



11th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC11)

Fremantle, West Australia, 23-31 March 2026

SC-11-21

Draft SIOFA Scientific Committee Budget 2025-2030

The SIOFA Scientific Committee Chairs

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Abstract	
This paper presents the SIOFA Scientific Committee Budget including the balance of the SC account for 2025 and funding for future scientific projects.	

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Recommendations

The SIOFA SC Chairs recommend that the SC11:

- **considers** the Draft SIOFA Scientific Committee Budget.
- **note the balance for the SC account 2025**
- **endorses** the SIOFA Scientific Committee Budget for 2027.

Draft SIOFA Scientific Committee Budget

1. Introduction

In accordance with Financial Regulations of the Meeting of the Parties, regulation 14.1, the Sixth Meeting of the Parties established a Scientific Research Activities account, and to allow at the end of each financial year that the remaining funds are to be carried over to the next financial years for the purposes of future scientific research activities.

This Scientific Research Activities account has, as resources, the budget adopted each year by the MoP to cover the research activities, the voluntary contributions if any, and any external grant agreements in progress.

The expenses are constituted by the cost of the consultancies and to the bank charges linked to the payment of the scientific expenses.

2. Scientific Research Activities Account

Please find below (Table 1) the situation of the Scientific Research Account on 31/12/2025.

Table 1: Summary of the Scientific Research Account

Movement	Date	Balance	Currency
Opening of SIOFA scientific Research account	2021-01-15	245,498	Euros
Expenses done from 1 st Jan to 31 st Dec 2021	2021-12-31	-136,267	Euros
Budget for Scientific Research validated by MoP7	2021-04-30	55,620	Euros
Voluntary Contribution from Australia	2021-06-09	34,143	Euros
SIOFA VME Mapping – final payment from EU	2022-12-04	22,312	Euros
SIOFA SEAs – EU Agreement 2023-2024	2022-07-02	69,987	Euros
Budget for Scientific Research validated by MoP8	2022-12-30	30,000	Euros
Expenses done from 1 st Jan to 31 st Dec 2022	2022-12-31	-118,876	Euros
Budget for Scientific Research validated by MoP9	2023-01-04	25,000	Euros
Expenses done from 1st Jan to 31 Dec 2023	2023-12-31	-162,917	Euros
Budget for Scientific Research validated by MoP10	2024-02-08	77,000	Euros
Paymet of balance SIOFA Agreement SI2.815850	2024-02-08	26,460	Euros
SIOFA PAM – EU Agreement 2024-2026	2024-05-31	111,613	Euros
Expenses done from 1 st Jan to 31 st Dec 2024 ⁽³⁾	2024-12-31	-168,464	Euros
Bank expenses (2021-2024)	2024-12-31	-1,258	Euros

Budget for Scientific Research validated by MoP11	2025-01-03	65,000	Euros
SIOFA SEAs Final payment from EU	2025-03-26	29,994	Euros
Expenses done from 1 st Jan to 31 st Dec 2025	2025-12-31	-103,805	Euros
Situation of the Scientific research account	2025-12-31	101,040	Euros
Funds committed on 31st December 2025	2025-12-31	-131,795	Euros
Budget for Scientific Research validated by MoP12	2026-01-01	65,000	Euros
Remaining funds in 2026		34,245	Euros
<i>Sold of SIOFA PAM EU Agreement (To be confirmed)</i>		47,834	Euros

3. Bank transactions on the Scientific Account for 2025.

BANK MOVMENTS ON SIOFA SCIENTIFIC ACCOUNT

Date	Project Code	Nature	Débit	Crédit
2025		<i>Reporting funds</i>		121,184.27 €
06/02/2025	MoP 11	SCIENTIFIC BUDGET adopted by MoP11		65,000.00 €
06/02/2025	SER2022-TOP2	ANNE-ELISE NIEBLAS - SAS COMPANY ADDENDUM 2 TO SER2022-TOP2 - EXTRA EXPENSE SC ACCOUNT 2025	8,000.00 €	
19/02/2025	ORY 2024-01	SOFISH CONSULTING LTD 2ND PART OF ORY 2024 01	15,000.00 €	
2025-03-19	SEAS TO BE	SOLDE EU GRANT SIOFA SEAS TO B		29,994.22 €
29/04/2025	ORY 2024-01	SOFISH CONSULTING LTD SOFISH CONSULTING LTD	20,000.00 €	
06/06/2025	OBS-2025-01	MARIA TERESA GANHO PEREIRA DE ATHAYDEE	4,500.00 €	
06/06/2025	DWS-2023-02	DWS-Paul CLERKINS	2,448.34 €	
30/09/2025	PAM 2024-03	URBAN CONNECTIONS - RAPORTEURING WS-2025-PAM-03 INVOICE 2025101033070 - BOTKJPJT	570.41 €	
30/09/2025	CLI-2025-01	ADIRA CONSULTING 1ST PAYMENT	7,500.00 €	
13/10/2025	ALF 2024-01	KYNE KRUSIC-GOLUB - 440900272 - NATAAU3303M - ITEM 9 - EXPERT ATTENDING ALF 2024-01 WS - 9-18 NOV 2026 - NOUMEA	3,285.23 €	
07/11/2025	ALF 2024-01	LA COMMUNAUTE DU PACIFIQUE - ALF 2024-01 WS - 9-18 NOV 2026 - NOUMEA	4,734.70 €	
12/11/2025	ALF 2024-01	TOM BARNES - ITEM 9 - EXPERT ATTENDING ALF 2024-01 WS- 9-18 NOV 2026 - NOUMEA	1,434.76 €	

31/12/2025	PAM 2024-01	VRT ADIRA CONSULTING	15,000.00 €	
31/12/2025	PAM 2024-02	VRT SOFISH	9,000.00 €	
31/12/2025	PAM 2024-03	VRT SOFISH	12,000.00 €	
31/12/ 2025		Bank costs for 2025	331.77 €	
			103,805.25 €	94,994.22 €
			SOLDE	113,808.04 €

4. Budget forecast for 2027-2029

4.1 Scientific budget proposal 2026-2027

The Executive Secretary, as mandated by MoP8's paragraph 194, has developed an updated provisional three-year plan (2026-2028) for the Secretariat's expenses related to the Scientific Committee and its working groups. The proposed budget adheres to Regulation 3 of the Financial Regulations of the Meeting of the Parties and has been estimated in euros.

4.2 Item 3: Meeting Support – Scientific Committee and Working Groups

- In 2027, SC12 is planned to be hosted in Mauritius.
- A break-down of the estimated costs can be found in Table 2.

In 2028 and 2029, the location for the SC and WGs have yet to be determined, and may be held in any Contracting Party or failing that, in Réunion.

Table 2: Predicted Costs for Meeting Support – SC and WGs (Item 3)

	2027	2028	2029
3.1 Venue, Catering	35,000 €	38,000 €	40,000 €
3.2 Secretariat travel and accommodation	18,000 €	18,900 €	20,000€
3.3 Support staff	13,600 €	14,300 €	15,100 €
3.4 SCC Travel and Accommodation	13,900€	14,600 €	15,350 €
3.5 Video installation	8,000 €	8,000 €	8,000 €
Item 3 Total	88 500 €	93 800 €	98 450 €

4.2.1 Item 3.1 (Venue, catering)

- The price for 2028 and 2029 will vary depending on the location of the meetings, however based on the cost for previous years and preliminary scoping conducted by the Executive Secretary. It is estimated that the price will be approximately 35 000 € increasing each year of 5 % due to the inflation and the rate change.

4.2.2 Item 3.2 (Secretariat travel and accommodation for meetings)

- For 2026, the price of economy travels and accommodation for three SIOFA staff members in Fremantle has been assessed to 18,000€ and should be expensed at 80%

4.2.3 For 2027 to 2029, the price will vary depending on the location of the meetings, however the Executive Secretary recommends a budget at same level for 2027 of 18 000€ then a budget increasing of 5 % due to the inflation and the rate change for 2028 and 2029. Item 3.3 (Support staff)

- Support staff include a rapporteur and eventually, assistants. This is estimated to cost approximately of 13 650 € for 2027
- , based on previous years.

4.2.4 Item 3.4 (SC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson travel and accommodation)

- The cost of travel and accommodation for the SC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will be covered if they are from a developing country or if the SC Chairperson is under contract. These costs are estimated to 13 230€ for 2027. This could be paid, if the MoP agree, from the reserve fund.

4.2.5 Item 3.5. (Video installation)

MOP10 decided to avoid hybrid meetings as far as possible, to encourage face-to-face meetings and limit the high cost of hybrid meetings.

However, a video stream for SC was made to allow scientific consultants to present their work to the Scientific Committee without incurring travel costs to SIOFA. This also allowed non-participants to observe the meeting. This process involves the supply of technical equipment, excluding a permanent maintenance team. The cost of the audio-video installation alone is estimated at €8,000, based on previous years.

4.3 Item 9: Contracts for Specific Services

The Scientific projects for 2027-2030 are detailed in the SC-11-20-SIOFA-Scientific-Committee Workplan with the estimated cost associated.

The estimates for costs listed under Item 9 are given below (Table 3).

Table 3: Predicted Costs of Contracts for Specific Services (Item 9)

	2027	2028	2029
9.1 Research activities	115,000 €	TBD by SC11	TBD by SC11
9.2 SC Chairperson ³	44,000 €	46,000 €	46,000 €
9.3 Consultant/ expert/ service outsourced ⁴	10,000 €	10,000 €	10,000 €
Item 9 Total	169,000 €	XXX,XXX €	XXX,XXX €

³ The MoP12 decided to renew the role of SC Chairperson for 2 years starting in August 2025 and ending in July 2027 for an amount of 44 000 € / year

⁴ Planned for the recruitment of short-term experts or outsourced to a specialised local company able to support the Secretariat, on specific issue that could scientific, but also lawyer or informatic or any support need by the Secretariat .

Item 9.1 (Research activities)

- This budget line is dealt with by the SIOFA SC and approved by the SIOFA MoP
- The 2027 budget covers the SC projects starting in October 2026, and the estimated cost of research activities is 115,000€. The proposed budget, if adopted by the MoP13, may fund the projects ALF-2026-01, ALF-2026-02, SAI-2026-01, HSS-2026-01, for a total amount of 115,000 €.
- As above, the 2028 budget should cover the SC 2027 projects, and the estimated cost of research activities is XXXX. The proposed budget may fund the projects ALF-2027-01, OBS-2027-01 and OBS-2027-02 for a current total amount of 60,000 € (TBC by SC11)
- For 2029, the 2029 budget should cover the 2028 SC projects, and the estimated cost of research activities has been assessed by the SC11 to XXXX.
- For 2030, the 2030 budget should cover the 2029 SC projects that been estimated for an amount of.....by the SC

Item 9.2 (SC Chairperson)

- This budget line is dealt with and approved by the SIOFA MoP.

Item 9.3 (Consultant/Expert/Service Outsourced)

This budget line is dealt with and approved by the SIOFA MoP. Costs for contracting services that are not mandatory scientific in nature are estimated at 10,000€ for each year. These expenses have not been observed during the previous years as they have been covered by other budget sources, but may be maintained, if Secretariat has to face to this sort of expenses during the year.