

*An occasional newsletter to update  
members of SWIOFP on current  
developments.*

The second workshop dealing with data management was hosted by  
KMFRI in Mombasa on 14 & 15 October 2004.  
Significant progress was made.

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#### **Administration**

- The SWIOFP secretariat has most active in facilitating the extensive finance and travel arrangements for the various regional activities underway. This includes maintaining the interface between the SWIOFP member countries and the World Bank.

#### **Project activities**

- MCM's Dr. Johan Groeneveld has collated all the suggestions generated at the Durban workshop into a final version of the Science Plan. It is expected that with only minor improvements, this Plan will form the basis of the Appraisal meeting in Maputo and the eventual submission to the GEF. He further generated a set of templates and guidelines in order to initiate the anticipated costing of the different component activities. These were made available to delegates attending the 2<sup>nd</sup> data workshop.
- The TAFIRI group has finalised plans for its next workshop dealing with procurement, and the identification of needs for different activities of the workplan components. This is to be held on 2 and 3 December in Zanzibar and will be mostly devoted to costing of the various activities already defined.
- The Madagascar delegation has been drafting initial concepts dealing with possible options for project management. These will be circulated to partners and later discussed at a special session one day prior to the January 2005 Plenary in Maputo.
- The French delegation has confirmed its commitment to developing the legal plan, tentatively scheduled for 29 November in La Reunion. This date requires further confirmation.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Data Management Workshop**

This all-important workshop was held north of Mombasa and attended by delegates from Kenya, Madagascar, Tanzania, France, Mozambique, Mauritius, Seychelles and South Africa. There were two primary objectives for this workshop:

1. To identify needs and anticipated costs associated with component 1 of the science plan- i.e. the data gathering activities, both historic and new and
2. Developing a strategy for data handling of new and national country data.

The meeting was guided by the needs-template that had earlier been designed by the science plan workshop. Defining needs and costs requires a detailed understanding of the actual process involved, so that for each of the 13 activities of the Component 1, a detailed set of actions was deliberated and

confirmed. Needs were separated between those at country level and those required for regional activities only. In order to assist the process, a “virtual” country was chosen and needs identified accordingly.

A number of important issues were identified and deliberated.

- It was noted that the sourcing of existing and historic data and information was a priority but that such data must be of direct application to SWIOFP. It was felt that historic fishing company data may prove to be unreliable so that only positively verified data would be considered from known reliable sources.
- The capture and conversion of historic national data was seen as a most valuable exercise, not only in generating the SWIOFP data atlas but also in assisting individual countries with their own improved management and application of scientific data.
- A new activity was identified, namely that of *inter-calibration of national and historic data sets*, involving statistical and experimental comparisons, data conversions etc.
- There was discussion and constructive debate on the actual way data would be handled and managed. Various sensitivities and practical considerations were identified and it was noted that the overall objective and vision of SWIOFP is to have a common strategy for the region’s data, ultimately resulting in a common database. However, it was recognised that this could not be attained immediately and that this would be an evolving process so that a common system of sharing data to benefit all the countries would be achieved.

Hence the following arrangements were proposed.

- Attention would urgently be required to assist with conversion and inter-calibration of individual country data sets, both historic and future.
- The data being held by SWIOFP would need to have common standards with a minimum level of commonality (such as defined areas, gear types, etc).
- Standardised formats for future data collection would be developed and where possible included in national data collecting systems.
- Specific data handling protocols will be developed and formally agreed to. These would protect the intellectual rights of individual persons and institutions. Access to data etc will also be defined and use of such data flagged accordingly.
- An overall data-manager would need to be appointed and located in the Regional Node responsible for managing shared data and related matters. Each country would need to appoint a data person and it was noted that a data-management committee or working group be established (possibly extending the current group in some way?)

It was recognised that there may be existing databases in use elsewhere in the world that are suitable for adoption by SWIOFP, thus saving huge time and costs. The presentation on the French/ West Africa STATBASE was noted and seemed a possible candidate. Accordingly, a new activity was proposed that would evaluate and possibly implement such a system.

## Updated Table of Activities reflecting approximate time schedules

INTERIM PROGRESS & PLANS			
<i>Task / Theme</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<b>Secretariat</b> (IIP-Mozambique)	Finalise pdf-B extension (Pre-appraisal)	Completed	-
	Plan for 4 <sup>th</sup> plenary (Pre-appraisal)	Underway	Mid-January 2005
	Plan for 5 <sup>th</sup> plenary (final appraisal)	Preliminary stage only	March 2005
	Maintain SWIOFP website; initiate “FishChat”	Ongoing	
	Final version of project submitted	Basic framework conceived	Mid 2005
	Interface with other WIO projects; establish links	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Project Launch	-	Late 2005
<b>Science Plan</b> (MCM-S.Afr)	Final plan Science plan/ workshop.	Completed	
	Incorporate other workshop recommendations– develop science plan with cost estimates	Underway	End 2004
<b>Data Management</b> (KMFRI-Kenya)	Questionnaire circulated and submitted by institutions	Underway, countries need to reply urgently	30 Sept.
	Final data & IT plan + Workshop	Pending questionnaire submissions	Mid October 04, Mombasa
<b>Operations &amp; Procurement</b> (TAFIRI- Tanzania)	Harmonise procurement procedures	Ongoing	
	Finalise procurement plan	Underway	End 2004
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Specialist workshop	Planned	1 <sup>st</sup> week December- Zanzibar
<b>Legal issues</b> (France)	Questionnaire to focal points	Underway	30 Sep 04
	Collate response from focal points	Underway	31 Oct 04
	Workshop	To be planned	November 04. Reunion
<b>Project management</b> (Madagascar)	Draft management plan developed	Achieved	
	Circulate plan for comment.	Underway	31 Oct 04
	Specialist workshop	Planned	At Plenary in Jan 05
National Focal Points	Appoint team of specialists	Achieved	Sustain
	Workshop to develop country needs and expectations; document prepared	Achieved	
	Submit contribution to Science Plan	Completed	



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