



**GLOBAL TUNA ALLIANCE: IOTC YELLOWFIN TUNA MANAGEMENT ADVICE  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

TO: SUITABLY QUALIFIED FISHERIES CONSULTANTS

RFP No: 2020-001

DATE: 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

SUBJECT: Development of Management Advice for Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna

Proposals are sought from suitably qualified and experienced Consultant(s) or Consultancy firm(s) to develop management advice for Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna that would rebuild the stock in two generations. This advice will be used by the Global Tuna Alliance (GTA) in our engagement with delegates of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) in advance of the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission in June.

To enable you to submit a Request for Proposal for this work, please find enclosed:

Annex I: Instructions to Bidders

Annex II: Terms of Reference, containing a description of GTA's requirements for which these services are being sought

This request is not to be construed in any way as an offer to contract to any specific party.

Dr Tom Pickerell  
Executive Director

## **Annex I INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS RFP No: 2020-001 Development of Management Advice for Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna**

### **1. Submission of Proposals**

1.1. All proposals submitted together with all correspondence and related documents shall be in English.

1.2. All prices in the proposals must be presented in Pounds sterling (GBP).

1.3. Any proposal received after the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020 will be rejected.

1.4. In tendering a proposal, interested parties should demonstrate a clear understanding of the Terms of Reference (TOR) as set out, with appropriate explanatory comments, proposed methodology, work plan and timeline for completion of the entire scope of work. The GTA Standard Conditions for Contract are not negotiable.

1.5. The proposal should also include:

- i. A cover letter outlining proposed methodology confirming ability to comply with the time lines for undertaking the assignment as per the Terms of Reference (Annex II);
- ii. The CV of the consultant(s) proposed to complete the work, including background and relevant experience of the consultant(s) as well as a summary of any similar fisheries management advice work;
- iii. A separate enclosed financial proposal providing a detailed cost summary for the implementation of the work which must include the daily fee rate(s) for the consultant(s).

### **2. Period of validity of proposals**

Proposals shall remain valid for thirty (30) days after the date of Proposal submission prescribed by GTA, pursuant to the deadline clause. A Proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by GTA on the grounds that it is non-responsive.

### **3. Outputs required**

A suitably qualified and experienced consultant(s) is expected to deliver the following outputs:

- Draft final report describing the methodology, results and conclusions on the development of management advice for Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna that will rebuild the stock in two generations.
- Final report incorporating any comments from GTA

### **4. Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of their responsiveness to the competency requirements as detailed in the evaluation criteria matrix.

Competency Requirements	Score Weight (%)
1. Demonstrated practical understanding of, and experience in providing fisheries management advice for decision-makers	35
2. Understanding of the region's tuna fisheries	35
3. A good network of contacts in the tuna fisheries science community in the region	15
4. A record of producing high quality reports on a timely basis	15

The contract will be awarded to the bidder(s) offering the best value for money taking into account the competency requirements scores.

#### 5. Financial Proposals

The financial proposal should provide a budget for the project including professional fees, travel and accommodation and any others costs associated with the completion of this work. The estimated time required for the consultancy is around 30 working days

#### 6. Request for further information

Queries or questions are to be emailed to the Executive Director, GTA, email: [tom@globaltunaalliance.com](mailto:tom@globaltunaalliance.com)

#### 7. Award of Contract

GTA reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, and to annul the solicitation process and reject all Proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected bidder(s) of the grounds for such action.

#### 8. Closing date for proposals

Proposals should be emailed to [tom@globaltunaalliance.com](mailto:tom@globaltunaalliance.com) with the subject line heading 'Indian Ocean Yellowfin Management Advice Proposal'. All proposals must be received by GTA before 5.00pm (Local time) 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

#### 9. Timing of the Study

GTA will ensure prompt selection of the consultant. The work must be completed before the end of **April 2020**.

#### 10. Notification

The names of winning bidders shall be advertised on the GTA website/social media platforms: <https://www.globaltunaalliance.com> and <https://twitter.com/GlobalTuna> and <https://www.linkedin.com/company/global-tuna-alliance>

## Annex II: TERMS OF REFERENCE RFP No: 2020-001 Development of Management Advice for Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna

### 1. Introduction

The Global Tuna Alliance (GTA) is seeking consultant(s) to analyse recent stock assessments for Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna and develop management advice that would allow the SSB to recover to SSBMSY levels in two generations. The management advice provided should be in terms of overall recommended catch limits. We are not requiring allocations of quotas.

### 2. Background

The [Global Tuna Alliance](#) is an independent group of retailers and tuna supply chain companies, who are committed to implementing the objectives laid out in [World Economic Forum's Tuna 2020 Traceability Declaration](#).

Yellowfin tuna from the Indian Ocean is currently sold by most major supermarkets in the Global Tuna Alliance. Responsible retailers have sought to influence best practice through our supply chains at a fishery level, as well as advocating for the adoption of effective policy by members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC).

The 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Science Committee took place from 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> December, in Karachi, Pakistan. In advance of this meeting, the Global Tuna Alliance called for the Committee to propose a clear rebuilding strategy for yellowfin tuna that will rebuild stock in two generations in a manner that is equitable, proportionate and impactful.

This call to action was prompted by the yellowfin tuna stock being determined to remain overfished and subject to overfishing through the weight-of-evidence available in 2018 and 2019.

While we acknowledge that the Committee agreed to recommend, as a precautionary measure, that the IOTC should ensure that catches are reduced to end overfishing and allow the spawning stock biomass (SSB) to recover to maximum sustainable yield levels, due to lack of agreement on key model aspects and time constraints, **no new management advice was provided** in 2019 and at this stage, **no revised specific catch limits are recommended**.

The IOTC has an interim plan for the rebuilding the yellowfin stock, with catch limitations based on 2014/2015 levels (Resolution 19/01). However, many fleets are not subject to the catch reduction and have actually increased their catches; the total catches of yellowfin in 2018 increased by around 9% from 2014/2015 levels despite the resolution calling for an overall reduction calculated to be around 7%.

Retailers and their suppliers have all made firm commitments to source responsible seafood from well managed fisheries. Regrettably, this stock still does not meet these requirements, and we have little confidence in Resolution 19/01 rebuilding the stock.

Nonetheless, prudent decision-making by IOTC delegates at the 2020 meeting can rectify this situation, but time is running out for these decision-makers to act responsibly. Should an agreement prove impossible in 2020, then individual supply chain members will be forced to re-evaluate their purchasing decisions.

Accordingly, the GTA is calling for the IOTC Scientific Committee to work intersessionally to produce management advice for the IOTC meeting in 2020 for yellowfin tuna that will rebuild the stock in two generations.

### 3. Objective

To analyse recent stock assessments for Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna and develop management advice that would allow the SSB to recover to SSBMSY levels in two generations. The management advice provided should be in terms of overall recommended catch limits.

### 4. Activities

The activities expected of the Consultant(s) shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

- i. Full analysis of all available stock assessments of Indian Ocean yellowfin and summarise the current status of the stock in a manner that is accessible to non-experts;
- ii. Produce a summary of any uncertainties in the various models used in Indian Ocean yellowfin stock assessments in a manner that is accessible to non-experts;
- iii. Develop a critique of the current interim plan for the rebuilding the yellowfin stock, with catch limitations based on 2014/2015 levels (Resolution 19/01, which superseded 17/01 and 18/01). This will include an analysis of compliance of fisheries subject to catch reductions and a summary of the trends in catches by fishery.
- iv. Production of management advice, in a format suitable for receipt by the IOTC Science Committee and Commission, that would allow the SSB to recover to SSBMSY levels in two generations.
- v. Proposals for catch reduction by fishery to ensure the effectiveness of the management measure that are equitable, proportionate and impactful.

### 5. Outputs/Milestones

The Consultant shall prepare the following, which will also serve as triggers for contract payments:

Output	Timeline	Payment
Brief interim report detailing progress in collecting data and any issues that GTA may be able to assist with	By end of March 2020	20%
Draft final report, responding to the detailed TOR above.	By 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2020	30%
Final report responding to any comments or suggestions from GTA on this draft	By end of April 2020	50%