



South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Program (SWIOFish Regional)
First South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Project (SWIOFish1)

Terms of Reference for the recruitment of a team of consultants for the Preparation of a set of guidelines for the Evaluation and Assessment of the Implementation of Fisheries Management Plans in the framework of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries

Assignment title	Recruitment of a team composed of individual consultants for the Preparation of a set of guidelines for the Evaluation and Assessment of the Implementation of Fisheries Management Plans in the framework of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries
Contract duration	9 months following the award of the contract
Assignment location	
Financed by	IDA

1. BACKGROUND

In the SWIOFC region, a number of Fisheries Management Plans have been developed in the last decade by the fisheries administrations, many with the support of external projects like the EAF-Nansen Project. Many of those but not all, follow the methodologies and the tools proposed under a number of projects that aimed at mainstreaming the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF).

Fisheries authorities of the SWIOFC member countries have implemented or tried to implement some of these Plans with mixed results. In some cases, the Fisheries authorities and/or CSO's working in the area have considered the implementation as successful and in other cases a failure. However, it is not always clear what criteria were applied to determine these relative levels of success, and in any case these criteria were not standardized in all the cases across the region, preventing a more effective regional collaboration to address the issue of effective and efficient implementation of Fisheries Management Plans.

Competent authorities are also faced with challenges in the identification of the main bottlenecks for the efficient and effective implementation of these Fisheries Management Plans, and for moving them forward. Given the overall limited capacity among the SWIOFC members in the area of Fisheries Management Planning and implementation, especially in the framework of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries, the adoption of a regional approach, whereby a common set of tools and procedures are adopted, could allow the development of a more coordinated regional approach to support implementation fisheries management plans at national level (with a larger number of practitioners, from the same region, sharing a common set of concepts, terminology, methods and tools), and allow for more efficient evaluation and improvement of the implementation of fisheries management plans according to the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries.

The first step to unblock the implementation of the fisheries management plans is identifying the main bottlenecks in the implementation process, using a systematic approach that is as complete, efficient and effective as possible, and building as much as possible on the accumulated knowledge and experience of many actors in the region. Doing this in a cost-effective and time-bound way, however, requires the availability of adequate guidelines and tools, which will lead practitioners to focus on the issues and areas that are most likely to be relevant for the specific conditions of each country and fishery, and propose measures to address these that are likely to produce the desired results. In doing this, it is essential to avoid falling into the trap of simply copying the methods or approaches used in other areas of the world without a critical understanding and analysis of the adequacy of these methods and approaches to each country or fishery being analysed. Instead, the guidelines and tools should focus on identifying the specific conditions of each country or fishery that need intervention, and the measures that are adequate to the ecological, economic, social and governance context of the respective fishery. Producing such guidelines will require the contribution of experts that bring together a wide experience in the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries and a thorough understanding of the opportunities and constraints posed by the prevailing ecological, economic, social and governance conditions of the fisheries in the region.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

2.1. Objective of the Consultancy:

Preparation of a set of guidelines for the evaluation and assessment of the implementation of Fisheries Management Plans in the framework of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries

2.2. Purpose:

The Consultant(s) will prepare one full set of detailed guidelines, “how-to” manuals, annotated checklists and questionnaires for guiding national practitioners in the evaluation of the implementation of existing Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) in member countries of the SWIOFC.

These materials will be based on a thorough analysis of the ecological, economic, social and governance conditions of a set of fisheries from the region, combined with overall knowledge on fisheries management systems and EAF processes.

2.3. Tasks:

The consultant(s) will review existing literature and reports to summarise and extract information regarding the experience already obtained on designing and implementing EAF-compliant Fisheries Management Plans in the SWIO region. It is expected that the main sources of information will be the documentation produced during the process of preparing the plans, but other sources should also be used, as necessary and available. They will also conduct interviews with key stakeholders involved in the implementation of 5-10 FMPs in the region, selected by the SWIOFC Secretariat based on specific criteria, to collect perceptions on the strong and weak points of these Plans and their implementation. They will pay special attention to the issues around the fisheries governance framework and the economic and social drivers in the fishery and/or related activities.

Joining this work with a deep knowledge of the fisheries management process and the EAF, they should identify issues that are likely to prevent or make difficult the effective implementation of the FMPs analysed, and conclude on whether the FMPs can effectively be implemented with other approaches and/or additional measures to resolve or mitigate the problems identified, or whether there are no condition for their effective implementation in a reasonable time-frame.

Based on this work, they will prepare a comprehensive report describing the work performed and providing suggestions to address the following points:

- How to measure the success (or otherwise) of a FMP in a standardized manner for the SWIO region, including:
 - What are adequate, cost-effective standard indicators to measure effectiveness of management across the multiple dimensions addressed by a FMP?
 - What criteria are considered as essential and which ones are secondary?
 - How to identify the unwritten operational objectives of a FMP?
- How do different ecological, economic, social and governance conditions of any given fishery affect the effective implementation of different aspects of a FMP? This should also include addressing issues like:
 - How to identify the main bottlenecks preventing the achievement of the FMP’s objectives?

- How to relate these bottlenecks to the specific ecological, economic, social and governance conditions of the fishery(ies) being analysed
- How to communicate the results of an evaluation of the FMP to different audiences, particularly different groups of stakeholders and the responsible administration?

They will also prepare a simple set of tools to guide and facilitate the work of fisheries agencies in the assessment and evaluation of FMPs. These tools should include:

- a) A set of detailed guidelines on the step by step organization and execution of an evaluation of an EAF-based FMP.
- b) A detailed “how-to” manual, providing clear step by step instructions on how to carry out such an evaluation, what information to look for, how to plan and hold interviews, and how to write the corresponding report;
- c) A set of annotated checklists of items and elements to consider in the evaluation;
- d) A set of structured or semi-structured questionnaires to guide the interviews of stakeholders in the assessment of the implementation of FMPs.

These tools should be developed in two levels. First, they should address the general, common issues of assessing and redirecting EAF-based FMP, and second, they should indicate the specificities of doing this in the particular case of the SWIO FMPs analysed, in the form of supplements to the generic tools. This approach will lead to identifying clearly the unique aspects of each fishery, while embedding all in a common assessment framework.

3. Deliverables and timelines:

The consultant(s) will prepare the documents mentioned above, in two moments. Initially, they will prepare a set of draft documents, that will be discussed with the SWIOFC Secretariat. In close consultation with the Secretariat, and after receiving the comments and suggestions of other experts through the Secretariat, they will complete the final documents for submission.

Deliverable	Deadline
Report on the detailed analysis of the EAF FMPs case studies - Draft	4 months after start of consultancy
Set of detailed guidelines on the general organization and execution of an evaluation of an EAF-based FMP - Draft	6 months after start of consultancy
Detailed “how-to” manual on the general organization and execution of an evaluation of an EAF-based FMP - Draft	6 months after start of consultancy
Set of annotated checklists for the general organization and execution of an evaluation of an EAF-based FMP - Draft	6 months after start of consultancy
Set of structured or semi-structured questionnaires for the general organization and execution of an evaluation of an EAF-based FMP - Draft	6 months after start of consultancy
Report on the detailed analysis of the EAF FMPs case studies - Final	8 months after start of consultancy

Set of detailed guidelines on the organization and execution of an evaluation of an EAF-based FMP - Final	8 months after start of consultancy
Detailed “how-to” manual for the organization and execution of an evaluation of an EAF, general approach - Final	8 months after start of consultancy
Set of annotated checklists for above - Final	8 months after start of consultancy
Set of structured or semi-structured questionnaires for above - Final	8 months after start of consultancy
Additional case-specific supplements to the general tools, for the SWIO fisheries	9 months after start of consultancy
Final Consultancy report, including all final outputs	9 months after start of consultancy

3. QUALIFICATIONS:

It is proposed that the work is carried out by a team of two consultants, with complementary experience in fisheries management and the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. The consultant(s) should have an advanced degree in Marine Biology, Fisheries or Socio-Economics applied to Fisheries. They should have relevant experience in training on the EAF, and in supporting the preparation and/or implementation of Fisheries Management Plans in an EAF framework. They should also have extensive experience in working directly with Fisheries Administrations, small-scale fishing communities and industrial fisheries stakeholders in Africa. They should also have relevant experience in preparing technical reports on fisheries management in an EAF context. Among them, they should have working knowledge of English and French. Knowledge of Portuguese is an asset.

4. STARTING DATE

The proposed starting date is January 2019.

5. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

- As defined in the contract with IOC