

Project Specification: Assessing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Scotland's fishing fleet

1. Introduction

On behalf of the Scottish Government, ClimateXChange wishes to commission research to estimate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from groups of different vessel types in the Scottish fishing fleet.

2. The need for this research

Last year saw the publication of the [Marine Scotland policy programme - the Future Fisheries Management Strategy](#). That strategy set out to establish a "baseline [emission] per fleet segment". Segments represent vessels grouped by physical characteristics, gear used, species targeted etc. An example of segments can be seen in the [Fleet Enquiry Tool](#) produced by Seafish. The research proposed here will assess baseline Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions per fishing fleet segment.

The fishing sector is diverse and provides employment in rural coastal and island communities. Many operators are sole traders who may not have the knowledge or capital to decarbonise and who could risk being disadvantaged from the push to net zero without government intervention. This project will inform future decision-making required to achieve sectoral decarbonisation whilst supporting a just transition to net zero. In addition, it could be used to inform sector stakeholders of their GHG footprint and be available to contribute to any future carbon footprint product labelling.

3. Project scope and aim

The fishing fleet is highly diverse and it is not expected that a one size fits all approach will be effective in decarbonising the sector. Therefore, information is required on emissions from different segments within the Scottish fishing fleet. This will enable targeted policy considerations and assist with planning and prioritising future actions.

It is expected that fuel consumption will be the main contributor to vessel emissions. Refrigeration is another aspect to consider and research teams can propose other sources of emissions to be studied if they think it appropriate. The emissions of interest are constrained to those associated with the vessel itself. Emissions on shore, from transport or on-shore refrigeration are out of scope.

The project outputs must provide a transparent approach to estimating emissions, as well as all relevant input data. This will allow robust development of the methodology in future, as required.

4. Audience

The work is commissioned on behalf of the Scottish Government, and of particular interest to Marine Scotland.

The results must be presented in a format and language that can be easily understood by readers without an academic background. Written outputs must be well presented and written in Plain English.

5. Methodology

The project involves undertaking a survey to estimate the Scottish catching sector's fuel consumption by vessel type (along with any other information the proposal feels necessary to estimate fleet GHG emissions). The survey will be conducted directly with skippers to ensure the most up to date information is gathered. It is preferred that these are conducted in person (likely at harbours) but other methods for data collection will be considered with reasonable justification. If in-person surveys are proposed then robust mitigation of Covid-19 restrictions should be articulated.

Information will be gathered by vessel type and then aggregated into different fleet segments. The survey data will then be combined with publically available data on the Scottish fishing fleet and possibly additional data held by Marine Scotland, e.g. days spent at sea by vessels. A robust international standard approach for estimating emissions from fishing vessels should be applied in order to produce the emissions baseline per fleet segment. The approach must be clearly described in the bid with reference to its proven use in studies similar to this one.

Tenderers are invited to put forward proposals on how to best meet the research aims within the budget available. A full explanation of your chosen approach, including any limitations, should be provided.

6. Outputs

We expect the research to be presented in a short report. The report must be written in plain English, follow the CXC house style (a guide will be provided), and should comprise:

- a) an executive summary of no more than two pages, detailing the key findings, the aim of the project and the value to a policy audience; and
- b) a full report of the project to include:
 - i) Key findings, of no more than 25 pages, including the total Scottish fleet's estimated GHG emissions per segment and average vessel GHG emissions per segment. If emissions beyond fuel consumption are investigated then the different sources will be presented separately.
 - ii) Annexes clearly detailing the methodologies used and underlying assumptions
 - iii) References
 - iv) A glossary if needed
 - v) A dataset of coefficients which can be applied in future work to estimate annual fishing emissions

The ownership of the research material including the final report and any data produced as a result of the research lies with ClimateXChange on behalf of Scottish Ministers. The research may be published on the ClimateXChange website, the date and format of which will be determined by the Scottish Government and ClimateXChange. One or more drafts are likely to be required before a final version is agreed.

7. Project governance

A small steering group will be established to support delivery of the project. It will include representatives from Scottish Government, ClimateXChange, and the project team. External members will be considered depending on the methodology/approach.

The lead contact for ClimateXChange will be the CXC Energy and Climate Project Manager, Declan Finney, who will liaise with the contractor. Regular update calls will be scheduled fortnightly between the principal investigator and the CXC Project Manager to discuss progress and address any issues, escalating to steering group for consideration where necessary.

8. Project timetable

ALL DELIVERABLES MUST BE PROVIDED BY THE END OF MARCH 2022.

Milestone	Completed by
Project kick-off meeting, to agree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope • Boundaries • Timeframe and coordination with other surveys • Outputs 	w/c 25 th Oct 2021
Report on progress (Principal investigator and CXC Project Manager)	Fortnightly
Mid-project steering group meeting, if required	TBC
Submission of draft report	w/c 21 st Feb 2022
Steering group meeting (incl presentation to client), and comments on draft	w/c 28 th Feb 2022
Submission of final report	by 23 rd Mar 2022

9. Award criteria

Price 20%

Quality 80%

Quality Criteria	Descriptor	Weight
Understanding the research specification and the policy environment	The proposal should include an introduction which demonstrates a clear understanding of the research requirements. This should include an understanding of the policy environment and the supporting role of research; the cross-sectoral nature of the project; the need for this research; the research aim; and how the proposal will address this need.	20%
Research methodology	The proposal should demonstrate a high quality and workable research methodology (including how the evidence will be identified, reviewed and assessed) which will address the research objectives and produce the outputs in the timescales required. This should include a proposal of how the surveys will be carried out and outputs used.	25%

Quality Criteria	Descriptor	Weight
	It should explain the suitability, robustness and limitations of the proposed methodology.	
Project management and staff resource	<p>The proposal should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a clear project plan, that captures the key steps required to deliver the desired output within scope and to time; this should include reference to mechanisms for compliance with regulations (in particular, GDPR) • provide details of individual staff members who will work on this project and demonstrate how they will meet the project requirements, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general research experience and expertise; - specific experience & expertise in the evidence review topic; - experience in quantitative analysis skills - experience and expertise in inter-disciplinary team-working • provide a commitment that named staff members will be available to work on the contract if the bid is successful. • set out the management arrangements for the project. 	15%
Communication and report writing	<p>The proposal should describe the approach to writing the report, which will be published on the ClimateXChange website.</p> <p>It should detail who will take lead responsibility for report-writing and overall report quality. It should provide examples of previously published literature or evidence reviews in which they have been involved.</p>	10%
Quality control and assurance	<p>The proposal should provide details of quality assurance procedures to demonstrate how the contract will be continuously delivered to a high standard. It should specifically address issues of quality control at different stages of the project, including evidence gathering, analysis and report writing. It should include a timetable for delivery of tasks, project milestones and allocation of staff and staff time against each task, covering the duration of the contract.</p>	5%
Risk	<p>The proposal should provide a risk assessment matrix detailing any risks identified in relation to the delivery of this contract, and proposed mitigation measures to minimise their probability and impact. Where appropriate, consideration should be given to potential Covid-19 restrictions.</p>	5%

10. Submitting a proposal

Please send a brief work plan (no more than six pages excluding CVs) responding to the award criteria above and with deadlines, CVs for the proposed delivery team, applicable day rates, relevant research experience, examples of previous work and the number of person days' work proposed.

You should highlight any potential conflicts of interest in your proposal.

Proposals need to be submitted to lee.callaghan@ed.ac.uk and cc'd to declan.finney@ed.ac.uk for evaluation by noon on Wednesday 6th October. We expect to contact the successful bidder by Friday 15th October.

The costs of proposals for this project are expected to be around £30,000 (including VAT). However, ClimateXChange would welcome proposals for less than this amount. We welcome consortium bids.

Depending on the quality of proposals received, CXC may chose not to appoint any contractor.

CXC Secretariat

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climateXchange

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climate change research and policy

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