

**Paper Number**      **RSC2/INFO.1**  
**Title**                **LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

Document No.	Title
<b>RSC2/INFO.1</b>	List of Documents
<b>RSC2/WP.2</b>	Draft Agenda
<b>RSC2/WP.3</b>	Regional Steering Committee Representation
<b>RSC2/WP.4</b>	Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project Annual Report - GEF/UNDP Project Implementation Report (PIR) / Annual Project Report (APR)
<b>RSC2/INFO.5</b>	National Annual Project Reports
<b>RSC2/WP.6</b>	IUCN Report on Alternative Options
<b>RSC2/WP.7</b>	Financial Reports -2006

**Paper Number**      **RSC2/WP.2**  
**Title**                **DRAFT AGENDA (rev 2)**

- a.      Opening of Meeting
- b.      Apologies
- c.      Adoption of Agenda
- d.      Regional Steering Committee Representation
  - 1. Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project Annual Report - (UNDP/GEF Annual Project Report /Project Implementation Report)
  - 2. National Annual Project Reports
  - 3. Financial Reports:
  - 4. Other Matters
- e.      Next Meeting
- f.      Records of Proceeding
- g.      Close of the Meeting

**Paper Number**      **RSC2/WP.3**  
**Title**                **REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION**

### **Summary**

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Regional Steering Committee with relevant information relating to representation at Committee meetings and in relation to that the progression of project activities that deal directly with broad stakeholder participation and awareness raising in project implementation, in particularly the outcome of the consultants report on links with an environmental non-governmental.

### **Recommendation**

The Regional Steering Committee is invited to:

- i) Consider the report of the consultant relating to establishing project links with a regional environmental NGO and endorse the recommendation that the PCU formalize that link with the WWF SPPO through a co-financing agreement;
- ii) Endorse the progression of discussion with PITIA with the view of concluding a similar co-financing agreement; and
- iii) Endorse, subject to i) the continued participation of WWF SPPO, PITIA, Australia and New Zealand as nominated non-government organizations, industry association and project co-financiers.

## REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION

### Introduction

1. The adopted Terms of Reference for the Regional Steering Committee states that the Committee will comprise individuals with fisheries technical expertise and involvement in the fisheries management related issues in the Pacific islands region; and that this would comprise of representation from:

- A National Focal Points appointee from each participating country Governments;
- A nominee from UNDP-GEF as the project Implementing Agency;
- A nominee from the FFA as the project Executing Agency;
- A nominee each from co – executing Agencies for the project, SPC & IUCN;
- A nominee from SPREP<sup>1</sup>;
- A nominee each from Non-government organizations (NGO) as agreed to by the Committee;
- A nominee from industry associations as agreed to by the Committee; and
- A nominee from project co-financiers.

2. The project document instructs that observers, who may be invited to attend by the Steering Committee, may include regional stakeholder representation (including fisheries industry), environmental NGOs (regional and international), other donor agencies, etc. Observer attendance will be agreed by consensus within the Committee membership.

### Project Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising Activities

3. In order to promote non-governmental stakeholder and public awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and strengthen NGO participation in oceanic fisheries management, a regional environmental NGO and an industry NGO are to be enrolled into project implementation. Their involvement in project implementation is to be formalized through co-financing agreements. The following progress has been made to date to identify and engage a representative regional ENGO and the regional tuna industry association.

#### *Environmental Non-governmental Organisation*

4. A consultancy has been undertaken of which the key objective has been to provide a strategy with which to engage and establish links between the OFM Project and regional environmental non-governmental organisations (ENGO). It included the development of a co-financing arrangement between a Pacific ENGO and the OFM Project.

5. The first draft of the consultancy report was submitted in June and circulated to Project Focal points for comment, of which none were received. The final report is appended at **Attachment A** and has fulfilled the following requirements:

- The development of a strategy to engage ENGOs in project implementation to promote NGO stakeholder and public awareness of oceanic fisheries

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<sup>1</sup> Pacific Regional Environment Programme as the key partner organization for GEF in the region.

management issues and strengthen NGO participation in oceanic fisheries management at national and regional levels;

- Established links with regional ENGOs (including contact details and point of contact);
- Provide advice on the scheduling and framework for national and regional workshops for ENGOs;
- Draft a co-financing arrangement with a Pacific ENGO; and
- Recommend ENGO representation at the Regional Steering Committee.

6. The consultant concludes that the World Wide Fund for Nature, South Pacific Programme (WWF SPP) is the logical choice to engage in project implementation, for the promotion of oceanic fisheries management awareness and as ENGO representation at the RSC. The report appends a draft co-financing agreement that outlines relevant activities and commitments. With the RSC's endorsement of the consultant's recommendation, the co-financing agreement can be completed with signature by WWF SPP and the FFA.

#### *Industry Non-governmental Organisation*

7. The Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) is newly formed and is in the process of establishing the policy and procedures of its office. The Project Coordination Unit has established communication with PITIA's interim office bearers, namely the care taker President, Mr. James Movick to discuss the support of industry participation and awareness raising in Convention-related processes through the following activities:

- The conclusion of a co-financing arrangement with Pacific INGO;
- Support Pacific INGO participation in the Commission;
- The provision of information flow on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific INGOs and businesses; and
- Support for a Pacific INGO consultations on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues.

8. The first annual general meeting of the PITIA to elect office bearers was to have taken place in May this year but has been postponed until early 2007. Further discussions to progress the above issues are planned with PITIA representatives in the margins for the RSC in October.

9. The PITIA has observer status at the WCPF Commission and participates in the annual and sub-committee meetings of the Commission. In light of this, and the fact that they are currently the only association representing industry region wide indicates that formalized relations between the OFM Project and the PITIA should be completed and that the RSC endorse their participation at the projects Regional Steering Committee meetings as an observer.

#### **Donor Observers at RSC**

10. Australia and New Zealand are traditional and significant donors to both principal project executing agencies, the FFA and SPC and to the region. New Zealand has made direct contributions to the project in the provision of funds for the regional policy workshops, specifically the Management Options Workshop that will be held annually for the duration of the project. Australia contributes significantly in co-financing activities relating to the tuna tagging programme coordinated by SPC.

11. Australia, as did WWF SPPO and Greenpeace Pacific, observed at the informal meeting for the OFM Project that preceded the annual meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee held at Nadi in early May this year. This meeting provided beneficiary countries with an update on project activities.

12. Therefore, the RSC is asked to endorse both Australia and New Zealand's continued participation at the projects Regional Steering Committee meetings as observers under the auspices of identified donors and as a matter of procedure.

### **Recommendations**

13. The Regional Steering Committee is invited to:

- iv) Consider the report of the consultant relating to establishing project links with a regional environmental NGO and endorse the recommendation that the PCU formalize that link with the WWF SPPO through a co-financing agreement;
- v) Endorse the progression of discussion with PITIA with the view of concluding a similar co-financing agreement; and
- vi) Endorse, subject to i) the continued participation of WWF SPPO, PITIA, Australia and New Zealand as nominated non-government organizations, industry association and project co-financiers.

# **Strategy to Promote and Strengthen Environmental NGOs Stakeholder Participation and Public Awareness of Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Management Issues**

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June 2006.

The views expressed in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent positions of the OFM Project or FFA.

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## Acronyms

BSSE	Bismarck Solomon Seas Eco-region
CI	Conservation International
PIFFA	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency
FSPI	Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific International
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IUU	illegal, unregulated and unreported
IUCN	International Union of Conservation Networks
ENGO	environmental non-governmental organization
NGO	non governmental organisation
NLU	National Liaison Unit
OECD	Organisation of Economic Cooperation for Development
OPF	Pacific Community Oceanic Fisheries Programme
PIANGO	Pacific Islands Association of Non-governmental Organisation
RFMO	regional fisheries management organisation
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific's Regional Environment Programme
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
WWF	World Wildlife Fund For Nature
WWF SPPO	World Wildlife Fund For Nature South Pacific Programme Office
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

# **Strategy to promote and strengthen Environmental NGOs stakeholder participation and public awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues**

“Knowledge is an asset that grows when shared”

## **Introduction**

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is providing further assistance to the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management (OFM) Project to support Pacific small island developing States (SIDS) efforts as they participate in the setting up and initial period of operation of the new fisheries commission that is at the centre of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries (WCPF) Convention. Pacific SIDS are reforming, realigning, restructuring and strengthening their national fisheries laws, policies, institutions and programmes in order to take up the new opportunities which the WCPF Convention creates and to discharge the new responsibilities which the Convention requires of them.

The goals of the OFM Project combines the interests of the global community in the conservation of a marine ecosystem covering a large area of the surface of the globe, with the interests of some of the world's smallest nations in the responsible and sustainable management of resources that are crucial for their sustainable development.

Specifically, the OFM project aims to achieve global environmental benefits by enhanced conservation and management of transboundary oceanic fishery resources in the Pacific Islands region and the protection of the biodiversity of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool large marine ecosystem (WTPWP LME).

The design of the OFM Project involved a substantial consultative process, which was warmly supported throughout the region. Reflecting outcomes of this process, the project seeks to apply a regional approach in a way that recognises national needs; to strike a balance between technical and capacity-building outputs by combining technical and capacity building activities in every area; and to open participation in all project activities to governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

The engagement of environmental non-government organizations (ENGOS) will allow the flow of information through established networks that are efficient, cost effective, and will encourage partnerships at all levels between government, non-governmental organisations and the wider Pacific communities.

These networks will be important for vertical and horizontal exchanges and the distribution of information to address in overall project management and coordination, as well as providing information about the project and the Convention, the capture and transfer of lessons and best practices and participation by stakeholders. The networks will also contribute to assessments and measuring indicators and the ability to identify early any project related management problems being experienced by countries, organisations and other stakeholders.

In general, the ENGO network members share a common objective that is to raise public awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and strengthen their participation in oceanic fisheries management in the Pacific region.

Establishing and maintaining effective partnerships and networks with ENGOs to keep the oceanic fisheries management under review, is part of the work programme of the OFM project and is consistent with the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency's (FFA) role as a facilitating agency by mobilizing institutional cooperation at the relevant levels. The multidisciplinary nature of environmental issues and themes coupled with the fragmentation of data and information across different countries, makes it imperative to have structures in place to ensure that the promotion of non-governmental stakeholder in project activities across regional ENGOs. This will occur through a range of co-financed activities, which emphasize participation, awareness raising and information exchange.

On the communications side, the dissemination of policy-relevant assessment findings to policy-makers enables effective policies to be formulated in response to pressing environmental concerns. In addition, the provision of access to environmental information facilitates sound decision-making at all levels by a broad spectrum of stakeholders ranging from governmental officials to the ordinary citizen.

### ***Structure of the Environment NGO Networks***

Over the past three decades, the Pacific region has spawned a number of environmental NGOs, such as The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Conservation International (CI), World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF), Foundations of the Peoples' of the South Pacific International (FSPi), Greenpeace, as well as the Pacific Islands Association of Non-governmental Organisation (PIANGO). All of these networks deal with some aspect of environmental data and information from the collection and management of through to access, exchange and dissemination of environmental data and information, though not necessarily in all countries.

Collectively, the established ENGO networks have a somewhat ad hoc approach, and are not fully coordinated amongst themselves to allow effective dissemination of the wide range of various environmental information, including those of oceanic fisheries management. It may eventuate that a loose group of ENGOs form to properly address information dissemination at some point in the future.

The OFM project is looking for a regional ENGO with a work programme that includes oceanic fisheries and which has a wide distributed network of country programs for dissemination of information and execution of project activities. The relationship with a nominated Pacific regional ENGO will be set out in a co-financing agreement. The partnership, between the OFM Project and the ENGO, will ensure that the non-government stakeholders participate in regional and national oceanic fisheries management processes, including the Commission meetings, have enhanced awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and improved understanding of the WCPF Convention.

It is envisaged that specific forums will be developed for national level ENGO participation and discussion processes and the promotion of awareness of national and regional development and economic priorities and how these relate to sustainable fisheries management.

The basic building block of information dissemination is the national environmental information network, comprising of non-governmental organisations and community focal points. These focal points, in cooperation with relevant partners will facilitate the dissemination of information at the national level through their own networks.

## **ENGOS in the Pacific**

There are only a handful of environmental NGOs in the Pacific region. Two are unique to the region and up to three others belong to the international consortiums of ENGOS. The section below describes each regional environmental NGO in some detail in order to determine the best suited ENGO as the potential partner to the OFM Project.

### ***The Nature Conservancy***

The Nature Conservancy is one of the leading conservation organisations globally, working to protect the most ecologically important lands and waters around the world for nature and people. The mission of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

TNC is dedicated to protecting vital ecosystems and all the corals, fish and people that depend on them. Their marine programme centers on coral reef projects all over the world to ensure:

- Plant and animal diversity assessments throughout the Meso-American Reef;
- Training and education for coral reef managers from more than 30 countries;
- Support for designing and creating resilient marine protected area networks in the Asia-Pacific region, known as the Coral Triangle;
- Effective management in Belize and Honduras where huge numbers of reef fish gather each year to reproduce;
- Monitoring of Staghorn coral restoration efforts in the Florida Keys; and
- Science-based innovations in a conservation toolbox to protect tropical coral reefs across the planet

The Nature Conservancy's 'Global Strategies for Marine Conservation' recognise that an increased and coordinated focus on marine areas is critical to protecting the diversity of life on Earth. TNC's marine initiative is strengthening and developing the following strategies:

#### priorities



#### Setting priorities for marine conservation

using marine ecoregional assessments to set a shared course of action for governments, communities, and ocean managers.

#### coral



#### Transforming coral reef conservation

through innovative tools, on-the-ground science, networks of resilient marine protected areas, and contributions to global conservation forums.

#### coasts



New tools for the conservation of estuarine and coastal ecosystems include leasing, owning and restoring submerged lands.

#### policy



Advancing marine policy frameworks and building volunteer support for marine conservation.

In addition to these core strategies, TNC has over 100 marine projects in 21 countries and 22 United States.

In the Asia Pacific region, TNC supports the protection of more coral and fish species than anywhere else on Earth and some of the healthiest forests. TNC is helping preserve the most spectacular landscapes, from Indonesia's coral reefs to the jagged peaks of China. Most, if not all of TNC's marine projects are coastal in nature.



Fig : Map showing the countries where TNC is active in the Pacific region.

## ***Foundations of the Peoples' of the South Pacific International (FSPI)***

FSPI is a network of independent, like-minded, affiliated, non-governmental organisations who work with communities in nine Pacific countries and in East Timor. In addition, FSPI has three metropolitan partners in Australia, United Kingdom and the United States. These affiliates work in partnership across the South Pacific with the vision - "Together We Build Communities in the Pacific".

The main function of the FSPI Secretariat is to coordinate the planning and design of regional development projects, based on the needs identified by the member/affiliates and their constituencies. However, the work undertaken by FSPI affiliates varies from country to country and from sector to sector. Community development remains the core business of the network, which includes various types of awareness programmes and advocacy work.

The mission of FSPI is to work with Pacific communities through people-centred programmes to foster self-reliance within a changing world.

FSPI believes that it is the largest, most experienced, secular civil society network in the Pacific, with affiliates in Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Tuvalu.

### **Communities and Coasts Programme**

The core of FSPI's Communities and Coasts Programmes work is assisting communities to build on the strengths of combining new knowledge and institutions to provide the fundamental pillar for achieving sustainable livelihoods from the sea.

The FSPI Communities and Coasts Programmes work with the national affiliates through three strategic action areas in:

- Capacity building
  - Training
  - Site support
  - Networks and partnerships
- Research and development
  - Development of reef restoration techniques and sustainable coral mariculture
  - Develop awareness raising material
  - Develop relevant participatory training material
  - Conduct socio-economic analysis of potential coastal management action e.g. coral mariculture
- Policy development and advocacy
  - Participate in international for an advocating community-based management processes

- Submissions to regional and international policy development processes to ensure appropriate consideration is given to community-based approaches in natural resources decision making.

The FSPI Communities and Coasts Programmes currently work in Solomon Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Tuvalu as well as Barbados, Jamaica and Grenada in the Caribbean.

The FSPI's marine focus is more on coastal activities. However, they have expressed an interest in disseminating oceanic fisheries management information through their network of affiliates

### ***Conservation International***

Founded in 1987, the Conservation International (CI) is an innovative leader in global biodiversity conservation. CI's scientists, economists, communicators, educators, and other professionals work with hundreds of partners to identify and overcome threats to biodiversity. CI employs more than 800 people around the world with the majority being based in countries where biodiversity is most threatened, and most are citizens of the country in which they work.

The CI targets high-biodiversity areas where the needs are greatest and where each conservation dollar spent can save the most species. These areas are:

- Biodiversity hotspots;
- High-biodiversity wilderness areas; and
- Key marine regions.

The CI is headquartered in Washington, DC, but concentrates its efforts globally. They work in more than 40 countries, the majority of them developing nations in:

- Africa;
- Asia-Pacific; and
- Central and South America.

The CI believes in partnerships because no single organisation can safeguard the Earth's biologically richest places. As such, enabling partners are the cornerstone to their strategic approach. In 2004, the CI shared approximately one-fourth of their budget with nearly 350 conservation partners throughout their priority areas.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the CI's effort spans six countries and three sub-regions, reaching from Papua New Guinea and New Caledonia in Melanesia to countries in Polynesia and Micronesia. Their Melanesian work includes preserving the sub-regions's natural beauty.

The CI has joined with representatives from governments, local communities, and wildlife groups in Melanesia to safeguard the region's flora and fauna by establishing biodiversity conservation corridors. Corridors help shield marine life as well as plants and animals from devastation, while creating sustainable economic opportunities for local people.

The CI's others efforts include identifying threatened and endangered species, promoting ecotourism, and educating villages about sustainable fishing practices.



Although they have a strong interest in the OFM Project, the CI have indicated that they are not sure that they would consider themselves ideal for the coordinating role of the ENGOs with the OFM Project. However, they do want to develop a good working relationship in areas of mutual interest. Citing one example - at the SPC OFP OFM meeting, the CI was able to assist SPC with Pacific seamount information as they have a common interest in seamount research in the Phoenix Islands at present.

### ***World Wide Fund For Nature***

The WWF South Pacific Programme Office (WWF SPPO) is a non-governmental conservation organisation serving the Pacific Island countries. The programme was established in 1990 as part of WWF's endeavor to work effectively and appropriately in the region. The programme is managed from a regional base in Suva, Fiji and organizes a series of strategic conservation field projects, policy reviews and campaigns in different Pacific Island countries on behalf of the WWF network.

As well as the Regional Secretariat in Suva, country programme offices have been established in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea as well as a project office in the Cook Islands. WWF SPPO works closely with WWF France on projects in New Caledonia and French Polynesia as well as throughout the Pacific on regional issues. In 2004, WWF SPPO had more than 100 staff.

The WWF SPPO is part of WWF International. Established in 1961, the WWF (formerly known as the World Wildlife Fund) is headquartered in Gland, Switzerland. It has 4.7 million supporters and a global network active in more than 90 countries. WWF is currently funding over 2,000 conservation projects around the world. In just over four decades, the WWF has become one of the worlds largest and most respected independent conservation organisations. The WWF's ultimate goal is to stop and eventually reverse environmental degradation and to build a future where people live in harmony with nature.

The staff of the WWF SPPO, made up primarily of Pacific Islandernationals, created the following vision for the WWF SPPO programme:

“The Pacific islands and oceans in which ecological processes, nature and biodiversity are conserved and live in harmony with the long-term needs of Pacific Island people. There are supportive legislation and policies that protect the customary cultural and heritage rights of the Pacific Islands people, ensure the environment is managed in a sustainable manner and promote the socio-economic development of Pacific Islands countries. There is cooperation and networking between Pacific Island governments, business and industry, non-governmental and other civil society organisations to maintain conservation and sustainable development. Future generations are guaranteed the use of natural resources to sustain their lives and their children's lives”.

The programme goal is:

“To support Pacific Island people to conserve and sustainably manage our natural inheritance for present and future generations.”

As is evident from these vision and goal statements, local livelihoods and governance of natural resources are very important elements of the WWF SPPO Programme.

The WWF SPPO's mission is living in harmony with nature through:

- Conserving the world's biodiversity;
- Ensuring that the use of natural resources is sustainable; and
- Promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

The core of the WWF SPPO is the Secretariat, which provides guiding support to conservation activities, sets standards, maintains financial accountability, communications and administrative procedures. The programmes based in the Secretariat are Finance, Human Resources, Administration, Communications, Capacity Building and Sustainable Livelihoods, Regional Policy, Climate Change and the Regional Marine Programme. Each programme has a manager or coordinator who is responsible for day-to-day management and administration of activities, infrastructure, staff and funds.

As part of a decentralized leadership base, each of the programmes in Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands has a Country Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of their programmes.

The WWF SPPO employs over 100 staff in various parts of the South Pacific. The Fiji country programme office is based in Suva, not far from the Secretariat. It employs nine staff, most of who work in Suva, or in field offices in Vanua Levu.

The Papua New Guinea country programme is the largest programme and has a structure which comprises the Country Manager, Conservation Manager and six Project Managers. The Transfly Ecoregion<sup>2</sup> and the Bismack Solomon Seas Ecoregion (BSSE) Coordinators are also based in Papua New Guinea. Overall, the four Papua New Guinea offices employ 34 staff. The Solomon Islands country programme has offices in Gizo and Honiara headed by a Country Manager and Conservation Manager. The Cook Islands project office is based in Rarotonga.

The WWF network, which contributes expertise and funding to the international conservation programme, and carries out conservation activities in more than 90 countries, ranging from practical field projects and scientific research to advising on environmental policy, promotion of environmental education, and raising public understanding of environmental issues. With partnerships within the network growing, the maintenance of existing relationships becomes a priority for the WWF SPPO. The WWF SPPO is in the process of forming a partnership with WWF France in an memorandum of understanding with the New Caledonia Programme and French Polynesia.

The WWF is currently one of the few international networks with the potential to become an interest group for the conservation of tuna globally and is well-placed to engage in tuna conservation in the Western and Central Pacific. The WWF has been working in the region since the 1970s with a strong presence in many of the coastal States as well as in States with distant water fishing fleets that operate there. To further develop the WWF's commitment to improving sustainable fisheries management in the Western and Central Pacific, the WWF has decided to develop a

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<sup>2</sup> Transfly region covers 76000km<sup>2</sup> of the Southern tip of the New Guinea island.

strategic initiative which will influence WCPFC management decisions affecting target and non-target species, direct international aid and investments in the region towards sustainable fisheries development, and harness market forces to apply pressure to improve tuna fisheries management.

The following section provides excerpts from the WWF's Western Central Pacific Tuna Business Plan, developed in partnership with TRAFFIC in May 2005 by California Environmental Associates. The full document describes the WWF's intended initiative towards supporting and achieving improvements in tuna fisheries management in the Western and Central Pacific. The strategies described throughout the business plan complement and leverage the WWF's current work in the region and globally. It builds on work to achieve the full range of outputs and will require dedicated funding. Consequently, the plan outlines a pragmatic and leveraged strategy for the WWF's engagement, but it also provides a comprehensive approach, encompassing issues of particular interest to potential funding agencies. The original plan was structured to address the following principal elements:

1. Governing principles: the binding standards which guide the plan's overall design;
2. Programme scope: overall objectives and required breadth of the initiative;
3. Strategy design: the most effective and efficient opportunities to achieve these objectives;
4. Critical path design: prioritized actions and investments;
5. Capacity planning: utilization of WWF and partner resources;
6. Initiative management and coordination: governance of the initiative; and
7. Financials: costs of the outlined strategy and operational plan.

Because of the ecological, economic and cultural significance of the tuna fisheries in the Pacific region and the great opportunity the WCPFC offers, the WWF have decided to develop a well coordinated, strategic initiative to improve tuna fisheries management in the Western and Central Pacific.

The WWF's strategy will focus on three principal issues that will underpin a transition from unsustainable resource management to an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management in which they will be:

1. Promoting fisheries management and governance that integrates an ecosystem-based approach and strict regulation, enforcement and compliance;
2. Directing international finance in the form of access agreements and development aid frameworks towards better, more sustainable fishing practices; and
3. Harnessing the power of the markets to promote traceability of products to legal sources and to give preference to sustainable fisheries management.

The plan outlines a pragmatic, prioritized and highly leveraged implementation strategy that will enable the WWF and its partners to effectively improve fisheries

management in the Western and Central Pacific, while fully heeding the complexity of working in an evolving political framework with dynamic market interests. The plan represents the WWF's position on what will be needed to ensure successful reform of fisheries management, prioritized around the major leverage points in the region – influencing the WCPFC on ecosystem-based management and regulation compliance and enforcement, directing international financing for sustainable fisheries development and harnessing the power of the markets. The strategies and activities outlined throughout complement and leverage work that is being done by the WWF in specific countries throughout the region and globally.

The WWF's initiative will be structured around the following four major features:

1. Influencing policy from the "centre" through expert-driven, coordinated input in the WCPFC's policy frameworks;
2. Seizing opportunities within the region by locating specific expertise where it makes most sense, i.e. where the markets, fishing capacity and fisheries resources are;
3. Dedicated leadership, coordination and network communication by being an initiative leader in the region; and
4. A well-resourced communications strategy and the capacity to deliver the policy reforms and promote broad awareness for the initiative in the region and beyond.

Each of these features is discussed in more detail below.

**1. Influencing policy from the centre: expertise and coordination.** The greatest opportunity for the WWF is to influence the decisions that will be made by the WCPFC in its first years of existence. The WWF will therefore focus on providing coordinated, expert input on policy at the WCPFC. The WWF will do this by building a WCPFC "team" and strategy, and ensuring there is representation in the key countries in both chambers of the WCPFC by either a WWF presence on national delegations or with observer status. Some countries, such as Fiji and Australia, allow conservation representatives to take an active role in the WCPFC process and to comment on policies and negotiations. In other countries, such as Japan, conservation representatives are only allowed to observe negotiations and are not allowed to take an active role. It is therefore imperative that the WWF convey unified positions, because those countries that do not allow active participation can be influenced by those that do. For example, Japan will pay much attention to the positions of the US, the EU and Australia. The WWF's position on WCPFC negotiations and activities by individuals at the country level will be guided by regional experts in fisheries management and biology, and by technical analysts focusing on regulation and compliance and distant water fleets.

**2. Seizing opportunities within the region: locating specific expertise where it makes the most sense.** In addition to having policy expertise in the region to form the WWF's positions in the WCPFC, experts on specific topics will be located throughout the region to provide information on the WWF's activities and policy positions. An expert in tuna markets will be placed in Japan because of the importance of the sashimi market. An expert on traceability and trade will be placed in Thailand; or the Philippines because of the importance of transshipment and processing in these countries. A technical expert on distant water fleets and developments in fishing capacity will be placed in Taiwan or Korea because of the rate of growth in fishing capacity in these countries. An expert in access agreements will be placed in the South Pacific Program Office to aide national offices in the region with access agreement negotiations. These experts will focus on the activities

occurring immediately around them, but will use these developments to inform the WWF's broader strategy in the region.

**3. Dedicated leadership.** Integrating the policy input at the top with the specific topical expertise throughout the region will require strong coordination, a clear mandate and careful leadership. A dedicated Initiative Manager, adequately empowered to make resource prioritization and allocation decisions, facilitate and review policy advice, monitor and evaluate progress, ensure adequate coordination and drive both the overall and communications strategy will be required to lead the activities of the various offices and the thematic approaches. This manager will use the WWF network's considerable expertise and ability to engage on discrete initiatives related to the overall campaign. Also, the initiative manager will ensure the WWF is speaking with a unified voice, using consistent messages and involving partner organisations in WCPFC activities, when appropriate. The overall leadership will reside with the Initiative Manager in the region. The specific location of the Initiative Manager is not important, but most likely they will reside in one of the Pacific Island country offices, the Philippines or Indonesia.

**4. Leveraging policy work with strong communications.** One of the key factors for successes for many of the WWF's campaigns is the integration of lobbying work with high-level communications activities to maximize awareness of the WWF's aims throughout the target community and beyond. The WWF's tuna initiative in the Western and Central Pacific will similarly depend on strong communications to support the policy work at the WCPFC and to reach key stakeholders. Communications tools will be used to convey the WWF's messages from position papers developed on specific topics of importance including the activities of distant water fleets, access agreements and the environmental effects of fishing in the region, e.g. turtle bycatch. Relevant "scorecards" will be used to track the progress of various government and market player's actions in the region. The WWF will also use the internet for online advocacy, marketing and as an information resource for the initiative.

Improving the management of tuna fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific is complex and potentially costly. The overall capacity of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the Western and Central Pacific is greatly limited. The WWF will take advantage of its current capacity, while strategically outlining where additional capacity can be used most effectively.

The WWF will also leverage the expertise and capacity of its primary partner in the region, TRAFFIC. The following outlines existing centres of competence and where greater capacity is needed:

#### **Existing Centres of Competence**

The WWF has been active in the Western and Central Pacific region since the 1970s and has multiple fisheries and marine related projects that can be called upon for the Western and Central Pacific Tuna Initiative.

**ForTuna – WWF's Global Tuna Conservation Initiative.** Tuna fisheries are not just a priority for the WWF in the region, but globally. The WWF has a global tuna conservation initiative that provides strategic coordination for the WWF's activities to improve the management of tuna fisheries worldwide. The WWF is active in all tuna regional fisheries management organisations globally, and has teams focused on mitigating species bycatch in tuna fisheries and on using the power of the market to apply pressure for management changes in tuna fisheries.

**Fisheries expertise in the region.** Several WWF offices in the region currently have fisheries staff including Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, Japan, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Australia and New Zealand. Additionally, there is capacity for marine conservation work in the three most critical ecoregions for tuna conservation in the region (the Bismark Solomon Seas Ecoregion, the Sulu Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion, the Fiji Island Marine and Ecoregion). Fisheries capacity is strongest in Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines and the South Pacific Programme Office (Fiji).

There is little to no WWF marine capacity currently in Thailand, China, Taiwan and Korea. The fisheries expertise that the WWF currently has includes a mix of scientists, policy-makers, ex-fishermen and natural resource managers, providing a solid foundation for undertaking a regional tuna project of this magnitude.

**Participation/presence at the Commission.** The WWF has been actively involved in the WCPFC since its inception, following the creation of the Commission and then working to have a presence at WCPFC meetings. In previous WCPFC meetings, the WWF has been part of national delegations for parties to the Commission. In 2005, the WWF applied for formal observer status within the WCPFC which will allow the WWF additional means for engaging with the Commission. Additionally, the WWF asked to participate in technical committees for the WCPFC, all of which positions the organisation well for continued engagement in Commission decision-making.

Lastly, the WWF has a global High Seas Strategy which pulls together all the WWF's activities on high seas. The WWF is seeking to influence the review of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement to drive greater implementation of the Agreement by RFMOs, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) process to dismantle the Flags of Convenience system and the Convention on Biological Diversity to drive the establishment of High Seas Protected Areas.

The WWF has produced a global analysis of the legal challenges involved in creating High Seas Protected Areas and is a member on the OECD Ministerial-led High Seas Taskforce on Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing. One of the key goals of this taskforce is to promote the development of an accountability mechanism between RFMOs and the UNGA so that RFMOs actually have to start delivering sustainable fisheries management.

The WWF has marine capacity throughout the Western and Central Pacific, the Reforming Tuna Management in the Western and Central Pacific Initiative will be the first major coordinated fisheries related initiative for the region by the WWF. It will build on the Sustainable Seafood Choices project initiated by WWF Australia in 2002 (with a focus on fisheries certification) and help further build capacity for the organisation in the region, extend the WWF's fisheries work into regional governance, market-based measures and help put ecosystem-based management into practice.

The WWF SPPO showed great interest and potential to be a partner to OFM Project.

## **Greenpeace**

Greenpeace is an independent organisation campaigning to ensure a just, peaceful, sustainable environment for future generations. Its mission and core values are based on independence, non-violence and bearing witness.

Greenpeace is an independent campaigning organisation which uses non-violent creative confrontation to expose global environmental problems and to force solutions which are essential to a green and peaceful future. Greenpeace's goal is to ensure the ability of the earth to nurture life in all its diversity.

Greenpeace International began in Canada in 1971 and today has a presence in more than 40 countries across Europe, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific.

Greenpeace Australia was founded in 1977 and joined forces with Greenpeace Pacific in 1998. Together with more than 113,000 supporters forming the backbone of Greenpeace Australia Pacific. Operating as a company, Greenpeace Australia Pacific seeks to follow high standards of accountability and transparency.

Greenpeace's core values are:

Independence do not accept money from governments, corporations or political parties because it would compromise our core values.

Bearing witness - follow the Quaker tradition of bearing witness. Philosophically and tactically, our peaceful protests work to raise awareness and bring public opinion to bear on decision-makers.

Non-violent direct action - Greenpeace strongly believes that violence in any form is morally wrong and accomplishes nothing. However, Greenpeace believes that non-violent direct action at the point of an environmental crime expose an environmental problem that will ensure that no one gets hurt. Activists participating during a non-violent direct action are fully trained. Examples of non-violent direct actions include chasing whaling ships at sea or an activist using special equipment to lock themselves to the front gates of nuclear facility.

Integrity, bravery, empowerment, confrontation and cleverness are inherent to Greenpeace. While Greenpeace is best known for its non-violent direct actions, public actions are just one of many strategies they employ.

Greenpeace, together with international experts, conducts scientific, economic and political research into the causes and effects of environmental pollution. Using Market force- political and corporate campaigners regularly meet with governments and industry to ensure environmental considerations are factored into every level of decision-making. Together with strong media and communications, the team gets the word out, guaranteeing Greenpeace voice is heard around the world.

Although Greenpeace forms partnerships with other non-government organisations (NGOs) in their Pacific work, their network in the regional is not fully established. For example, in Papua New Guinea, they joined the Eco-forestry Forum (a not-for-profit group of PNG-based organisations) to work with landowners and promote the benefits of choosing sustainable, integrated community development over the "quick fix" promised by logging companies but in Tonga, they have not established their presence.

Behind the scenes, they campaign on many levels. Using non-violent, direct actions to expose global environmental problems and force solutions. Our victories are a testament to the effectiveness of Greenpeace's methods.

The Greenpeace Oceans Campaign officer indicated their interest to work with the OFM Project. However, due to their network limitations in the Pacific as well as

having a relatively small oceans program, (other than the banning of commercial whaling and sea mount fishing), it may not be effective to use this organisation.

## **PIANGO**

The Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO) is a regional network of NGO focal points or coordinating bodies known as National Liaison Units (NLUs) based in 22 Pacific Island countries and territories.

PIANGO was formally established in 1991 to assist NGOs in the Pacific to initiate action, give voice to their concerns and work collaboratively with other development actors for just and sustainable human development. PIANGO's primary role is to be a catalyst for collective action, to facilitate and support coalitions and alliances on issues of common concern, and to strengthen the influence and impact of NGO efforts in the region.

PIANGO had its origins in the growing movement towards increased networking amongst Pacific Island NGOs which commenced in the late 1970s. The historical framework of the region has included both French and British colonialism, which has left a legacy that needs addressing in order to enable selfhood for all the communities within the Pacific. Pacific island nations vary between fully sovereign and independent countries, to freely associating states and non-self governing territories relating to the United States, France and New Zealand. Geographic distance is also a factor which inhibits communication between the nations of the Pacific, given the logistics of transport, communication and language.

Following a process of regional consultation, the first PIANGO Council was held in August 1991 in Pago Pago, American Samoa. The Council was funded by a range of donors, including the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB), the Commonwealth Foundation, the Government of New Zealand, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

The meeting was attended by more than 60 NGO delegates from 22 Pacific countries. The idea of forming an NGO network to facilitate regional programs and action was discussed, and there was unanimous support for the formal establishment of PIANGO. A constitution was drafted, guidelines were set for its operation, and a Coordinating Committee was elected.

Since then, PIANGO has taken significant steps to increase its profile and establish itself as an effective support organisation to NGOs throughout the Pacific. Activities over the past years have come under the following program areas; Information and Communication, Capacity Building, Coalition and Alliance building, and Administration. In addition, PIANGO also hosted its 5th Council during October 2005.

PIANGO currently has six full-time staff who are accountable to an elected seven member Board. The office is located in Suva, Fiji. PIANGO currently has 17 national NGO umbrella bodies who are full members. Seven other countries have interim membership or observer status.

PIANGO exists to enable the Pacific extended family of NGOs to more effectively promote and advance the interest and well being of their people. More specifically, PIANGO is a network of Pacific NGOs, existing to facilitate communication; provide a common voice at regional and international forums; and assist NGOs to strengthen



and develop Pacific identities, unity, cultures and forms of social action, as well as to improve the well being of the communities they serve.

PIANGO's goals are to:

- Facilitate active networking among NGO's at all levels throughout the region. Promote and enable access to, sharing and dissemination of information, ideas, experience and resources (including human resources) among NGOs throughout the region.
- Enable NGOs to better understand, fulfil and develop their roles and functions, and strengthen their organisation and program capacities.
- Assist in identifying, monitoring and analysing the needs of people in the Pacific, and ways of increasing the role of the people of the Pacific in their own development, with emphasis on Pacific women and youth.
- Provide a means for a collective voice and action on issues of concern to NGOs and the people they serve
- Play an active role in promoting a regional Pacific identity and Pacific ways of thinking and responding.
- Cooperate with other networks and organisations within or beyond the region which have similar aims.

PIANGO is governed by the PIANGO Council which meets every three to four years and is responsible for establishing policy. PIANGO operations are managed by the PIANGO Executive Committee which meets every four to six months. The PIANGO Secretariat is based in Suva, Fiji.

### **Regional Members**

- Council of Pacific Education
- Fiji Disabled People International – Oceania
- Fiji Women's crisis centre
- Foundation of the People of the South Pacific
- Greenpeace
- PACFAW
- Pacific Resources Concern Centre
- Pacific Association of NGOs
- Pacific News Association
- Pacific OCEanic of Trade Union
- Pacific News Association
- Sth Pacific Oceanic of Trade Union
- World Council of Churches
- World Wide Fund for Nature

PIANGO's membership is made up of national bodies called National Liaison Units (NLU's). These are organisations or networks of NGOs which are broadly representative of NGOs in their country. With one NLU per country or territory, each NLU has one vote in the PIANGO Council. Where there is no NLU, interim

membership may be issued to an NGO group working to establish an NLU. Regional networks of NGOs can also be invited to take up associate status within PIANGO.

### **National Liaison Unit**

PIANGO currently has National Liaison Units (NLUs) and Interim members in 21 Pacific countries and non-self-governing territories.

Member contact details can be found on the PIANGO website at <http://www.piango.org>

<b>Country</b>	<b>Member</b>
Australia	Australia Council for International Development (ACFID)
Cook Islands	Cook Islands Association of NGOs (CIANGO)
Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)	FSM Alliance of NGOs (FANGO)
Fiji	Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS)
Hiti Tau	French Polynesia/Tahiti
Kiribati	Kiribati Association of NGOs (KANGO)
Nauru	Nauru Island Association of NGOs
New Caledonia/Kanaky	Unité Territoriale de Liaison de Nouvelle-Calédonie (UTLN) Kanaky
New Zealand /Aotearoa	Association of NGOs of Aotearoa (ANGOA)
Niue	Niue Association of NGOs (NIANGO)
Papua New Guinea	Melanesian NGO Centre for Leadership (MNCL)
Samoa	Samoa Umbrella of NGOs (SUNGO)
Solomon Islands	Development Services Exchange (DSE)
Tonga	Civil Society Forum of Tonga (CSFT)
Tuvalu	Tuvalu Association of NGOs (TANGO)
Vanuatu	Vanuatu Association of NGOs (VANGO)
West Papua	

### **Interim members**

Bougainville	Nikana Ma'atara
Guam	Sanctuary Inc.
Palau	Palau Community Action Agency (PCAA)
Wallis & Futuna	Association Culturelle de Vailala
East Timor	Civil Society Capacity Building Fund (CSCBF)

### **Observers**

American Samoa	
Hawaii	
Marshall Islands	Marshall Islands Council of NGOs (MICNGOs)

Board members were elected at 5th Council, Port Moresby, October 2005. The newly elected PIANGO Board members are:

- Chairperson: Adimaimalaga Tafunai of SUNGO
- Madeleine Ayawa of UTLN Kanaky
- Claire Baiteke is the Deputy Chairperson of KANGO
- Douglas Ngwele is the Chairperson of VANGO
- Drew Havea is the Chair of the Tonga CSO Forum
- Ahohiva Levi, a Board member of NIUANGO

PIANGO publishes a quarterly newsletter. Submissions are to be limited to 500 words and can include images.

The PIANGO Director indicated her interest and support to the OFM Project by offering to assist in the dissemination of information to its network. However, she cautioned that information to be disseminated must be in a form suitable for non-scientists audiences. She also recommended that vital information be translated in to vernacular.

## **Selection Criteria the Environment NGO**

The key objective of this consultancy was to provide a strategy with which to engage and establish links between the OFM Project and regional environmental non-governmental organisations (ENGO) by identifying a suitable ENGO to work with to increase stakeholder awareness.

In forming a working relationship with an appropriate ENGO, the principal goal is to improve the understanding of the transboundary oceanic fish resources and related features of the Western and Central Pacific Warm Pool Large Marine Ecosystem.

For the purposes of this exercise a range of methods were used to identify regional ENGOs and gather relevant information. These methods have included web-based searches, use of existing NGO networks known to the consultant, field visits, email communication, and follow-up teleconference calls.

Based on the information gathered, a desk review was completed to arrive at a “shortlist” of regional NGOs that fell within certain criteria. Three principle criteria were used to select the most suitable ENGO to be recommended to the OFM Project. These include:

- The commitment to engage – in this case, the regional ENGO must indicate a commitment to be part of the OFM project.
- Have an existing work programme that includes oceanics
- Budget – the ENGO must be able to produce a budget which would form part of a co-financing arrangement.

## **Recommendation for ENGO representation at the Regional Steering Committee.**

Of the five regional ENGOs, only the WWF SPPO was able to fulfill all three criteria.

In interviews with the WWF SPPO they indicated a willingness to establishing a working relationship with the OFM project. The WWF SPPO have a well coordinated, strategic initiative as part of their work programme that seeks to improve tuna fisheries management in the Western and Central Pacific.

The WWF SPPO's strategy focuses on three principal issues that will underpin the transition from unsustainable resource management to an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management. These are by:

1. Promoting fisheries management and governance that integrate an ecosystem-based approach with strict regulation, enforcement and compliance;
2. Directing international finance in the form of access agreements and development aid frameworks towards better more sustainable fishing practices; and
3. Harnessing the power of the markets to promote traceability of products to legal sources and to give preference to sustainable fisheries management.

This original plan outlines a pragmatic, prioritized and highly leveraged implementation strategy that will enable WWF SPPO and its partners to effectively improve fisheries management in the Western and Central Pacific, while fully heeding the complexity of working in an evolving political framework and dynamic market interests. The plan represents WWF SPPO's position on what will be needed to ensure the successful reform of fisheries management, prioritized around the major leverage points in the region – influencing the WCPFC on ecosystem-based management and regulation compliance and enforcement, directing international financing for sustainable fisheries development and harnessing the power of the markets. The strategies and activities outlined throughout complement and leverage work that is being done by WWF SPPO in specific countries, throughout the region and globally.

WWF SPPO's initiative is structured around the following four major features:

1. Influencing policy from the “centre” through expert-driven, coordinated input in WCPFC's policy frameworks;
2. Seizing opportunities within the region by locating specific expertise where it makes most sense, i.e. where the markets, fishing capacity and fisheries resources are;
3. Dedicated leadership, coordination and network communication by an initiative leader in the region; and
4. Well-resourced communications strategy and capacity to deliver the policy reforms and promote broad awareness for the initiative in the region and beyond.

## **Other Options**

During interviews with regional ENGOs it was suggested that the OFM project could also consider establishing or using a loose group of core regional NGO as the link to the wider NGO community. While the advantage of this could provide good coverage of the Pacific region as well as at the national level, limitations would be presented in the difficulty of sharing allocated project resources across all participating members of the ENGOs. It is however, However, it is recommended that such a core group be used to disseminate information rather than being the actual implementing partner.

On the basis of their willingness to be involved in the OFM Project, the compatibility of their work programme, strategies and initiatives and the Commission objectives the consultant recommends that WWF SPPO be engaged as the Regional ENGO to implement specified activities in component 3 of the OFM Project. As a result of this outcome WWF SPPO with the Committee's concurrence becomes the NGO representative at the annual session of the project Regional Steering Committee.

## **Scheduling and framework for national and regional workshops for ENGOs;**

Four workshops over the life of the project are identified as activities of Component 3 and sub-component 3.3 which require ENGO participation.

During discussions with WWF SPPO on co-financed activities, WWF SPPO have proposed that the most appropriate use of funds will be to have one main regional workshop and 3 consultative meetings over the course of the OFM Project. For participation at these meetings and workshop the relevant NGOs will also be identified by WWF SPPO. The workshop will serve to inform other relevant NGOs about the project, identify the level of interest and understanding of issues, highlight the expectations of the project and agree to a process for engagement to feed into the meetings of the Scientific and Technical Compliance Committees and the Tuna Commission.

Funding contingency will be reserved for relevant independent local NGOs not represented by regional counterparts (Please refer to Appendix 3).

Preliminary discussions with WWF SPPO have resulted in the drafting of a co-financing agreement that will be further negotiated with the Regional Steering Committee's concurrence of their nomination as a partner in specific activities of the Project. The draft co-financing agreement is appended at Appendix 4 and has yet to be concluded.

### ***Communication Strategy***

The OFM Project anticipates the development of information packages to raise awareness of the Commission issues in the co-financing arrangement with the selected ENGO. The consultant recommends that a communications strategy be developed for sub component 3.3 of the OFM project.

To establish an information dissemination process, thoughts must be given to how this part is implemented. In this first instance this will be based on a range of co-financed activities, emphasizing participation, and awareness raising and information exchange. Existing media networks used in each country such as post, email and internal/local internet e.g. PFNet, paid announcements (AM radio programs, service messages etc.) as well as wireless radio communication as well as communication by "word of mouth" is adequate. As the OFM Project proceeds, a more detailed community communications approach for each of the participating country will need to be defined.

The Communications Strategy proposed here attempts to address all major communications elements that will be a factor during the implementation of the project. This comprises three main elements: i) participation, ii) awareness raising and iii) information exchange in general at the regional and national levels. These three main elements operate across two broad but interconnected levels, targeting regional as well as national audiences.

- The first level of the Communications Strategy should target regional organisations with the objective of information exchange and raising

awareness of the project activities and achievements. Many elements and activities at the regional strategy will be similar to those employed at the national level.

- The second level will target the national audience including community's stakeholders. At this level, the Communications Strategy should also involve participation, awareness raising and information exchange. Particularly in respect of oceanic fisheries management, the output will be to target behavioral change within communities who will appreciate the gains made through the Project in improved oceanic fisheries management and who will have improved opportunities for their interests to be represented in national and regional consultative and decision-making processes, including the WCPF Commission, as well as in the Project.

To accommodate this combination of issues and audiences, the Communications Strategy will require carefully planned, multi-faceted, multi-media information and education campaigns at the regional and national levels with the aim of achieving the establishment of an interactive network of stakeholders at all levels.

## **Appendix 1 – Terms Of Reference**

The Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management (OFM) Project was officially approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Chief Executive Officer; Mr. Leonard Good on May 24 2005. The USD\$11m five year OFM Project is executed by the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) at which the Project Coordination Unit is based. The project co-executing agencies are the Pacific Community (SPC) and the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

The Project has three components, two technical components, which are specifically designed to address the two immediate objectives and the two root causes, as follows:

*Component 1. Scientific Assessment and Monitoring Enhancement*, aimed at the Knowledge and Information Objective; and

*Component 2: Law, Policy and Institutional Reform, Realignment and Strengthening*, aimed at the Governance Objective;

And a third component,

*Component 3. Coordination, Participation and Information Services*, designed to support and enhance the outcomes of the two technical components.

Component 3 addresses the overall project management and coordination, the provision of information about the Project and the Convention, the capture and transfer of lessons and best practices and participation by stakeholders. The process is designed to be inclusive, with stakeholder participation promoted nationally and regionally.

This component will promote non-governmental stakeholder in Project activities through the execution by regional environmental and industry (non government organisations) NGOs of a range of co-financed activities, emphasizing participation, awareness raising and information exchange.

The project recognises national, regional and global NGOs concerned with conservation of oceanic fish resources and protection of the marine environment: who will appreciate the gains made through the Project in improved oceanic fisheries management and who will have improved opportunities for their interests to be represented in national and regional consultative and decision-making processes, including the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries (WCPF) Commission, as well as in the Project.

### **Objectives**

To be able to promote non-governmental stakeholder and public awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and strengthen NGO participation in oceanic fisheries management, a regional environmental NGO will be enrolled in the implementation of the OFM Project.

The key objective of this consultancy will be to provide a strategy with which to engage and establish links between the OFM Project and regional environmental non-governmental organisations (ENGO). This will include the development of a co-financing arrangement between a Pacific ENGO and the OFM Project.

## **Scope of Consultancy**



The scope of the work to be undertaken will include:

A professional report that includes:

- The development of a strategy to engage ENGOs in project implementation to promote NGO stakeholder and public awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and strengthen NGO participation in oceanic fisheries management at national and regional levels;
- Established links with regional ENGOs (including contact details and point of contact);
- Provide advice on the scheduling and framework for national and regional workshops for ENGOs;
- Draft a co-financing arrangement with a Pacific ENGO; and
- Recommend ENGO representation at the Regional Steering Committee.

## Appendix 2: People Consulted

Organisation	People Consulted	Date
Pacific Islands Association of Non Governmental Organisations (PIANGO)	Cema Bolobola (Director)	9 June 2006
Greenpeace Pacific	Nilesh Gounder (Oceans Campaigner)	9 June 2006
World Wide Fund For Nature South Pacific Programme (WWF SPP)	Louise Heaps (Marine Coordinator) Seremiah Tuqiri (Oceans Policy Officer)	4-7 July 2006
Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI)	Hugh Govan (Manager – Coastal Programme)	8 June 2006
Conservation International	Sue Taei	Email – 19 June 2006

### Appendix 3:

#### Contact details and point of contacts with regional ENGOs

Organisation	Point of Contact (position)	email	Phone/Fax	Postal/street address
Pacific Islands Association of Non Governmental Organisations (PIANGO)	Cema Bolobola (Director)	<a href="mailto:piango@connect.com.fj">piango@connect.com.fj</a>	679-3302963 679-3317046	30 Ratu Sukuna Road, Suva, Fiji <i>Postal:</i> PO Box 17780, Suva, Fiji
Greenpeace Pacific	Nilesh Gounder (Oceans Campaigner)	<a href="mailto:greenpeace@connect.com.fj">greenpeace@connect.com.fj</a>	679-3312861 679-3312784	Level 1 Old Town Hall Victoria Parade, Suva, FIJI
World Wide Fund For Nature South Pacific Programme (WWF SPP)	Seremiah Tuqiri (Oceans Policy Officer)	<a href="mailto:stuqiri@wwfpacific.org.fj">stuqiri@wwfpacific.org.fj</a>	679-3315533 679-3315410	4 Ma'afu St Domain Suva FIJI
Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI)	Hugh Govan (Communities and Coastal Programme Manager)	<a href="mailto:Hugh.govan@fspi.org.fj">Hugh.govan@fspi.org.fj</a>	679-3312250 679-3313398	27 Gardiner Rd, Nasese, Suva, FIJI <i>Postal:</i> PO Box 18006, Suva, FIJI
Conservation International	Sue Taei (	<a href="mailto:s.taei@conservation.org">s.taei@conservation.org</a>	685-21593	SPREP, Private Mailbag, Apia, SAMOA
Pacific Concerns Resources Centre (PCRC)	Mere Tupou (Director)	<a href="mailto:tvere@pcrc.org.fj">tvere@pcrc.org.fj</a>	679-3304649 679-3304755	83 Amy Street, Suva, FIJI

## Appendix 4

### Draft - Co-financing arrangement between FFA (OFM Project) and WWF SPP

#### LETTER OF AGREEMENT

**Letter of Agreement between the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the World Wide Fund For Nature South Pacific Programme Office (WWF SPPO) for the Implementation of the United Nations Development Programme/Global Environmental Facility (UNDP/GEF) Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project).**

Whereas the FFA is the Executing Agency for the OFM Project;

And whereas WWF SPPO is a partner responsible for the implementation of certain activities in the order to achieve certain outputs and contribute to the achievement of certain outcomes under the OFM Project;

And whereas the FFA and WWF SPPO agree to collaborate in the Implementation of the OFM Project;

The Parties hereby agree that:

#### ARTICLE 1

##### General Duty

WWF SPPO will implement Component 3 which addresses the overall project management and coordination, the provision of information about the Project and the Convention, the capture and transfer of lessons and best practices and participation by stakeholders.

The Component will promote non-governmental stakeholder in Project activities through the execution by regional environmental and industry NGOs of a range of co-financed activities, emphasizing participation, awareness raising and information exchange.

**Component 3 Outcome:** Effective project management at the national and regional level; major governmental and non-governmental stakeholders participating in Project activities and consultative mechanisms at national and regional levels; information on the Project and the WCPF process contributing to increased awareness of oceanic fishery resource and ecosystem management; project evaluations reflecting successful and sustainable project objectives.

#### ARTICLE 2

##### Obligations of FFA

The FFA will:-

- i. Communicate regularly with UNDP and other partners and provide timely information to WWF SPPO on matters relating to the Project
- ii. Upon receipt of financial quarterly reports and requests for advance, review and provide a consolidated report and request for that quarter to UNDP by the 2 week of each quarter
- iii. Make payment to WWF SPPO of the necessary funds, in accordance with the approved advance, to be executed in the 4<sup>th</sup> week of each quarter and make every endeavour to ensure WWF SPPO is not placed in a position of deficit financing to support activities it is responsible for under the programme
- iv. Facilitate the participation of WWF SPPO in relevant activities in the Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising component
- v. Provide copies of the relevant UNDP formats and reporting requirements and
- vi. Consult with WWF SPPO on project revisions

### ARTICLE 3

#### Obligations of WWF SPPO

WWF SPPO shall undertake Project implementation in order to promote non-governmental stakeholder and public awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and strengthen NGO participation in oceanic fisheries management.

The intended outcome of the Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising Sub-Component is:

**Outcome 3.3.** Non-governmental stakeholder participation in national and regional oceanic fisheries management processes, including the Commission, enhanced; awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and the WCPF Convention improved. Specific forums developed for NGO participation and discussion process; promotion of awareness of national and regional development and economic priorities and how these relate to sustainable fisheries management.

The intended outputs and indicative activities of the Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising Sub-Component are:

#### **Output 3.3.1. ENGO participation and awareness raising in Convention-related processes.**

Activity 3.3.1.1. Conclude co-financing arrangement with a Pacific ENGO.

Activity 3.3.1.2. Support Pacific ENGO participation in the Commission.

Activity 3.3.1.3. Provide information on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific ENGOs.

Activity 3.3.1.4. Hold national and regional Workshops for ENGOs.

Activity 3.3.1.5. Produce information materials to raise public awareness on oceanic fisheries management issues.

Activity 3.3.1.6. Organise regional and national fora on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues for civil society participation.

WWF SPPO will also:

- a) Contribute to relevant activities in the Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising component
- b) Through its best endeavours, and in recognition that delays may lead to disruption of the planned schedule for disbursement of funds, provide financial quarterly reports and request for advance in an agreed format to the FFA by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month following the end of each quarter or shortly thereafter. Here activities have involved multiple funding sources, reports will describe such complementary or counterpart funding applied to activities related to this programme
- c) On request, provide support for the preparation of Quarterly Progress Reports (QPR) to the FFA
- d) Through its best endeavours, and in recognition that that delays may lead to disruption of the planned schedule for disbursement of funds, provide quarterly narrative reports on the progress to achieve the proposed outputs, in an agreed format, to the FFA by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month following the end of each quarter
- e) Participate in the work of the Project Steering Committee
- f) Ensure that OFM Project is appropriately acknowledge in any reports produced with the assistance of staff supported under the programme
- g) Coordinate with IUCN on those activities in which IUCN is involved in the Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising component
- h) Facilitate the participation of the FFA in relevant activities in the Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising component and
- i) Communicate regularly with the FFA on matters relating to the project and facilitate work of the Project Steering Committee.

#### ARTICLE 4

##### Exchange and Coordination of Information

The parties will:-

- a) Bring to each other's attention any significant matters related to the project if notification through the formal reporting process would not be sufficiently timely and to establish an on-going dialogue on Programme-related issues; and
- b) Ensure that the work of national personnel and consultants engaged under the project will be well coordinated;
- c) Co-operate, to the maximum extent possible, on the implementation of related International Waters Programme activities where there is scope for regional benefits.

#### ARTICLE 5

##### Budgetary Matters

The work programme and budget attached at **Annex A** represents the financial commitment for activities to be implemented under this project by WWF SPPO and the FFA. The budget for activities to be implemented by WWF SPPO may be revised

by mutual agreement and an exchange of letters. Any such letters will form part of this Letter of Agreement.

WWF SPPO will make its best effort to achieve incremental cost contribution and will report such estimated incremental costs to the FFA annually.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE PARTIES** hereby agree to sign this **LETTER OF AGREEMENT** dated this .....day of .....2006.

On behalf of the Forum Fisheries Agency	On behalf of the World Wide Fund For Nature South Pacific Programme Office
<hr/>	<hr/>
Mr. Feleti Teo Director Date:	Mr. Dale Withington Programme Director Date:
Witness:.....	Witness:.....
(Print name underneath signature)	(Print name underneath signature)

## Annex A

### GEF/FFA-OFP WWF Proposed Work Plan and Co-financing Arrangement - 2006-2010

Figures are shown both in Fiji Dollars (FJD) unless otherwise displayed

ACTIVITY	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4	YR 5	COMMENTS
1. Coordinate 1 Workshop and 3 ENGO Consultative meetings (includes travel, per diem, accommodation & room rental)	Workshop x 2 days  GEF: 15,000  WWF: XX,XXX [In-kind Contribution – i.e. staff salaries, etc – please estimate a cost for Seremia's time and any other WWF staff involved]	Consultative meeting x 1 day  GEF:15,000  WWF: XX,XXX [In-kind Contribution – i.e. staff salaries, etc – please estimate a cost for Seremia's time and any other WWF staff involved]	Consultative meeting x 1 day  GEF: 15,000  WWF: XX,XXX [In-kind Contribution – i.e. staff salaries, etc – please estimate a cost for Seremia's time and any other WWF staff involved]	Consultative meeting x 1 day  GEF: 15,000  WWF: XX,XXX [In-kind Contribution – i.e. staff salaries, etc – please estimate a cost for Seremia's time and any other WWF staff involved]	Workshop x 2 days  GEF: 15,000  WWF: XX,XXX [In-kind Contribution – i.e. staff salaries, etc – please estimate a cost for Seremia's time and any other WWF staff involved]	4 workshops were identified in Component 3. It is suggested however that there be 1 main regional workshop and 3 consultative meetings. Relevant NGOs will also be identified. The workshop will be a leveller to inform other relevant NGOs about the project, identify the level of interest and understanding of issues, highlight the expectations of the project and agree to a process for engagement to feed into the Scientific and Technical Compliance committees and the Tuna Commission. Funding contingency will be reserved for relevant independent local NGOs not represented by regional counterparts.
<b>Total</b>	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	XX,XXX



<p>2. Coordination of ENGO engagement in WCPFC issues and process. (Salary, operational costs, travel &amp; subsistence costs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and coordinate E-mail NGO Forum</li> <li>• Attendance at annual WCPFC meetings</li> <li>• Inform ENGOS of Commission &amp; related working group issues and outcomes</li> <li>• Coordinate joint advocacy and promote joint positions at the Scientific &amp; Technical Committees &amp; Commission meetings, as appropriate</li> <li>• Coordinate communications and awareness activities relating to WCPFC issues by ENGOS, as appropriate</li> <li>• Attendance at key WCPFC meetings</li> </ul>	<p>GEF :40,000</p> <p>WWF : 10,000</p>	<p>GEF :40,000</p> <p>WWF :11,000</p>	<p>GEF :40,000</p> <p>WWF :12,000</p>	<p>GEF :40,000</p> <p>WWF :13,000</p>	<p>GEF :40,000</p> <p>WWF :14,000</p>	<p>This activity will be carried out through the 5 years</p>
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<b>Total</b>	50,000	51,000	52,000	53,000	54,000	<b>260,000</b>
3. Awareness raising : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publication of awareness materials</li> <li>• Awareness events</li> <li>• Consultancy fees for production of key policy and awareness papers</li> </ul>	GEF : 16,000 WWF : 3,000	GEF : 16,500 WWF :3,000	GEF :16,500 WWF :3,000	GEF : 16,500 WWF 3,000	GEF : 16,500 WWF :3,000	Awareness materials in glossies (similar to an idiot's guide to OFP issues for public awareness). This could include the following: by-catch [turtles /cetaceans /seabirds /sharks]; high seas bottom trawling; IUU; EAFM; capacity & allocation; access agreements; markets; WCPFC
<b>Total</b>	19,000	19,500	19,500	19,500	19,500	<b>82,000</b>
<b>GEF Contribution</b>	74,000	71,500	71,500	71,500	71,500	<b>360,000</b>
<b>WWF Contribution</b>	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	XX,XXX	<b>XXX,XXX</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>						

Exchange rate: 0.559 (USD:1FJD)

## ATTACHMENT A

### UNDP GEF ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT (APR)/PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR) 2006

(1 October 2005 to 30 June 2006)<sup>1</sup>

#### I. Basic Project Data

<b>Official Title:</b>	<b>PACIFIC ISLANDS OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT</b>
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<b>Country/ies:</b>	Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.	<b>PIMS Number</b>	2992
		<b>Atlas Project Number</b>	[UNDP]

<b>Focal Area</b>	International Waters	<b>Project Type (FSP/MSP)</b>	Full-sized project
<b>Strategic Priority</b>	IW1 - Catalyse financial resource mobilisation for implementation of reforms and stress reduction measures agreed through TDA-SAP or equivalent processes for particular transboundary systems; IW2 - Expand global coverage of foundational capacity building addressing the two key programme gaps and support for targeted learning, specifically the fisheries programme gap.	<b>Operational Programme</b>	OP 9, Integrated Land and Water Multiple Focal Area, SIDS Component.

<b>Date of Entry into Work Programme</b>	GEF Council endorsement – <del>XXX</del> March 2005 GEF CEO endorsement – 24 May 2005	<b>Planned Project Duration</b>	Five years
<b>ProDoc Signature Date</b>	(See Attachment A)	<b>Original Planned Closing Date</b>	2010
<b>Date of First Disbursement</b>	28 October 2005 (USD628,676)	<b>Revised Planned Closing Date</b>	None currently proposed
<b>Is this the Terminal APR/PIR?</b>	No	<b>Date Project Operationally Closed</b> (if applicable)	While project activities should be completed by 2010 provisions have been made

<sup>1</sup> **Reporting Period:** This 'annual' report does not cover a full calendar year of project activity but a nine month period between 1 October 2005 to 30 June 2005, taking in account project commencement in the fourth quarter of 2005.

			for a post evaluation to verify IW indicator assessments in 2012
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<b>Date Mid Term Evaluation carried out</b> (if applicable)	Not Applicable	<b>Date Final Evaluation carried out</b> (if applicable)	Not applicable
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<b>Dates of visits to project by UNDP country office</b>	March 2005 (I Toorawa - UNDP HIR) June 2005 (Toorawa HIR, De Graff Suva)	<b>Date of last TPR Meeting</b>	14 October 2005
<b>Date of last visit to project by UNDP-GEF RTA</b>	RSC - 14 Oct 2005		

**Project Contacts:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Signature</b>
National Project Manager / Coordinator	N.Barbara HANCHARD	<a href="mailto:barbara.hanchard@ffa.int">barbara.hanchard@ffa.int</a>	22 September 2006	
Government GEF OFP <sup>2</sup> (optional)				
UNDP Country Office Programme Manager	Asenaca RAVUVU	<a href="mailto:asenaca.ravuvu@undp.org">asenaca.ravuvu@undp.org</a>		
UNDP Regional Technical Advisor	Randall PURCELL	<a href="mailto:randall.purcell@undp.org">randall.purcell@undp.org</a>		

## Project Summary (as in PIMS and ProDoc)

### Summary

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have special conditions and needs that were identified for international attention in the **Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States** and in the **World Summit for Sustainable Development's Johannesburg Plan of Implementation**. Throughout these instruments, the importance of coastal and marine resources and the coastal and marine environment to sustainable development of SIDS is emphasised, with the Plan of Implementation specifically calling for support for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention (the WCPF Convention).

The Global Environmental Facility (GEF) identifies sustainable management of regional fish stocks as one of the major environmental issues SIDS have in common and as a target for activities under the SIDS component of OP 9, the Integrated Land and Water Multiple Focal Area Operational Programme.

In addition, the GEF promotes the adoption of an ecosystem-based approach to addressing environmental problems in Large Marine Ecosystems is through activities under the Large Marine Ecosystem Component of OP 8, the Waterbody-Based Operational Program.

Consistent with this framework, GEF financing for the International Waters (IW) South Pacific Strategic Action Programme (SAP) Project from 2000 supported the implementation of an IW Pacific Islands SAP, including a pilot phase of support for the Oceanic Fisheries Management (OFM) Component, which underpinned successful efforts to conclude and bring into force the WCPF Convention. Now, GEF assistance is sought for a new Pacific Islands OFM Project to support Pacific SIDS efforts as they participate in the setting up and initial period of operation of the new Commission that is at the centre of the WCPF Convention, and as they reform, realign, restructure and strengthen their national fisheries laws, policies, institutions and programmes to take up the new opportunities which the WCPF Convention creates and discharge the new responsibilities which the Convention requires.

The goals of the Project combine the interests of the global community in the conservation of a marine ecosystem covering a huge area of the surface of the globe, with the interests of some of the world's smallest nations in the responsible and sustainable management of resources that are crucial for their sustainable development.

The **global environmental goal** of the Project is to achieve global environmental benefits by enhanced conservation and management of transboundary oceanic fishery resources in the Pacific Islands region and the protection of the biodiversity of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool Large Marine Ecosystem.

The **broad development goal** of the Project is to assist the Pacific Island States to improve the contribution to their sustainable development from improved management of transboundary oceanic fishery resources and from the conservation of oceanic marine biodiversity generally.

The IW Pacific Islands SAP identified the ultimate root cause underlying the concerns about, and threats to, International Waters in the region as deficiencies in management and grouped the deficiencies into two linked subsets – lack of understanding and weaknesses in governance. In response, the Project will have two major technical components.

Component 1, the Scientific Assessment and Monitoring Enhancement Component, is aimed at providing improved scientific information and knowledge on the oceanic transboundary fish stocks and related ecosystem aspects of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool Large Marine Ecosystem (WTP LME) and at strengthening the national capacities of Pacific SIDS in these areas. This work will include a particular focus on the ecology of seamounts in relation to pelagic fisheries and the fishing impacts upon them.

Component 2, the Law, Policy and Institutional Reform, Realignment and Strengthening Component, is aimed at assisting Pacific Island States as they participate in the earliest stages of the work of the new WCPF Commission and at the same time reform, realign and strengthen their national laws, policies, institutions and programmes relating to management of transboundary oceanic fisheries and protection of marine biodiversity.

Component 3, the Coordination, Participation and Information Services Component, is aimed at effective project management, complemented by mechanisms to increase participation and raise awareness of the conservation and management of oceanic resources and the oceanic environment.

The design of the Project has involved a substantial consultative process, which has been warmly supported throughout the region. Reflecting outcomes of this process, the Project seeks to apply a regional approach in a way that recognises national needs; to strike a balance between technical and capacity-building outputs by twinning technical and capacity building activities in every area; and to open participation in all project activities to governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

The structure for implementation and execution of the Project builds on a record of successful collaboration between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), regional organisations and Pacific SIDS in past activities in oceanic environmental management and conservation, strengthened by planned new partnerships with The World Conservation Union (IUCN), a regional environmental non-governmental organisation (ENGO) and a regional industry non-governmental organisation (INGO).

## II. Progress towards achieving project objectives

Project Objective <sup>3</sup> and Outcomes	Description of Indicator (quantitative indicator)	Baseline Level (quantitative numerical value)	Target Level (quantitative indicator)	Level at 30 June 2006 (quantitative indicator)
<b>Information and Knowledge Objective</b> To improve understanding of the transboundary oceanic fish resources and related features of the Western and Central Pacific Warm Pool Large Marine Ecosystem.	Improved information on the biology and ecology of target fish stocks, including their exploitation characteristics and fishery impacts, the fishery impacts on non-target species and on the pelagic ecosystem as a whole. Substantially improved understanding of Seamount ecosystems, especially their relation to migratory pelagic fisheries.	Reports from the scientific structure of the Commission show improved information and assessment methods are providing a credible basis for the formulation and assessment of conservation and management measures, including measures to address broader ecosystem effects. Commission reports and project documentation show that the information is being used in the Commission; is reaching a broad range of stakeholders; and is contributing to improved awareness and understanding of issues associated with transboundary oceanic fisheries conservation and management.	Commission Members can establish, resource and manage effective data and research programmes. Project mechanisms contribute effectively to raising awareness and improving understanding within PacSIDS about oceanic fisheries management.	<p>Considerable progress has been achieved towards the Information and Knowledge objective of the project since the start of the project in October 2005. Inaugural meetings of the Science (8 – 9 August, 2005), the Technical and Compliance (5 – 9 December 2005) Committees for the WCPF Commission convened, outputs of which feed into important conservation and management measures decision making at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the Commission held at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, 12 – 16 December 2005.</p> <p>Work continues to contribute towards improving the quality, compatibility and availability of scientific information upon which to make those decisions. Some delays are being experienced in terms of some parts of the project that would investigate the ecology of seamounts.</p> <p>Broad stakeholder participant at the Commission level (both Environment NGOs and the regional tuna association have observer status at the Commission) and in the implementation of the project in terms of awareness raising is well progressed, although the provision of publications material needs to be progressed. Much effort has been</p>

<sup>3</sup> **Objective:** (equivalent to “Immediate Objective”). The overall result that the project itself will achieve, independent of other interventions. What the project is accountable for delivering. While the template instructs that there should be only one objective per project, the PI OFM Project in fact has **two principal Objectives**.

Project Objective <sup>3</sup> and Outcomes	Description of Indicator (quantitative indicator)	Baseline Level (quantitative numerical value)	Target Level (quantitative indicator)	Level at 30 June 2006 (quantitative indicator)
				invested assisting Pacific SIDS improve their national capacities in oceanic fishery monitoring and assessment.
<b>Governance Objective</b> To create new regional institutional arrangements, and reform, realign and strengthen national arrangements for conservation and management of transboundary oceanic fishery resources	The WCPF Commission established and functioning. PacSIDS amend their domestic laws and policies and strengthen their national fisheries institutions and programmes, especially in the areas of monitoring and compliance, to implement the WCPF Convention and apply the principles of responsible and sustainable fisheries management more generally.	Commission reports document the development of the Commission, its Secretariat and its compliance and science structures. Project documentation, including an independent review, shows measurable progress in PacSIDS national capacities in oceanic fisheries management.	The WCPF Convention is ratified by sufficient states to make the Commission effective. PacSIDS are able to secure financing and sufficient political commitment to make necessary legal, institutional and policy changes.	<p>The WCPF Convention entered into force on 19 June 2004. This was largely due to the expeditious ratification of the Convention by Pacific SIDS. The WCPF Commission's inaugural session and 2<sup>nd</sup> regular of the Commission convened in December 2005.</p> <p>The Technical and Compliance Committee and the Science Committee of the Commission are operationally having agreed to their rules of procedures</p> <p>The progress by Pacific SIDS to realign their legislation and policies with their obligations to the WCFP Commission will take place at a steady pace over the life of the project. The complexity and burden that this places on small administrations and countries with small resource bases can not be marginalised. In the first nine months of the project significant progress has been made towards shifting policy approaches from emphasizing fisheries development by increasing catches to promoting sustainable fisheries through conservation and management.</p> <p>An independent review of the projects progress is expected to be conducted in 2007.</p>

<b>Project Objective<sup>3</sup> and Outcomes</b>	<b>Description of Indicator</b> (quantitative indicator)	<b>Baseline Level</b> (quantitative numerical value)	<b>Target Level</b> (quantitative indicator)	<b>Level at 30 June 2006</b> (quantitative indicator)
<p><b>COMPONENT ONE</b></p> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> Improved quality, compatibility and availability of scientific information and knowledge on the oceanic transboundary fish stocks and related ecosystem aspects of the WTP warm pool LME, with a particular focus on the ecology of seamounts in relation to pelagic fisheries, and the fishing impacts upon them. This information being used by the Commission and PacSIDS to assess measures for the conservation and management of transboundary oceanic fishery resources and protection of the WTP LME. National capacities in oceanic fishery monitoring and assessment strengthened, with PacSIDS meeting their national and Commission-related responsibilities in these areas.</p>	<p>Substantial, relevant and reliable information collected and shared between stakeholders with respect to transboundary oceanic fish stocks and related ecosystem aspects, (particularly for seamounts). The Commission using this information as the basis for its discussions and policy decisions on WCPF management. National technical capacity and knowledge greatly improved</p>	<p>Commission Reports, especially from the Scientific Committee show that the Commission has access to, and is using, on-going reliable statistics and scientific advice/evidence by end of project to formulate and amend policy on oceanic fisheries management within the WCPF system boundary. These reports show particular progress in relevant ecosystem analysis, including results of the seamount-related work undertaken in the Project. The reports also show that the results of the ecosystem analysis are being used to begin to operationalise an ecosystem approach to conservation and management. PacSIDS national scientific capacities improved to level whereby each national lead agency can supply relevant and effective data to SPC and the Commission, and can interpret and apply nationally results of regional data analyses and scientific assessments.</p>	<p>Commission membership prepared to accept scientific findings and statistical evidence in formulating what may be difficult policy decisions on management of the fisheries, and difficult management proposals for the ecosystems. Sufficient sustainability available or identified through project to support national capacity improvements in technical and scientific functions as well as to support continued regional data coordination and analyses.</p>	<p>Inaugural meetings of the Science and the Technical and Compliance Committees for the WCPF Commission produced outputs of which feed into important conservation and management measures decision making at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the Commission in December 2005. These included estimates of both sustainable catch and effort levels for bigeye, yellowfin and South Pacific albacore, biomass projections for bigeye and yellowfin tuna relative to 2003 catch and effort levels, including the effects on stocks of time/area closures, investigation of measures to mitigate the catch of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin including controls on setting on floating objects; and estimates of the mortality of non-target species with an initial focus on seabirds, turtles and sharks, as well as data and other issues requiring consultation between the Scientific Committee and the Technical and Compliance Committee (Resolutions and Conservation and Management Measures can be found at <a href="http://www.wcpfc.org/">http://www.wcpfc.org/</a>).</p> <p>To date five Resolutions and six Conservation and management measures have been adopted and entered into force since the establishment of the Commission on December 2005.</p> <p>A Planning workshop report (available at <a href="http://www.ffa.int/gef/">http://www.ffa.int/gef/</a>) shows the in-roads into making arrangements for seamount related work to be undertaken as part of the ecosystems based analysis.</p>



Project Objective <sup>3</sup> and Outcomes	Description of Indicator (quantitative indicator)	Baseline Level (quantitative numerical value)	Target Level (quantitative indicator)	Level at 30 June 2006 (quantitative indicator)
				While support for national scientific capacities to improve data collection and its interpretation and assessment is ongoing, concentrated efforts to augment this are being planned and specific workshops will take place in the second half of 2006.
<b>COMPONENT TWO OUTCOME:</b> The WCPF Commission established and beginning to function effectively. Pacific Island nations playing a full role in the functioning and management of the Commission, and in the related management of the fisheries and the globally-important LME. National laws, policies, institutions and programmes relating to management of transboundary oceanic fisheries reformed, realigned and strengthened to implement the WCPF Convention and other applicable global and regional instruments. National capacities in oceanic fisheries law, fisheries management and compliance strengthened	WCPF Commission operating with a formally adopted framework of rules and regulations. Commission Secretariat has been established and the core science and compliance programmes and Committee structures are operational. PacSIDS are participating effectively in provision of information and in decision-making and policy adoption process for WCPF fisheries management. National institutions and supportive laws and policies have been reformed effectively to support national roles in Commission and to meet national commitments both to WCPF Convention, and to other relevant MEAs, and global treaties and conventions.	Reports of the Commission and its Committees show that within 30 months of the Project inception the Commission is functioning with a full programme of work in compliance and science. Commission reports show PacSIDS are effectively participating in Commission decision-making processes. Independent assessments show that national capacities significantly improved to meet commitments to Convention and to undertake MCS responsibilities.	Commission remains effective throughout project lifetime and beyond. Countries continue to meet financial commitments to Commission to ensure its sustainability. Enormous Convention area and project system boundary can be effectively monitored to ensure compliance. Programmes of information collection and data analyses can be sustained throughout and beyond project lifetime. PacSIDS able to participate in the Commission effectively.	<p>Within the scope of this report it is premature to comment on the effectiveness and sustainability of the WCPF Commission. However, the WCPF Commission Secretariat has been established and appointments have been made for the Executive Director and other professional staff posts and science and compliance structures and programmes are well progressed and have begun to function in the manner for which they have been designed. Pacific SIDS have participated fully in all meetings of the Commission and significant efforts have been invested in providing them with coordinating briefs on issues of common position.</p> <p>A steady progression of effort over the next 12 to 24 months will support Pacific SIDS to reform national laws, policies and institutions to align themselves with their Commission obligations and other global commitments to conservation and management, particularly in terms of transboundary oceanic fisheries management and globally important LMEs.</p>

<b>Project Objective<sup>3</sup> and Outcomes</b>	<b>Description of Indicator</b> (quantitative indicator)	<b>Baseline Level</b> (quantitative numerical value)	<b>Target Level</b> (quantitative indicator)	<b>Level at 30 June 2006</b> (quantitative indicator)
<p><b>COMPONENT THREE</b>  <b>OUTCOME:</b> Effective project management at the national and regional level. Major governmental and non-governmental stakeholders participating in project activities and consultative mechanisms at national and regional levels. Information on the project and the WCPF process contributing to increased awareness of oceanic fishery resource and ecosystem management. Project evaluations reflecting successful and sustainable project objectives.</p>	<p>Project achieving its objectives. Project implementation and management is fully participatory with appropriate involvement of stakeholders at all levels. Information access is transparent and simple. Information available is relevant and significant. Public awareness raising at national and regional policy level is effective. High project evaluation ratings.</p>	<p>Project Implementation Reviews and Project Performance Evaluations provide justification that project is successfully achieving its objectives and deliverables. These are supported by findings of the Independent Evaluations (Mid and Terminal). Stakeholders confirm transparent participation in the project, and improvements in knowledge and awareness across all levels and sectors.</p>	<p>National commitment needs to be high to ensure fully participatory involvement in project over lifetime. Stakeholder commitment also needs to be high to ensure continued contributions, sometimes at own cost. Policy-makers are receptive to awareness-raising information and presentations.</p>	<p>The Project Coordination Unit was officially established in December 2005 with the appointment of the Project Coordinator and other staff soon after. Prior to this the Forum Fisheries Agency the principal Executing Agency preformed coordinating functions to maintain the momentum and prevent disruption to proceedings.</p> <p>Broad stakeholder participation and national level commitments to project involvement are aggressively promoted by the PCU. A co-financing agreement has been developed with a major regional environmental NGO which anticipates the enhancement of awareness-raising information through workshops with targeted audiences.</p> <p>The first six months of 2006 have required a significant amount of effort to settle in the project and establish routine between the Implementing Agency and the project Executing Agency. A more concentrated effort on an effective information strategy and general awareness raising of oceanic resource management and ecosystems based management will commence in earnest in the second half of 2006.</p> <p>The mid-term review of the project will take place in late 2007, early 2008 and the terminal review at the close of 2010.</p>

### Rating of Project Progress towards Meeting Objective

	2005 Rating	2006 Rating	Comments
National Project Manager/Coordinator	S	S	The establishment of a legally binding fisheries management arrangement in the WCPO is a major achievement which can only contribute positively towards global environmental benefits for transboundary oceanic fisheries, including sustainable conservation and management measures across a significant area of the global. The ability for Pacific SIDS to participate effectively in this arrangement remains challenging. Their capacity to absorb commitments to the growing complexity of international fisheries and conservation agreements will be assisted greatly by the objectives of this project but sustainability of that capacity becomes an issue for analysis within the review processes of this project, as will the status of resources and their overall management through the Commission process.
Government GEF OFP (optional)			UNDP Suva - Instruction sheet advises that: In the case of a project involving more than 1 country, it is suggested that for simplicity only the OFP (optional) and Country Office Programme Manager from the lead country sign-off. If representatives from more than 1 country sign off, please add additional rows as necessary, clearly indicating the country name for each signature.
UNDP Country Office			
UNDP Regional Technical Advisor			

### Action Plan to Address Marginally Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory or Highly Unsatisfactory Rating

Where a project has received a rating of MU, U or HU describe the actions to be taken to address this:

Action to be Taken	By Whom?	By When?

### III. Progress in Project implementation

List the 4 **key** outputs delivered so far for each project Outcome:

Project Outcomes	Key Outputs
<b>Outcome 1: Scientific Assessment and Monitoring Enhancement:</b>	
<p><b>1.1 Fishery Monitoring, Coordination and Enhancement</b>  Integrated and economically sustainable national monitoring programmes in place including catch and effort, observer, port sampling and landing data; Pacific SIDS providing data to the Commission in the form required; national capacities to process and analyse data for national monitoring needs enhanced; improved information on fishing in national waters and by national fleets being used for national policy making and to inform national positions at the Commission. Enhanced quality and accessibility of fisheries information and data leading to more effective development and improvement of the Commission's policy and decision-making process.</p>	<p><b>A template for national integrated monitoring programmes and provision of data to the Commission</b>  The SOC OFP is developing a standard software package named TUFMAN (Tuna Fishery Data Management System), which provides countries with a general purpose tuna fishery data management capability. Fourteen new reports were added to the TUFMAN database during this reporting period, including a report used to reconcile logsheets with telex reports. Data entry modifications were made to screens for licensing, logsheets, port sampling, telex reports and reference tables. The system was installed in Tuvalu for the first time and updates of the system were sent to the Cook Islands, Palau and the Marshall Islands. TUFMAN is currently installed and functional in Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Tonga and Tuvalu. PNG has an independently developed system in place. TUFMAN will be installed and training provided in the remaining beneficiary countries during the course of the project.</p> <p>Several Commission data reports have now been incorporated into TUFMAN. Further development of the Commission reporting module is envisaged during the next year.</p> <p><b>National monitoring systems based on the regional template for integrated monitoring, customised to meet national needs</b>  All countries were given an upgraded version of the Catch and Effort Query System (CES) in March 2006, and further upgrades were provided to FFA, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu in April/May 2006.</p> <p>Dedicated travel was made to: Palau, where the TUFMAN database was installed and the port sampling database upgraded, and the Marshall Islands, where the TUFMAN database was installed. Appropriate training was given to users in all countries.</p> <p>National observer programmes are now established in 10 of the 15 FFA member countries (Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, FSM, Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Tonga and Samoa), while three other countries aspire to running observer programmes in the future (Vanuatu, Niue and Tokelau).</p> <p>There has been significant focus during this reporting period on putting in place the regional observer debriefing policy. This requires debriefers to be identified, a training course to be organised and the debriefing training format to be set up.</p> <p>A complete review of the port sampling programme in the port of Pago Pago, American Samoa was undertaken in collaboration with staff from NMFS, FFA and SPC during May.</p> <p>Time was spent substantially revising the monitoring support for both Tonga and Samoa. The new MOUs now include observer components and were put in place utilizing OFMP co-funding resources.</p> <p>Data collection from 25 port sampling sites is also supported by SPC utilizing OFMP and co-funding resources. All data received during the period were entered, checked and immediate feedback given to the port sampler supervisors.</p> <p>The centrepiece of this activity is the establishment of National Tuna Data Coordinators (NTDCs) in beneficiary countries. The status of</p>

	<p>NTDCs in each country and a summary of support being provided by the project is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cook Islands – NTDC is Pamela Maru. Position funded by Cook Is. Government. In-country support under review, likely in the area of port sampling and observer programme part-funding.</li> <li>• FSM – NTDC is Steven Retalmai. Position funded by FSM Government. In-country support under review.</li> <li>• Fiji – NTDC is Jone Amoe. Position funded by Fiji Government. In-country support under review, likely in the area of IT support.</li> <li>• Kiribati – NTDC is Tamaurea Tebao. Position funded by Kiribati Government. In-country support under review.</li> <li>• Marshall Islands – NTDC is Berry Muller. Position funded by Marshall Is. Government. OFMP provides 50% salary support for Observer/Port Sampling Program Coordinator.</li> <li>• Nauru – NTDC is Karlick ?. Position funded by Nauru Government. OFMP providing IT support.</li> <li>• Niue – NTDC is Vanessa Marsh. Position funded by Niue Government. In-country support under review.</li> <li>• Palau – NTDC is Kathleen Sissior. Position funded by Palau Government. OFMP funding position of Assistant NTDC and IT support (scanner).</li> <li>• PNG – NTDC is Donna ?. Position funded by PNG Government. Well developed fishery monitoring programme requiring advisory and training support only.</li> <li>• Samoa – NTDC is Ueta Fa’asili. Position funded by Samoa Government. In-country support under review. Possible support for Assistant NTDC position.</li> <li>• Solomon Islands – NTDC is under recruitment. Position funded by OFMP.</li> <li>• Tokelau – NTDC is ? In-country support under review. Support for NTDC position requested.</li> <li>• Tonga – NTDC is Tala’ofa Lotohead. Position funded by Tonga Government. POFM providing IT support (computer hardware, internet connection).</li> <li>• Tuvalu – NTDC is Falasese Tupau. Position funded by Tuvalu Government. In-country support under review. IT support and/or artisanal tuna data collection likely areas of support.</li> <li>• Vanuatu – NTDC is Tony Taleo. Position funded by OFMP.</li> </ul> <p><b>A regional monitoring coordination capacity, to develop regional standards such as data formats, and to provide a clearing house for information on fishery monitoring</b></p> <p>During this reporting period 466 observer workbooks, 695 observer waterproof pads and 150 waterproof port sampling pads were distributed to five countries with active sampling programmes.</p> <p>The debriefing forms were printed and made available to relevant countries. Printed copies of the longline logbook were received from the overseas printer and communication was established with a number of fishing captains who are willing to trial the logbook.</p> <p>Work continued on documenting all form change requests. The 7<sup>th</sup> Data Collection Committee (DCC) meeting has been re-scheduled for 2007, so the development of data formats will take a lower priority during 2006.</p> <p>The first regional statistics workshop is planned to be held in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2006. Resource material production continues to focus on observer needs with the Longline Observer Guide being brought through the layout stage.</p> <p>Work has started on the next edition of the newsletter – ForkLength. The intention is to make this available for publication during the 4th quarter of 2006.</p>
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	<p><b>Training of national monitoring staff, particularly monitoring coordinators, observers and port samplers</b> A full basic observer training course was conducted in Marshall Islands and Palau, with a refresher longline training course given in Tonga, while the observer component of the Pacific Islands Fisheries Officers course was presented in Nelson, New Zealand. A dedicated debriefing trip was also undertaken to Tonga.</p> <p>The OFP Observer and Port Sampler Trainer also attended the NMFS observer training course that was held in Hawaii. This activity utilised co-funding.</p> <p>There were attachments to the SPC/OFP during the reporting period - from Cook Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, PNG and Marshall Islands. Attachment training included (i) an overview of tuna fishery data collection, (ii) familiarisation with OFP-developed database query tools (e.g. CES) and TUFMAN, and (iii) having the trainees sufficiently advance their National Fisheries Report in preparation for the 2nd meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee meeting (August 2006), using the skills obtained during the training.</p>
<p><b>1.2 Stock Assessment</b> Detailed information available on the status of national tuna fisheries, including the implications of regional stock assessments and the impacts of local fisheries and oceanographic variability on local stocks and fishing performance; strengthened national capacities to use and interpret regional stock assessments, fisheries data and oceanographic information at the national level, to participate in Commission scientific work, and to understand the implications of Commission stock assessments.</p>	<p><b>National oceanic fisheries status reports prepared collaboratively with national scientific staff</b> A significant amount of co-funding contributes to this output. During the reporting period, National Tuna Fishery Status Reports for PNG, French Polynesia (OFP funded activity), and Solomon Islands were finalised, while work on NTFSRs for Cook Islands, FSM, Vanuatu and New Caledonia (OFP-funded activity) was progressed.</p> <p>No work in-country Stakeholder Workshops for delivery of National Status Reports were conducted during this period although a timetable for provision of information was agreed with FFA, and significant contributions to briefs planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006.</p> <p><b>Advice to Pacific SIDS on scientific issues in the work of the Commission</b> No contributions to briefs on scientific issues for Pacific SIDS for meetings of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and Science Working Groups were conducted during this period although a timetable for provision of information was agreed with FFA, and significant contributions to briefs planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006.</p> <p><b>Training of national technical and scientific staff to understand regional stock assessment methods, and interpret and apply the results; and to use oceanographic data</b> The first regional stock assessment workshop was successfully held at SPC headquarters in Noumea. Extensive work on the development of workshop materials and other preparatory activities took place during the reporting period with positive output.</p> <p>No attachments or training of scientific counterparts in-country took place this reporting period, although planning for attachments is in progress.</p>
	<p><b>Observer sampling and analysis of commercial fishery catches to determine trophic relationships of pelagic species in the WTP LME</b> 24 samples of stomachs, muscle and liver have also been collected during a longline observer trip.</p> <p>A complete list of the samples stored at SPC has been compiled. This information has been incorporated into the detailed list of the samples already analysed; The sampling strategy and work-plan report had to be postponed but will be finalized and sent to PICT observer programmes in July; it will also be presented as an Information Paper in the Ecosystems and Bycatch Specialist Working Group of the second Scientific Committee of the WCPFC in August 2006. Biological sampling should start in the 3rd quarter 2006. Some additional storage space has been added to the SPC biological laboratory to accommodate the increasing number of prey items preserved for reference.</p> <p>Two research assistants were contracted utilizing co-funding sources to continue lab-based analysis of stomach samples collected under the previous OFM project and new samples collected during the current project. This work will continue through 2006 and beyond,</p>

	<p>subject to the availability of funding. During the reporting period, the contents of 535 stomachs (from multiple observer trips) were examined and about 80% of the information has been entered into the database. Tissue samples have been dehydrated and sent to the University of Hawaii for isotopic analysis.</p> <p>The prey item reference collection was augmented and now contains more than 600 specimens from about 110 families.</p> <p>With specimens collected from the New Caledonia longline fleet, the feasibility of conducting a growth study on albacore using otolith seasonal structures was assessed. A lab assistant will be contracted for a 8 month period (using co-funded sources) to collect and analyse the otoliths required for the study</p> <p>Isotopes of 350 samples have been analysed and entered into the database.</p> <p><i>IUCN</i></p> <p>In mid-June, IUCN was informed that the research vessel to be provided by DeepOcean Quest (DOQ) was experiencing delays in the re-fit. Given continued delays, and uncertainty of vessel preparedness, it became clear that IUCN could longer count on DOQ to complete their outputs in the OFM project. DOQ indicated that remained keen to do this expedition but were unable to provide assurance of i) when the vessel would be ready to sail; and ii) when she would be available in the central Pacific.</p> <p>Hurricane Katrina and refit and repair contracting problems continued to hinder progress. DQO are attempting to address their problems by looking for a new shipyard and contractor to continue work within the next two months and had expected to test the vessel and submersibles in the Sea of Cortez and eastern tropical Pacific (Cocos-Galapagos corridor) in 2007. However, DOQ refuse to make any commitments until the vessel has been tested and is functioning, meaning that future cruise plans (e.g. IUCN plans for the Pacific) would not be confirmed before early 2007 at the earliest. This would mean the actual expedition would not occur before mid- to late-2008. IUCN continues to engage DOQ to press them to fulfill their original commitment and intends to obtain in a written commitment in early 2007 and proceed with the planned expedition but given the incertainty have decided it would be prudent to develop alternative options. This will require a substantial reassessment of what types of activities are possible under the project. IUCN has employed a short-term consultant to assist Dr. Rogers in this planning, in close collaboration with SPC.</p> <p><b>Model-based analysis of ecosystem-based management options</b></p> <p>Delays in the IUCN led research survey meant that SPC OFP have not been able to support national scientist participation in the benthic biodiversity survey.</p> <p>IUCN have indicated that project implementation on IUCN-led activities is slower than originally expected but still on target to meet objectives. The primary reason for the delays in project implementation are that delays in the re-fitting of the research vessel due to hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico in late 2005 have meant two postponements in the dates for the seamount cruises. Current plan is for the cruises to take place from January – April 2007, but this can only be confirmed once the vessel re-fit is complete and it has been tested on the water. The vessel is expected to be ready for testing in early June 2006; once the seaworthiness is confirmed, exact dates for the cruises will be set, and project resources will start being expended at increased rates.</p>
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	<p><b>Estimate Levels of By catch in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean fisheries</b></p> <p>Work has commenced on this activity and will continue through 2006. A NZ-based consultant, Dr Brian McArdle, was contracted to assist SPC staff analyse observer data for the estimation of by-catch levels. This work is currently being documented and will be presented to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee in August 2006.</p> <p>By-catch estimates and a preliminary ecological risk assessment for selected species will be presented to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee in August 2006.</p> <p><b>Results of ecosystem analysis and proposals for long-term ecosystem monitoring and operationalisation of the ecosystem-based approach for use by the Commission's Scientific Committee, especially its Ecosystems &amp; Bycatch Working Group, and by Pacific SIDS</b></p> <p>No work has progressed towards this output.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 2: Law, Policy and Institutional, Reform, Realignment and Strengthening</b></p>	
<p><b>2.1 Legal Reform</b></p> <p>Major Commission legal arrangements and mechanisms in place, including provisions relating to non-Parties and sanctions for non-compliance; national laws, regulations, license conditions reformed to implement the WCPF Convention and other relevant international legal instruments; enhanced national legal capacity to apply the Convention and national management regimes, including domestic legal processes for dealing with infringements.</p>	<p><b>A strategy and workplan for activities on regional and national legal issues</b></p> <p>The services of Professor Martin Tsamenyi of the University of Wollongong Australia have been secured to assist in national workshops and the analysis of legal implications from decisions adopted by the WCPF Commission. The specific outputs from this consultancy are the preparation of National Country Reports, the development of course material and where applicable draft legislation for PI countries. The work commence in second quarter of 2006 with the first of a series of in-country workshops for Tuvalu, the Solomon Islands and Tokelau. Further workshops have been completed in advance of schedule for the Cook Islands and Vanuatu (originally scheduled for August/September and June respectively).</p> <p>In-country national assistance has been re-programmed to provide for Samoa, Kiribati, Marshalls, Palau, FSM , Fiji, PNG, Tonga and Nauru in the second two quarters of 2006</p> <p>Work has been completed in regards to a legal and technical review for Fiji on the implications of the decisions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WCPF Commission; the commencement of preliminary analysis on implications of WCPF Decisions for Tuvalu. A report was also prepared on the challenges facing the management of the region's tuna resources for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Australia and New Zealand Society of International law in June.</p> <p>A legal planning workshop for Pacific SIDS took place in Vanuatu in November 2005 with a significant contribution from a project consultant. The workshop outcome determined priorities for national legal work under the UNDP GEF project for National Consultative and the Regional Steering Committees consideration.</p> <p>A review of Samoa's fisheries legislation has commenced as has work on the revisions for the Cook Islands Fisheries regulations to incorporate obligations under the WCPF Convention and the emerging decision of the WCPF Commission. These activities were funded by other sources.</p> <p><b>New draft laws, regulations, agreements &amp; license conditions in line with WCPF Convention prepared and shared with PacSIDS</b></p> <p>Work in relation to the preparation of templates for legal provisions to implement the Convention for fisheries legislation has been deferred until the second quarter of 2006 when a team of legal experts will meet in Brisbane.</p> <p>TORs for a consultancy for the preparation of background materials for the development of guidelines to legislate for sustainable fisheries</p>



	<p>in the Pacific Islands has been completed.</p> <p>Harmonising with outputs from the previous section, assistance continued to be provided to Tokelau, Samoa and Fiji on the review of their national fisheries legislations. A contract has been signed with Consultant for legal reviews to be undertaken in all FFA members by October 2006. A request has been received from Kiribati for review of national legislations. At the time of this report, discussions are ongoing on the timing of the in-country visit to undertake the review.</p> <p>Mr John Haurae Maito'o of the Solomon Islands has been contracted to complete work in relation to the drafting of the Marshall Islands High Seas Authorisation. This short term consultancy will finalise the High Seas Fisheries regulations for the Marshall Islands establishing a High Seas Authorisation.</p> <p>A meeting on guidelines for national fisheries legislations took place in Brisbane in May. The report on the meeting together with the draft guidelines are being finalised.</p> <p><b>Proposals for the Commission from Pacific SIDS for legal arrangements to implement the Convention</b>  A draft report for the Marshall Islands on how to implement the recent decisions of the first and second annual sessions of the WCPF Commission was prepared by the FFA.</p> <p>A paper has been prepared on implications of Commission measures for FFA members. The papers were presented to the annual meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee and the Parties to the Nauru Agreement.</p> <p>FFA has prepared a commentary on the Rules of Procedure for the Commission Scientific Committee. These were submitted to the Executive Director of the WCPF Commission.</p> <p>Regional consultations on the development of model legislation convened in Brisbane from 4 -8 July 2006 (outside the scope of this report but worth mentioning).</p> <p><b>Training of policy makers and legal personnel in oceanic fisheries management legal issues</b>  No Regional Legal Workshops to date</p> <p>An in-country Prosecution and Dockside Boarding workshop took place in Pohnpei, FSM from 3 – 7 April 2006 in cooperation with the MCS Division at FFA. This exercise was co-financed with AusAID and NZAID funds.</p> <p>National workshops have been conducted in Samoa and Fiji on the implications of decisions of the WCPF Commission.</p> <p>An in-country Prosecution and Dockside Boarding workshop took place in Pohnpei, FSM from 3 – 7 April 2006 in cooperation with the MCS Division at FFA. This exercise was co-financed with AusAID and NZAID funds.</p> <p>National workshops have been conducted in Samoa and Fiji on the implications of decisions of the WCPF Commission.</p> <p>A Ni-Vanuatu legal officer was attached to the Legal Division of FFA in June 2006.</p> <p>A second legal attachment was for a legal fellowship from Tonga. The legal attachment for Tonga was undertaken at the Centre for Maritime Policy at the University of Wollongong.</p>
<b>2.2 Policy Reform</b>	<b>National oceanic fisheries management plans, policies and strategies</b>

<p>Commission Secretariat and technical programmes established and conservation and management measures beginning to be adopted; national oceanic fisheries management plans, policies and strategies prepared, implemented and reviewed; adoption of a more integrated and cross-sectoral approach and, improved coordination between government departments (Fisheries, Environment, Development, Economy, etc); enhanced understanding by policy makers and enhanced national capacities in regional and national policy analysis for sustainable and responsible fisheries; enhanced stakeholder understanding of Commission and national policy issues, especially the private sector.</p>	<p>A fisheries management plan for Vanuatu has been undertaken by Dr Rick Fletcher from Western Australian Fisheries, which includes stakeholder consultations. Assistance has also been provided by regional based consultants and staff at Vanuatu Fisheries. This contract is co-financed with FFA funds from other sources.</p> <p>Work is being progressed on the Cook Islands Fisheries Management Plan. This work is being done with the assistance of Mr. Les Clark, an OFM Project funded International Consultant.</p> <p>Work for the Palau TMP is in the planning stage in consultation with the Palau Fisheries.</p> <p>Support and advice have been provided to RMI, FSM and Palau in addressing their pressing fisheries management and development issues, such as vessels reflagging, charter arrangements and IUU fishing in accordance with WCPFC decisions and resolutions.</p> <p>Work has yet to commence on a plan, policy and strategy review.</p> <p><b>Strategies and specific proposals for the overall development of the Commission, including its Secretariat and technical programmes, and for Commission conservation and management measures</b></p> <p>On-going work. FFA and FFA consultant continues to work on analysis of management options for pacific islands input into the Commission meetings, SC2, TCC1 and WCPFC.</p> <p>Preparations for the FFC annual governing council in May will require the provision of advice and reports on oceanic fisheries management issues in relation to proposals for the Commission and subsidiary bodies. Fisheries management expert has been retained as an international consultant (co-financed by the OFM Project funds and other sources) and GEF funded Fisheries Management Advisor are undertaking work in this quarter in anticipation of the May meeting.</p> <p>Briefs for Science Committee and the Technical and Compliance meetings, FFC meetings to discuss issues that are relevant to island state interests have been completed.</p> <p>An FFA sub-regional EAFM workshop was held at Apia Samoa, 24 – 27 April.</p> <p>FFA Southern Tuna Management Workshop was held at Honolulu, Hawaii in March 2006. This workshop was to discuss issues pertaining to southern albacore fisheries as directed by the WCPF Commission 2 resolutions on conservation and management for tunas. This workshop was attended by Commission members (includes FFA Pacific Island members) and cooperating non-members.</p> <p><b>Identification of possible management options for seamounts, including compliance options</b></p> <p>Given the overall project structure, the activities to be conducted under the Policy, Law and Compliance Component, need to wait until the scientific research has been completed and initial analyses done. Therefore, very little expenditure is expected under this Component in 2006; in fact, most expenditure will occur in second half of 2007 and in 2008 if the research cruise is to commence.</p> <p><b>Training of policy makers, technical personnel and other Pacific SIDS stakeholders to increase understanding of sustainable and responsible fisheries</b></p> <p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Management Options Workshop funded by New Zealand was held in Oct 2005. Consultancy services were provided by a GEF funded consultant and a facilitator for the workshop which assisted Pacific SIDS to consider fisheries management work anticipated to be considered by the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WCPF Commission in December.</p> <p>Support was also provided for Pacific Islander representation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WCPF Commission held at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia in early December 2005</p>
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	<p>A consultation of experts met at FFA in Honiara on 14 February 2006 to discuss and analyse the Commission resolutions to determine the obligations of the Pacific island parties.</p> <p>Communication has commenced with USP to discuss the joint delivery of a Train Sea Coast (TSC) Fisheries Management Policy course. The revision of the existing module of the TSC Pacific Islands Region Fisheries Management will be undertaken as part of an existing consultant contract for fisheries management. This is an on-going activity.</p> <p>A national consultation with the Department of Fisheries, Vanuatu regarding the review process for the existing fisheries management plan took place with the reporting period. Those consultations are on-going with Vanuatu as well as the Cook Island and Palau regarding the reviews of their TMPs.</p> <p>A newly appointed licensing officer from the Solomon Islands Fisheries department undertook an attachment at FFA in March.</p> <p>Arrangements are being finalised for the training of key personnel from selected pacific island countries to attend the train the trainers workshop in Vanuatu.</p> <p>Support was provided to the 2<sup>nd</sup> FFC Officials and Ministerial governing council in May for the provision of advice and reports on oceanic fisheries management issues in relation to proposals for the Commission and subsidiary bodies.</p>
<p><b>2.3 Institutional Reform</b> Public sector fisheries administrations reformed, realigned and strengthened; capacities of national non-governmental organisations to participate in oceanic fisheries management enhanced; consultative processes enhanced to promote a more integrated approach to fisheries management and administration that encourages coordination and participation between diverse government and non-government stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>Strategies, plans and proposals for the reform, realignment and strengthening of national oceanic fisheries management administrations</b> The provision of advice and consultation with the Government of Nauru on their proposed fisheries institutional reform program has commenced. Efforts to recruit expertise identified in the TORs submitted with the request for assistance under the OFM Project has been progressed.</p> <p>The design of an institutional strengthening project for Nauru Fisheries has commenced. This work is expected to progress over the next half of 2006.</p> <p>A regional National Institutional Workshop has yet to be held. It is anticipated that work on an overall review needs to be completed first. The work in this area is not on scheduled but priority has been given to addressing this in the last two quarters of 2006 and early 2007.</p> <p><b>Processes for national consultation between stakeholders in oceanic fisheries management</b> Advice and support for national consultative processes in Vanuatu, Cook Islands and Palau have been provided.</p> <p>Consultations with and provision of advice to Vanuatu on the issue of ENGOs and INGOs participation in the Vanuatu Fisheries Management Plan review consultation scheduled for June 2006. An invitation to ENGOs and INGOs to participate in the Vanuatu Fisheries Management Plan review consultation scheduled for June 2006 was extended. The same procedure was also carried out for the Cooks.</p> <p>WWF Pacific have been invited to attend the Management Options Workshop. Support will be provided to Industry representatives to attend also.</p> <p>Until the full complement of fisheries management staff at FFA have been recruited attachments and study tours for non-stakeholder participants can not commence. This issues is expected to be addressed by second half of 2006.</p>

<p><b>2.4 Compliance Strengthening</b>  Realigned and strengthened national compliance programs; improved regional MCS coordination; strategies for Commission compliance programs; enhanced national compliance capacities (inspection, observation, patrol, VMS, investigation).</p>	<p><b>Strategies, plans and proposals for realigning and strengthening national oceanic fisheries compliance programmes</b>  An overall review of Convention implications for national compliance has yet to be conducted.  Ongoing contributions to reviews of needs to strengthen and realign national compliance programmes under the auspices of activities in the legal sub-component continue.</p>
	<p><b>Arrangements for regional coordination of monitoring, control and surveillance activities</b>  The annual regional meeting for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance which includes as a prior meeting, an annual meeting for the coordination of aerial surveillance in the region was to be held in March 2006. However, to take into account the Commission schedule of meetings the MCS Working Group Meeting is now re-scheduled to take place in September.</p> <p>Additionally, Operations ‘Kurukuru’ and ‘Islands Chief’ supported by Australian Defence with contributions from FFA MCS Division, assists sub-grouping of Pacific Islands countries to undertake coordinated surveillance operations between and across national jurisdictions. These are expected to take place in the later part of 2006.</p> <p>Requests for assistance from some Pacific SIDS for the preparation of Niue Treaty subsidiary agreements have been received. Resources have been directed towards these activities.</p> <p>A review of the agreement between Palau, FSM and the Marshall Islands is being proposed with the possibility of this extending to include PNG and Kiribati.</p> <p>An agreement is in place between the Cook Islands and Samoa as at 2005.</p> <p>Dialogue between Vanuatu and New Caledonia is in progress and a draft document for surveillance exchanges between Samoa, Vanuatu, Tonga, Fiji and Tuvalu has been completed</p> <p>Nauru has held bilateral dialogue with each of Kiribati, the Marshall Islands and FSM on matters concerning a possible agreement.</p>
	<p><b>Strategies and proposals for regional compliance measures and programmes</b>  Pacific SIDS convened at a Monitoring, Control and Surveillance workshop in Honiara in October 2005 to consider preparations for the first meeting of the WCPF Commission Technical and Compliance Committee held in December 2005.</p> <p>Terms of Reference have been drafted for the development of a regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance strategy for the Pacific. Expressions of interest will be called for. The strategy will take into account compliance issues under the Convention and other international instruments, including the requirement for the development of national plans of action for the prevention of IUU fishing.</p> <p>The annual regional meeting for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance which includes as a prior meeting, an annual meeting for the coordination of aerial surveillance in the region was to be held in March 2006. However, to take into account the Commission schedule of meetings the MCS Working Group Meeting is now re-scheduled to take place in September.</p> <p>Preparations have commenced for a meeting in the margins of the May FFC to discuss with Pacific SIDS issues relating to VMS and data sharing policies in relation to the Commission.</p>
	<p><b>Training of national compliance staff, especially in inspection and VMS</b>  An in-country Dockside boarding and Inspection Workshop has taken place in FSM in the first quarter of 2006. The workshop was</p>

	<p>successfully completed with the assistance of the Australian Defence. Participants from Palau also participated. The workshop is seen as positive steps towards building and developing national capacity in maritime enforcement. Three more national workshops are planned for PNG, Vanuatu and a joint exercise for Fiji and Tuvalu third and fourth quarter.</p> <p>With the roll out of updated VMS hardware a series of VMS training for national compliance staff is scheduled for the third and fourth quarter of 2006.</p> <p>A Fellowship from Tuvalu undertook an attachment at the FFA Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Division. A report of the work undertaken by the Fellow is on file.</p>
<b>Outcome 3: Coordination, Participation and Information Services</b>	
<b>3.1 Project information System</b> Enhancement of awareness about the Project and understanding of its objectives and progress; establishment of a Clearing House for lessons and best practices within the Pacific SIDS, as well as through linkages to other global fisheries and their issues; capture of up-to-date information and advice on related ecosystem management and innovative fisheries management approaches; transfer of lessons and replication of best practices through an active mechanism linked to the Commission; active participation with IW:LEARN	<p><b>Project Information System for capture, storage and dissemination of project data, lessons and best practices, and provision of information products</b></p> <p>Service of a website design company were engaged to design the project webpage which is located on the FFA website at <a href="http://www.ffa.int/gef/">www.ffa.int/gef/</a>. The webpage is operational. A project logo was also secured and this will also be used on project documentation and publications. Email request for IW Learn information and guidelines for developing websites unanswered. No follow up was done. Project Coordinator registered on the IW LEARN network and the BCLME Programme website as a comparable GEF project.</p> <p>A specific document cataloguing system was developed by the PCU.</p> <p>The process to engage a communications specialist to address awareness raising activities has commenced and it is expected that work will commence in late 2006 with the view for possible ongoing services throughout the project on a consultancy basis.</p> <p>The OFM Project website is operational and will be maintained and administered by FFA and the PCU.</p> <p>The webpage menu contains relevant links, project documentation, list of national OFM Project focal points and other project related information. Improvement in the upload of material to the webpage needs to occur.</p> <p>No progress has occurred to date but is expected to be addressed in the Communications consultancy.</p> <p><b>Knowledge management process identifying innovative, best practice and replicable ideas within the Project and relevant to the Project</b></p> <p>Knowledge Management Strategy to be progressed in the second half of 2006.</p> <p>Activities in relation to webpage and progress reports have occurred.</p>
<b>3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation</b> Effective monitoring and evaluation of progress and performance, including monitoring of process, stress reduction and environmental status indicators; monitoring and evaluation outputs used in project management and in assessing the effectiveness of Commission	<p><b>Measures of, and reports on, overall project performance and delivery, including independent evaluations of the Project</b></p> <p>Mid-term evaluation is scheduled for late 2007, early 2008.</p> <p>Terminal evaluation will be conducted at the close of the project in 2010</p> <p>The post evaluation will occur two years after the close of the project in 2012.</p> <p>This report constitutes the annual report for the project by FFA. It will be consolidated with reports from other contributing Agencies to feed into the reporting template (APR/PIR) and systems of the GEF &amp; UNDP.</p> <p>Preparations for the production of the annual report for the project have commenced. This will be prepared according to formats required</p>

<p>measures.</p>	<p>by UNDP and GEF and taking into account the logical framework analysis and the results identified that require verification. UNDP will reflect evaluation of their identified results.</p> <p>The services of an independent Auditor has been secured for the audit of expenditure of project funds 2005. This relates only to the fourth quarter at which point the project commenced with the first advance being received early November 2005. An audit of expenditure of project funds 2005 was submitted to UNDP. A number of shortfalls were identified by UNDP and the PCU was asked to rectify these with the engaged auditors. After consultation with the Auditor's a revised management letter and audit report was submitted to UNDP.</p> <p><b>Analysis of process, stress-reduction, and environmental status indicators as per the GEF International Waters Operational Strategy</b></p> <p>Terms of reference are being developed for the engagement of consultant to identify environmental indicators for the project. These TORs are being designed by the consultant who is currently engaged under the project as an Fisheries Management Consultant. Calls for expressions of interest are expected to made once the TORs are agreed and finalised.</p> <p>The inclusive of indicator measures in progress reports will be progressed as a priority in the second half of 2006.</p>
<p><b>3.3 Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising</b> Non-governmental stakeholder participation in national and regional oceanic fisheries management processes, including the Commission, enhanced; awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and the WCPF Convention improved. Specific forums developed for NGO participation and discussion process; promotion of awareness of national and regional development and economic priorities and how these relate to sustainable fisheries management.</p>	<p><b>NGO participation and awareness raising in Convention-related processes</b></p> <p>A consultant has been recruited to perform a short term consultancy that will provide a database of regional environmental non-governmental organisations in the region. The main purpose of the consultancy will be the development of a strategy to engage ENGOs in project implementation to promote NGO stakeholder and public awareness of oceanic fisheries management issues and strengthen NGO participation in oceanic fisheries management at national and regional levels; established links with regional ENGOs (including contact details and point of contact); provide advice on the scheduling and framework for national and regional workshops for ENGOs; draft a co-financing arrangement with a Pacific ENGO; and recommend ENGO representation at the Regional Steering Committee.</p> <p>The report of the consultant that will be develop a strategy to engage ENGOs in project implementation is due for submission early Q3 2006 and will be presented to the RSC in October.</p> <p>Visits to Suva based environmental NGOs took place in June and the consultant was accompanied by the PC to some of the organisations.</p> <p>The next annual session of the Commission meeting is scheduled to be held at Apia Samoa in December 2006. The next meeting of the Science Committee is scheduled for 7 – 18 August 2006 at Manila Philippines. Discussion for the provision of support for the attendance and participation of a Pacific ENGO at the Commission meetings will evolve in the course of the above consultancy.</p> <p>A proposal to also invite the Pacific ENGO representative to participate in the policy workshop for Pacific countries to consider management options for outcomes in the Commission has been agreed to. This is scheduled for October prior to the MOW workshop.</p> <p>WWF have observer status at the Commission.</p> <p>Greenpeace Pacific participated in the Legal Workshop in November 2005. Every effort is being made to facilitate the participation of Pacific ENGOs in project workshops across the sub-components.</p> <p>A Pacific ENGO will participate in the project Regional Steering Committee and the established practice by the PCU will be to include the transmission of all information on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific ENGOs.</p> <p>National and Regional workshops for ENGOs forms part of the co-financing agreement with WWF Pacific Operations which is currently</p>

	<p>in a draft form. The agreement is currently with WWF.</p> <p>Produce information materials to raise public awareness on oceanic fisheries management issues forms part of the co-financing agreement with WWF Pacific Operations which is currently in a draft form and will also be conducted in conjunction with the PCU information strategy process.</p> <p>Organising regional and national fora on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues for civil society participation forms part of the co-financing agreement with WWF Pacific Operations which is currently in a draft form.</p> <p><b>Support industry participation and awareness raising in Convention-related processes</b> A newly formed Pacific tuna industry association has formed in principle but has yet to have an annual general meeting to confirm office bearers. Contact has been established with the interim president, Mr. James Movick.</p> <p>Discussions with the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association have been initiated and are ongoing with regards to project support for their representative participation in the Commission. The Association have to date obtained observer status at Commission meetings as have WWF.</p> <p>The provision of information flow on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific INGOs and businesses is to be discussed in a formal co-financing agreement with the PITIA.</p> <p>Support was to have been provided for a meeting of the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association that was planned for the first quarter of 2006. Due to the uncertainty of dates of other meetings which the Association meeting was to have convened along side it has been postponed until the third or fourth quarter of 2006.</p>
<p><b>3.4 Project Management and Coordination</b> Project effectively managed and coordinated between implementing and executing agencies and other participants in the Project; effective participation in Project management and coordination by stakeholders; reports on Project progress and performance flowing between Project participants and being used to manage the Project.</p>	<p><b>Project Coordination Unit staffing and office</b> Appointment of the Project Coordinator was made on the 29 December 2005. Mr. Royden Gholomo was appointed as the Project Finance and Administration Officer. He commenced work on 6 February 2006. Mr Daren Cameron accepted the post of Fisheries Management Advisor in January 2006 but due to prior commitments did not commence work until 18 March 2006. He joins FFA from the Queensland Fisheries Management Authority where he was a Fisheries Manager for seven years.</p> <p>Computer hardware purchases for three positions have been completed. Software programmes are on order. Partial costs of a high end printer for project use have been committed.</p> <p><b>Arrangements for coordination between Implementing and Executing Agencies</b> The Inception Workshop in 2005 served as the preliminary collective consultations. FFA and SPC meet on a fairly regular basis at a range of regional fisheries meetings. A face to face meeting between Andrew Hurd (IUCN) and the Project Coordinator took place in the margins of the Third Global Oceans Policy held at Paris in January 2006.</p> <p>Letters of Agreements were completed in 2005.</p> <p>Communication with UNDP Suva began intermittently. We the departure of the Environment portfolio officer, Dr Jan MacDonald, UNDP staffing issues at UNDP Honiara has meant that most project related queries have been directed to Suva with delays. Matters arising have been addressed through the UNDP Honiara office. Face to face meetings have taken place with Mr Ismael Toorawa and the</p>

	<p>Project Finance and Administration Officer.</p> <p>Consultations were held between UNDP-Suva and the PCU at Suva, Fiji in May. The meeting was attended by: UNDP Suva – Deputy Resident Representative, Hans De Graaff, Cecilia Pau'u, Finance and Ruth Verevukivuki, Programme Portfolio Manager</p> <p>OFM Project Coordination Unit – Barbara Hanchard, Project Coordinator and Royden Gholomo, Project Finance and Administration Officer.</p> <p>The meeting was productive in that a number of issues both administrative and financial were discussed to achieve common understandings. A record of discussion is available on file.</p>
	<p><b>Regional Steering Committee Meetings and Reports</b></p> <p>An inception Workshop was held in August 2005 at the UNDP office in Suva Fiji. This workshop was attended by representatives from UNDP Suva and UNDP Honiara, UNDP/GEF Bangkok and FFA. A report of this meeting is available.</p> <p>The first meeting of the Regional Steering Committee took place in Oct 2005. The Committee approved their terms of reference, a revised budget and the annual work plan and budgets for 2005 and 2006. The Committee also considered and accepted the Project Inception Report.</p> <p>Both FFA and SPC also take the opportunity to report project progress to their governing councils. SPC Heads of Fisheries meeting took place at Noumea New Caledonia in March 2005 and FFA will report project progress to the annual meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee and Ministerial meeting in May at Honiara, Solomon Islands.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Regional Steering Committee is scheduled for October 2006 in Honiara at which the PIR/APR report, revised 2006 budget, draft 2007 and reports by beneficiary countries will be discussed. A report of project progress was made to a Pre-FFC meeting held at Nadi, Fiji in June. UNDP Suva was unable to attend. FFA and SPC covered aspects of the project for which they are responsible for implementing. A report of the project is available at <a href="http://www.ffa.int/gef">www.ffa.int/gef</a></p>
	<p><b>National Consultative Committee Meetings and Reports</b></p> <p>National Focal Points for the OFM Project have been secured. A list of these can be located on the project webpage.</p> <p>The Project Coordinator has commenced a schedule of visits to Pacific countries to provide support for the national level activities of the project. The assistance also includes reviewing the national priorities identified by the countries during the needs assessment missions of the design of the project in 2004. A visit was made to the Department of Fisheries at Port Vila Vanuatu from 22 – 26 March 2006. The Director for Fisheries Mr Moses Amos indicated that the management body that oversees fisheries management in Vanuatu is not operational but that they hoped to revive the committee soon and matters relating to the project would form part of that bodies agenda. A template for an AWP for national level activities was completed by the Fisheries Department during the visit.</p> <p>Visits have been made to Tuvalu and Cooks Islands. Draft National Annual Work Plans were developed for the Cook Islands and Tuvalu. Discussions relating to potential areas at which the countries will seek assistance at a national level took place. Reports of these visits are on file. Early indications are that the formation of national consultative processes in countries is proving to be challenging and this is reinforced by information collected by the DEVFISH EU Domestic Industry Project. While most countries have tuna management committees formed during the processes to develop and implement tuna management plans many are not operational and are in the processes of being re-establish. This does not apply to all countries.</p>
	<p><b>Reports on Project implementation, workplan and finances</b></p> <p>A quarterly financial and narrative report was submitted to UNDP in January 2006 and the request for an advance was declined by</p>



	<p>UNDP. A further financial report of acquittal was also submitted at the end of February.</p> <p>A quarterly financial and narrative report was submitted to UNDP for the first quarter of 2006 at the end of March, beginning of April. While this provided financial acquittals it did not include a request for advance funds, as the outcome of the first quarter advance request was still pending.</p> <p>RSC1 approved the revised AWP and budget which has reflected the real project start date. The revised project AWP &amp; budget spread the project over a 6 year period but still accounting for 5 years of 12 month.</p> <p>The Committee also approved the revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget. The PCU will place before the next RSC in Oct 2006, a further revised 2006 AWP &amp; Budget to better reflect expenditure and implementation progress, an acquittal of the 2005 finances and a draft 2007 AWP &amp; Budget.</p> <p>The preparation of the required UNDP/GEF - PIR/APR is expected to commence in the next quarter. These will be facilitated by discussions with the UNDP/GEF Technical Coordinator during a visit to Suva in July.</p> <p>The preparation of the UNDP/GEF APR/PIR is coordinated by UNDP Suva. The PCU also takes the opportunity to present reports of progress to the annual meetings of the governing councils of FFA and SPC and did so in the first half of 2006.</p>
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### Rating of Project Implementation

	2005 Rating	2006 Rating	Comments
National Project Manager/Coordinator	S	S	While a settling in period of the project has delayed some aspects of the projects management and coordination; it has had minimal impact on the implementation of activities and outputs from the two technical components of the project, largely due to the professional dedication of the Executing Agencies. Overall the Executing Agencies have done well to 'catch up' on activities that did not occur immediately at the official commencement of the project in the last quarter of 2005 due to uncertainties relating to disbursement and some implementation guidelines from the Implementing Agency. The first six months of 2006 also contained an element of distraction while communication between the Implementing Agency and the Executing Agency were addressed. A significant activity that will not be implemented in accordance with the approved work plan, is the work in relation to research activities on benthic communities of seamounts. This sub-component of Ecosystems Analysis is to be performed by IUCN and circumstances beyond their control have hampered implementation. These events will be taken into account in revised work plans and budgets that will need approval by the Regional Steering Committee.
Government GEF OFP <sup>4</sup> (optional)			<b>UNDP Suva</b> - Instruction sheet advises that: In the case of a project involving more than 1 country, it is suggested that for simplicity only the OFP (optional) and Country Office Programme Manager from the lead country sign-off. If representatives from more than 1 country sign off, please add additional rows as necessary, clearly indicating the country name for each signature.
UNDP Country Office			
UNDP Regional Technical Advisor			

### Action Plan to Address Marginally Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory or Highly Unsatisfactory Rating

Where a project has received a rating of MU, U or HU describe the actions to be taken to address this:

Action to be Taken	By Whom?	By When?

#### IV. Risks [*To be completed by UNDP Suva*]

1. Please annex to this report a print out of the corresponding Atlas Risk Tab (please use landscape format and only print the frame).
2. For any risks identified as “critical” please copy the following information from Atlas:

Risk Type	Date Identified	Risk Description	Risk Management Response

## V. Adjustments to Project Strategy

Please report any adjustments made to the project strategy, as reflected in the logical framework matrix, since the Project Document signature:

Change Made to:	Yes/No	Reason for Change
Project Objective	No	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Project Outcomes	No	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Project Outputs/ Activities / Inputs	Yes	IUCN activities in relation to Benthic Survey on Seamounts experiencing delays. Alternative options are being investigated in consultation with the PCU and SPC.

## Adjustments to Project Time Frame

If the duration of the project, the project work schedule, or the timing of any key events such as project start up, evaluations or closing date, have been adjusted since project approval please explain the changes and the reasons for these changes.

Change	Reason for Change
<i>Not Applicable</i>	

## VI. Financial Information

Name of Partner or Contributor (including the Private Sector)	Nature of Contributor	Amount used in Project Preparation (PDF A, B)	Amount committed in Project Document	Additional amounts committed after Project Document finalization	Estimated Total Disbursement to 30 June 2006	Expected Total Disbursement by end of project
<b>GEF Contribution</b>	GEF	\$0.6m	\$10.9m	Nil	\$1.6	
<b>Cash Cofinancing – UNDP Managed</b>						
<b>UNDP (TRAC)</b>	<b>UN Agency</b>					
<b>Cash Cofinancing – Partner Managed</b>						
Project only: excludes PDF co-financing						
NZAID			\$0.4m	\$0.4m		\$0.8m
PNG NFA				\$0.1m		\$0.1m
Fr Pacific Fund				\$0.06m		\$0.06m
ACIAR				\$0.3m		\$0.3m
Uni of Hawaii				\$0.1m		\$0.1m
<b>Under consideration</b>						
EC				\$1.9m		\$1.91m
US Dept of State (OESI)				\$0.2m		\$0.2m
<b>In-Kind Cofinancing</b>						
Participating Govts (in cash and kind):			\$17.28m			\$17.28m
Reg Org (in cash and kind):			\$14.45m			\$14.45m
NGOs (in cash and kind):			\$0.6m			\$0.6m
NGOs (in cash and kind):			\$0.4m			\$0.4m
Other WCPFC Members (Commission contributions):			\$6.48m			\$6.48m
<b>Other Estimated Co-financing</b>						
Fishing States (in kind regulation costs):			\$32.25m			\$32.25m
Surveillance Partners (in kind):			\$7.20m			\$7.20m
<b>Total Co financing</b>			<b>\$79.09m</b>	<b>\$3.07m</b>		
<b>Total for Project</b>		<b>\$0.6m</b>	<b>\$90.03m</b>	<b>\$3.07m</b>		

### Comments

Please explain any significant changes in project financing since Project Document signature, or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement:

**UNDP – Suva**

## **VII. Additional Financial Instruments used in the Project**

This section is not applicable to the OFM Project in this reporting period but two co-financing agreements relating to stakeholder participation and awareness raising are expected to be concluded in the last two quarters of 2006.

These agreements will involve a represented regional environmental non-government organization and a regional tuna industry association.

### VIII. Procurement Data

Note: For projects or project components executed by UNOPS this section ***must not*** be filled in - data will be provided by UNOPS headquarters.

Please report the **US\$ value** (*in Thousands, e.g. 70,000 = 70*) of UNDP/GEF Payments made to GEF Donor Countries for Procurement. Please enter Project **expenditure accumulated** from project start up to the date of this report into the matrix against the donor country **supplying** the personnel, sub-contract, equipment and training to the project. Please report only on contracts over US\$ 2,000.

Supplying Donor Country	Personnel (US\$ thousands)	Sub-contracts (US\$ thousands)	Equipment (US\$ thousands)	Training (US\$ thousands)	Total (US\$ thousands)
	Code: 71400	Code:71200	Code:72200/72800	Code:74500	
	SPC \$237	SPC \$4	SPC \$7	SPC \$-	\$248
	IUCN \$24	IUCN \$5	IUCN \$-	IUCN \$-	\$29
	FFA \$65	FFA \$82	FFA \$11	FFA \$11	\$169
Total	\$326	\$91	\$18	\$11	\$446

## IX. Lessons

Are there any lessons from this project that could benefit the design and implementation of other GEF-funded projects? Please list up to three and indicate which one/s could be worth developing into case studies of good/bad practice.

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| i)   | In the design phase of the full project, a strategic decision to recruit regional fisheries experts to work alongside international experts to consult with stakeholders proved to be exceptionally beneficial in the final design of the project document. Notably, in designing the project emphasis is directed not only to the regional aspects of project assistance but a clear direction to address national level interventions to address the root causes and threats to international waters in the region, specifically deficiencies in management relating to governance and lack of understanding. A well executed terminal review of the first phase with clear recommendations also provided noteworthy guidance in the formation of the full Oceanic Fisheries Management project for the Pacific region. |
| ii)  | The Pacific region has a long history of regional cooperation on oceanic fisheries management matters and this is supported by the evolution of regional organizations whose technical and management competence have worked for the benefit of the small island developing States in this area. In the case of the Pacific these recognized and established mechanisms serve positively for addressing transboundary international waters concerns, particularly for migratory resources.  |
| iii) | A set of guidelines detailing the processes, including timeframes, involved from project concept to the official start date of projects might have prevented the delayed roll out of the PI OFM Project. While some delays by their nature of needing scheduled committee type approval are unavoidable, others concerning communication, preparation work and roles of responsibility could have reasonably been avoided with clear guidelines for all organizations involved. In the course of addressing the accessibility of GEF assistance to the Pacific region any advice provided should be inclusive of clear process guidelines with timeframes.  |



## **X. Project Contribution to GEF Strategic Targets in Focal Area**

“The global concerns addressed by the GEF in activities in the focal area include:

*“Excessive exploitation of living and nonliving resources due to inadequate management and control measures (for example, overfishing...)”* - Ch. 4. Operational Strategy of the GEF.;

and the overall strategic thrust of GEF-funded IW activities is:

*“to meet the agreed incremental costs of (a) assisting groups of countries to better understand the environmental concerns of their International Waters and work collaboratively to address them; (b) building the capacity of existing institutions (or, if appropriate, developing the capacity through new institutional arrangements) to utilise a more comprehensive approach for addressing transboundary water-related environmental concerns; and (c) implementing measures that address the priority transboundary environmental concerns.”* - Ch. 4. Operational Strategy of the GEF

Within the GEF IW focal area:

- sustainable management of regional fish stocks is identified as one of the major environmental issues that SIDS have in common and a target for activities under the SIDS component of OP 9, the Integrated Land and Water Multiple Focal Area Operational Program; and
- the adoption of an ecosystem-based approach to addressing environmental problems in Large Marine Ecosystems is promoted through activities under the Large Marine Ecosystem Component of OP 8, the Waterbody-Based Operational Program.

Consistent with this framework, GEF financing for the South Pacific SAP Project has been supporting the implementation of an IW Pacific Islands SAP, including a pilot phase of support for the OFM Component, which underpinned successful efforts to conclude and bring into force the WCPF Convention”

The Pacific Islands OFM Project supported Pacific SIDS efforts as they participate in the setting up and initial period of operation of the new Commission that is at the center of the WCPF Convention and as they reform, realign, restructure and strengthen their national fisheries laws, policies, institutions and programmes to take up the new opportunities which the WCPF Convention creates and discharge the new responsibilities which the Convention requires.

GEF support for the Pacific Islands OFM Project includes the following elements:

- The Project will provide a contribution towards meeting the incremental costs of implementation by Pacific SIDS of the WCPF Convention, which is the first major regional application of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement.
- The Project has supported Pacific SIDS in taking a leading role in the establishment of the new WCPF Commission. The establishment of the Commission will put an end to the situation where there is no regulation of fishing in the high seas of the Western and Central Pacific. With most of the Pacific SIDS’ major trade and aid partners involved in the Commission as fishing states, it is important for the Pacific SIDS to be able to look to an independent multilateral agency for support in this work.

- The Project will also support Pacific SIDS in making the necessary national legal, policy and institutional reforms for the implementation of the SAP and the WCPF Convention. With much of the catch and fishing in the WTP LME occurring in the waters of the Pacific SIDS, and an increasing share of the high seas catches being made by vessels of Pacific SIDS, successful implementation of the oceanic fisheries management component of the SAP and of the WCPF Convention depends heavily on the commitment and capacity of Pacific SIDS to apply conservation and management measures in their waters that are compatible with arrangements for the high seas and to exercise control over their vessels fishing on the high seas. All Pacific SIDS will have to make substantial efforts to upgrade and realign their oceanic fisheries management regimes and programmes to meet the responsibilities and standards arising from the establishment of the new Commission. For many, this will require reforms of institutional structures to make the necessary incremental resources available at a time of general restraint on levels of core public service funds and posts. GEF is the most appropriate agency to support this effort. It has the necessary capacity and mandate to assist these vital reforms and to provide the necessary support to capacity enhancement and the sustainability of input from the Pacific SIDS.
- The Project will provide support to give effect to the adoption of the principles of the ecosystem approach in the new arrangements for transboundary oceanic fish stock management in the WTP LME. In the pilot phase of the OFM component of the South Pacific SAP Project, GEF support allowed work to begin in this crucial area. Following the design of an appropriate approach to biodynamic modelling of the WTP LME, biological sampling of ecosystem components, food web analysis and trophic level determination have been initiated as a first step in what will be a long-term effort. This pilot activity was also successful in leveraging additional complementary funding for collaborative ecosystem research on a Pacific basin scale over a longer time frame. GEF support for activities related to the operationalisation of an ecosystem-based approach will ensure that ecosystem analysis is given a high priority from the earliest stages of the establishment of the Commission. Through collaboration with IUCN, the ecosystem analysis will be broadened to support the first systematic efforts in the region to look at seamount-related aspects of an ecosystem-based approach.
- The implementation of the Convention will mobilise a major increase in resources for conservation and management from those who use the fishery resources of the region. Implementation of the Convention will see the establishment of substantial technical, compliance and science programmes under the Commission, also to be financed largely by those who use the region's fishery resources as well as requiring the commitment of resources to expanded compliance and science programmes at national level by those involved in fishing, especially in high seas fishing. In addition to increasing the resources committed for these purposes, this will reduce the burden on Pacific SIDS who have, until now, carried the major burden for research and monitoring of oceanic fisheries with funding from donors that could have been used for other socio-economic purposes.
- The approach of the Project closely matches the GEF approach to IW Projects noted above. It has its origins in the preparation of a SAP that identified transboundary concerns, the associated threats and their

root causes. The Project itself is aimed at addressing the root causes identified in the SAP and it will assist Pacific SIDS to utilise the full range of technical, economic, financial, regulatory and institutional measures needed to operationalise sustainable development strategies for oceanic fisheries in the international waters of the Pacific Islands region. It will help them to better understand the transboundary environmental concerns related to oceanic fisheries and to work collaboratively to address them; to build a new regional Commission and strengthen the capacity of existing national institutions to utilise a more comprehensive approach for addressing those transboundary concerns; and to implement at regional and national level measures that address the priority transboundary environmental concerns identified in the SAP.

- The Project will contribute to achievement of IW Strategic Priorities for the period FY04-06 through its support for SAP-based management reforms, its SIDS focus and its LME and fisheries applications.
- GEF support for the Project will be the first tangible response by the global community to the call in Section VII of the WSSD JPOI for actions to:

*“Further implement sustainable fisheries management and improve financial returns from fisheries by supporting and strengthening relevant regional fisheries management organisations, as appropriate, such as the recently established Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and such agreements as the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean”;*

and supports the other relevant parts of the WSSD Plan of Implementation relating to SIDS noted above.

- There is a good basis for expecting that the Project will be effective. The SAP is in place and remains appropriate. The WCPF Convention was concluded and has come into force earlier than expected, assisted by the South Pacific SAP Project advisory and training activities - these have also led to some Pacific SIDS completing ratification of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. The WCPF Commission has therefore been established and provides a very clear focus for much of the Project’s proposed activities.

## ATTACHMENT A

### Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project Beneficiary Country Endorsements, Confirmations and Signatures on the Project Document

GEF Operational Points (at November 2004)	Dates of Endorsement/ Confirmation	Project Document Signatures <sup>5</sup>
<b>Cook Islands</b> Mr Vaitoti Tupa, Director, Environment Service	Endorsed: 13 October 2003 Confirmed: 24 December 2004	
<b>Federated States of Micronesia</b> Mr John Mooteb, Deputy Assistant Secretary Sustainable Development Unit	Endorsed: 6 November 2003 Confirmed: 29 December 2004	
<b>Fiji</b> Mr Cama Tuiloma, Chief Executive Officer, Mini Government, Housing, Squatter Settlement & Env	Endorsed: 1 March 2004 Confirmed 1 February 2005	Endorsed: 29 August 2005
<b>Kiribati</b> Mr Tererei Abete-Reema, Deputy Director, Envi Conservation Division	Endorsed: 28 November 2003	
<b>Republic of Marshall Islands</b> Ms Yumiko Crisostomo, Director, Office of Envi Planning and Policy Coordination	Endorsed: 16 September 2003 Confirmed 4 February 2005	
<b>Nauru</b> Mr Joseph Cairn, The Secretary, Department of Ir Economic Development	Endorsed: 20 October 2003 Confirmed 14 December 2004	
<b>Niue</b> Mr Crossley Tatui, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Affairs Office	Endorsed: 9 February 2004 Confirmed: 24 December 2004	Endorsed: 27 July 2005
<b>Palau</b> Ms Yousau Bells, National Environment Planner Environmental and Response Coordination	Endorsed: 22 October 2003 Confirmed: 17 December 2004	
<b>Papua New Guinea</b> Mr Wari Iamo, Director, Department of Environn Conservation	Endorsed: 19 February 2004 Confirmed 2 February 2005	Endorsed: 10 August 2005
<b>Samoa</b> Mr Aiono Mose Pouvi Sua Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affa Trade	Endorsed: 17 October 2003 Confirmed: 23 December 2004	
<b>Solomon Islands</b> Mr Steve Likaveke, Permanent Secretary, Ministr Environment & Conservation	Endorsed: 11 October 2003 Confirmed: 20 December 2004	
<b>Tonga</b> Mr Uilou Samani, Director, Department of Envir	Endorsed: 26 January 2004 Confirmed: 3 January 2005	
<b>Tokelau</b> Mr Falani Aukuso, Director, Office of the Counc	Endorsed: 27 February 2004 Confirmed: 13 December 2004	Endorsed: 18 July 2007
<b>Tuvalu</b> Mr Nelesone Panapasi, Secretary to Government, the Prime Minister	Endorsed: 7 November 2003 Confirmed 1 February 2005	Endorsed: August 2005 (Mr. Enate E GEF Focal Point)

<sup>5</sup> Status – UNDP Suva.

GEF Operational Points (at November 2004)	Dates of Endorsement/ Confirmation	Project Document Signatures <sup>5</sup>
--	---------------------------------------	--

**Vanuatu**  
Mr Ernest Bani, The Head, Environment Unit

Endorsed: 17 March 2004

Endorsed: 24 August 2005

#### **Other Project Document Signatures**

*Implementing Agency*

**United Nations Development Programme**

Suva  
Mr. Hans de Graff  
Deputy Resident Representative

Endorsed: 30 September 2005

Papua New Guinea  
Ms. Jacqui Badcock  
Resident Representative

Endorsed: 4 August 2005

*Executing Agency*

**Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency**

Mr. Feleti.P.Teo  
Director General

Endorsed: 13 July 2005

<b>Paper Number</b>	<b>RSC2/WP.4</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>PACIFIC ISLANDS OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT - GEF/UNDP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR) / ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT (APR)</b>

### **Summary**

The Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project) as at the reporting period of this report has been operational for nine months (1 October – 30 June 2006). This paper presents a project report to date in a format required by the project Implementing Agency (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The report is presented to the Regional Steering Committee for their review and discussion.

### **Recommendation**

The OFM Project Regional Steering Committee is invited to consider:

- i) the draft project report which takes into account the first nine operational months of the OFM Project; and
- ii) endorse the onward transmission of the report to UNDP and GEF.



FFA



GEF



# **PACIFIC ISLANDS OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT - GEF/UNDP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR) / ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT (APR)**

## **Introduction**

1. The Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project) as at the reporting period of this report has been operational for nine months (1 October – 30 June 2006). The first Regional Steering Committee (RSC) for the OFM Project met in Oct 2005 and addressed a number of establishment issues in its' role as the primary policy making body for the project. The principal report to that Committee meeting was the Inception Report that presented an overview of the endorsement and establishment process of the project proper and the preparations undertaken to that point. It is considered a guiding document for the early phases of project implementation.

## **Project Evaluation and Reporting**

2. The OFM Project objectives, outputs and emerging issues are to be regularly reviewed and evaluated annually by the RSC. Reporting (annual and quarterly) is undertaken by the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) based at the FFA in accordance with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) rules and regulations. Quarterly financial and narrative reports for 2005 and the first two quarters of 2006 have been submitted to UNDP.

3. The primary review document required by UNDP is the Annual Project Review (APR), which is designed to obtain the independent views of the main stakeholders of a project on its relevance, performance and the likelihood of its success. GEF also requires each project to undertake a Project Implementation Review (PIR)<sup>1</sup> on an annual basis, which focuses on GEF's project criteria. The APR and the PIR are the principal annual review documents considered by the RSC and they have recently been merged to form a single consolidated report.

4. The draft consolidated PIR/APR has been prepared by the PCU for the Steering Committee's consideration and for onward submission to UNDP. The report is appended at **Attachment A**. The Steering Committee is expected to review and discuss the report. In the past, such APRs were the subject of review by a formal Tripartite or Multipartite Review Board. The Regional Steering Committee (which effectively carries the same level of representation) will act, effectively, as the Multipartite Review body.

## **Recommendation**

5. The OFM Project Regional Steering Committee is invited to consider:
- i) the draft project report which takes into account the first nine operational months of the OFM Project; and
  - ii) endorse the onward transmission of the report to UNDP and GEF.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Project will participate in the annual PIR of the GEF. The PIR is mandatory for all GEF projects that have been under implementation for at least a year at the time that the exercise is conducted. Particular emphasis will be given to the GEF IW project indicator requirements (Process Indicators, Stress Reduction Indicators and Environmental Status Indicators), which will serve to inform the monitoring and evaluation process as well as being adopted by the participating countries as tools for long-term monitoring of project objectives.

***NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)***

**Reporting Period – October 2005 – June 2006**

**1. Country: COOK ISLANDS**

**2. Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)

**3. Period Covered:** 1 October 2005 – 30 June 2006

**4. Summary of Overall Project Progress**

The Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Marine Resources participated in the FFA Meeting to develop a legal strategy of assistance for FFA Member countries in Port Vila, Vanuatu from 14th -16th October, 2005.

As the Marine Resources Act 2005 is now enforced, the Cook Islands priority had shifted from Legislation (the Act) to Regulations and Licensing Regime. In July 2005, FFA conducted a Port-side Inspection and Prosecutions Workshop, and as this such a success, and the fact the Cook Islands now has a new Marine Resources Act, another Prosecution Workshop has been requested be held in Rarotonga.

There had been plans to hold a Workshop for members of Cabinet on the obligations under the WCPFC Convention - an awareness-raising workshop is planned for 2009, taking into account that there was to be an election in 2008. A Snap Election has been called for September 2006, therefore it maybe timely to bring forward this awareness-raising workshop to early or mid-2007. Cook Islands proactively participated in regional Workshops and Meeting where GEF OFM Project had made contributions.

**5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (as per annual work-plan):**

**National level activities**

- An upgraded version of the 'Catch and Effort Query System' installed in May 2006 – Offshore Fisheries Division up-skilled in its use.
- Mr. Les Clark, OFM Project International Consultant, continued working on the Cook Islands Fisheries Management Plan.

**Regional level activities**

- Ms. Pamela Maru, National Observer Coordinator attended the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Observer Coordinator in Honiara.



- Mr. Ian Bertram, Secretary of Marine Resources participated at the Seamount Research Planning Workshop was organized at SPC Headquarters on the 20-21 March 2006.
- Secretary of Marine Resources attended the GEF Regional Steering Committee Meeting in Nadi – June 2006

## **6. Challenges/Issues Encountered**

Challenges and issues encountered with project activities in this reporting period (October 2005 – June 2006) include:

- Les Clark had worked on a Fisheries (Tuna) Management Plan, however the Cook Islands has now decided to incorporate this work into an 'Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management Plan'.
- Visit to Rarotonga by Ms Barbara Hanchard, Project Coordinator, was timely and allowed the opportunity to review the Cook Islands Work plan and also to discuss other areas where GEF may be able to support the Cook Islands Marine Sector Institutional Strengthening Project – currently in progress.
- An issue encountered when preparing this Annual Report, was that the National Focal Point was a little behind, in knowing what activities – Regionally, GEF had contributed to.

## **7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)**

Solutions applied to address the issues and challenges included:

- EAFM – In line with regional approach as promoted by FFA.
- Project Coordinators - Roundtable, informal discussions.

## **9. Recommendations for Future Action**

As reported above, visits by the Project Coordinator are very useful, and we believe they should continue on a more regular basis. We also believe that the Work plan should be a living document and evolve with time, e.g. if activities planned for a particular year are not undertaken, then they should be able to be slotted into the following years activities.

## **10. Report Prepared By: Peter W Graham, National (OFM Project) Focal Point.**

***NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)***

**Reporting Period – October 2005 – September 2006**

**1. Country: Federated States of Micronesia**

**2. Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)

**3. Period Covered:** 1 October 2005 – 30 September 2006

**4. Summary of Overall Project Progress**

The FSM has benefited from several projects during their reporting period. The FSM has participated in several regional workshops, attachments, training programmes, and beneficiary to some the activities aimed at increasing FFA members' understanding of issues and effective participation in the WCPF Commission and related meetings.

Due to our practical reasons given our political setup, the FSM has not been successful in fully engaging the private sector and NGOs in their consultative process.

**5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (as per annual work-plan):**

**National level activities**

An in-country prosecution and port-side workshop was held in Pohnpei, FSM in April 2006.

**Regional level activities**

On a regional level, FSM participated in various conferences, meetings, workshops, trainings, and attachments aimed at building up the capacity of the FFA members to meet their obligations and effectively participate in the work of the WCPF Commission. These sessions include:

- first Steering Committee held in Honiara in October 2005;
- second FFA Management Options Workshop held in Honiara in October 2005;
- the meeting to develop a strategy for legal assistance to FFA Member countries in Port Vila, Vanuatu from 14th -16th October, 2005;

- a sub-regional Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) meeting held in Apia, Samoa in April 2006;
- an EAFM progress follow-up meeting held in Vanuatu, June 2006;
- a regional stock assessment workshop held in Noumea, New Caledonia in July 2006;
- an observer training course that was held in the Majuro, Marshall Islands in August 2006;
- work progressing on National Fisheries Status Report; and
- the provision of technical advice and materials for data collection, observer and port sampling programmes.

## **6. Challenges/Issues Encountered**

- It has been difficult to set a consultative committee given our political set-up. Currently the NORMA board has been used for consultation purposes but the process had not allowed the participation of the private sector and the NGOs.
- I am not sure which projects we had participated in had been funded by the project.

## **7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)**

Solutions applied to address the issues and challenges included:

- Other alternatives have been employed for consultations as the use of the NORMA Board.
- Further consultation with the project coordination unit will be required in the future.

## **9. Recommendations for Future Action**

Closer consultation with the Coordination unit in the future will be very helpful.

Any project future activities should be clearly shown that they are funded under the project.

## **10. Report Prepared By:** Bernard Thoulag, National (OFM Project) Focal Point.

**Paper Number**      **RSC2/INFO.5**  
**Title**                **NATIONAL ANNUAL PROJECT REPORTS**

### **Summary**

The Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project) provides for assistance to Pacific Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) at two distinctive levels, regionally and at individual national levels. Each of the countries participating in the OFM Project has designated a Project National Focal Point to the project and these individuals have a number of responsibilities, including the preparation of a national annual report. This paper presents written national annual reports prepared and submitted by the project focal points for the Cook Islands and Tonga.

### **Recommendation**

The Regional Steering Committee is invited to:

- i) advise on the status of national consultative committee mechanisms in-country;
- ii) note the national annual project reports submitted by the Cook Islands and Tonga;
- iii) provide verbal presentations where no written country report has been submitted in advance; and
- iv) raise for discussion matters relating to any national concerns regarding the project activities and their delivery.

## NATIONAL ANNUAL PROJECT REPORTS

### Introduction

1. The Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project) provides for assistance to Pacific Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) at two distinctive levels, regionally and at individual national levels. Each of the countries participating in the OFM Project has designated a Project National Focal Point (see **Attachment A**) to the project and these individuals have a number of responsibilities.

### National Level Project Management and Coordination

2. The Project National Focal Point is expected to effect the establishment of a National Consultative Committee (NCC) in countries. In reality, it is unlikely that in most countries it is necessary to establish a new body to serve as the NCCs. It is most likely that an appropriate national body that already functions at the intersectoral level can be mandated to take on the role of the NCC (in order to avoid creating unnecessary bureaucracy).

3. The function of the NCCs is to capture the Project concepts and objectives at the national level, to expedite national activities related to the Project components and outputs; and to ensure complementary activities between national strategies and policies and project objectives. This will firmly establish the National Focal Point as the key focal point for interactions with the Project Coordination Unit. Furthermore, this will help to maintain a focus of action at the national level.

### National Consultative Committee

4. The NCCs are expected to meet at least once a year to endorse requests for in-country Project activities, monitor the effectiveness of in-country activities; prepare work plans for in-country Project activities (based on the needs identified in the national missions); discuss project progress and implications at a national level.

5. The NCCs are also expected to identify national concerns regarding project activities and delivery; ensure integrated coordination of actions and Project concepts within those Government Departments that have responsibility/accountability for fisheries-related and Convention-related issues; provide a voice for national, non-governmental stakeholders; provide government representatives with an opportunity to update and inform each other and non-government participants; ensure transparency of process and multisectoral participation.

### Reporting

6. The National Focal Point in each country has been requested to provide the Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) with a summary report of its discussions as they relate to project issues highlighting specific issues that need to be brought to the attention of the Regional Steering Committee. The PCU has provided Project National Focal Points with a standardised reporting template for countries to complete and submit to the Regional Steering Committee. The template has been designed to be concise and is mindful of the need not to burden National Focal Points with extensive reporting requirements on top of their daily national work responsibilities. The National Annual Project Reports for the Cook Islands and Tonga are appended at **Attachment B**.

### *National Annual Work Plan*

7. Additionally, a standardised format for national annual work plans is being provided to countries to assist with coordination and planning of project activities, particularly national level activities. It was hoped that all participating countries will have completed these by the end of year.

### Recommendation

8. The Regional Steering Committee is invited to:

- i) advise on the status of national consultative committee mechanisms in-country;
- ii) note the national annual project reports submitted by the Cooks Islands and Tonga;
- iii) provide verbal presentations where no written country report has been submitted in advance; and
- iv) raise for discussion matters relating to any national concerns regarding the project activities and their delivery.

**ATTACHMENT A**

**OFM Project National Focal Points**

**Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project  
NATIONAL (OFM PROJECT) FOCAL POINT NOMINATIONS**

Country	Focal Point		Designation	Address	Telephone/Fax	Email
<b>COOK ISLANDS</b>	GRAHAM	Peter	Legal Advisor Ministry of Marine Resources	P.O. Box 85 AVARUA, RAROTONGA Cook Islands	Tel: (682) 28721 Fax: (682) 29721	P.W.Graham@mmr.gov.ck
<b>FSM</b>	THOULAG	Bernard	Executive Director National Oceanic Resource Management Authority(NORMA)	P O Box PS122 PALIKIR, POHNPEI Federated States of Micronesia 96941	Tel: (691) 320 2700/5181 Fax: (691) 320 2383	<a href="mailto:norma@mail.fm">norma@mail.fm</a>
<b>FIJI</b>	TUILAUCALA	Saimone	Acting Director of Fisheries Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Fisheries Division	P.O. Box 358 SUVA Fiji	Tel: (679) 336 1122 Fax: (679) 331 8769/336 1184	<a href="mailto:stuilaucala@mff.net.fj">stuilaucala@mff.net.fj</a>
<b>KIRIBATI</b>	TEKINAITI	Tooti	Ag. Principal Fisheries Officer Fisheries Department	P O Box 276 BIKENIBEU, TARAWA Republic of Kiribati	Tel: (686) 21296 / 21099 Fax: (686) 22289 / 21120	<a href="mailto:k2toosi@yahoo.com">k2toosi@yahoo.com</a>
<b>MARSHALL IS</b>	JOSEPH	Glen	Director Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority	P.O. Box 860 MAJURO Marshall Islands 96960	Tel: (692) 625 8262 Fax: (692) 625 5447	<a href="mailto:gjoseph@mimra.com">gjoseph@mimra.com</a> <a href="mailto:mimra@ntamar.net">mimra@ntamar.net</a>
<b>NAURU</b>	JACOB	Peter	Chief Executive Officer Nauru Fisheries & Marine Resources Authority	Aiwo District Republic of Nauru	Tel: (674) 444 3739/ 3733 Fax: (674) 444 3812	<a href="mailto:rdman@naurufisheries.com">rdman@naurufisheries.com</a>
<b>NIUE</b>	PASISI	Brendon	Director Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	P.O. Box 74 ALOFI Niue	Tel: (683) 4032 Fax: (683) 4079 / 4010	<a href="mailto:fisheries@mail.gov.nu">fisheries@mail.gov.nu</a>
<b>PALAU</b>	MALSOL	Nanette	Fisheries Law Compliance Officer Ministry of Resources and Development	P O Box 117 KOROR Republic of Palau 96940	Tel: (680) 488 3125 Fax: (680) 488 3555	<a href="mailto:dillymalsol@yahoo.com">dillymalsol@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:tunapal@palaunet.com">tunapal@palaunet.com</a>
<b>PNG</b>	MARTIN	Paul	Industry Liaison Coordinator National Fisheries Authority	Investment Haus P O Box 2016	Tel: (675) 309 0442 Fax: (675) 3202061	<a href="mailto:pmartin@fisheries.gov.pg">pmartin@fisheries.gov.pg</a>

	KUMORU	Ludwig	Manager – Tuna Fishery National Fisheries Authority	PORT MORESBY, NCD Papua New Guinea Investment Haus P O Box 2016 PORT MORESBY, NCD Papua New Guinea	Tel: (675) 309 0442 Fax: (675) 3202061	lkumoru@fisheries.gov.pg
<b>SAMOA</b>	<b>MULIPOLA</b>	Antonio	Acting Assistant Chief Executive Officer Fisheries Division Department of Agriculture	P.O. Box 1874 APIA Samoa	Tel: (685) 23863 Fax: (685) 24292	<a href="mailto:mulipola.antonio@mfa.gov.ws">mulipola.antonio@mfa.gov.ws</a> <a href="mailto:apmulipola@lesamoa.net">apmulipola@lesamoa.net</a>
<b>SOLOMON IS</b>	<b>DIAKE</b>	Sylvester	Under Secretary Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources	P O Box G13 HONIARA Solomon Islands	Tel: (677) 38674 Fax: (677) 38106 / 38730	sylvester_diake@yahoo.com.au
<b>TOKELAU</b>	<b>PELASIO</b>	Mose	Senior Policy Advisory Officer Fisheries Tokelau-Apia Liaison Office	APIA Samoa	Tel: (685) 20822 – Samoa (690) 3127 - Tokelau Fax: (690) 3108	<a href="mailto:Mose.pelasio@clear.net.nz">Mose.pelasio@clear.net.nz</a>
<b>TONGA</b>	<b>HA'UNGA</b>	Silivenusi	[Designation] Ministry of Fisheries	SOPU, NUKU'ALOFA Kingdom of Tonga	Tel: (676) 27551 Fax: (676) 27550	<a href="mailto:shaunga@tongafish.gov.to">shaunga@tongafish.gov.to</a> <a href="mailto:mofish01@tongafish.gov.to">mofish01@tongafish.gov.to</a>
<b>TUVALU</b>	<b>APINELU</b>	Nikolasi	Director of Fisheries Tuvalu Fisheries Department Ministry of Natural Resources and Lands	VAIAKU, FUNAFUTI Tuvalu	Tel: (688) 20836 Fax: (688) 20151	<a href="mailto:apinelu@yahoo.com">apinelu@yahoo.com</a>
<b>VANUATU</b>	<b>AMOS</b>	Moses	Director Fisheries Department	Private Mail Bag 045 PORT VILA Republic of Vanuatu	Tel: (678) 23621 Fax: (678) 23641	<a href="mailto:fisheries@vanuatu.com.vu">fisheries@vanuatu.com.vu</a> <a href="mailto:tohlolo@yahoo.com">tohlolo@yahoo.com</a> moseamos@vanuatu.com.au
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>ANDERSON</b>	Gordon	Pacific Fisheries Program Development Advisor Adviosry Group Corporate Governance and Review Division AusAID	02 6206 4315	mobile 0400003977	
<b>NEW ZEALAND</b>	<b>ROYSON</b>	Tamsin	Second Secretary	New Zealand High Commission P.O. Box 697 Honiara	Tel: (677) 28534 Fax: (677) 22377	tamsin.royson@mfat.govt.nz



***NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)***

**Reporting Period – October 2005 – June 2006**

**1. Country: COOK ISLANDS**

**2. Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)

**3. Period Covered:** 1 October 2005 – 30 June 2006

**4. Summary of Overall Project Progress**

The Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Marine Resources participated in the FFA Meeting to develop a legal strategy of assistance for FFA Member countries in Port Vila, Vanuatu from 14th -16th October, 2005.

As the Marine Resources Act 2005 is now enforced, the Cook Islands priority had shifted from Legislation (the Act) to Regulations and Licensing Regime. In July 2005, FFA conducted a Port-side Inspection and Prosecutions Workshop, and as this such a success, and the fact the Cook Islands now has a new Marine Resources Act, another Prosecution Workshop has been requested be held in Rarotonga.

There had been plans to hold a Workshop for members of Cabinet on the obligations under the WCPFC Convention - an awareness-raising workshop is planned for 2009, taking into account that there was to be an election in 2008. A Snap Election has been called for September 2006, therefore it maybe timely to bring forward this awareness-raising workshop to early or mid-2007.

Cook Islands proactively participated in regional Workshops and Meeting where GEF OFM Project had made contributions.

**5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (as per annual work-plan):**

**National level activities**

- An upgraded version of the 'Catch and Effort Query System' installed in May 2006 – Offshore Fisheries Division up-skilled in its use.
- Mr. Les Clark, OFM Project International Consultant, continued working on the Cook Islands Fisheries Management Plan.

**Regional level activities**

- Ms. Pamela Maru, National Observer Coordinator attended the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Observer Coordinator in Honiara.
- Mr. Ian Bertram, Secretary of Marine Resources participated at the Seamount Research Planning Workshop was organized at SPC Headquarters on the 20-21 March 2006.
- Secretary of Marine Resources attended the GEF Regional Steering Committee Meeting in Nadi – June 2006

**6. Challenges/Issues Encountered**

Challenges and issues encountered with project activities in this reporting period (October 2005 – June 2006) include:

- Les Clark had worked on a Fisheries (Tuna) Management Plan, however the Cook Islands has now decided to incorporate this work into an 'Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management Plan'.
- Visit to Rarotonga by Ms Barbara Hanchard, Project Coordinator, was timely and allowed the opportunity to review the Cook Islands Work plan and also to discuss other areas where GEF may be able to support the Cook Islands Marine Sector Institutional Strengthening Project – currently in progress.
- An issue encountered when preparing this Annual Report, was that the National Focal Point was a little behind, in knowing what activities – Regionally, GEF had contributed to.

## **7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)**

Solutions applied to address the issues and challenges included:

- EAFM – In line with regional approach as promoted by FFA.
- Project Coordinators - Roundtable, informal discussions.

## **9. Recommendations for Future Action**

As reported above, visits by the Project Coordinator are very useful, and we believe they should continue on a more regular basis. We also believe that the Work plan should be a living document and evolve with time, e.g. if activities planned for a particular year are not undertaken, then they should be able to be slotted into the following years activities.

## **10. Report Prepared By: Peter W Graham, National (OFM Project) Focal Point.**

**NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)**

**Reporting Period – October 2005 – June 2006**

**Country : TONGA**

1. **Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)
2. **Period Covered:** 01 OCTOBER 2005 – 30 JUNE 2006
3. **Summary of Overall Project Progress**  
The Legal Adviser of Fisheries Department participated in the FFA Meeting to develop a legal strategy of assistance for FFA Member countries in October, 2005.  
Tonga, like all FFA member countries participated in all regional workshops and meetings where GEF OFM Project had made contributions.

**5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved**

**National Level Activities**

- A refresher longline training course for qualified regional observers was given in Tonga by Mr. Fukofuka from SPC during the first quarter of 2006.
- A legal fellowship for Tonga was undertaken by Fisheries Legal Officer, Viliami Mo'ale at the Centre for Maritime Policy at the University of Wollongong, Australia, during the first quarter of 2006.
- Tonga and some other member countries were given an upgraded version of the Catch and Effort Query System (CES) during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2006
- Preparations commenced during 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2006 for Operations 'Kurukuru' and 'Islands Chief'. This was supported by Australian Defence with contributions from FFA MCS Division, to undertake coordinated surveillance operations between and across national jurisdictions. The Operations were expected to take place just after the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2006.

**Regional Level**

Tonga's MCS officer participated in all the Regional Workshops and Meetings.  
Secretary for Fisheries attended the GEF Regional Steering Committee just before the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2006

**6. Challenges/Issues Encountered**

Challenges and issues encountered with the project activities within this reporting period (October 2005 – June 2006) included the following:

- One of the main issues encountered by Tonga is that the National Focal Point was rather a little late in knowing the actual activities that GEF contributed to. However, the quarterly reports are of great assistance.

**7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)**

- National Focal Point to be informed of all activities related to GEF contributions. This can be done when coordinator is sending invitations to member countries.

**8. Recommendation**

Established better communications from coordinator.

**Prepared by: Siliveinusi M. Ha'unga,**  
National ( OFM Project) Focal Point of Contact,TONGA

***NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)***

**Reporting Period – 1 Oct 2005 – 30 June 2006**

**1. Country:** MARSHALL ISLANDS

**2. Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)

**3. Period Covered:** 1 October 2005 – 30 June 2006

**4. Summary of Overall Project Progress:** The RMI benefited from various projects under the overall project progress. A few of these highlights include:

1. The Chief Fisheries Officer for the Oceanic & Industrial Affairs Division, MIMRA, completed an attachment to the SPC/OFP during the reporting period. Attachment training included (i) an overview of tuna fishery data collection, (ii) familiarisation with OFP-developed database query tools (e.g. CES) and TUFMAN, and (iii) having the trainees sufficiently advance their National Fisheries Report in preparation for the 2nd meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee meeting (August 2006), using the skills obtained during the training. As a result, the RMI was able to complete and submit its National Fishery Report in advance of the SC2.
2. The successful installation and periodical update of the TUFMAN also took place during this reporting period; in addition, the RMI also received an upgrade to its Catch and Effort Query System (CES).
3. The RMI National Observer Coordinator and key assistant attended the Observer Coordinators Meeting in Honiara in January 2006.

**5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (as per annual work-plan):**

National level activities:

A full observer training course was conducted in Majuro in early February 2006; in addition, a debriefing course took place in August 2006 with considerable assistance from the Project's Fishery Monitoring Supervisor alongside FFA and SPC counterparts.

Regional level activities:

- The RMI National Observer Coordinator and assistant coordinator (senior observer) attended the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Observer Coordinator meeting in Honiara – January 2006.
- Deputy Director attended pre-FFC project progress report briefing in Nadi – May 2006.
- Chief Fisheries Officer for the Oceanic & Industrial Affairs, MIMRA attend EAFM follow-up workshop in Port Vila in March 2006; also attended SPC stock assessment workshop in Noumea in July.

## **6. Challenges/Issues Encountered**

Challenges and issues encountered with project activities in the first 16 months (Oct 2005 – June 2006) include:

- Lack of familiarity with the Project; specifically, which projects fall under or are entitled to GEF funding, etc.
- Inability to keep track or up to date on overall progress of Project.
- Lack of local/national coordination in formally establishing a national project coordinator at this juncture. In all likelihood, this is further complicated by the fact that another government agency is GEF focal point.

## **7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)**

Solutions applied to address the issues and challenges included:

- Need for increased and effective coordination with relevant agencies at the national level.
- Increased awareness and up to date liaison with PCU.
- Possible in-country visit by PCU (subject to timing/schedule availability) to help assist in identifying projects.

## **9. Recommendations for Future Action**

As stated above, an in-country visit to hold local/national consultations and offer key assistance in priority areas for future projects would be more than timely especially now with proposed Work Plan envisaged taking into account the potential areas of assistance identified during project design phase. Future correspondence with PCU is essential.

**10. Report Prepared By:** Samuel K. Lanwi, Jr. [*for* RMI National (OFM Project) Focal Point]

***NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)***

**Reporting Period – 1 Oct 2005 – 30 June 2006**

1. **Country:** Solomon Islands

2. **Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)

3. **Period Covered:** 1 October 2005 – 30 June 2006

**4. Summary of Overall Project Progress**

Solomon Islands has benefited both from the national and regional programme activities of the Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project) during the above reporting period. On the national level, the Project has (i) run an in-country Prosecution and Dockside Boarding Workshop for our Licensing Officers and Observers from the 17 -21<sup>st</sup> October 2005, (ii) provided the Department with an upgraded version of the Catch and Effort Query System (CES), (iii) Develop an MOU that has been signed for the recruitment of a National Tuna Data Coordinator for Solomon Islands, (iv) drafted a National Tuna Fisheries Status Report (NTFSR) for Solomon Islands by the OFP of SPC which is now finalised and (v) visits late last year and early 2006 to the Department by the Fisheries Monitoring Supervisor at SPC to liaise with our Observer Coordinator on observer issues. A visit was also made to the Department in late 2006 by the Project Coordinator, Ms Barbara Hanchard of FFA and will be the subject of the next annual country report. No National Consultative Committee has been established yet under the project.

The planned attachments at FFA for the new Chief Fisheries Officer (Licensing, Surveillance and Enforcement) and the Director of Fisheries with the OFP at SPC to help with the writing of the NTFSR did not eventuate during the reporting period. The planned national workshop to look at the legal implications of decisions adopted by the WCPFC did not take place as anticipated and is due to official travel commitments by staff of the Department.

On the regional level, as part of our institutional strengthening programme, our staff have benefited from the knowledge and experiences acquired from their participation at the (i) 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Observer Coordinators' Workshop, (ii) the MCS Workshop in October 2005 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WCPFC in December 2005 and (iii) briefs provided has helped representatives from the FFA member countries participate effectively at the WCPFC related meetings and the FFC officials and the Ministerial meeting in May 2006. Our nominated participants were sick and could not attend the first regional stock assessment workshop at SPC and the Seamount Planning Workshop at SPC.

**5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (as per annual work-plan):**

**5.1 National level activities**

- (i) An in-country Prosecution and Dockside Boarding Workshop for our Licensing Officers and Observers was held in Noro, Western Province from the 17 -21<sup>st</sup> October 2005,
- (ii) An upgraded version of the Catch and Effort Query System (CES) has been provided to the Department,
- (iii) An MOU between SPC and the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources for the recruitment of a National Tuna Data Coordinator for Solomon Islands was developed and finally signed and

(iv) A National Tuna Fisheries Status Report (NTFSR) for Solomon Islands drafted by the OFP of SPC is now finalized.

## 5.2 Regional level activities

- (i) The late George Diau attended the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Observer Coordinators' Workshop which was held in early 2006 at the FFA conference centre in Honiara,
- (ii) The Principle Fisheries Officer (VMS/S&E), Mr. Charles Tobasala and the Under Secretary of Fisheries attended the MCS Workshop in October 2005
- (iii) The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WCPFC in December 2005 was attended by the Director of Fisheries, Mr. Edwin Oreihaka and the under Secretary of Fisheries
- (iv) briefs were provided to representatives from FFA member countries to enable their effective participation at the WCPFC related meetings and the FFC officials and the Ministerial meeting in May 2006.

## 6. Challenges/Issues Encountered

Challenges encountered in the preparation of this national report are that activities carried out nationally and at the regional level are not quite clearly known to the national focal point, hence the unnecessary delays in the production of this report.

Challenges and issues encountered with project activities in the first 16 months (Oct 2005 – June 2006 include:

- . there has been a substantive delay in finalizing the MOU for the recruitment of National Tuna Data Coordinator.
- . there has been difficulties in making arrangements by the Department for the attachment of the Director of Fisheries with the OFP of SPC to help with the writing of the NTFSR and to learn the stock assessment methods used in the tuna fisheries status report.
- . staff allocated to learn from regionally arranged tuna stock assessment and Seamount planning workshops were not able to attend and sick was given as reasons for not attending.
- . the national and regional project activities are not all known to the national focal point until the quarterly reports and checks are made with appropriate staff of the Department.

## 7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

Solutions applied to address the issues and challenges included:

- . monthly updated reports on both national and regional activities involving a country,
- . quarterly reports highlighting overall project activities for each member country,
- . or regular e-mails noting project activities which each country benefited from per month/quarter, and
- . regular visits by the Project Coordinator to discuss project activities with national focal points.

## 9. Recommendations for Future Action

Closer timely working relationship with national focal points which will include regular in-country visits by the Project Coordinator and other project staff to discuss the implementation of project activities and difficulties encountered should be encouraged in the future.

**10. Report Prepared By:** Mr. Sylvester Diake, National (OFM Project) Focal Point.



***NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)***

**Reporting Period – October 2005 – June 2006**

1. **Country :** **TONGA**
2. **Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)
3. **Period Covered:** 01 OCTOBER 2005 – 30 JUNE 2006
4. **Summary of Overall Project Progress**

The Legal Adviser of Fisheries Department participated in the FFA Meeting to develop a legal strategy of assistance for FFA Member countries in October, 2005.

Tonga, like all FFA member countries participated in all regional workshops and meetings where GEF OFM Project had made contributions.

**5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved**

**National Level Activities**

- A refresher longline training course for qualified regional observers was given in Tonga by Mr. Fukofuka from SPC during the first quarter of 2006.
- A legal fellowship for Tonga was undertaken by Fisheries Legal Officer, Viliami Mo'ale at the Centre for Maritime Policy at the University of Wollongong, Australia, during the first quarter of 2006.
- Tonga and some other member countries were given an upgraded version of the Catch and Effort Query System (CES) during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2006
- Preparations commenced during 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2006 for Operations 'Kurukuru' and 'Islands Chief'. This was supported by Australian Defence with contributions from FFA MCS Division, to undertake coordinated surveillance operations between and across national jurisdictions. The Operations were expected to take place just after the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2006.

**Regional Level**

Tonga's MCS officer participated in all the Regional Workshops and Meetings.

Secretary for Fisheries attended the GEF Regional Steering Committee just before the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2006

## **6. Challenges/Issues Encountered**

Challenges and issues encountered with the project activities within this reporting period (October 2005 – June 2006) included the following:

- One of the main issues encountered by Tonga is that the National Focal Point was rather a little late in knowing the actual activities that GEF contributed to. However, the quarterly reports are of great assistance.

## **7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)**

- National Focal Point to be informed of all activities related to GEF contributions. This can be done when coordinator is sending invitations to member countries.

## **8. Recommendation**

Established better communications from coordinator.

**Prepared by: Siliveinusi M. Ha'unga,**

**National ( OFM Project) Focal Point of Contact,TONGA**

Paper Number      RSC2/WP.6  
Title                IUCN REPORT ON ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

### Summary

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) participates in the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project). The progress of the implementation of work that is to be undertaken by the IUCN has experienced unavoidable delays beyond the control of IUCN. The IUCN have prepared a report that reviews the current status of IUCN-led activities in the Project and proposes a new work plan for activities will be developed in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2006. The report describes the current situation, summarises the stated commitments of IUCN to the OFM project, the range of options explored by IUCN to fulfil these commitments following the postponement of the DOQ collaboration, and the immediate priorities for moving forward.

### Recommendation

The second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee is asked to:

- i) Note the contents of the status report prepared by the IUCN concerning project activities that they are responsible for implementing; and
- ii) Endorse the two recommended options proposed by IUCN in their status paper (**Attachment A**) to move forward; that is to:
  1. Continue striving to secure an appropriate vessel to conduct the scientific research as planned. The variations of this option include the following (with financial implications in parentheses):
    - a. Using *MSV Alucia* (DOQ) as originally planned (no additional funds required)
    - b. Finding ways to complement efforts and join up with SPC in their planned cruises with the *N/O Alis* (additional funds most likely not required)
    - c. Securing either the *N/O Alis* or *R/V Kaharoa* to conduct scaled-down versions of the original cruise developed with the *Alucia* in mind (requires significant additional funding, estimated at roughly 15,000 USD per day of ship-time at a minimum)
  2. Re-programme IUCN resources into alternative, non ship-based, research activities to facilitate the wider goals of the OFM project.

## IUCN REPORT ON ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

### Introduction

1. The World Conservation Union (IUCN) participates in the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project) under the auspices of two sub-components within the principal project components, Component One (Scientific Assessment and Monitoring Enhancement); and Component Two (Law, Policy and Institutional Reform, Realignment and Strengthening). The two sub-components are as follows:

- *Sub-Component 1.3 (Ecosystem Analysis).* IUCN and SPC/OFP are to collaborate to undertake specific activities to obtain information on the ecology of, and fishery impacts on, seamounts as a habitat of special concern. The seamount work will involve a review of historical fisheries data to determine historical patterns of fishing in relation to seamounts; an extensive data collection programme by observers and dedicated research cruises to determine the ecological characteristics of seamounts; and tagging of tunas and other pelagic species in the vicinity of seamounts to determine their residence characteristics. IUCN will arrange a research cruise to undertake underwater survey work at selected seamounts to determine benthic biodiversity and the Sub-Component will support the participation of Pacific SIDS technical and scientific personnel in the research cruise. The results of the research cruise/benthic biodiversity surveys will be included in awareness raising activities to complement information about fisheries and seamounts; and secondly
- *Sub-Component 2.2 Policy Reform.* IUCN will provide analyses of the policy implications of the results of ecosystem analysis under Sub-Component 1.3, including policies for the regulation of pelagic fishing around seamounts. This will support proposals for the adoption of ecosystem-based measures by the Commission at the regional level and by Pacific SIDS in their national waters. Seamount-related policy studies, including legal and compliance aspects will be undertaken by IUCN.

2. The progress of the implementation of project work that is to be undertaken by the IUCN has experienced unavoidable delays beyond the control of IUCN. The delay in the commencement of this work is regrettable and every effort has been invested by IUCN to find ways in which to overcome the current situation.

3. The report appended at **Attachment A** has been prepared by IUCN. The report's purpose is to review the current status of IUCN-led activities under the Ecosystem Analysis component of the OFM Project. Work under the Policy sub-component was scheduled to begin upon completion of the scientific research cruises. However, this phasing is now being re-evaluated in light of the information contained in the attached report and a new work plan for activities will be developed in the fourth quarter of 2006. The report describes the current situation, summarises the stated commitments of IUCN to the OFM project, the range of options explored by IUCN to fulfil these commitments following the postponement of the DOQ collaboration, and the immediate priorities for moving forward.

### Recommendation

4. The second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee is asked to:
- iii) Note the contents of the status report prepared by the IUCN concerning project activities that they are responsible for implementing; and
  - iv) Endorse the two recommended options proposed by IUCN in their status paper to move forward; that is to:
    - a. Continue striving to secure an appropriate vessel to conduct the scientific research as planned. The variations of this option include the following (with financial implications in parentheses):
      - a. Using *MSV Alucia* (DOQ) as originally planned (no additional funds required)
      - b. Finding ways to complement efforts and join up with SPC in their planned cruises with the *N/O Alis* (additional funds most likely not required)
      - c. Securing either the *N/O Alis* or *R/V Kaharoa* to conduct scaled-down versions of the original cruise developed with the *Alucia* in mind (requires significant additional funding, estimated at roughly 15,000 USD per day of ship-time at a minimum)
    - b. Re-programme IUCN resources into alternative, non ship-based, research activities to facilitate the wider goals of the OFM project.

**ATTACHMENT A**

## **IUCN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ECOSYSTEM ANALYSIS COMPONENT OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

Report to: Andrew Hurd, IUCN Global Marine Programme, Gland, Switzerland

Prepared by: David Bowden, IUCN Consultant at the Institute of Zoology, London, UK

Date: 13 September 2006

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### **SITUATION REVIEW AND ANALYSIS**

The purpose of the present document is to review the current status of IUCN-led activities under the Ecosystem Analysis component of the OFM project<sup>a</sup>. The following sections describe the current situation, summarise the stated commitments of IUCN to the OFM project, the range of options explored by IUCN to fulfil these commitments following the postponement of the DOQ collaboration, and the immediate priorities for moving forward.

#### ***DSV Alucia* and Deep Ocean Quest**

In mid-2005 the operators of the privately owned diving support vessel *Alucia*, Deep Ocean Quest (DOQ)<sup>b</sup>, invited IUCN to develop a research itinerary for their vessel in the western Pacific over 4 months in 2007. In collaboration with Dr. Alex Rogers at the Institute of Zoology, London, IUCN subsequently developed a science plan for biological sampling of seamounts in the western tropical Pacific as an integral element of the GEF-funded Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management (OFM) Project. Under the working title of the *Tui Delai Gau Expedition*, this plan consisted of four back-to-back research cruises to study seamounts in Fiji, Tonga, Western Samoa, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. The science objectives of these cruises divided into two broad categories of research: surveys of the diversity and distribution of seabed (benthic) organisms on seamounts, and studies of the influence of seamounts on water-column (pelagic) primary productivity and on the vertically-migrating zooplankton of the deep scattering layer (DSL)<sup>1,2</sup>.

These objectives were ambitious but were developed to exploit fully the capabilities of the *Alucia* and the available sea time. Furthermore, it is central to the present situation that the research programme was planned on the basis of DOQ's offer to make the R/V *Alucia* available without charter fee. Thus, IUCN's budget for the project did not include vessel costs and the overall cost for this contribution to the OFM was extraordinarily low for the quantity and quality of data it had the potential to deliver. On this basis, while there was always an

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<sup>a</sup> IUCN is also involved in the Policy Component of the OFM Project. Work under this Component was scheduled to begin upon completion of the scientific research cruises. However, this phasing is now being re-evaluated in light of the information contained in this document and a new workplan for activities will be developed in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2006.

<sup>b</sup> The *Alucia* was formerly operated by the French marine research institute IFREMER as *DSV Nadir* and in its current ownership is linked to a private company called Deep Ocean Quest (DOQ). In communications since 2005 "DOQ" has been used to denote the team running the *Alucia*.

element of risk involved in the arrangement, it would have been unreasonably cautious of IUCN not to act on the DOQ offer.

During a major refit of the *Alucia* in New Orleans in 2005, the vessel and its associated equipment were damaged as a result of hurricane *Katrina*. The hull was believed to be sound, however, and in late 2005 the *Alucia* was towed to a shipyard in Seattle where the refit was resumed. IUCN were informed that the planned date for completion of the refit would now be set back to mid-2006: still in time for the proposed collaboration on the OFM *Tui Delai Gau* cruises in 2007. However, when IUCN spoke to DOQ's project manager for the *Alucia* refit in June 2006, it became clear that work had come to a halt and that the vessel would not be operational in time to participate in the OFM before 2008 at the earliest. At this point, IUCN decided it had no choice but to proceed on the assumption that the agreement with DOQ would not come to fruition during the period of the OFM project. Without immediate funds to charter an alternative vessel of comparable specification, it was also clear that the extensive research plan drawn up for the *Tui Delai Gau* cruises would probably now be unachievable and hence that the planned activities led by IUCN under the OFM project would have to be re-evaluated.

### **Planned commitments by IUCN to the Ecosystem Analysis Component of the OFM project**

The primary focus of the OFM project is to provide information that will enable the sustainable management of trans-boundary fisheries for tuna and other pelagic fish species in the western central Pacific. Within this objective, the OFM seeks to improve understanding of wider ecosystem-scale processes which influence the distribution and abundance of commercial fish stocks and the effects of fishing on other species and habitats in the region. The IUCN commitments to the OFM are contained in subcomponent 1.3 of the OFM Project Document:

p. 41, paragraph 2

*"The project will provide support to give effect to the adoption of the principles of the ecosystem approach in the new arrangements for transboundary oceanic fish stock assessment in the WTP LME<sup>c</sup>. ... Through collaboration with IUCN, the ecosystem analysis will be broadened to support the first systematic efforts in the region to look at seamount-related aspects of an ecosystem-based approach."*

p. 51, paragraph 2

*"... IUCN and SPC/OFM will collaborate to undertake specific activities to obtain information on the ecology of, and fishery impact on, seamounts as a habitat of special concern. ...*

*"The IUCN will arrange a research cruise to undertake underwater survey work at selected seamounts to determine benthic biodiversity. ... The results of the research cruise/benthic biodiversity surveys will be included in awareness-raising activities to complement information about fisheries and seamounts. ...*

*"This information will allow assessments of the need for, and the utility of, seamount-specific management measures. Moreover, it is anticipated that the results of the project will enable the scientific assessment of specific proposals regarding the management of ecosystem impacts and the efficacy of specific classes of management measures such as marine protected areas (MPAs)."*

These commitments contribute to intended outputs summarised in the OFM Project Executive Summary under the headings:

*Output 1.3.2: Collection and analysis of information on seamounts in the WTP warm pool*

*Output 1.3.3: Model-based analysis of ecosystem-based management options*

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<sup>c</sup> Western Tropical Pacific large marine ecosystem

The IUCN-led activities, therefore, would provide wider knowledge on the general ecology of seamounts, particularly in relation to the influence of seamounts on the distribution and feeding ecology of pelagic fish stocks and the potential effects of commercial fish-stock exploitation on seamount benthic communities. Although the project document specifically mentions only surveys of benthic biodiversity, the science proposal developed by IUCN includes a large pelagic component as outlined above (page 1, para 1). The key focus of this pelagic research is to assess the influence of seamounts on local biological productivity in terms of two hypothesised mechanisms: the local enhancement of primary production through topographically-induced upwelling effects<sup>1</sup>, and the 'trophic-focussing' of zooplanktonic organisms in the deep scattering layer (DSL) through a combination of passive lateral advection and active diurnal vertical migration<sup>2</sup>. By investigating the mechanisms by which seamounts cause locally enhanced biological production, this pelagic research would link directly to studies of the feeding ecology of commercially important fish species associated with seamounts and thus to the main components of the OFM project.

Of the extensive seamount sampling programme proposed by IUCN, it is the pelagic element, rather than the benthic, which is of most direct relevance to the central aims of the OFM and which is likely to generate the more important data for incorporation into the ecosystem model outputs of the OFM project. Thus, while the benthic elements of the original proposal are of considerable scientific interest, and could potentially contribute to policy decisions regarding the conservation of marine biodiversity in the Pacific and perhaps globally, the pelagic elements of the proposal must be considered to be of higher priority in relation to the OFM project.

#### **Potential courses of action for IUCN following postponement of the IUCN-DOQ collaboration in 2007**

Following the decision on the *Alucia*, the first move by the IUCN team was to investigate the availability of alternative vessels that would be capable of fulfilling core elements of the original sampling plan. This search was undertaken in the hope that, if a suitable vessel could be found, it might yet be possible to raise funding for the charter fee. A range of options, including the French research vessel *Alis*, the New Zealand research vessel *Kaharoa*, the Tongan fisheries training and research vessel *Takuo*, commercial survey vessels chartered from the USA, and the possibilities for collaborating with other research cruises planned in the region were investigated. To date, most of these have proved to be unworkable but one or two remain possibilities. In all cases, the primary constraint is cost but this is increasingly exacerbated by timing: scientific research cruises require an extended lead-in period in order to ensure that the vessel and specialist equipment can be mobilised, and that the scientific personnel can plan around their existing professional commitments. Among the alternative possibilities, IUCN also considered collaborations with other research cruises, and non ship-based research.

The alternative courses of action considered by the IUCN Global Marine Programme following the postponement of the 2007 IUCN-DOQ collaboration are summarised below.

- 1) *IUCN could delay participation in the OFM project until 2008 on the expectation that the Alucia will be operational in 2007.*

If the *Alucia* were to complete sea trials by early 2007, the original cruise schedule in the western equatorial Pacific could take place, one year late, in 2008. The OFM project runs from 2005 to 2010 and ideally data collection would take place in the first years of the project to allow a realistic period for collation and analysis of samples. However, if the vessel could be secured for use in 2008 there would potentially be time to generate



worthwhile output, albeit at a reduced level, within the remit of the project. Thus, there remains a possibility that the original plan, using the *R/V Alucia*, might yet be viable within the timescale of the OFM.

From conversations with *Alucia* project manager, Carlos de Paco, IUCN understand that DOQ are confident of completing the refit of the *Alucia* by early 2007. Following sea-trials and delivery to its home port in Costa Rica, the vessel is then scheduled to undertake a programme of short range work-up cruises off the Pacific coast of Central America and on the Cocos Ridge. If the vessel performs satisfactorily during this stage, DOQ anticipate that it will be able to resume the original cruise programme, of which the Tui Delai Gau Expedition formed part, in 2008. This scenario would allow IUCN to conduct many, if not all, of its original research activities planned under the OFM. Consequently, the IUCN is maintaining contacts and goodwill with DOQ so that they are in a position to utilise the *Alucia* should she become available in the future. In light of the progress of the refit to date, however, it must be assumed that this remains a risky option but one that should not be discounted entirely as we should know the status with more certainty in the next three to four months.

## 2) *IUCN could charter an alternative research vessel.*

This option is heavily constrained by the availability of suitable vessels, the high cost of chartering, and the time required to raise the necessary funding. Furthermore, it is unlikely that any vessel obtained at short notice and with limited funding would be capable of fulfilling the original, very extensive, sampling programme. It will be necessary, therefore, to concentrate only on priority work. The following possibilities have been considered:

### a) *N/O Alis*, operated by IRD<sup>d</sup>, Noumea, New Caledonia.

This is a well-equipped 28 m marine research vessel capable of deploying a range of benthic and pelagic sampling gears. Although smaller than the *Alucia*, and not equipped with submersibles, the *Alis* would be capable of fulfilling a significant part of the mapping and sampling programme in the original Tui Delai Gau plan. In particular, it would be capable of conducting the acoustic surveys and targeted mid-water trawls required for recording DSL zooplankton dynamics. Being based in Noumea, New Caledonia, the *Alis* would be an obvious first choice replacement for the *Alucia*.

In July 2006, on the recommendation of Dr. Valerie Allain at SPC<sup>e</sup>, IUCN attempted to contact Dr. Bertrand Richer-de-Forges at IRD, Noumea, regarding possible use of the *Alis*. To date, there has been no reply to this enquiry, nor to a request made to IRD in France for information on the availability of the vessel. Assistance with improving these communications may be necessary if this possibility is to be pursued.

It is significant that SPC intend to submit a proposal for use of the *Alis* in 2008 to conduct pelagic studies within the OFM project. If this application were to be successful, the vessel would clearly then be ideally placed to conduct the IUCN sampling programme if suitable funding and approval for use of the vessel could be obtained. The timescale for applications to use the *Alis* is for proposals to be submitted to IRD in January of the year preceding that in which cruises would take place.

<sup>d</sup> Institute de Recherche pour le Developpement

<sup>e</sup> Secretariat of the Pacific Communities.

Therefore, there is still potential for the IUCN to raise funding and submit an application for use of the *Alis* in 2008.

- b) *R/V Kaharoa*, operated by NIWA<sup>f</sup>, Wellington, New Zealand.

This is another well-equipped 28 m marine research vessel capable of fulfilling a large part of the original Tui Delai Gau programme. Specification is slightly more technically advanced than that of the *Alis* but the overall capability is similar. New Zealand already has commitments to the OFM project including financial contributions from New Zealand Aid, the use of specialist seabed survey equipment and the participation of NIWA scientists in the planned IUCN seamount cruises.

As with the *Alis*, use of the *Kaharoa* would depend on IUCN securing substantial funding for charter of the vessel, and submission of a cruise proposal to the vessel's operators no later than January 2007.

- c) *F/V Takuo*, Tonga Fisheries training and research vessel.

This vessel will probably be used by SPC for longline sampling during the OFM. Although conveniently located and potentially available, neither the design nor the specification of the vessel is suited to the work IUCN intend to do. Specifically, the vessel has no facility for deploying benthic or mid-water trawl gear and has inadequate acoustics equipment for DSL work.

- d) Other vessel on commercial charter.

IUCN has conducted a web-based search of research vessel specifications and itineraries in the Pacific, and has discussed its requirements with Global Seas Vessel Management, Seattle, who act as agents for a large number of commercial survey vessels based in the eastern Pacific. No commercial vessels for which information was available met the required minimum specification and none would have been suitable without some modifications to deck hardware and the installation of specialist acoustics systems. Considering the substantial costs involved in chartering, it was concluded that adapting a vessel designed for another purpose would not be a satisfactory or cost-effective course of action.

- 3) *IUCN could investigate opportunistic collaborations with planned cruises from other research initiatives.*

Given the high cost and limited availability of sea-time on scientific research vessels, this option was never likely to be realistic. In order to secure funding for ship-based deep sea research, participating scientists are under considerable pressure to maximise the use of time and resources during cruises. Schedules are, accordingly, planned with full complements of scientific personnel to enable intensive sampling programmes with minimum down-time. Furthermore, the benthic and pelagic biological sampling involved in the IUCN component of the OFM project would require the shipping of specialised equipment in addition to that required for the primary purpose of the cruise. It was always highly unlikely, therefore, that any existing cruise plan would have the capacity to absorb the extra personnel, equipment, and time demands necessary to conduct a worthwhile sampling programme on seamounts. Nevertheless, lists of research vessels operating in the western central Pacific area through 2007 were compiled (from web searches and contacts

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<sup>f</sup> National Institute for Water and Atmospheric research

at SOPAC<sup>g</sup> and SPC) and, where available, schedules and research objectives were evaluated to assess the potential for collaborative work. None were found which offered any prospect of accommodating the required research.

- 4) *IUCN could divert its resources into alternative, non ship-based, research activities to facilitate the wider goals of the OFM project.*

This input could be to any of the three major components of the OFM and might include, for instance: the organisation of workshops to coordinate data-integration between work groups; inputs to data-mining and analysis; or the collation and analysis of data which does not require ship-based sampling. A relevant example of the latter might be the use of satellite-derived sea-surface colour data to assess the local influence of seamounts on oceanic primary production<sup>3</sup>.

For any contribution within this option, it would be essential to consult fully with other partners in the OFM project in order to ensure that the work undertaken makes a useful contribution to the project's objectives and does not duplicate work being done elsewhere. Given the original research goals of the IUCN within the OFM project, and its wider commitment to promoting research into biodiversity of the deep-sea, this is the least satisfactory scenario for both the IUCN and the OFM project. However, given the present situation with regard to funding and timescales it might prove be the most pragmatic course of action and has the potential to deliver worthwhile outputs.

### **Main conclusions**

- 1) Given the postponement of the IUCN-DOQ collaboration, IUCN will not be in a position to conduct research activities as originally planned under the OFM project unless either: the *Alucia* becomes available, or significant extra funding is obtained to charter an alternative vessel.
- 2) In light of the continuing uncertainties surrounding the *Alucia*, the IUCN is faced with the choice of either: pursuing substantially increased funding for the charter of an alternative vessel, or diverting its existing resources into contributions to the OFM project which do not involve ship-based sampling. Any work within this second option should be undertaken only after detailed discussions with SPC and other partners in the OFM project.
- 3) Of the research vessels potentially available, the *N/O Alis* or the *R/V Kaharoa* represent the best chances of completing a worthwhile seamounts sampling programme within the timescale of the OFM project.
- 4) The lead-in period for mobilising personnel and equipment for sampling cruises is now too short for cruises to take place in 2007. Therefore, if ship-based sampling is to take place, revised cruise plans and science strategies should be prepared for submission to vessel operators no later than January 2007 for operations in 2008. This is the latest date for sampling to take place if data are to be made available within the timescale of the OFM project.
- 5) If ship-based sampling does take place, limitations of time and resources will probably require that the research plan originally proposed by IUCN should be cut to include only those elements which contribute directly to the central goals of the OFM project. In

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<sup>g</sup> South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

practice, this would mean concentrating on the pelagic elements of the research, particularly acoustic surveys of interactions between seamount topography and the vertically-migrating zooplankton of the DSL, and the ‘ground-truthing’ of these surveys by use of controlled-opening mid-water trawls.

## Recommendation

It is clear that there are two primary options for moving forward:

1. Continue striving to secure an appropriate vessel to conduct the scientific research as planned. The variations of this option include the following (with financial implications in parentheses):
  - a. Using *MSV Alucia* (DOQ) as originally planned (no additional funds required)
  - b. Finding ways to complement efforts and join up with SPC in their planned cruises with the *N/O Alis* (additional funds most likely not required)
  - c. Securing either the *N/O Alis* or *R/V Kaharoa* to conduct scaled-down versions of the original cruise developed with the *Alucia* in mind (requires significant additional funding, estimated at roughly 15,000 USD per day of ship-time at a minimum)
2. Re-programme IUCN resources into alternative, non ship-based, research activities to facilitate the wider goals of the OFM project.

IUCN proposes to pursue both options in parallel initially in order to allow sufficient time to exhaust all the variations outlined under Option 1, but not lose any time in being able to move forward under Option 2 in the event that Option 1 is deemed unfeasible. A date of 28 February 2007 is proposed at which time a final decision will be taken as to which option is to be implemented. This five-month period will ensure adequate time to see how the *Alucia* refit progresses, for consultation with OFM partners, as well as other potential collaborators, while not jeopardizing the eventual delivery of project outcomes within the life-span of the project.

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<b>Paper Number</b>	<b>RSC2/WP.7</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>FINANCIAL REPORTS - 2006</b>

### **Summary**

The purpose of this paper is to present the financial reports in 2006 for the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project. This report comprises the acquittal of the approved 2005 Budget and Work Plan, a report on expenditure YTD 30 June 2006, the revised 2006 Budget and Work Plan; and the Draft 2007 Budget and Work Plan.

### **Recommendation**

The OFM Project Regional Steering Committee is invited to:

- i) approve the 2005 financial report year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005;
- ii) consider and note the 2006 Interim Financial Report;
- iii) consider and approve the Revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget; and
- iv) approve the 2007 Draft Annual Work Plan and Budget.



FFA



GEF



**IUCN**  
The World Conservation Union

## FINANCIAL REPORTS - 2006

### Introduction

1. The first meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) for the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management (OFM) Project was held at the FFA Conference Centre, Honiara, Solomon Islands on 14 October 2005. In its inaugural meeting the Committee endorsed the overall Project Budget and Annual Work Plans (AWP) -2005 to 2010.

2. This paper contains the financial reports for presentation to the second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee for the Pacific Islands OFM Project (RSC2) to be held at Nadi, Fiji on 21 October 2006. This report contains three parts as follows:

### Summary of the 2006 Financial Report to the RSC

#### *Part One*

3. Part One presents the 2005 Financial Report. It reports the financial acquittal of 2005 expenditures against the approved 2005 Annual Work Plan and Budget. It reports the project financials for the period 1 October to 31 December 2005.

4. An annual independent audit for the OFM Project was completed on 17 April 2006 and was submitted to UNDP Suva as the project Implementing Agency. The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of the OFM Project contracted the FFA appointed auditor to perform an independent project audit. The Auditor's Report comprises an audit report including a signed combined delivery report and a management letter all of which conform to audit terms of reference required by UNDP. A copy of the 2005 Auditor's Report submitted and accepted by UNDP is appended at **Attachment A**.

#### *Part Two*

5. Part Two of this report is presented in two sub sections. Part Two Section A is the 2006 Interim Financial Report (January to June 2006). It reports the OFM Project activities expenditures year-to-date (YTD) 30 June 2006.

6. The second section of Part Two, Section B presents the OFM Project draft revised annual work plan and budget for the year 2006 for the Regional Steering Committee approval. It takes into account the project implementation issues, the expenditure to date in 2006; and the forecasted expenditure for the remainder of 2006.

#### *Part Three*

7. The third and final part of this report, presents the Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Budget for which endorsement is sought from the Committee.

8. A number of tables are presented in this report. They are:

- i) Table A: 2005 Financial Report;
- ii) Table B: 2006 Interim Financial Report (YTD 30 June 2006);
- iii) Table C: Summary of Revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget;
- iv) Table D: 2006 Revised Annual Work Plan and Budget;
- v) Table E: Summary of Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget; and
- vi) Table F: Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget.

## **PART ONE**

### **2005 Financial Report**

9. The total budget approved for the first year of the project - 2005, was \$628,677<sup>1</sup>. As at 31 December 2005 actual expenditure was \$208,139 leaving an unspent budget of \$420,538. **Table A** reports the financial outcomes of the approved 2005 AWP and Budget at the close of the financial year ending 31 December 2005.

10. The reporting period for the 2005 Financial Report is from 1 October to 31 December 2005. The reporting period for the OFM Project is against a calendar year to synchronise Global Environment facility (GEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reporting requirements and their respective financial year end. This report covers a period of three (3) months of project financial activity only.

11. The disbursement of all OFM Project funds are executed using the FFA Financial Rules and Procedures and in conjunction with UNDP's Programming Manual, in particular sub section 6.5.

12. The annual independent audit for the OFM Project was completed on 17 April 2006 and submitted to UNDP Suva, the project Implementing Agency. The project has been audited by the FFA appointed auditor. The Auditor's Report comprises an audit report including a signed Combined Delivery Report (CDR) and a Management Letter all of which conform to audit terms of reference required by UNDP. A copy of the 2005 Auditor's Report is appended at **Attachment A**.

13. The 2005 project accounts were independently audited by CBL Certified Practicing Accountants Ltd, who through tender, is the FFA appointed auditor. They were separately contracted to perform the OFM Project audit on the 7 March 2006. The audit was completed on the 17 April and was submitted to UNDP Suva on the 24 April 2006. The books of the OFM Management Project were audited together with the CDR, a financial report generated by UNDP. The audit was performed in accordance with international standards of auditing.

### **Executive Summary**

14. The 2005 Financial Report (Table A), presents the OFM Project expenditures YTD period ending 31 December 2005 against the approved 2005 Budget. It reports the 2005 expenditures against the approved OFM Project AWP and Budget reporting format consistence with UNDP's standardarised financial and reporting formats and accounting system known as ATLAS.

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<sup>1</sup> All figures are US Dollars

**Table A: 2005 Financial Report**

OUTCOMES/Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Source of funds	Budget Code	Amount	Actuals YTD 31December 2005	2005 Budget Unspent	
1: Improved scientific information and knowledge on oceanic transboundary fish stocks and related ecosystem aspects of the WTP WP LME; this information being used to adopt and apply conservation and management measures; relevant national capacities strengthened, with Pacific SIDS meeting their responsibilities in monitoring and assessment.		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4							
	Fishery Monitoring				X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$5,000	0	5,000	
						SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$20,000	19,435	565	
						SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$25,000	15,414	9,586	
						SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$4,500	0	4,500	
						SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$3,000	0	3,000	
	Stock Assessment				X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$4,000	0	4,000	
						SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$ 25,000	0	25,000	
						SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$4,500	0	4,500	
						SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$3,000	0	3,000	
						SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	0	0	
	Ecosystem Analysis				X	SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$0			0
						SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$50,000	16,526	33,474	
						SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$8,250	0	8,250	
						SPC	GEF	72100 Contr-Cmpy	\$0	0	0	
						SPC	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$0	0	0	
						SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$8,000	0	8,000	
						SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	0	0	
						IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$60,000	2,663	57,337	
						IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$10,000	1,521	8,479	
						IUCN	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$0	0	0	
						IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$0	0	0	
	Project Support				X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$7,500	0	7,500	
						SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$11,218	13,887	-2,669	
COMPONENT 1 TOTAL									\$248,968	69,446	179,522	
2. The WCPFC established and beginning to function effectively; Pac SIDS taking a lead role in the functioning and management of the Commission and in the related management of the fisheries and the LME; national laws, policies, relevant institutions and programmes reformed, realigned and strengthened; relevant national capacities strengthened.		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4							
	Legal Reform				X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$20,000	0	20,000	
						FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$3,000	0	3,000	
						FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$70,000	43,874	26,126	
	Policy Reform				X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$35,000	28,014	6,986	
						FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$25,000	2,898	22,102	
						FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$10,000	0	10,000	
						FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$0	0	0	
						FFA	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$5,000	3,121	1,879	
						FFA	GEF	73200 PremAlter	\$0	0	0	
						FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$10,000	0	10,000	
						IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$0		0	
						IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$0		0	
						IUCN	GEF	71600 Travel	\$0	2,473	-2,473	
						IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$0		0	
						IUCN	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0		0	
	Institutional Reform				X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$24,000	0	24,000	
						FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	0	0	
	Compliance Strengthening				X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$20,000	0	20,000	
						FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$3,000	0	3,000	
						FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$70,000	28,562	41,438	
	Project Support					FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$20,650	0	20,650	
COMPONENT 2 TOTAL									\$315,650	108,942	206,708	
3. Effective project management at national and regional level; major governmental and NGO stakeholders participating in Project activities and consultative mechanisms at national and regional levels; information on the Project and the WCPF process contributing to increased awareness of oceanic fishery resource and ecosystem management; project evaluations reflecting successful and sustainable project objectives.	Information System					FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$1,500	0	1,500	
						FFA	GEF	72300 Matl&Goods	\$0	0	0	
	Monitoring & Evaluation					FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$0	0	0	
						FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$2,000	0	2,000	
						FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	0	0	
	Stakeholder Participation					FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$0	0	0	
	Proj. Mgmt & Coordination					FFA	GEF	71200 Local Cnslt	\$5,000	0	5,000	
						FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$1,368		1,368	
						FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$0		0	
						FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$7,500	6,242	1,258	
	Project Support					FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$42,500	23,509	18,991	
						FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$4,191		4,191	
COMPONENT 3 TOTAL									\$64,059	29,751	34,308	
GRAND TOTAL (Total Budget , Budget Spent & budget unspent in 2005)									\$628,677	208,139	420,538	

## Recommendation

The Committee is invited to approve the 2005 Financial Report.



## **PART TWO**

### **Section A. 2006 Interim Financial Report (January to June)**

15. The total approved budget for year 2006 is \$2,751,365. The total working budget inclusive of 2005 Carry Forward, amounts to \$3,171,903. As at 30 June 2006 actual expenditure is \$631,925 over a six month period. A number of activity implementation issues have contributed to the proportional low expenditure to date which will be detailed later in this report. These relate primarily to the delays in research activities that command large budget items in two instances and other factors. However, expenses posted after June 2006 and obligations determined for the remainder of 2006 indicate that project implementation will on the whole, progress according to the approved work plan.

16. The reporting period for the 2006 Interim Financial Report is from 1 January to 30 June 2006, covering six (6) months of OFM Project activities only.

17. The annual independent audit for the OFM Project for the 2006 financial year will be conducted after 31 December 2006, under contract to the FFA appointed auditor. The FFA auditors are appointed on a bi-annual basis through a transparent tender process. 2007 is the end of a two year period of appointment for the current FFA Auditor. The outcome of the tender process to appoint a new auditor is not expected to be approved until the annual session of the Forum Fisheries Officials Committee meeting scheduled for the first week in May 2007. Therefore, the current FFA Auditor, CBL Certified Practicing Accountants Ltd will be contracted in late 2006 to complete an audit on the project's 2006 accounts in the first quarter of 2007.

### **Executive Summary**

18. The 2006 Interim Financial Report (**Table B**), presents the OFM Project activities expenditures YTD 30 June 2006 against the approved 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget.

**Table B: 2006 Interim Financial Report (YTD 30 June 2006)**

Key Activities	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Source of funds	Budget Code	2006 Approved Budget	2005 budget cfwd	Actual Expenditures YTD Jan-June 06	2006 Budget Unspent YTD June 06
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4							
Fishery Monitoring	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$3,612	\$26,388
	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$80,000	\$565	\$3,116	\$77,449
	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$100,000	\$9,586	\$51,273	\$58,313
	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$36,000	\$4,500	\$6,053	\$34,447
					SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$3,000	\$2,449	\$551
					SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$42,000	\$0	\$1,378	\$40,622
Stock Assessment	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$33,000
	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$100,000	\$0	\$46,150	\$53,850
	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$36,000	\$4,000	\$33	\$39,967
					SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
					SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$42,000	\$4,500	\$40,863	\$5,637
					SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$60,000	\$0	\$328	\$59,672
Ecosystem Analysis	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$240,000	\$33,474	\$106,213	\$167,261
	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$59,500	\$8,250	\$2,893	\$64,857
	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	72100 Contr-Cmpy	\$365,000	\$0	\$5,540	\$359,460
					SPC	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$100,000	\$0	\$188	\$99,812
					SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$4,801	\$7,199
					SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$20,000	\$0	\$7,522	\$12,478
	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$18,000	\$57,337	\$6,418	\$68,919
	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$60,000	\$8,479	\$24,000	\$44,479
	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$5,000	\$0	\$417	\$4,583
					IUCN	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
								\$1,631,615	\$179,522	\$351,493	\$1,459,644
Legal Reform	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$72,000	\$20,000	\$9,750	\$82,250
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$9,000	\$3,000	\$2,453	\$9,547
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$20,000	\$26,126	\$31,108	\$15,018
Policy Reform	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$100,000	\$6,986	\$20,510	\$86,476
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$100,000	\$22,102	\$16,915	\$105,187
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$45,000	\$10,000	\$6,865	\$48,135
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
					FFA	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$1,879	\$818	\$1,061
					FFA	GEF	73200 PremAlter	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$40,000	\$10,000	\$30,589	\$19,411
	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$20,000	\$0	\$3,333	\$16,667
	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$25,000	\$0	\$4,167	\$20,833
	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	71600 Travel	\$4,000	-\$2,473	\$667	\$860
Institutional Reform	X	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
					IUCN	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
								\$72,000	\$24,000	\$6,210	\$89,790
Compliance Strengthening	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$60,000	\$20,000	\$29,135	\$50,865
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$9,000	\$3,000	\$4,883	\$7,117
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$90,000	\$41,438	\$14,000	\$117,438
Project Support	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$45,640	\$20,650	\$22,820	\$43,470
								\$747,640	\$206,708	\$204,224	\$750,124
Information System	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$2,562	\$1,938
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	72300 Matl&Goods	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$4,000
Monitoring & Evaluation	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
					FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$18,000	\$2,000	\$1,200	\$18,800
					FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$80,000
Stakeholder Participation		X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Proj. Mgmt & Coordination	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Local Cnslt	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$3,972	\$21,028
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$135,000	\$1,368	\$35,032	\$101,336
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$30,000	\$0	\$15,272	\$14,728
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$10,500	\$1,258	\$5,000	\$6,758
	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$42,500	\$18,991	\$3,615	\$57,876
Project Support	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$19,110	\$4,191	\$9,556	\$13,745
								\$372,110	\$34,308	\$76,208	\$330,210
(Total Budget , Budget Spent & Budget Unspent in 2006)								\$2,751,365	\$420,538	\$631,925	\$2,539,979

Note the \$3 difference being the rounding from excel sheet

## Recommendation

The Committee is invited to consider and note the 2006 Interim Financial Report

## **PART TWO**

### **B 2006 Revised Annual Work Plan and Budget**

#### **Introduction**

19. A number of factors relating to project implementation issues since the commencement of the project have contributed to the need to present to the Committee a revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget. It is anticipated that this will be a necessary procedure over the life of the project in the interest of transparency and good accounting practices; and in recognition of the fact that the implementation of many activities that contribute to the overall objectives of the project are subject to many planning complexities that in many instance are not exact.

20. A great deal of uncertainty concerning the disbursement by the project Implementing Agency of the first tranche of project funds in 2005 and the actual date (28 October 2005) they were received by the FFA and the Project Coordination Unit, impacted significantly on a number of project start up activities. This included among other matters, the appointment of PCU staff and other professional technical positions at the two central executing agencies, namely the FFA and SPC. As a consequence project activities that were delayed have been taken into account in the 2006 budget in financial terms have amounted to \$420,538 (2005 cwfd) from the first disbursement of \$628,677.

21. The 2006 working annual work plan and budget, with the inclusion of the 2005 carry forward totals \$3,171,903.

22. The policy of budget carry forward is approved by UNDP and while this is innocuous in terms of activities being completed under budget, it by no means implies the non-performance of project activities according to the approved annual work plan schedules. In instances of delays in the implementation of significant activities, the RSC will be updated at every reporting opportunity.

23. Delayed project work 2005 activities that accumulated in the disproportionate carry forward for 2005 have been largely commenced in the first six months of 2006.. This essentially now aligns the projects work plan to a large extent. The overall roll-out of the project has stabilized as at mid 2006 and on the whole significant targets are expected to be met. Therefore, carry forward is expected to be primarily due to spending under budget or minor delays in some project implementation between consecutive years.

#### **Proposed Revisions**

24. Taking into account actual expenditure to date and the forecasted obligations provided by the FFA, SPC & IUCN, the PCU has prepared a revised work plan and budget for 2006. The following table (**Table C**) summarises the proposed revision to the 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget.

**Table C: Summary of Revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget**

Approved 2006 AWP and Budget	\$2,751,365
2005 cwfd	\$420,538
2006 working budget (includes 2005 cwfd)	\$3,171,903
Less proposed 2006 cwfd to 2007 AWP & Budget	\$ 918,173

**2006 Revised AWP & Budget**

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**\$2,253,730**

25. With the 2005 cwfd, the working budget for 2006 increased by 15.2% to arrive at a working budget of \$3,171,903.

26. The estimated cwfd for the working 2006 budget is 29%.. At this point, the 2006 cwfd is based on actuals for the first half of 2006 and forecasted spending for quarters three and four of 2006. The anticipated surplus budget of \$918,173 is presently proposed as carry forward to 2007. While the suggested carry forward appears to be significant, two facts need to be taken into account. Firstly the impacts of 2005 carry forward, particularly the delay of the start of salary payments, non-expenditure by IUCN and the non-payment of 2005 project support costs to the FFA, and secondly genuine under spending.

27. The revised 2006 AWP & Budget (\$2,253,730) reflects a percentage decrease against the approved 2006 budget (\$2,751,365) of 18.9 %.

28. The Revised Annual Work Plan and Budget is shown in full in **Table D**. This table also presents amended timeframe (please compare this with the 2006 AWP & Budget approved at RSC1). This also reflects an updated work plan (timeframes) taking into account project implementation of activities associated with the budget lines.

**Table D: 2006 Revised Annual Work Plan and Budget**

OUTCOMES/Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Source of funds	Budget Code	Original 2006 Budget	2005 Budget chgd	2006 Adjustments	Revised 2006 Budget	
1: Improved scientific information and knowledge on oceanic transboundary fish stocks and related ecosystem aspects of the WTP WP LME; this information being used to adopt and apply conservation and management measures; relevant national capacities strengthened, with Pacific SIDS meeting their responsibilities in monitoring and assessment.	Fishery Monitoring	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4								
			X		X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$25,000	\$5,000	-17,056	\$12,944	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$80,000	\$565	-16,233	\$64,332	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$100,000	\$9,586	-5,736	\$103,850	
		X	X	X		SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$36,000	\$4,500	-9,425	\$29,075	
	Stock Assessment			X	X	SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$3,000	-551	\$2,449	
					X	SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$42,000	\$0	-0	\$42,000	
					X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$30,000	\$4,000	-9,000	\$25,000	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$100,000	\$25,000	-28,845	\$96,155	
					X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$36,000	\$4,500	-26,017	\$14,483	
	Ecosystem Analysis			X		SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$3,000	1,400	\$4,400	
					X	SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$42,000	\$0	-1,137	\$40,863	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$60,000	\$0	-39,970	\$20,030	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$240,000	\$33,474	-46,221	\$227,253	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$59,500	\$8,250	-23,774	\$43,976	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	72100 Cntr-Cmpy	\$365,000	\$0	-139,178	\$225,822	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$100,000	\$0	8,503	\$108,503	
		X			X	SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$4,000	\$8,000	-1,151	\$10,849	
		X	X			SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$20,000	\$0	-12,478	\$7,522	
		X				IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$18,000	\$57,337	-68,919	\$6,418	
		X	X			IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$60,000	\$8,479	-44,479	\$24,000	
		X				IUCN	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$30,000	\$0	-30,000	\$0	
		X				IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$5,000	0	-4,583	\$417	
	Project Support					IUCN	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$50,000	0	-50,000	\$0	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$35,000	7,500	-708	\$41,792	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$94,115.00	-2,669	8,597	\$100,043	
	COMPONENT 1 TOTAL									\$1,631,615	179,522	-556,961	\$1,252,176
	2: The WCPFC established and beginning to function effectively; Pac SIDS taking a lead role in the functioning and management of the Commission and in the related management of the fisheries and the LME; national laws, policies, relevant institutions and programmes reformed, realigned and strengthened; relevant national capacities strengthened.	Legal Reform	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4							
			X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$72,000	20,000	-17,886	\$74,114
			X	X	X		FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$9,000	3,000	-8,461	\$3,539
Policy Reform		X	X	X		FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$20,000	26,126	-17,529	\$28,597	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$100,000	6,986	44,037	\$151,023	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$100,000	22,102	-65,602	\$56,500	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$45,000	10,000	-33,165	\$21,835	
		X				FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$5,000	0	-3,153	\$1,847	
		X	X			FFA	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	1,879	-1,061	\$818	
				X		FFA	GEF	73200 PremAlter	\$10,000	0	-10,000	\$0	
				X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$40,000	10,000	4,470	\$54,470	
						IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$20,000	0	-16,667	\$3,333	
						IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$25,000	0	-20,833	\$4,167	
						IUCN	GEF	71600 Travel	\$4,000	-2,473	-860	\$667	
						IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$1,000	0	-1,000	\$0	
						IUCN	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	0	0	\$0	
Institutional					X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$72,000	24,000	-44,570	\$51,430	
						FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$20,000	0	-20,000	\$0	
Compliance		X		X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$60,000	20,000	-20,865	\$59,135	
			X		X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$9,000	3,000	-1,617	\$10,383	
Project Support				X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$90,000	41,438	560	\$131,998	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$45,640	20,650	0	\$66,290	
	COMPONENT 2 TOTAL									\$747,640	206,706	-234,202	\$720,146
3: Effective project management at national and regional level; major governmental and NGO stakeholders participating in Project activities and consultative mechanisms at national and regional levels; information on the Project and the WCPF process contributing to increased awareness of oceanic fishery resource and ecosystem management; project evaluations reflecting successful and sustainable project objectives.	Information System	X			X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$3,000	1,500	0	\$4,500	
					X	FFA	GEF	72300 Matl&Goods	\$4,000	0	0	\$4,000	
	Monitoring & Evaluation					FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$10,000	0	-10,000	\$0	
						FFA	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$18,000	2,000	-18,800	\$1,200	
	Stakeholder Participation					FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	0	0	\$0	
					X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$80,000	\$0	0	\$80,000	
	Proj. Mgmt & Coordination	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Local Cnslt	\$20,000	\$5,000	-5,092	\$19,908	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntrct Serv	\$135,000	\$1,368	-54,351	\$82,017	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$30,000	\$0	-1,531	\$28,469	
		X			X	FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$10,500	\$1,258	-1,758	\$10,000	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$42,500	\$18,991	-35,478	\$26,013	
	Project Support	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$19,110	\$4,191	0	\$23,301	
COMPONENT 3 TOTAL									\$372,110	\$34,306	-127,010	\$279,406	
GRAND TOTAL									\$2,751,365	\$420,538	-918,173	\$2,251,731	

## Recommendation

The Committee is invited to consider and approve the 2006 Revised Annual Work Plan and Budget

### **PART THREE**

#### **Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget**

##### **Introduction**

29. In view of the estimated 2006 budget cwf, it is proposed that the Committee revisit the approved total budget for 2007, with the view to endorse the proposed amendments. In this regard, a draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget has been prepared for the Committee's endorsement.

30. The annual 2007 budget approved at the first meeting of the Regional Steering Committee in October 2005 as part of the overall project budget approval is for \$2,737,105. **Table E** presents a summary of the totals for the Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget.

**Table E: Summary of Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget**

Approved 2006 AWP and Budget	\$2,737,105
2006 cwfd	\$918,173
<b>Draft 2007 AWP &amp; Budget</b>	<b><u>\$3,655,278</u></b>

The Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget is shown in full detail in **Table F**.

**Table F: Draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget**

OUTCOMES/Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Source of funds	Budget Code	Original 2007 Budget	2006 Budget c/w/d	Revised 2007 Budget	
1: Improved scientific information and knowledge on oceanic transboundary fish stocks and related ecosystem aspects of the WTP V/P LME; this information being used to adopt and apply conservation and management measures; relevant national capacities strengthened, with Pacific SIDS meeting their responsibilities in monitoring and assessment.	Fishery Monitoring	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4							
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$25,000	\$22,792	\$47,792	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$80,000	\$16,233	\$96,233	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$36,000	\$9,425	\$45,425	
		X	0	0	0	SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$551	\$551	
	Stock Assessment	X	0	0	0	SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	\$0	\$0	
		X	0	0	X	SPC	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$30,000	\$9,000	\$39,000	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$36,000	\$11,300	\$47,300	
		0	0	0	0	SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$0	\$0	
		0	X	0	0	SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	\$43,298	\$43,298	
	Ecosystem Analysis	0	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71300 Local Cnslt	\$60,000	\$39,970	\$99,970	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$240,000	\$55,993	\$295,993	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71600 Travel	\$59,500	\$5,500	\$65,000	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	72100 Contr-Cmpy	\$315,000	\$139,178	\$454,178	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	
		X	0	0	0	SPC	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	\$1,151	\$1,151	
		X	0	0	0	SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	\$4,021	\$4,021	
		0	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$18,000	\$68,919	\$86,919	
		0	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$30,000	\$44,479	\$74,479	
		0	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$50,000	
		0	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$10,000	\$4,583	\$14,583	
		0	X	X	X	IUCN	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	
	Project Support	X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$35,000	\$708	\$35,708	
		X	X	X	X	SPC	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$83,055.00	-\$140	\$82,915	
	COMPONENT 1 TOTAL									\$1,377,555	\$556,961	\$1,934,516
	2: The WCPFC established and beginning to function effectively; Pac SIDS taking a lead role in the functioning and management of the Commission and in the related management of the fisheries and the LME; national laws, policies, relevant institutions and programmes reformed, realigned and strengthened; relevant national capacities strengthened.	Legal Reform	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4						
			X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$72,000	\$17,886	\$89,886
			X	X	X	0	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$9,000	\$8,461	\$17,461
		Policy Reform	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$80,000	\$17,529	\$97,529
			X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$100,000	-\$0	\$100,000
			X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$100,000	\$28,102	\$128,102
X			X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$45,000	\$27,689	\$72,689	
X			0	X	0	FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$5,000	\$3,153	\$8,153	
0			0	0	0	FFA	GEF	72800 InfoTechEq	\$0	-\$0	-\$0	
X			0	X	0	FFA	GEF	73200 PremAlter	\$10,000	\$5,530	\$15,530	
X			X	X	0	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$120,000	\$0	\$120,000	
0			0	0	0	IUCN	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$64,000	\$16,667	\$80,667	
0			0	0	0	IUCN	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$20,000	\$20,833	\$40,833	
0			0	0	0	IUCN	GEF	71600 Travel	\$24,000	\$860	\$24,860	
0			0	0	0	IUCN	GEF	72400 Comm&AV	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	
0			0	0	0	IUCN	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	
Institutional Reform		X	0	X	0	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$72,000	\$44,570	\$116,570	
		X	0	X	0	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$40,000	
Compliance Strengthening		X	0	X	0	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$60,000	\$20,305	\$80,305	
		X	0	X	0	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$9,000	\$1,617	\$10,617	
		X	X	X	0	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000	
Project Support		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$55,440		\$55,440	
COMPONENT 2 TOTAL									\$987,440	\$234,202	\$1,221,642	
3: Effective project management at national and regional level; major governmental and NGO stakeholders participating in Project activities and consultative mechanisms at national and regional levels; information on the Project and the WCPFC process contributing to increased awareness of oceanic fishery resource and ecosystem management; project evaluations reflecting successful and	Information System	X	X	0	0	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	
		X	0	0	X	FFA	GEF	72300 Matl&Goods	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	
	Monitoring & Evaluation	X	X	0	0	FFA	GEF	71200 Intl Cnslt	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	
		X	X	0	0	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$3,000	\$18,800	\$21,800	
		0	0	0	0	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Stakeholder Participation	X	X	0	0	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	
	Proj. Mgmt & Coordination	X	X	X	0	FFA	GEF	71200 Local Cnslt	\$20,000	\$5,092	\$25,092	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71400 Cntract Serv	\$135,000	\$54,351	\$189,351	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	71600 Travel	\$30,000	\$1,531	\$31,531	
		X	X	0	0	FFA	GEF	72200 Equip&Furn	\$3,000	\$1,758	\$4,758	
		X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$65,000	\$35,478	\$100,478	
	Project Support	X	X	X	X	FFA	GEF	74500 MiscExp	\$19,110	\$0	\$19,110	
COMPONENT 3 TOTAL									\$372,110	\$127,010	\$499,120	
GRAND TOTAL									\$2,737,105	\$918,173	\$3,655,278	

## Recommendation

The Committee is invited to approve the 2007 Draft Annual Work Plan and Budget.

## **Conclusion**

31. This report has been prepared for the purpose of presenting the financial reports in 2006 for the OFM Project, to the second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee with whom the responsibility lies for overall oversight of the project. This Committee paper contains:

- i) the 2005 Financial Report;
- ii) an interim financial report for 2006 reporting on expenditure YTD 30 June 2006;
- iii) a revised 2006 AWP & Budget; and
- iv) the Draft 2007 Budget and Work Plan.

32. The PCU have prepared these financial reports adhering to best practice, international standards of accounting and in accordance with the financial regulations of the FFA and UNDP. The second meeting of the OFM Project Regional Steering Committee is invited to consider and endorse the following recommendations.

## **Recommendation**

33. The OFM Project Regional Steering Committee is invited to:

- i) approve the 2005 financial report year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005;
- ii) consider and note the 2006 Interim Financial Report;
- iii) consider and approve the Revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget; and
- iv) approve the 2007 Draft Annual Work Plan and Budget.



**AUDITOR'S REPORT**

## **SECOND MEETING OF THE REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (RSC) FOR THE PACIFIC ISLANDS OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

Tokatoka Resort, Nadi, Fiji  
21 October 2006

### **SUMMARY RECORD OF DISCUSSION<sup>1</sup>**

1. The second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) for the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFM Project) was held at the Tokatoka Resort, Nadi, Fiji on 21 October 2006. Representatives from the following participating country Governments and organizations were present: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), World Wildlife Fund for Nature, and the United Nations Development Programme UNDP/GEF and UNDP (Suva country office). A list of participants is appended at **Attachment A**.

#### *Opening of Meeting*

2. The Project Coordinator briefly welcomed the delegates and acknowledged the presence of UNDP and other organizations at the meeting. Mr. Silivenusi Ha'unga was invited to open the meeting with a prayer.

#### *Introductory Remarks*

3. Mr. Hans de Graaf, Deputy Regional Representative, UNDP Suva, made introductory remarks that explained the importance of the Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFMP) and objective of the meeting. A copy of his introductory remarks is appended at **Attachment B**.

#### *Opening Remarks*

4. Mr Feleti Teo, Director-General of the Pacific Islands Forum fisheries Agency made an opening address. A copy of his opening address is appended at **Attachment C**.

#### *Procedural Issues*

5. Mr Randall Purcell, UNDP/GEF, noted the significance of the OFMP as the largest GEF regional fisheries project and that the project was unique in its connection to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC Commission) *i.e.* support for capacity-building and implementation of obligations under the Commission, as well as its stress reduction indicators/ecosystem indicators.
6. The procedural requirement to appoint a co-Chair was raised. Mr Bernard Thoulag of the Federated States of Micronesia agreed to co-chair the meeting with Mr Hans de Graaf (UNDP) on this occasion.

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<sup>1</sup> Endorsed on .... 2006

### *Apologies*

7. The Chair conveyed apologies of Niue, Palau, Samoa, Tokelau, SPREP and IUCN.

### *Adoption of Agenda*

8. UNDP Suva requested that the agenda item pertaining to the financial report be moved forward and considered following the Annual Report to allow for their attendance. The Committee agreed and a copy of the adopted agenda is appended at **Attachment D**.

### *Regional Steering Committee Representation*

9. The Project Coordinator provided a presentation on Regional Steering Committee representation. The importance of stakeholder participation and awareness raising, and the progress of representation, to date was stressed. The presentation noted that as a result of a consultancy to determine environmental non-governmental organization (ENGO) involvement on the Project, the World Wildlife Fund for Nature South Pacific Programme (WWF SPP) was identified as the logical choice for regional ENGO engagement in project implementation. It was noted that investigation continues for similar arrangements with industry non-governmental participation in the project and that the newly formed Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) was the only defined regional association representing industry in the region.
10. In addition, it was noted that in relation to donor observers at the RSC, Australia and New Zealand, as significant contributions to fisheries management in the region, and FFA and SPC should be formally recognized as continued participants at RSCs. Fiji expressed their appreciation to the GEF and the Project and acknowledged the contributions of Australia and New Zealand.
11. The Committee agreed that:
  - i) the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) formalize the link with the WWF SPPO through a co-financing agreement;
  - ii) the PCU progress discussions with PITIA with the view of concluding a similar co-financing agreement; and
  - iii) the WWF SPPO, PITIA, Australia and New Zealand as nominated NGOs, and project co-financiers participate in all meetings of the RSC.

### **Agenda Item 1: Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project Annual Report (UNDP/GEF Annual Project Report/Project Implementation Report)**

12. The Chair asked the Committee to take note of the Annual Report provided and invited the FFA and SPC to make presentations in support of the Annual Report.
13. SPC made a presentation of science related work contained in Component One of the OFM Project which they have the responsibility for implementing. They noted that with the development of the regional observer programme under the Commission, there would be a greater need for training of observers which is currently partially supported by the Project.
14. Members commended current work particularly those that are relevant to addressing local capacity issues in the areas of stock assessment, tagging, data analyses and reporting. In addition, the Cook Islands sought funding for a small chest freezer for

their in-country work species sample collection. SPC agreed that they would make enquiries on this.

15. In response to a query relating to environmental standards certification, it was noted that FFA is currently looking at the Marine Stewardship Council certification and its application to the Western and Central Pacific region's tuna fishery.
16. Fiji pointed out the lack of information on social and economic benefits or returns from tuna fisheries, and requested that this information be provided as a matter of priority. The Chair responded that the OFM Project does not address these important issues, rather it seeks to assist Pacific Island countries to gain a better scientific understanding to manage the tuna resources and that the Fiji's concerns were being addressed by major parallel project funded by the European Union in the region (DEVFISH).
17. Questions were raised on the number of people that participated in the regional observer and other training and the impact in countries of staff being absent from their duties for extended periods of time. The SPC responded saying that this was a well recognized issue and they were actively seek ways in which to make the delivery of training initiatives more efficient and effective.
18. The FFA Secretariat made several presentations relating the progress of project work undertaken, to date, within Components Two and Three respectively (legal, policy and institutional reform, compliance strengthening and project coordination and management) of the Project.
19. Members noted the importance of funds from the OFM Project that supported the attendance at meetings and helped them prepare for Commission meetings and expressed their gratitude for this assistance through the project. In relation to this the RSC also acknowledged with gratitude New Zealand's project co-financed contribution to the project for past and future convening of the Commission related management options workshops. It was also noted that the OFM Project funded consultancies that provided expert advice to the recently held 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Options Workshop.
20. The FFA Secretariat compliance presentation outlined the progress of work undertaken, to date, towards strengthening compliance in Pacific island country project beneficiaries.
21. PNG expressed their appreciation for the OFM Project supported in-country workshops that has assisted them greatly in building national compliance and enforcement knowledge and skills.
22. The Project Coordinator presented to the RSC a report on the coordination and management of the project covering the period from, October 2005 when the project commenced to June 2006.
23. Nauru asked if the OFMP was able to fund identified projects in a country where funds were no longer available under an existing project, such as work on the Fisheries internet website which has been under construction for some time. The Project Coordinator encouraged Nauru to raise all matters relating to revised national priorities in the course of completing their project national annual work plans and offered to discuss this on the up-coming country visit.
24. The RSC noted and discussed the IUCN Status Report. In the absence of representation from IUCN, the Project Coordinator outlined the key issues and a proposed way forward for the IUCN components of the OFM Project.

25. The Committee noted that IUCN was striving to secure an appropriate vessel to conduct the scientific research as planned, but that they would not know until February 2007 whether this would be possible.
26. The Committee noted the:
  - i) draft 2006 Annual Report of the OFM Project and endorsed the forwarding of the report to UNDP Suva once they had had the opportunity to comment on the final version which required the completion of a risk analysis by UNDP; and
  - ii) contents of the status report prepared by IUCN concerning project activities that they are responsible for implementing and agreed to wait until February 2007 to see if IUCN would be able to secure a research vessel before discussing alternative options.

## **Agenda Item 2: Financial Reports**

27. The PCU presented the 2006 Financial Report that tabled the 2005 Financial Report year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005; an interim 2006 Financial Report; the Revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget; and 2007 Draft Annual Work Plan and Budget
28. The Committee asked for clarification as to why the project funds were under spent in 2005 and early 2006 and whether the substantial amount of money not spend in 2005 resulted in planned activities not being implemented. In response, the PCU explained that there was a great deal of uncertainty as to when exactly funds were to be disbursed and neither FFA nor SPC were able to offer contracts and confirm start dates for professional technical positions supported by the project until funds had been received. A large proportion of the under spent funds in 2005 (4<sup>th</sup> quarter only) related to staff costs including the Project Coordination Unit which was not established until 31 December 2005. It was also explained that there were unavoidable delays in the commencement of work to be undertaken by IUCN and marginally, the SPC planned tagging exercise which was to have started in the second quarter. The PCU confirmed that the latter had since commenced in the third quarter and as costs related to victualling a research vessel, expenditure rates were quite high.
29. The Deputy Resident Representative for UNDP Suva (UNDP Suva DRR) stated that they had great difficulty in accepting the work plan and budgets as presented and sought further explanation of the impact on the project outcomes of the under spending particularly in relation to the sub component on Ecosystems Analysis. UNDP considered that they thought it unrealistic to think that the allocations in the revised 2006 Work Plan and Budget would be spent considering the spending rate in 2005 and early 2006.
30. The UNDP Suva DRR stated that in the formulation of the draft budget for 2007, there should not be automatic carry forward and that it should be based on what can be delivered in a work plan of activities. He stated that UNDP Suva could not accept the draft 2007 Work Plan and Budget and suggested further consultation with the PCU before the Committee endorses the 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget.
31. In response to questions from the UNDP Suva DRR, SPC stated that they worked collaboratively with IUCN and the PCU in both formulating the work plan and budget and in the implementation of activities. While the delays in the IUCN would not prevent their work in ecosystems analysis they remained confident that project outcomes could be achieved.

32. The Project Coordinator stated that the draft 2007 work plan and budget was not formulated in isolation and projections were obtained from those implementing activities at FFA, SPC and IUCN. Project spending rates had increased significantly across executing agencies due to the completion of staff recruitment, and as a flow on the capacity to undertake the activities aligned with positions funded by the project.
33. Fiji asked whether it was possible to possible to implement the extensive array of activities with the number of staff recruited to the project. The Project Coordinator explained that a large amount of the project activities were supported by the work programmes of both the FFA and SPC and it was unnecessary to recruit further project staff. It was explained that one of the attractive features of the project design was the low administrative overhead.
34. The UNDP Suva DRR again expressed his concerns as to whether 100 per cent of the 2006 budget could be expended by year end and would have great difficulty approving the 3.6 million draft budget for 2007. He explained that UNDP Suva was judged by its delivery of project outcomes and said that if large amounts were unspent they would be held accountable for funds received that could have usefully been applied elsewhere.
35. The Project Coordinator again stated that she was confident that the project would expend the revised UNDP Suva benchmark of 80%, a figure which differed from early advice from UNDP Suva, in 2007 and that spending rates for the second half of 2006 which are not covered on the reporting period currently under examination were on target. On advice from UNDP Suva the project retained some flexibility between line items and that if anyone had real concerns about that level of detail for planned expenditure for 2007, she would be only too happy to explain them.
36. SPC stated that they would be able to provide detailed, line by line information to support the draft 2007 work plan and budget and could provide adequate justification for how they would spend the funds, despite being in the position of having to play catch up.
37. The UNDP Suva DRR reiterated that it would be poor financial planning and management if what it approved could not be spent and again stated that UNDP could not approve the draft 2007 budget and that further adjustments would need to be made.
38. Vanuatu stated that they were happy to endorse the draft 2007 budget but in the interest in moving matters forward they suggested that the Committee simply note the draft 2007 budget and the PCU and UNDP Suva discuss it further, the outcome of which could be endorsed by focal points inter-sessionally.
39. The Committee
  - i) approved the OFM Project 2005 Financial Report Year Ending 31 December 2005;
  - ii) considered and noted the OFM Project 2006 Interim Financial Report;
  - iii) considered and approved the Revised 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget; and
  - iv) agreed that the PCU would further consult with UNDP Suva on the draft 2007 Annual Work Plan and Budget, the outcome of which would be returned to the Committee inter-sessionally for consideration.

### **Agenda Item 3: National Annual Project Reports**

40. The PCU presented information paper RSC2/INFO.5 National Annual Reports and reiterated the responsibilities of the National Project Focal Points and making the distinction between them and the established GEF recognised Political and Operational Focal Points. The presentation also highlighted the low level of operation of project National Consultative Committees noting that many countries are making good progress towards re-establishing national tuna fisheries management committees.
41. The Committee noted the written submission of annual national project reports by Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Tonga. Those countries that had not submitted reports were invited to submit them to the PCU as soon as practically possible.
42. The Committee noted the attempt by the Project Coordinator to complete in-country consultations to further discuss national issues before the annual committee meeting and also noted the difficulty due to availability of key people in-country. The Committee encouraged to the Project Coordinator to complete the visits and the assistance with national level priorities and to assist focal points with coordination responsibilities and reporting difficulties.

### **Agenda Item 4: Other Matters**

43. The Committee agreed the next annual meeting of the Regional Steering Committee shall be held in conjunction with the 4th Management Options workshop in 2007.
44. The Committee agreed that the Summary Record will be made available for comment. The PCU will make available the final version for endorsement by the Committee inter-sessionally.
45. The Committee agreed that the national Co-Chair for the third Regional Steering Committee in 2007 would be Fiji.

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**UNDP OPENING REMARKS**

**Mr. Hans de Graaff, Deputy Resident Representative  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

**Pacific Island Oceanic Fisheries Management Project**

Tokatoka Resort Hotel,  
Nadi, Fiji Islands  
Saturday 21 October 2006

Good Morning to all of you

I am happy to be here at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Steering Committee Meeting for the Oceanic Fisheries Management Programme. I bid a special welcome to the country delegates, officials from CROP organisations and the members of the regional steering committee.

The Pacific Island Oceanic Fisheries Management project has successfully progressed into almost 10 months of operation now. The project is driven by the concerns of Pacific SIDS on the unsustainable use of transboundary oceanic fish stocks of the Pacific Islands region and unsustainable levels and patterns of exploitation in the fisheries that target stocks. These are transboundary concerns that apply especially to the impacts of unregulated fishing in the areas of high seas in the region, but also apply more generally across all waters of the region.

The UNDP is strongly committed to the environmental concerns of the Pacific. Equally important is the link between environment to poverty alleviation as what we do with the environment impacts the daily sustenance of the disadvantaged in our rural areas the most. Fisheries resources provide critical 'ecosystem services' on which development depends. Loss of marine resources exacerbates poverty, and likewise, poverty is a major threat to fisheries resources for island environments. Fisheries resources are very important in the future economic development of Pacific SIDS.

The Regional Steering Committee meeting today will provide valuable input for the project. We hope that the discussions from the last few days will also add to the review of the project performance and provide strategic guidance for its future progress. It is indeed great to see such great stakeholder participation. Your continued commitment and coordination will determine the success of this project.

I would like to thank our partners, Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), for their efficient preparation and planning to make today's meeting possible. We are indeed laying foundations for achieving MDG goals by such partnerships that support environmental sustainability. The UNDP remains committed to such partnerships in the region so that jointly we can take the dialogue of sustainable development forward.

I am sure we all look forward to a rich and rewarding discussion today.  
Thank you

**Brief Opening Remarks by the FFA Director General, Mr. Feleti  
P.Teo to the Second Meeting of the Pacific Island Oceanic  
Fisheries Management Project**

**At Nadi, Fiji; 21 October 2006**

1. Good morning to you all and nisa bula to you all. Please allow me to make some very brief opening remarks as part of the opening formalities for this second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee for the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project.
2. Many of you will have been here over the course of the last three days and have participated in the Management Options Workshop. The programme for that workshop was quite intensive and the special FFC meeting yesterday endorsed some very substantial and concrete outcomes of the workshop that will now be forwarded to WCPFC Commission as FFA propose measure and related proposals. I congratulate those of you who were involved in that workshop for the hard work and progress made on some of those substantive issues that will no doubt feature predominantly in the meeting of the WCPFC in December in Apia, Samoa.
3. For those of you, who have arrived specifically come for this meeting, let me welcome you to Nadi.
4. As you will all know this meeting was also scheduled to take place in Honiara on 10 October, last week, but for reasons of safety concerns in Honiara at that particular time, we had to re-schedule the meeting for today. We apologise if this has caused any of you any inconvenience but it was a clear case of being 'better safe than sorry'.
5. Please let me acknowledge the presence of UNDP/GEF and UNDP representatives who are central in the coordination and implementation of the Oceanic Fisheries Management Project; National Focal Representatives to the project who is also regular attendants at FFC meetings; and some invited Observers.
6. The Oceanic Fisheries Management Project has been operational for twelve months now and has made significant contributions towards helping Pacific Island countries participating in this project, to achieve some global environmental benefits through enhanced conservation and management of transboundary oceanic fishery resources in the Pacific Islands region. Recognizing the limitations in capacity of many of the participating countries and the growing complexity of oceans governance and resource management issues makes the assistance provided through this project funded by the Global Environment Facility very timely and significantly essential. The machinery of the WCPFC is gaining momentum and efforts to keep abreast of issues of conservation and management in that fora will continue to challenge Pacific island countries. This makes efforts such as the Management Options Workshop funded by New Zealand through NZAID as a co-financing activity to the Oceanic Fisheries Management Project and the work by SPC to help countries draft National Tuna Fisheries Status Reports and improve data collection to name but a few project related activities, very important.
7. While good progress is being made with the project, although a little slow at first in terms of implementation start up, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage and urge FFA member representatives with national level coordinating roles in this project to remain

vigilant in project matters in order to reap maximum benefits. Correspondingly, the FFA as executing agency for the project will continue to diligently ensure that the objectives are met in an accountable and transparent manner.

8. I am conscious of the fact that this is a Saturday and that you have a full agenda for today, so I don't want to take up much of your time. But I would like to wish the meeting of the OFM Project Regional Steering Committee well and productive meeting and I look forward to the outcomes of your deliberations.

Thank you.

## ATTACHMENT D

 <b>PACIFIC ISLANDS</b> OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT	<b>REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE</b>
	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the RSC Honiara, Solomon Islands 10 October 2006</i>

<b>Paper Number</b>		<b>RSC2/WP.2</b>
<b>Title</b>		<b>ADOPTED AGENDA</b>

- a. Opening of Meeting
- b. Apologies
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Regional Steering Committee Representation
  - 1. Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project Annual Report - (UNDP/GEF Annual Project Report /Project Implementation Report)
  - 2. Financial Reports
  - 3. National Annual Project Reports
  - 4. Other Matters
- e. Next Meeting
- f. Records of Proceeding
- g. Close of the Meeting