

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT (Consolidated)

1. **Country:** Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

2. **Project Number/Code:** PIMS No. 2992

3. **Project Title:** Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project

4. **Executing Agency:** Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency

5. **Period Covered:** 1 January 2007 to 31 March 2007

6. **Summary of Overall Project Progress:**

This project report covers the first quarter of 2007, the end of which represents **18** months of project operations. Project implementation continues to maintain a level of uniformity and the roll-out of activities is largely consistent with the approved annual work plan and budget. The exception to this remains the activities relating to benthic biodiversity survey, the analysis of data on seamounts collected through tagging and trophic sampling and the policy work that would involve from the science. The delay in this area of the project was considered by the second regional Steering Committee meeting which met at Nadi, Fiji in October. IUCN was expected to determine which of the options by 28 February 2007 but have further requested a deferment with which to report. Both the SPC and FFA have provided suggestions for the use of additional funds for activities consistent with the original intent by IUCN.

Project coordination and management continues to operate with both achievements and challenges. Negotiations for a comprehensive international standard audit for 2006 project expenditure commenced in late 2006 in preparation for an early as possible commencement in 2007.

7. **Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (As per quarter work-plan):**

Specific outputs and results achieved under the project against quarterly work plans are reported in the following spreadsheets.

Component One

Sub-component 1.1: Fishery Monitoring	
Output 1.1.1: A template for national integrated monitoring programmes including logsheet, observer, port sampling and landing data collection and management; and provision of national data to the Commission	
Activity 1.1.1.1: Develop database and associated software	<p>Considerable work was made on the TUFMAN system during this period to bring it up to version 3.0. The main enhancements to TUFMAN during this quarter included: the complete redesign of the reporting module to provide more reports and a more user-friendly interface, the enhancement of the Vessel Activity module, and the addition of a new module covering Vessel Trip Coverage.</p> <p>Work also began on the new TUFMAN training manual, which will be a series of computer training videos taking the users through the system step-by-step via a web-page type interface. This material will also include background explaining the connection of data management (through the database system) to the data collection systems. During this quarter, training videos for all TUFMAN reports and the Vessel Activity module were produced.</p>
Activity 1.1.1.2: Develop reporting module for Commission data	The design of the WCPFC reporting module was progressed during this quarter with the main addition of a new module for Vessel Trip Coverage. The information generated from this module will be used to determine the coverage of the different data types (i.e. logsheets, unloadings, port sampling and observer data) which will be presented in the TUFMAN reporting module.
Output 1.1.2: National monitoring systems based on the regional template for integrated monitoring, customised to meet national needs	
Activity 1.1.2.1: Support establishment and enhancement of national databases and software	<p>The TUFMAN databases for the Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu were updated to version 3.0 during this period.</p> <p>The CES database system, with the most up-to-date tuna fishery data, were provided to all member countries during March 2007.</p> <p>The Observer Trip View System with the most up-to-date observer data was provided to PNG during March 2007.</p>
Activity 1.1.2.2: Support establishment and enhancement of national port sampling and observer programmes	Staff travel to FSM and Palau at the end of this quarter included a review of these observer programmes.
Activity 1.1.2.3: Support the coordination of national monitoring programmes	<p>Travel to Marshall Islands and FSM included time spent reviewing their national monitoring capacity and establishing their funding requirements under GEF. The 'National Tuna Data Procedures Documents' (NTDPD) were progressed in both countries.</p> <p>In conjunction with the countries involved MOUs were put together to formalise their GEF funding requests. These MOUs covered monies for the support of an observer position in the Cook Islands and I.T. support for Nauru and Samoa.</p>
Output 1.1.3: A regional monitoring coordination capacity, to develop regional standards such as data formats, and to provide a clearing house for information on fishery monitoring	
Activity 1.1.3.1: Develop and make available common data formats	<p>The trial longline logbooks were retrieved back from Tonga. The completed logbooks were reviewed for their efficiency and 'user-friendliness'.</p> <p>A lower number of forms were requested from the countries during this quarter. Eighty debriefing forms and 35 logsheet books were distributed to monitoring programmes around the region.</p>
Activity 1.1.3.2: Hold	The next regional workshop is currently scheduled for early 2008.

Regional Workshops on regional and national fishery monitoring	
Activity 1.1.3.3: Distribute newsletters, webpage and other forms of information exchange	No activity this quarter.
Output 1.1.4: Training of national monitoring staff, particularly monitoring coordinators, observers and port samplers	
Activity 1.1.4.1: Organise and hold in-country observer & port sampling courses and other training activities	A basic observer training course was run in the Marshall Islands. SPC staff also undertook the pre-selection test for this course and completed the requested refresher port sampling training in the Marshalls. Observers from a number of ports around PNG were also given training in seed tagging, work they may be asked to carry out in the future.
Activity 1.1.4.2: Regional training courses in integrated fishery monitoring	See activity 1.1.3.2.
Activity 1.1.4.3: Attach national monitoring personnel to SPC/OFP	The newly appointed Fisheries Statistician from PNG attended an attachment to the statistics and monitoring section of the OFP during this reporting period. Attachment training included (i) General overview of regional data collection, (ii) Advanced training using the MS EXCEL, (iii) Training and exercises in the CES Database System, and (iv) Training in MapInfo
Sub-component 1.2: Stock Assessment	
Output 1.2.1: National oceanic fisheries status reports prepared collaboratively with national scientific staff	
Activity 1.2.1.1: Prepare 6 National Oceanic Fisheries Status Reports annually	This is an activity that benefits from significant co-funding. During the quarter, work on the NTFSRs for FSM, Nauru, Tonga, Vanuatu and Palau were progressed. Agreement for the provision of an NTFSR (starting 3 rd quarter) for Kiribati was successfully negotiated.
Activity 1.2.1.2: Hold In-country Stakeholder Workshops for delivery of National Status Reports	Outputs from the Tonga NTFSR (in progress) were presented at an in-country stakeholder workshop, while OFP scientists met again with New Caledonian fisheries officers to go over the draft NTFSR for New Caledonia prior to finalisation (a co-funded activity). Presentations derived from NTFSR drafts were prepared for upcoming in-country EAFM scoping workshops being held in Nauru and FSM (in April).
Output 1.2.2: Advice to Pacific SIDS on scientific issues in the work of the Commission	
Activity 1.2.2.1: Provide contributions to briefs on scientific issues for Pacific SIDS for meetings of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and Science Working Groups	OFP staff participated in a workshop held at FFA Headquarters to review and plan management options analyses to support FFA members in WCPFC meetings during 2007.
Activity 1.2.2.2: Present scientific briefs to preparatory meetings of Pacific SIDS for the Commission	No activity during this quarter.
Output 1.2.3: Training of national technical and scientific staff to understand regional stock assessment methods, and interpret and apply the results; and to use oceanographic data	

Activity 1.2.3.1: Hold Regional Workshops on stock assessment methods and analysis of oceanographic impacts on fisheries	Calls for nominations and receipt of nominations for two stock assessment workshops for fisheries officers from SIDS (to be held in June/July) occurred in this quarter. Currently 16 nominations received. A one week long workshop examining the methods used to standardise fishery catch rates (which are key inputs to stock assessments) was held in February, with 3 fisheries officers from SIDS (Cook Islands, Fiji and New Caledonia (co-funding)) invited to attend as part of a training exercise to improve their understanding of stock assessment.
Activity 1.2.3.2: Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP and other institutions to participate in Commission stock assessment work and preparation of national status reports	There were no attachments of technical fisheries officers from SIDS to the OFP in this quarter, although planning for upcoming attachments for Nauru and Palau was progressed.
Activity 1.2.3.3: Train scientific counterparts in-country	No activity during this quarter (FSM training delayed to April).
Sub-component 1.3: Ecosystem Monitoring and Analysis	
Output 1.3.1: Observer sampling and analysis of commercial fishery catches to determine trophic relationships of pelagic species in the WTP LME	
Activity 1.3.1.1: Collect observer-based sampling data, especially – stomach contents, tissue samples	Biological sampling of stomach contents and tissue samples continued in several countries; new samples have been collected in FSM (40) and Samoa (13). Organisation of sampling is still under discussion with Fiji and Solomon Islands. Observers were still to be contracted in Solomon Islands. A new trained observer should start sampling in Cook Islands. French Polynesia and Marshall Islands have been contacted. The second biological sampling SPC Newsletter is in preparation and will be sent to countries at the start of April 2007.
Activity 1.3.1.2: Lab-based analysis of samples	Lab-based analysis of samples is continuing. During the quarter, 140 stomach contents samples were examined and the resulting data/information entered into the database. The total number of stomachs examined and with data entered is now 3139 samples from 68 different species.
Output 1.3.2: Collection and analysis of information on seamounts in the WTP LME	
SPC	
Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops	This activity was completed during Q1-2006 and Q3-2006.
Activity 1.3.2.2: Describe Seamounts and analyse historical fishing patterns around seamounts	<p>Following the recommendations formulated in the report provided in December 2006, the seamount database has been reviewed. The structure of the database has been modified and the access to a major dataset on shallow underwater features used to properly classify all the shallow features. Deep seamounts have also been screened in all EEZs. Screening and validation of seamounts located in international waters areas enclosed between EEZs has begun. At the moment the database provides a list of 3095 unique features of which 331 are in fact islands, atoll or partially emerged banks and 2764 are underwater features (drowned atoll, drowned bank, seamount, guyot, pinnacle, ridge, plateau, knoll, hill, deep bank, unknown). For each feature position, depth and sometimes other characteristics have been validated by several sources of information.</p> <p>An abstract describing this work has been submitted to the GeoHab 2007 meeting on marine benthic habitats of the Pacific and Other Oceans, hosted by the Government of New Caledonia, in conjunction with the Circum Pacific Council and the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission. The abstract has been accepted for presentation during the conference in May 2007 in</p>

	Noumea, New Caledonia.
Activity 1.3.2.3: Collect data at sea at selected seamounts, including tagging, trophic sampling and analysis	The second and final tagging campaign in PNG began on 19 February 2007 and will continue until around 20 May. As at 31 March, approximately 17,500 tuna had been tagged bringing the total project total to 40,000, well in excess of our nominal initial target of 30,000. Releases of archival and sonic tags were a focus of the work this quarter, with project totals for these tag types now reaching 173 and 211, respectively. An anchored FAD was deployed on the Djaul Seamount in the Bismarck Sea facilitating tagging and related biological sampling. Trophic sampling resulted in the collection of 475 stomach samples (250 skipjack, 188 yellowfin and 1 bigeye tuna). Tag recaptures continue to be received in large numbers, with total recaptures now exceeding 3,600.
Activity 1.3.2.4: Support national scientist participation in benthic biodiversity survey	No work was conducted under this activity this quarter. A project proposal has been submitted in collaboration with IRD (French Institute for the Research and Development) to conduct a co-funded scientific cruise in 2008 in the Bismarck Sea (PNG) to study the influence of seamounts on benthic and pelagic ecosystems; if accepted it will allow the completion of this activity.
IUCN	
Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops	
Activity 1.3.2.2: Describe Seamounts and analyse historical fishing patterns around seamounts	
Activity 1.3.2.3: Collect data at sea at selected seamounts, including tagging, trophic sampling and analysis	
Activity 1.3.2.4: Support national scientist participation in benthic biodiversity survey	
Output 1.3.3: Model-based analysis of ecosystem-based management options	
Activity 1.3.3.1: Incorporate ecosystem data and information into existing ecosystem models and refinement of those models as necessary	An ecosystem modelling workshop was held in March 2007 at SPC, Noumea. 4 specialists attended to help balance an Ecopath model of the western and central Pacific. This modelling exercise highlighted discrepancies between the output of the SEAPODYM model, an ecosystem model providing information on the forage species of the tunas, and the outputs of the MULTIFAN-CL model that provides stock assessment information for the tuna stocks. More information is required on the mid-trophic level species. The model also showed the important role of skipjack in the ecosystem because of its high biomass, its high consumption rate, its highly cannibalistic behaviour, and the fact that it is consumed by many other components of the system.
Activity 1.3.3.2: Use enhanced models and data to assess ecosystem-based management options	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.
Activity 1.3.3.3: Use enhanced models and data to assess management options targeted specifically at	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.

seamounts	
Output 1.3.4: Estimates of levels of by-catch in WCPO oceanic fisheries	
Activity 1.3.4.1: Review historical observer data and methodological development	SC 2 working papers were prepared and presented in 2006: http://www.wcpfc.org/sc2/pdf/SC2_ST_IP3.pdf http://www.wcpfc.org/sc2/pdf/SC2_ST_WP1.pdf
1.3.4.2: Estimate levels of by-catch	SC 2 working paper was prepared and presented in 2006: http://www.wcpfc.org/sc2/pdf/SC2_ST_IP1.pdf
Output 1.3.5: 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 & Bycatch Working Group, and by Pacific SIDS	
Activity 1.3.5.1: Present results of ecosystem analysis to the Commission through the Ecosystem & Bycatch Working Group	A workshop on Ecological Risk Assessment is currently in preparation to be held before SC3 and with the outcomes to be presented during SC3.
Activity 1.3.5.2: Present info on national & regional implications of results of ecosystem analysis to Pacific SIDS	No presentation or training was provided during this quarter.
Activity 1.3.5.3: Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP and other institutions to participate in ecosystem analysis	There were no attachments at SPC-OFP during this quarter.

Component Two

Sub-component 2.1: Legal Reform	
Output 2.1.1: A strategy and workplan for activities on regional and national legal issues	
Activity 2.1.1.1: Carry out legal and technical reviews of legal issues and national legal structures	
Activity 2.1.1.2: Hold a Regional Legal Consultation on Legal Issues, National Legal Structures and the Project strategy for legal work.	
Output 2.1.2 New draft laws, regulations, agreements and license conditions in line with WCPF Convention prepared and shared with Pacific SIDS.	
Activity 2.1.2.1. Prepare templates of legal provisions to implement the Convention.	
Activity 2.1.2.2. Undertake national legal reviews.	
Activity 2.1.2.3. Provide draft Bills, regulations, license conditions and access agreements to Pacific SIDS.	
Output 2.1.3. Proposals for the Commission from Pacific SIDS for legal arrangements to implement the Convention.	
Activity 2.1.3.1. Undertake legal studies on Commission and Convention issues including non-Contracting Parties and new members.	
Activity 2.1.3.2. Prepare legal briefs for Pacific SIDS for Commission and subsidiary body meetings.	
Activity 2.1.3.3. Hold Regional Legal Consultations.	
Output 2.1.4. Training of policy makers and legal personnel in oceanic fisheries management legal issues.	
Activity 2.1.4.1. Hold Regional Legal Workshops.	
Activity 2.1.4.2. Hold National Legal Workshops.	
Sub-component 2.2: Policy Reform	
Output 2.2.1. National oceanic fisheries management Plans, policies and strategies.	
Activity 2.2.1.1. Prepare Plans, policy and strategy documents.	First stage consultation to progress Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management on the Tuna Fisheries of Tonga was undertaken in February 2007. Outcome documents related to EAFM process in Palau and Vanuatu near finalisation. (Activities funded by OFM Project

	to varying degrees).
Activity 2.2.1.2. Support the implementation of Plans, policies and strategies.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.2.1.3. Undertake Plan, policy and strategy reviews.	See Activity 2.2.1.1
Output 2.2.2. Strategies and specific proposals for the overall development of the Commission, including its Secretariat and technical programs, and for Commission conservation and management measures.	
Activity 2.2.2.1. Undertake studies on Commission and Convention conservation and management issues.	Draft Consultancy report on FADs, obligations under the Commission to deliver FAD management plans and other advice to Pacific Island Developing States regarding consideration of FAD management options delivered.
Activity 2.2.2.2. Prepare and present reports on regional oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific SIDS, including analysis of proposals for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.	A brief was prepared for Pac SIDS participants for a joint Matting of Tuna RFMOs from around the world, and support was provided to ac SIDS participants during the meeting. The major outcome of the meeting was a plan to coordinate activities of tuna RFMOs in the different oceans, particularly to address IUU fishing.
Activity 2.2.2.3. Hold Regional Fisheries Management Workshops and Consultations.	A consultation on Management Strategies was held to coordinate work of FFA and SPC and train FFA staff in methodologies related to the evaluation of management options and strategies
Output 2.2.3. Identification of possible management options for seamounts, including compliance options. (IUCN)	
Activity 2.2.3.1. Undertake technical studies on management of oceanic fisheries around seamounts.	Work has not begun on these activities.
Activity 2.2.3.2. Hold Workshops on seamount-related management options.	
Activity 2.2.3.3. Prepare proposals on seamount-related conservation and management measures.	
Output 2.2.4. Training of policy makers, technical personnel and other Pacific SIDS stakeholders to increase understanding of sustainable and responsible fisheries.	
Activity 2.2.4.1. Hold Regional Policy Consultations / Workshops.	See above on Management Strategy Evaluation A series of sub-regional workshops on Management Options was planned.
Activity 2.2.4.2. Offer a TSC/USP Policy Training Course.	Plan to review modules of course has been established and review of various components of the modules has been allocated to relevant FFA officers. FFA in contact with USP to organise execution of course.
Activity 2.2.4.3. Present National Fisheries Management Seminars and Workshops.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.2.4.4. Attach Fisheries Management personnel to FFA and arrange study tours for Pacific SIDS personnel to other Fisheries Commissions.	Delegates from Tuvalu and Federated States of Micronesia accompanied FFA officers to special meeting of the Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission in February.

Activity 2.2.4.5. Support relevant Ministerial meetings.	No activity this quarter
Sub-component 2.3: Institutional Reform	
Output 2.3.1. Strategies, plans and proposals for the reform, realignment and strengthening of national oceanic fisheries management administrations.	
Activity 2.3.1.1. Prepare a review of experience and best practices in institutional reform.	Strategic plan and contract to under this review has been prepared and work will be undertaken in 2 nd Quarter 2007.
Activity 2.3.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of national oceanic fisheries management institutions.	Draft report incorporating an activity feasibility study and design document on Institutional Strengthening scoping review of the Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resource Authority (NFMRA) has been delivered to Nauru for their consideration.
Activity 2.3.1.3. Present National Institutional Reform Workshops.	No activity this quarter
Output 2.3.2. Processes for national consultation between stakeholders in oceanic fisheries management.	
Activity 2.3.2.1. Advise on and support national consultative processes.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.3.2.2. Support strengthening of national environmental non-governmental organisations (ENGOS) and industry non- governmental organisations (INGOs) to empower them to participate in oceanic fisheries management.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.3.2.3. Support national workshops for non-state stakeholders.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.3.2.4. Arrange attachments and study tours for non-state stakeholders to learn from experience elsewhere.	No activity this quarter
Sub-component 2.4: Compliance Strengthening	
Output 2.4.1. Strategies, plans and proposals for realigning and strengthening national oceanic fisheries compliance programs.	
Activity 2.4.1.1. Prepare a review of Convention implications for national compliance.	Consultations for Tonga was deferred due to the riot.
Activity 2.4.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of needs to strengthen and realign national compliance programs.	No travels to member countries were undertaken in the first quarter however, advice provided to members as well as planned MCS workshops fro Tuvalu (April) Samoa (May), Kiribati and Tonga later in the year.
Output 2.4.2. Arrangements for regional coordination of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) activities.	
Activity 2.4.2.1. Support regional consultations on coordination of air and sea patrols.	Provided support and advice to Kiribati, Palau and Cooks under the fisheries multilateral operations and aerial surveillance plans for 2007/2008.
Activity 2.4.2.2. Provide advice on	Provided advice and support to Kiribati, Palau and Cooks for operations

MCS coordination between Pacific SIDS and other states involved.	and mount a E-Operations for a day during the 10 MCS working meeting in March.
Activity 2.4.2.3. Prepare Niue Treaty subsidiary agreements.	Assisted with the draft Subsidiary Agreements between the FSM and Nauru; and Kiribati and Nauru. Note, new developments under NT as Nauru does not have a patrol boat. Another milestone, the 10 MCSWG meeting in March 2007 endorsed the concept of the multilateral subsidiary agreement as opposed to bilateral Agreement and including the status of non-Parties, and endorsed the concept of invoking Article XII(5) of the Niue Treaty to allow US and France to accede to this Treaty.
Output 2.4.3. Strategies and proposals for regional compliance measures and programs.	
Activity 2.4.3.1. Undertake technical studies on compliance issues under the Convention.	As part of the Tenth MCS Working Group meeting held at the FFA Secretariat from 26 to 30 March, 2007, workshop TCC2 and WCPFC3 outcomes.
Activity 2.4.3.2. Hold meetings of a Working Group of Pacific SIDS on MCS issues related to oceanic fisheries.	The Regional Annual Tenth MCS Working Group meeting held at the FFA Secretariat from 26 to 30 March, 2007. All MCS practitioners and providers of regional fisheries surveillance met and discussed regional surveillances issues.
Activity 2.4.3.3. Prepare and present reports on regional compliance issues to Pacific SIDS, including analysis of proposals for the Commission and its Technical and Compliance Committee.	As part of the Tenth MCS Working Group meeting held at the FFA Secretariat from 26 to 30 March, 2007, workshop TCC2 and WCPFC3 outcomes included measures that provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Authorisation to Fish; (ii) WCPFC IUU List; (iii) Commission VMS; (iv) Regional Observer Program; (v) Annual Report to the Commission – Part II; (vi) High Seas Boarding and Inspection; (vii) Port State standards and FAO Model Scheme; (viii) Catch Documentation Scheme; (ix) Transshipment; and (x) FFA Priorities for MCS issues in 2007 and Beyond.
Output 2.4.4. Training of national compliance staff, especially in inspection and VMS.	
Activity 2.4.4.1. Present courses on National Inspection, VMS and other national MCS training programs.	Tuvalu Prosecution and Dockside Workshop planned for February was deferred to April 2007, to be followed by Samoa, Kiribati and Tonga later in the year.
Activity 2.4.4.2. Attach national compliance staff to FFA and other Pacific SIDS.	One MCS two weeks attachment for Ms Kalo Manuopangai from Tonga Department of Fisheries initially planned for 19-30 March now set for 2-13 April, 2007.

Component Three

Sub-component 3.1: Information Strategy	
Output 3.1.1. Project Information System for capture, storage and dissemination of project data, lessons and best practices and provision of information products using experience and guidelines from IW:LEARN.	
Activity 3.1.1.1. Design logos and other Project identifiers, Project Website/page and Project Document Cataloguing System.	Completed.
Activity 3.1.1.2. Operate the Website/page.	On-going efforts to maintain and update website.
Activity 3.1.1.3. Project information materials including CDs, papers, videos, pamphlets, newsletters, interviews, press releases etc.	Project overview pamphlet designed. Reprint of the WCPF Convention booklet.
Output 3.1.2. Knowledge management process identifying innovative, best practice and replicable ideas within the Project and relevant to the Project and active involvement with IW:LEARN.	
Activity 3.1.2.1. Prepare Knowledge Management Strategy.	No activity.
Activity 3.1.2.2. Generate Knowledge Management Components for Website/page, newsletters, and progress reports.	Preparation and submission of an IW/LEARN Experience Note for the PI OFM Project. IWLEARN website management training placement negotiated fro 2007.
Sub-component 3.2: Monitoring and Evaluation	
Output 3.2.1. Measures of, and reports on, overall project performance and delivery, including independent evaluations of the Project.	
Activity 3.2.1.1. Mid-term evaluation.	No activity
Activity 3.2.1.2. Terminal evaluation.	
Activity 3.2.1.3. Post evaluation (Year 8).	
Activity 3.2.1.4. Annual reviews.	Review of annual reporting formats has highlighted an inconsistency between the logistical framework analysis in the approved project document and the annual reporting requirements for GEF & UNDP. Using UNDP GEF guidelines for documenting indicators sourced from the internet, work has commenced on the preparation of an annual report using a Project Planning Matrix. This integrates the indicator reporting requirements in the UNDP Project Implementation Report (PIR) & the GEF IW Project Performance Report (PPR), the project logframe and Annex L of the Project Document that sets out indicators.
Activity 3.2.1.5. Annual audit.	Auditors contracted both at FFA and SPC and commenced work this quarter. FFA auditors to provide consolidated report, the first draft of which is due early second quarter.
Output 3.2.2. Analysis of process, stress-reduction and environmental status indicators as per the GEF International Waters Operational Strategy.	
Activity 3.2.2.1. Carry out baseline studies to measure IW indicators.	Gaps in baseline information are being addressed, specifically with regards to national institutions & supportive laws and policies reforms and the existence of inter-ministry coordination mechanisms.

Activity 3.2.2.2. Include indicator measures in progress reports.	To be completed in third quarter.
Sub-component 3.3: Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising	
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.	Completed
Activity 3.3.1.2. Support Pacific ENGO participation in the Commission.	Provisions within the FFA/WWF LOA.
Activity 3.3.1.3. Provide information on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific ENGOs.	See Activity 3.3.1.4
Activity 3.3.1.4. Hold national and regional Workshops for ENGOs.	The first of a series of workshops for Pacific ENGOs is scheduled for the 2 nd quarter. Preparations for this have commenced by developing a programme and securing resource experts.
Activity 3.3.1.5. Produce information materials to raise public awareness on oceanic fisheries management issues.	No activity
Activity 3.3.1.6. Organise regional and national fora on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues for civil society participation.	See Activity 3.3.1.4
Output 3.3.2. Support industry participation and awareness raising in Convention-related processes.	
Activity 3.3.2.1. Conclude co-financing arrangement with Pacific INGO.	PITIA expects to hold its first AGM in May this year. Until formal office bearers are elected it is not possible to conclude a co-financing arrangement.
Activity 3.3.2.2. Support Pacific INGO participation in the Commission.	Industry representative participation at WCPFC3, Apia Samoa, in December 2006 was supported with project funds.
Activity 3.3.2.3. Provide information flow on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific INGOs and businesses.	No activity
Activity 3.3.2.4. Support Pacific INGO consultations on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues.	No activity
Sub-component 3.4: Project Management and Coordination	
Output 3.4.1. Project Coordination Unit staffing and office.	
Activity 3.4.1.1. Appoint the Project Coordinator.	Completed
Activity 3.4.1.2. Appoint other PCU staff.	Completed
Activity 3.4.1.3. Procure equipment	Completed

and other requirements to establish the PCU.	
Output 3.4.2. Arrangements for coordination between Implementing and Executing Agencies.	
Activity 3.4.2.1. Preliminary UNDP/FFA/SPC/IUCN Consultations.	Completed
Activity 3.4.2.2. Conclude FFA/SPC and FFA/IUCN Letters of Agreement (LOAs).	Completed
Activity 3.4.2.3. UNDP/FFA Consultations.	On-going
Output 3.4.3. Regional Steering Committee meetings and reports.	
Activity 3.4.3.1. Hold Inception Workshop.	Completed
Activity 3.4.3.2. Hold Regional Steering Committee meetings.	Scheduled for October 2007
Output 3.4.4. National Consultative Committee meetings and reports.	
Activity 3.4.4.1. Secure National Focal Point nominations.	Completed
Activity 3.4.4.2. Support National Consultative Committee meetings.	Project visits to beneficiary countries continuing. 2006 visits were made to the Cook Islands, Fiji, Solomon Islands Tuvalu and Vanuatu. A country visit to Samoa was completed in this quarter.
Output 3.4.5. Reports on Project implementation, workplan and finances.	
Activity 3.4.5.1. Prepare periodic financial and narrative reports.	On-going. 2006 Audit arrangements commenced early January, see Activity 3.2.1.5
Activity 3.4.5.2. Prepare Annual Work plans	Completed for 2007, including quarterly work plans as requested by UNDP
Activity 3.4.5.3: Prepare Annual Project Reports	Commenced for 2007. See Activity 3.2.1.4

8. Challenges/Issues Encountered

- i) IUCN have further deferred (due 28 February) reporting on the way in which they intend to progress project outputs for collection and analysis of information on seamounts in the WTP LME and identification of possible management options for seamounts, including compliance options.
- ii) One issue encountered concerns Activity 1.3.2.2: Describe Seamounts and analyse historical fishing patterns around seamounts. This work, particularly the description of seamounts, has proved more technically challenging than had been envisaged during the project planning. While much progress has been made, it is clear that additional resources could usefully be reallocated to this activity to allow a full analysis of fishing patterns in relation to identified seamounts, and to analyse the impact of seamounts on various oceanographic and biological productivity parameters.
- iii) Activity 1.2.3.2: Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP – this is becoming increasingly difficult to organise due to the increasing and competing domestic commitments and travel commitments of suitably qualified fisheries staff from national fisheries departments and authorities.
- iv) A series of Policy and Legal Reform work scheduled to take place in Tonga has been disrupted by the outbreak of civil unrest in the Kingdom. This work has been deferred.
- v) A major Compliance strengthening sub-component consultancy to develop a draft Regional MCS Strategy has stalled with the departure of the Manager of the MCS Division at FFA.
- vi) National country visits continue to highlight the low level of understanding of the PI OFM Project at national fisheries administration and the progress of national needs identified during the development of the project document. General project overview presentations continue to be made. National Focal Points also continue to be unable to distinguish project funded activities within the work programmes of the FFA & SPC.

9. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

- i) IUCN have advise they will provide an update in due course;
- ii) A suggested solution to the above problem is the application of unused funds initially allocated to IUCN to support various activities associated with the oceanographic cruise, which now looks likely to be cancelled.
- iii) Attachments are still being planned and undertaken by SPC whenever possible to complement stock assessment training and NTFSR work.
- iv) Work has been rescheduled to the third quarter of 2007 (early July)
- v) Interim MCS Manager to advise progress.
- vi) Project country visits provide overview, work with fisheries administrations to update needs and assessments and develop national annual work plans. Particular attention is focused on national level activities. A basic project pamphlet has been produced and will be distributed widely. A series of fliers are planned on various project activities and Commission issues are to be produced. Website continues to be updated.

10. Report Prepared By:

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