierry@siofa.org)

SIOFA Secretariat [secretariat@siofa.org](mailto:secretariat@siofa.org)

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