

**WESTERN GRAY WHALE ADVISORY PANEL**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**WGWAP 4/INF.23**  
**11 April 2008**  
**ENGLISH**

**OVERVIEW OF EXTERNAL REVIEW**

**Submitted by IUCN**

**WESTERN GRAY WHALE ADVISORY PANEL  
-- 2 YEARLY INDEPENDENT EVALUATION --**

**1. MANDATE OF THE EVALUATION**

The terms of reference (TOR) for the WGWAP set out the mandate for this evaluation<sup>1</sup>.

**2. OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION**

The overall objective of this evaluation is to assess the effectiveness of the engagement between the implementing parties of this initiative, namely IUCN, the WGWAP and its Chair, and SEIC (hereafter referred to as the “WGWAP process”) in terms of:

- a) The specific roles and responsibilities attributed to each of the implementing parties as defined in the Agreement and the WGWAP TOR; and
- b) The broader objective of conservation of western gray whales, throughout the extent of their range.

**3. METHODOLOGY**

IUCN’s evaluation standards and criteria, as spelled out in its Evaluation Policy<sup>2</sup>, are based on the widely accepted OECD DAC Evaluation criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. The evaluation will address factors that affect performance and make recommendations for improvements to the achievement of the results and fulfilment of the TOR, including amendments, alternative approaches and new elements if appropriate

The evaluation will cover the period from the establishment of the WGWAP in October 2006 until the 5<sup>th</sup> WGWAP meeting, to be held in November or December 2008.

The evaluation team of two or three independent experts will be interviewing and/or surveying a wide range of stakeholders associated with the WGWAP process.

**4. TIMEFRAME**

The evaluation will take place between August 2008 and January 2009, with preparatory work commencing in April 2008.

**5. RESPONSIBILITIES**

The evaluation is commissioned by the Global Marine Programme (IUCN). Dr. Stephen D. Turner has been contracted as the Lead Evaluator and will be working closely with IUCN to implement the Evaluation.

**6. REPORTING OF EVALUATION RESULTS**

The results of the Evaluation will be reported at the WGWAP 6 meeting and will be made available to all stakeholders, and posted on the IUCN Website.

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<sup>1</sup> 2-yearly independent evaluation process (para. 10(b) TOR): IUCN will, in consultation with the WGWAP Chair and the Contracting Companies, appoint an independent agency to evaluate, once every two years, the performance of the collaboration under these TOR and the effectiveness with which IUCN, WGWAP, and the Contracting Companies have played their respective roles. The evaluation will be conducted against a set of indicators that will be developed by IUCN and agreed with the Contracting Companies and WGWAP. The independent agency will make recommendations on how the performance might be improved.

<sup>2</sup> IUCN Evaluation Policy, approved by the IUCN Council in 2001. <http://www.iucn.org/themes/eval/index.htm>