

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background

The goals of the Pacific Islands Management Project (OFM Project) PIMS No. 2992 are to combine the interests of the global community in the conservation of a marine ecosystem covering a large area of the globe's surface, with the interests of the some of the world's smallest nations in the responsible and sustainable management of resources that are crucial for their sustainable development.

The project is designed to assist Pacific island countries with efforts as they participate in the setting up and initial period of operation of the new Tuna Commission¹ established by the WCPF Convention, in which they are expected to 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 pilot phase of the full project was completed in 2004 under the framework of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) of the Pacific Small Island Developing States (Project Number RAS/98/G32/A/1G/99) which was designed to assist Pacific island countries improve regional capacity for management of transboundary water resources and create improved management structures to address environmental degradation and ensure the long term sustainability of ocean fisheries in the Western Tropical Pacific large marine ecosystem (WTP LME).

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.

The Project will support the development of a fuller and more detailed set of indicators than is possible to include in the Logical Framework applying the structure of GEF IW indicators, based on process, stress reduction and environmental status indicators. These will be designed not only for use within the Project but more broadly for use by stakeholders including the Pacific SIDS and other WCPF Commission members to measure progress over the longer term towards sustainable use of the oceanic fishery resources of the region and protection of biodiversity in the WTP LME.

Purpose

To describe retrospectively the baseline situation, in mid-2005 before OFMP implementation in relation to:

- a) measures in place at national, sub-regional and regional level for the conservation and management of the oceanic fish stocks of the Western & Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) and the protection of the WTP LME from fisheries impacts; and
- b) the status of the fisheries, the target stocks and the ecosystem including trophic status and status of key non-target species.

¹ Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

The Study will provide initial measures of the indicators outlined in the Logframe Matrix but more specifically those detailed in Annex L (Optional Annexes) of the project document which is appended. These indicators apply the structure of process, stress-reduction and environmental status indicators set down by the GEF International Waters Operational Strategy.²

Scope of Work

The Consultant shall:

1. Briefly summarise the applicable GEF international Waters Operational Strategy and describe the GEF International Waters process, stress-reduction and environmental status³ indicators framework at a project level;
2. Review the indicators described in the Logframe matrix and Annex L for the three Project components, and suggest any appropriate revisions;
3. Within the limits of the information available, assess and briefly describe the status of each of the indicators, where appropriate, at mid-2005 (using for example the information reported to the 1st meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee in August 2005); and
4. Prepare a concise report that can be used as a baseline to assess progress in the indicators during, and at the conclusion of, the Project.

Implementation

The Study will be undertaken largely as a desk study using information available from the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Programme (SPC/OFP).

The Study will draw from and build on the Baseline and Progress Studies undertaken for the Pilot Phase of the Oceanic Fisheries Management Component of the GEF IW SAP Project⁴.

The consultant shall:

- visit Honiara and Noumea for consultation with FFA and SPC/OFP;
- review relevant available GEF IW and OFMP documents on indicators, and monitoring and evaluation more generally;

² As defined in the GEF IW Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 10: Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators for GEF International Waters Projects

³ measures actual changes and long-term improvements in the water environment

⁴ Cartwright. I, (2002). *The Oceanic Fisheries of the Western and Central Pacific: A Baseline Study. Strategic Action Programme (SAP) of the Pacific Small Islands Developing States. Project N0:RAS/98/G32/A/1G/99.*

- Prepare a draft report; and
- Prepare a final study report taking into account comments on the draft by FFA and SPC/OFP.

Expected Outcome

The anticipated outcomes and benefits of this study are:

- identification of a set of measurable indicators for the OFM Project using the GEF IW approach to indicators; and
- a baseline assessment of project indicators providing a basis for assessing progress by the OFM Project against a set of project indicators.

Time Schedule and Reporting Requirements

A first draft report should be submitted to the FFA before the first week in August 2008. The report will be subjected to review for comments and sent back to consultant to incorporate comments into final report. The final report should be submitted to the Agency before the close of business Friday 29 August 2008.

This assignment is to be implemented for a period of twenty (20) working days.

The work of the Consultant will be monitored by the Project Coordinator at the Forum Fisheries Agency. The consultant will report directly to the FFA. The reports and all materials produced by the Consultant will be submitted to the Agency upon completion of assignment.

ANNEX L GEF INDICATORS (with recommended changes)

OUTLINE OF THE STRUCTURE OF MONITORING AND EVALUATION INDICATORS			
Outcomes	Process Indicators	Stress Reduction Indicators	Environmental Status Indicators
Component 1 Outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 impacts of fishing upon them This information being used by the Commission and SIDS to adopt and apply measures for the conservation and management of transboundary oceanic fishery resources and protection of the WTP LME. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishment of Scientific Committee and subsidiary bodies including bodies for statistics and Ecosystem/Bycatch work binding agreement on protocols for fisheries data collection and provision, including catch and effort logs, and port and onboard sampling establishment of Commission data management structure and, databases appointment of science staff and/or contracting of experts for the provision of scientific services agreement on scientific work programme, including forms of stock assessment analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provision of scientific advice to the Commission including information and recommendations on TACs and other management measures from the Scientific Committee to the Commission: measures of the impact of environmental variability on target species abundance and distribution; assessments of the impact of fishing on analysis of impact of possible conservation measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> measures of target stock status in relation to agreed management reference points measures of status of ecosystem including trophic status and status of key non-target species
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National capacities in oceanic fishery monitoring and assessment strengthened, with Pacific SIDS meeting their national and Commission-related responsibilities in these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme in SPC to train SIDS national data and science personnel arrangements for financing of SIDS participation in Commission activities arrangements for recognition of special requirements of SIDS in science and other technical areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> level of participation by SIDS in Commission scientific and data activities level of resources and pattern of Commission programmes, and of other agencies for building capacity of SIDS to participate in Commission scientific activities 	

Component 2 Outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WCPF Commission established and beginning to function effectively; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • entry into force of WCPF Convention • adoption of Rules of Procedure & Financial Regulations • appointment of Commission Secretariat • adoption of arrangements for sustainable funding • establishment of Technical & Compliance Committee • appointment of compliance staff • agreement on compliance programmes including observers, boarding & inspection and VMS, flag state authorisation, notification and vessel register • adoption of processes for reporting of infringements and application of sanctions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adoption of conservation and management measures by the Commission including limits on catches, fishing effort and capacity and/or technical measures such as closed seasons, limits on fishing gear etc • these measures targeting conservation of target species and other species affected by pelagic fishing • the measures address fishing around seamounts consistent with results of seamount-related research • level of implementation of WCPFC measures by Commission members • measures adopted to deter IUU fishing • steps taken against vessels, persons and states failing to comply with Commission measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • level of contribution from transboundary stocks to sustainable development, as measured by economic and social parameters, including value of catch, incomes and food security • measures of target stock status in relation to agreed management reference points • measures of status of ecosystem including trophic status and status of key non-target species • levels of fleet capacity, fishing effort and catch of target and mortality of related species, including bycatch and seabirds in SIDS waters • level of IUU fishing in the high seas • level of marine pollution from fishing activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no. of SIDS that are Commission Members • no. of SIDS that are parties to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement • Undertaking of ratification processes of WCPF Convention • status of national laws • status of national acceptance of other legal instruments • status of national management plans • patterns of reform of national institutions • status of national legal, economic, statistics, science and compliance programmes, particularly observer, port sampling, VMS and inspection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of implementation of WCPFC reporting and measures and compatible measures in EEZs by SIDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • application of above environmental status indicators in SIDS water • impact of IUU fishing in national waters • participation by stakeholders in national management processes

	<p>programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • levels of budgets and staffing for these programmes • conducting of reviews of national laws • Undertaking of ratification process for other instruments • Establishment of national Stakeholder consultative processes • Undertaking of Institutional reviews 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pacific Island nations taking a lead role in the functioning and management of the Commission and in the related management of the fisheries and the globally-important LME. • National capacities in oceanic fisheries law, fisheries management and compliance strengthened 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for financing of SIDS participation in Commission compliance and decision-making activities • recognition of special requirements of SIDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • level of participation by SIDS in Commission compliance and decision-making activities • level of resources and programmes of Commission and other agencies for building capacity of SIDS to participate in Commission compliance activities 	

Component 3 Outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCU established • National and regional Project committees established • Procedures for NGO participation adopted by the Commission • National consultative mechanisms in SIDS include NGO and broad governmental participation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level and pattern of NGO participation in the work of the Commission and national consultative mechanisms • Availability of information on the Convention and the Commission

International Waters in the GEF Operational Strategy

GEF international waters projects help countries to deal with concerns in all types of transboundary water systems, ranging from river basins, lake basins, and groundwater systems, to coasts and large marine ecosystems where most fisheries are harvested, to the open ocean.

The focal area supports projects that help countries:

- Learn to work together on their key transboundary concerns
- Set priorities for joint action
- Implement those actions if a political commitment to sustainability is shown

The GEF plays a catalytic role in helping nations making full use of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments necessary to address these complex concerns about transboundary water resources.

(http://gefweb.org/Projects/Focal_Areas/iw/iw.html)

Operational Policies in International Waters

Operational Strategy

Operational Programs

- **Waterbody-based Operational Program - OP 8**

In the waterbody-based operational program, the GEF helps countries collaboratively address damaged and seriously threatened waterbodies, and the most imminent transboundary threats to their ecosystems. The goal is to modify the ways in which human activities are conducted in different sectors so that the waterbody and its international drainage basin can sustainably support human activities.

[OP 8 Document](#) ([French](#), [Spanish](#))

- **Integrated Land and Water Multiple Focal Area Operational Program - OP 9**

Activities under this operational program provide benefits in multiple focal areas, such as international waters, biodiversity or land degradation. These benefits are achieved through integrated approaches that emphasize better land and water resource management practices. The goal of this operational program is to help countries prevent damage to threatened, but not yet highly degraded, transboundary water systems.

[OP 9 Document](#) ([French](#), [Spanish](#))

- **Contaminant-based Operational Program - OP 10**

In the contaminant-based operational program, the GEF works with countries to demonstrate ways of overcoming barriers to the adoption of practices that limit contamination of international water systems. Projects under this operational program can also be aimed at deriving and disseminating lessons learned from, and among, international waters projects.

[OP 10 Document](#) ([French](#), [Spanish](#))

Strategic Priorities

- **Catalyze Financial Resources for Implementation of Agreed Actions - SP 1**

The first strategic priority is to mobilize financial resources for implementing policy, legal, and institutional reforms and stress-reducing investments agreed upon by the countries sharing a particular waterbody. The countries have typically agreed upon the implementation measures through the development of a transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) and development and adoption of a strategic action program (SAP). Strategic partnerships with investment funds are currently being piloted as particularly efficient models for implementation.

SP IW 1 Document ([French](#), [Spanish](#))

- **Expand Global Coverage of Foundational Capacity Building and Support for Targeted Learning - SP 2**

The second strategic priority is to expand capacity building to address transboundary concerns in new geographic areas. The foundational capacity building is often done within the framework of developing a transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) and a strategic action program (SAP), which are agreed upon by the involved countries. This strategic priority also supports targeted learning, for example, by having developing countries share their experiences with each other.

SP IW 2 Document ([French](#), [Spanish](#))

- **Undertake Innovative Demonstrations for Reducing Contaminants and Addressing Water Scarcity and Competing Water Uses- SP 3**

The third strategic priority is to use demonstration projects to test the feasibility of innovative technology and methodologies to address such priority transboundary concerns as balancing competing uses of water resources in basins, preventing introduction of alien species, reducing land-based pollution, or preventing contaminant releases from shipping activities. The strategic priority also aims to use demonstrations of innovative finance to harness the private sector and build public-private partnerships.

SP IW 3 Document ([French](#), [Spanish](#))

http://gefweb.org/Projects/Focal_Areas/iw/iw_ops.html