



Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Fifth Meeting of Advisory Committee

Mar del Plata, Argentina, 13 – 17 April 2010

**Allocation of funds to the AC Work Programme:
Description of the process followed in 2009**

Grants Sub-Committee, Secretariat

**ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO THE AC WORK PROGRAMME:
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCESS FOLLOWED IN 2009**

Grants Sub-Committee

BACKGROUND

During 2009 a revised procedure for allocating funding for the AC Work Programme was submitted for consideration at the Third Meeting of the Parties (MoP3 Doc 13 rev 3). This procedure incorporated (amongst other things) the proposal made by New Zealand at AC4 that a two-step process be adopted, with funding bids being sought for items that specifically delivered on AC work items.

Parties welcomed the document and recommended that the Advisory Committee adopt the procedure outlined. However, they made a number of comments on the procedure (particularly with respect to its complexity, capacity building opportunities and external review) and advised that experience with implementing the procedure should be used to improve it in future. Following this recommendation, the present document is introduced to the Advisory Committee with the purpose of describing the procedure followed during the last call for applications in 2009.

PROCESS FOLLOWED IN 2009

The call for applications was opened on 10 June 2009 and closed on 24 July 2009 (the original deadline on 3 July was postponed). The Secretariat advised that total funding of AUD \$113,000 was available for allocation in 2009. In the same advertisement it was advised that preference would be given to projects addressing particular elements of the Advisory Committee Work Programme with a list of high priority programmes provided. Also included in the advertisement was an indication of the level of funds available for each project (see details in Annex 1). A sum of AUD \$15,000 was also available for innovative projects addressing other elements of the Advisory Committee's Work Programme. A project application form was provided to the applicants (see Annex 2).

Given the level of funding available for the call for applications, one relevant item from the 2010 programme was brought forward to 2009 (item 5.2 in the AC work programme, improve seabird bycatch data collection from observers in South America). This multi-year project has an indicative cost of AUD\$ 50,000 so a total of AUD\$ 25,000 was indicated as being available for allocation in 2009.

The schedule below was followed for the call for 2009 applications. The schedule was later amended due to technical problems (see details in the next section). The intersessional process started on 10 June and final results were communicated to the Advisory Committee on 3 December 2009.

- June 10th – Secretariat distributed electronically a circular, calling for project proposals, to Working Groups and National Contact Points, with a copy posted on the ACAP website.
- July 24th – Deadline for projects to be submitted to the Secretariat through National Contact Points or directly from international organisations.

AC5 Inf 06
Agenda Item 12.1

- July 27th – Secretariat sends project proposals to the relevant Working Group(s), whose Members (with the right of voting) will review and rank the proposals following a table provided (see Annex 1, AC5 Doc 30).
- August 17th – Working Groups send to the Secretariat a list of ranked, satisfactory proposals.
- August 19th – Proposals ranked by the relevant Working Group(s) are compiled by the Grants Sub-committee. The members of the Grants Sub-committee were the AC Chair, AC Vice-Chair and WG Convenors.
- August 21st – AC Chair sent message to the AC recommending what proposals to fund and how much funding each proposal should receive.
- September 7th – Inputs received from AC Members and final approval of funding reached.
- September 15th – Secretariat contacts successful applicants advising funding decisions and commences process for transfer of funds.
- September 15th to 21st – AC Chair contacted three of the applicants requesting clarification, and seeking additional information or adaptation of project objectives based on the inputs provided by the reviewers and the Grant Sub-committee.
- October 12th to 16th – Revised proposals received and (if needed) sent back to reviewers from relevant Working Groups.
- October 22nd to November 15th - Final revisions received and decisions taken after consultation with AC Members (refer to AC5 Doc 23 for a summary of projects supported).
- December 3rd – Final results communicated to the Advisory Committee.



Call for Project Applications

Applications are sought for research and project applications that will assist the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) meet its objective of achieving and maintaining a favorable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels.

Total funding of AUD \$113,000 is available for allocation in 2009.

Research and/or project applications must be submitted on an ACAP Project Application Form, obtainable from www.acap.aq. When assessing project applications preference will be given to research/projects that address the following elements of the Advisory Committee Work Programme.

High Priority Projects (with the level of indicative funding available)

WP Item 2.7 - Undertake a review of the Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) whose fishing operations overlap with the range of albatrosses listed under Annex 1 of the Agreement and prepare distribution maps for inclusion in species assessments (AUD \$5,000)

WP Item 4.5 - Develop materials (both generic and specific) to assist RFMOs and other relevant international and national bodies in reducing seabird bycatch.

Project 1 – develop observer programme designs including protocols for the collection of seabird bycatch data, with consideration of analytical methods for assessing seabird bycatch (AUD\$20,000).

Project 2 – develop summary of ecological risk assessment methods with references (AUD\$20,000).

WP Item 4.2 - Estimate seabird mortality in fisheries that operate without observer coverage in the range of the Waved Albatross (AUD\$20,000).

WP Item 5.2 - Improve seabird bycatch data collection from observer programmes operating in relevant South American fisheries (AUD\$25,000).

Other - Innovative projects that will make a substantive contribution to the Agreement's objective (AUD \$15,000).

Limited funding is also available for projects which address other elements of the Advisory Committee's Work Programme.

Applications open on 10 June 2009 and close on 3 July 2009. Completed application forms are to be submitted to relevant ACAP National Contact Points (refer www.acap.aq) in either paper or electronic format. Applications from international organisations may be submitted directly to the ACAP Secretariat c/-:

Executive Secretary, ACAP Secretariat, GPO Box 824, Hobart 7001, Tasmania, AUSTRALIA

Or by email to: warren.papworth@acap.aq

Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their applications by 17 August 2009.

ACAP PROJECT APPLICATION



Project Title:

Project Initiated by:	<i>Country / Organisation</i>
Proposed Project Manager:	<i>Name, Organisation</i>
Co-investigators / collaborators:	<i>Name, Organisation</i>

Scope

Project summary

Overview of the project as described by the initiating Party

Outcomes and benefits

What are the long-term outcomes and ultimate purpose of the project? What type of benefit will the project provide? What is its relevance to objectives of the Agreement and in particular to the Advisory Committee's Work Programme?

Communication of project results and outcomes

How will the results of the project be communicated to Parties and others

Timeframe

Critical Milestones and Timelines

Resources

Financial – Estimated Budget

Estimate of financial resources required and the phasing of the resources over the project period.

Total – AUD \$

Funding provided from other sources (financial or in-kind)

Other funding applications pending for this project (indicate consequences for this project if this funding is not provided)

Human Resources

Based on the task involved and past experience what is an estimate of the people, skills and time required to deliver the project? Provide names of individuals, the role they are expected to perform and how much of their time you expect will be required (per week or month) for duration of project.

Name	Skills	Time Required (per week or per month)

Stakeholders and Risks

Identify stakeholders associated with the project

Identify any people or groups that have an interest in the project and what that interest is. Identify where stakeholders may have an influence on the project and how that will be managed.

Significant Risks associated with the project

Summarise the significant risk factors that can be foreseen in the project.

Related projects or activities

Identify any related projects or activities

Identify activities that this project is dependent upon, or that are dependent upon the outputs of this project.

Other Comments

Signature of Applicant/s

Signature of Applicant/s Head of Institution (where applicable)

Date: / /

Date: / /