



Ref 2022-01-25-1/SIOFA-ES

La Reunion, Tuesday 25th January 2022

SIOFA CIRCULAR n°2022/04

SIOFA SC- CIRCULAR n° 2022/03

SUBJECT: Submission of an application to the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)

Dear Heads of Delegation

Dear Heads of Delegation of the Scientific Committee,

Dear Colleagues,

The SIOFA Secretariat recently received an invitation from the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) to submit a proposal to fund SIOFA scientific research. SIOFA was eligible to apply for to this fund as SIOFA is explicitly designated in the EU work programme as an international organisation eligible to receive voluntary funds.

The fund is intended to support the development of scientific knowledge to assist SIOFA's Scientific Committee provide scientific advice to the SIOFA Meeting of Parties.

Due to the short time frame between receipt of the EMFAF call for proposals and the deadline for submitting a proposal, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Scientific Committee, Chairs of SERAWG and PAEWG, and the SIOFA Secretariat worked in early January to develop and submit an application called "Support for Ecosystem Approaches to fisheries conservation and management in SIOFA" (SIOFA SEAs). The application was based on criteria in the EMFAF call for proposals and relevant research topics from the Scientific Committee Workplan, and consisted of three work packages:

1. Assessments of protected areas in SIOFA
2. Improving scientific understanding of the spatial structure of the Patagonian toothfish population.



3. Establishment of a framework for scientific fisheries observation

If SIOFA is successful in its application, a voluntary contribution of up to EUR 100,000 will be available from EMFAF for SIOFA to commission specific research under these work packages.

The proposal that was submitted to the EMFAF will be presented to the 7th Scientific Committee in March 2022 to allow the Scientific Committee to comment on the proposed scientific research.

I will keep you informed of the outcomes of the application.

The Secretariat is at your disposal for any further information.

Yours Sincerely,

The Executive Secretary,

SIOFA /APSOI