



Celebrating 40 years of Cooperation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TO: Suitably Qualified Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs)

RFP No: CP06_1920

DATE: 22 May 2020

SUBJECT: Request for Proposals for Bigeye Tuna Species to Fiji Fishing Association Marine Stewardship Council Group – *Deadline Extension to 5 June 2020.*

Attached herewith is a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the provision of services to conduct a Scope Extension Exercise to include Bigeye Tuna species to the Fiji Fishing Industry Association Marine Stewardship Council Group.

Note that the deadline for submission of Proposals has been extended to 5pm Friday, 5 June 2020 (Solomon Islands Time; GMT +11).

Should you have any questions, please contact Anama Solofa, FFA PEUMP Fisheries Policy Specialist/Team Leader (anama.solofa@ffa.int). Otherwise we appreciate your assistance in disseminating this to interested parties/persons.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MTR', with a large circular flourish at the end.

ff Dr. Manu Tupou-Rosen
Director General

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Member Countries & Territory: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Background

The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) traces its origin to the South Pacific Forum meeting in Port Moresby in 1978 which adopted a Declaration on the Law of the Sea and the establishment of a regional fisheries agency and outlined its functions. In recent years FFA has been translating its ad-hoc tuna fishery training into accredited qualifications offered through recognised higher educational training providers in the Pacific. These study programmes in fisheries range from competency-based TAFE qualifications to post-graduate courses. The Agency is responsible for assisting its 17 members to build and develop human resource capacity in sustainable tuna fishery management and development of the tuna fishery resources while maintaining operational enforcement and compliance with national laws and regional tuna fisheries arrangements.

FFA's Role for its Members

FFA consists of the Forum Fisheries Committee (FFC) of officials and FFC Ministerial Meeting, which are its governing bodies, and a Secretariat. The Secretariat, with a current establishment of approximately ninety positions, is organised into four divisions: Fisheries Management, Fisheries Development, Fisheries Operations, and Corporate Services. FFA is led by an executive management unit headed by the Director-General.

The Vision of the Members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency is: "Our people will enjoy the highest levels of social and economic benefits through the sustainable use of our offshore fisheries resources".

The Mission of the Forum Fisheries Agency is: "To drive regional cooperation to create and enable the maximum long term social and economic benefit from the sustainable use of our shared offshore fishery resources."

The work of the Agency includes services delivered by three programmes: Fisheries Management, Fisheries Development and Fisheries Operations. Each of these programmes have specific areas or topics that require training for effective implementation. The Agency also has an Executive that delivers High Level Advice and a Corporate Services Division.

Fisheries Development

As members' rights to offshore fisheries become better defined and secure, commercial development opportunities increase. Demand for tuna is also likely to increase, generating opportunities for value-addition and innovation in the development of new products, as well as marketing, branding, and investment in different parts of the value chain.

Leveraging of rights for onshore and offshore developments, including processing and port infrastructure and development of domestic fleets, is increasingly creating commercial opportunities for FFA members. However, they also present risks and potential negative impacts upon food security, coastal fisheries, conservation initiatives, human rights and other social objectives.

Fisheries development at FFA develops the capacity of members to sustainably harvest, process and market tuna to create livelihoods and economic profits.

More information on the work of FFA, including that of the Fisheries Development Division, can be found in the [*Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency Strategic Plan 2020-2025*](#).

Summary

The continued decline in the catch of Albacore tuna for the Southern longline fleet is a real concern and for the Fiji national fleet to continue breakeven, they need to come off with some sort of initiatives to have this realised so that they can continue to keep their heads above water, survive the unforeseen, contribute to the economic growth for the country and provide employment directly and indirectly to Fiji's population.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Proposals are invited from interested Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) who are suitably qualified and accredited to conduct MSC certification assessments.