

## Invitation to tender: 2020 SSC Implementation Report

The members of the Sustainable Seafood Coalition (SSC) invite consultants to tender for their 2020 Implementation Report.

**The consultant will collect and assess information to identify progress and consistency in the alignment of member sourcing and labelling practices against the SSC Codes of Conduct.**

Tenders to conduct the report should be submitted to the SSC Coordinator Oliver Tanqueray ([otanqueray@clientearth.org](mailto:otanqueray@clientearth.org)) by **31<sup>st</sup> May 2020**. The tender should propose an overall plan of execution, including an outline of the methodology for conducting the research and the format for presenting the results.

The consultant must be able to work cooperatively and efficiently with the SSC Secretariat and the wide range of SSC business members. The consultant will need to demonstrate a good understanding of the SSC Codes of Conduct and the measures employed by members for their implementation.

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### Background

In 2017, to mark the two-year anniversary of the SSC Codes of Conduct, ClientEarth initiated the first independent, third-party assessment of their implementation by SSC Members. This outcome of that assessment is in the list of links below. Members agreed that this report should be conducted every three years. The implementation report is an important measurement against which the success of the SSC's voluntary, pre-competitive collaboration model is assessed.

The intended audience for this report will be:

- the SSC members and secretariat, to measure and continually improve performance
- other industry and NGO stakeholders, to better understand the SSC model and its efficacy
- members of the public who may wish to verify the public commitments made by SSC members in on-pack environmental claims or public-facing sourcing policies.

### Timeframe

The deadline for tenders is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020 and the successful consultant will be informed by 26<sup>th</sup> June at the latest. The report should be delivered on or before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. To limit burden on consultant time, SSC members have stated a willingness to collate and provide relevant information to the consultant in a timely and proactive manner.

### Scope

The SSC consists of 39 members [as of March 2020], but only 34 of these are businesses selling seafood in the UK. Only these commercially active members need be considered for this report. *NB:* comments on scope flexibility below.

### Methodology

SSC Members request the submission of recommendations by consultants on an appropriate methodology for conducting this report, whilst bearing in mind that the principal aim of the Implementation Report is to assess the success of the SSC model and the consistency with which the Codes are being implemented. Specifically, members invite proposals for:

- Sampling methodologies:

- What species should be included?
- Should this vary by member size, sector or product range?
- Should we prioritize by volume or perceived risk level?
- Scope / sampling pool:
  - Which members should be assessed?
  - Should this be based on the outcomes of previous reports?
  - Should this be based on perceived risk of the products sold by the member?
- Assessment methodologies:
  - Should specific *species* be assessed, as with the 2017 report (i.e. the consultant assesses compliance with the Codes for 5 key species across all member supply chains)?
  - Should sourcing and labelling *policies and processes* be assessed (i.e. the consultant assesses the procedures in place for ensuring holistic alignment with the Codes across product ranges)?
  - If assessing *policies and processes*, how will the report meaningfully compare performance against the findings of the 2017 report?

### Budget

£6000

### Links to relevant documents and background information

- The 2017 SSC Implementation report:  
<https://www.documents.clientearth.org/library/download-info/sustainable-seafood-coalition-implementation-report/>
- The SSC Codes of Conduct document:  
<https://www.documents.clientearth.org/library/download-info/ssc-codes-of-conduct/>
- The SSC Guidance to the Codes of Conduct document:  
<https://www.documents.clientearth.org/library/download-info/guidance-for-the-sustainable-seafood-coalition-ssc-voluntary-codes-of-conduct/>
- The minutes for the meeting at which the options for the 2020 Implementation Report were discussed: <https://www.documents.clientearth.org/library/download-info/sustainable-seafood-coalition-ssc-members-meeting-minutes-20th-november-2019/>
- A press release announcing the results from the previous Implementation Report:  
<https://www.sustainableseafoodcoalition.org/97-voluntary-claims-made-ssc-members-clear-consistent-line-voluntary-codes/>
- A list of SSC members: <https://www.sustainableseafoodcoalition.org/members/>
- The SSC Terms of Reference document:  
<https://www.documents.clientearth.org/library/download-info/ssc-terms-of-reference/>