
REVISION OF THE WPDCS PROGRAM OF WORK (2017–2021)

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT¹, 10TH NOVEMBER 2016

PURPOSE

To ensure that participants at the 12th Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS12) revise the Program of Work for the WPDCS by taking into consideration the specific requests of the Commission and Scientific Committee.

BACKGROUND

Scientific Committee

At the 18th Session of the SC:

- (Para. 152) The SC **NOTED** paper IOTC–2015–SC18–09 which provided the Scientific Committee (SC) with a proposed Program of Work for each of its Working Parties (WP), including preliminary prioritisation of the elements requested by each WP. The aim of is to develop an overall Program of Work Plan for 2015–19 which will deliver the information the Commission has requested to meet the objectives of the IOTC.
- (Para. 153) The SC **NOTED** the proposed Program of Work and priorities for the Scientific Committee and each of the Working Parties and **AGREED** to a consolidated Program of Work as outlined in Appendix XXXIV. The Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of each working party shall ensure that the efforts of their working party are focused on the core areas contained within the appendix, taking into account any new research priorities identified by the Commission at its next Session.
- (Para. 154) The SC **REQUESTED** that during all future Working Party meetings, each group not only develop a Draft Program of Work for the next five years containing low, medium and high priority projects, but that all High Priority projects are ranked. The intention is that the SC would then be able to review the rankings and develop a consolidated list of the highest priority projects to meet the needs of the Commission. Where possible, budget estimates should be determined, as well as the identification of potential funding sources.

DISCUSSION

Participants at the WPDCS12 are requested to consider the priorities set by the Commission and the Scientific Committee, via Conservation and Management Measures, and revise its Program of Work (previously outlined in paper IOTC–2016–WPDCS12–03) to match those priorities.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the WPDCS:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC–2016–WPDCS12–09, which encouraged the WPDCS to further develop and refine its Program of Work for 2017–2021 to align with the requests and directives from the Commission and Scientific Committee.
- 2) **RECOMMEND** a revised Program of Work for 2017–2021 to the Scientific Committee for its consideration and potential endorsement.

APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#): DRAFT: Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics Program of Work (2017–2021)

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APPENDIX A

DRAFT: WORKING PARTY ON DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICS PROGRAM OF WORK (2017-2021)

The Program of Work consists of the following, noting that a timeline for implementation would be developed by the SC once it has agreed to the priority projects across all of its Working Parties:

Table 1. Priority topics for obtaining the information necessary to deliver the necessary advice to the Commission.

Topic	Sub-topic and project	Priority ranking	Lead	Est. budget (potential source)	Timing				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1. Data Collection Standards ROS	1.1 Artisanal fisheries	1							
	1.1.1 Develop minima data requirements for the routine collection of data at the landing place, through sampling by enumerators			US\$?? (TBD)					
	1.1.2 Develop General Guidelines for data collection from artisanal fisheries; including development of a set of indicators to be used to assess the quality of data collection and management systems for artisanal fisheries			US\$?? (TBD)					
	1.1.3 Develop/Amend Fisheries specific data collection protocols, by country, where necessary			US\$?? (TBD)					
	1.1.4 Assist implementation of pilot sampling activities in countries/fisheries not/insufficiently sampled in the past; priority to be given to the following fisheries: 1. Coastal fisheries of Indonesia 2. Coastal fisheries of India 3. Coastal fisheries of Pakistan 4. Coastal fisheries of Sri Lanka			US\$?? (TBD)					

5. Coastal fisheries of Yemen					
6. Coastal fisheries of Madagascar					
7. Coastal fisheries of Comoros					
8. Coastal fisheries of Tanzania					
9. Coastal fisheries of Thailand					
10. Coastal fisheries of Malaysia					
1.2 Industrial fisheries	1				
1.2.1 Develop General Guidelines for data collection by at-sea observers; including development of a set of indicators to be used to assess the quality of data collection and management systems for industrial fisheries		US\$?? (TBD)			
1.2.2 Organize a Regional Workshop on the Implementation of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme (all IOTC CPCs having industrial fisheries)		US\$?? (TBD)			
1.2.3 Develop/Amend fisheries specific at-sea observer data collection protocols, by country, where necessary		US\$?? (TBD)			
1.2.4 Assist implementation of at-sea observer schemes in countries/fisheries not/insufficiently monitored in the past; including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of existing observer schemes and arrangements • Coordination of country/fishery specific Training Sessions and Workshops on the ROS • Assistance to data management and reporting <p>Priority to be given to the following fisheries:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Iran (driftnet; purse seine) 2. Sri Lanka (purse seine; drifting gillnet & longline) 3. Indonesia (longline) 4. Pakistan (driftnet) 5. India (longline) 		US\$?? (TBD)			

6. Mauritius (purse seine; longline)								
2.	Assistance to CPCs for the fulfillment of Resolution 16/01 mandate	2.2 Provide support to identified CPCs to increase their level of monitoring and reporting in accordance with paragraph 8 or Resolution 16/01 (<i>data support missions?</i>)	2	US\$40K, 20% cofund. (TBD – EU grant 2017?)				
3.	Review Size Data Longline Fisheries	3.1 Assistance to historical review of length frequency data for longline fisheries, in particular longliners from Taiwan, China and Japan.	2	US\$?? (TBD)				
4.	Compliance with IOTC Data Requirements	4.1 Data support missions	3					
		4.1.1 Identification of indicators to assess performance of IOTC CPCs against IOTC Data Requirements; evaluation of performance of IOTC CPCs with those Requirements; development of plans of action to address the issues identified, including timeframe of implementation and follow-up activities required. Priority to be given to the following fisheries:		US\$?? (TBD)				
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Iran 2. India 3. Pakistan 4. Yemen 5. Madagascar 6. Mozambique 7. Mauritius 8. Sri Lanka 9. Indonesia 						
5	Assistance to Implementation of logbook systems and data collection on FADs	5.1 Assist developing coastal IOTC CPCs in the implementation of logbook systems on industrial vessels under their flag, in particular: development of logbooks and guidelines for its completion, including provisions for FADs, as per IOTC Resolution 13/08; training of local staff; assistance to data management and reporting. Priority to be given to the following fisheries:	4	US\$?? (TBD)				

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Iran (driftnet; purse seine) 2. Sri Lanka (purse seine; drifting gillnet & longline) 3. Indonesia (longline) 4. Pakistan (driftnet) 5. India (longline) 6. Mauritius (purse seine; longline) 							
6	Implementation Data Collection Sport Fisheries	6.1 Produce a catalogue of sport fisheries in the Indian Ocean; facilitate collection and reporting of data from sport clubs; training of local staff.	5	US\$100K (TBD)					
7	IOTC Data Summary	7.1 Development of Web Based online querying procedures for nominal catch, fishing craft, and catch-and-effort data.	6	US\$?? (TBD)					
8	IOTC Data access	8.1 Development of software libraries (in the most widely adopted languages for statistical analysis, e.g. R, Python etc.) to simplify access to the new IOTC Remote data services by scientists	7	US\$?? (TBD)					