

E-training tool descriptor

Supra-category: IOTC ROS Observer Co-ordinator Training (IOTC ROS OLC)

Category: Mandate for Observer Deployment (IOTC ROS OLC TR1)

Course: National mandate for Observer Deployment (IOTC ROS OLC TR1.01) and Observer programme objectives

Course Description

The placement of observers in terms of national and/or international programmes requires a “legal mandate”. The mandate provides the legal obligation for a vessel to accommodate an observer when requested and outlines the conditions for these deployments.

It is important to establish clear objectives before implementing an Observer Programme. These may include objectives for scientific information (total catch and effort including bycatch, discards and high grading, biological sampling of catches [e.g., diet, spawning condition, fish length etc.]) and/or compliance information (observation of fisheries laws, regulations and plans, permit controls and validation of vessel logbooks). Both scientific and compliance information are needed for sustainable fisheries management.

The purpose of this course is to familiarize participants of the Observer Coordinator Workshops (OCW) with the mandate and objective of their country’s observer programme. Participants will be requested to research relevant national legislation and identify relevant sections that will support the CPC observer programme.

Participants are to independently complete this e-training module in preparation for the interactive practical workshop on Observer Program Development & Logistic Coordination, so they can clearly define National Observer Programme objectives and include it in the *CPCs’ Observer programme development & observer logistical co-ordination guide* together with relevant sections of national legislation.