

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 April to 30 June (Q2 2006)

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

The overall progress of the project for this quarter has matured significantly. The project completes nine months of operation and project administration continues to make gains in the transition to being well established. Communication between the Implementing Agency and the Project Coordination Unit at FFA continues to develop and improve with consultation. Although, the confusion over the advance request submissions has resulted in Executing Agencies being overdrawn on two occasions.

Project presentations were given at the SPC Heads of Fisheries meeting in April and the Forum Fisheries Committee meeting in May.

Efforts to focus on national level activities under the project are being progressed as are continued efforts to secure co-funding for a number of project activities, including tagging and trophic structure investigations. Good progress in particular has been made in securing co-funding for tagging, including the following confirmed funding commitments for tagging work in PNG:

PNG National Fisheries Authority	USD 100,000
New Zealand AID	USD 400,000
French Pacific Fund	EUR 50,000
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research	AUD 400,000
University of Hawaii	USD 170,000

In addition, the following funding proposals are currently under consideration (amounts shown are specifically for tagging):

European Commission	EUR 1,500,000
US Dept of State (OESI)	USD 214,000

Unfortunately, activities and efforts to commence the work in relation one part (benthic biodiversity survey) of the output for the collection and analysis of information on seamounts in the WTP LME continues to experience delays. A reassessment of these activities will be addressed in the following quarter by IUCN and the PCU.

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

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	Under this activity, the OFP is developing a standard software

database and associated software	package named TUFMAN (Tuna Fishery Data Management System). Six 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 and reference tables. The system was installed in Tuvalu for the first time during this reporting period and updates of the system were sent to the Cook Islands, Palau and the Marshall Islands.
Activity 1.1.1.2: Develop reporting module for Commission data	This will be developed once collection procedures are implemented in-country.
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	The following countries were given an upgraded version of the Catch and Effort Query System (CES) in April/May: FFA, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu.
Activity 1.1.2.2: Support establishment and enhancement of national port sampling and observer programmes	<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). Active observer programmes are also supported in New Caledonia and French Polynesia. SPC, utilizing POFM and co-funding resources, provided continuing support, guidance, funding for activities, information sharing and materials to these programmes during this period.</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 POFM co-funding resources.</p> <p>Data collection from 25 port sampling sites is also supported by SPC utilizing POFM and co-funding resources. All data received during the quarter were entered, checked and immediate feedback given to the port sampler supervisors.</p>
Activity 1.1.2.3: Support the coordination of national monitoring programmes	<p>Duty travel to Palau and Tonga was conducted by the FMS during the quarter to review each country's data collection system and to identify, or establish where necessary, a National Tuna Data Coordinator (NTDC).</p> <p>An assistant NTDC position will be advertised in Palau. A job description and a draft MOU have been prepared in anticipation of this recruitment.</p> <p>The NTDC position has already been established in Tonga and funding for this position will not be required. However, computer hardware and computer services support was identified as an area which could help improve data collection and management. Further discussions will take place with Tonga regarding this support.</p> <p>The Database Supervisor traveled to Vanuatu, where (inter</p>

	<p>alia) discussions were held on the planned installation of the TUFMAN database and the MOU for the establishment of the NTDC.</p> <p>A presentation on the Fishery Monitoring Component of the project was given to the 'Heads of Fisheries Meeting', in Noumea in April.</p> <p>A draft version of the 'Regional Tuna Data Collection Template' was completed and made available for peer review.</p>
<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</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1.3.1: Develop and make available common data formats</p>	<p>During this quarter 70 observer workbooks, 27 observer waterproof pads and 10 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 7th 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>Activity 1.1.3.2: Hold Regional Workshops on regional and national fishery monitoring</p>	<p>No work was conducted under this activity this quarter. The first regional statistics workshop is planned to be held in the 4th quarter 2006.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1.3.3: Distribute newsletters, webpage and other forms of information exchange</p>	<p>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 next quarter.</p>
<p>Output 1.1.4: Training of national monitoring staff, particularly monitoring coordinators, observers and port samplers</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1.4.1: Organise and hold in-country observer & port sampling courses and other training activities</p>	<p>A full basic observer training course was conducted in Palau, 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>Other co-funded activities included a full basic observer training course and revision of port sampling activities for French Polynesia.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1.4.2: Regional training courses in integrated fishery monitoring</p>	<p>See activity 1.1.3.2.</p>
<p>Activity 1.1.4.3: Attach national monitoring personnel to SPC/OFP</p>	<p>There were three attachments to the SPC/OFP during the reporting period - from 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</p>

	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.
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, a National Tuna Fishery Status Report for Solomon Islands was finalised, while work on NTFSRs for Cook Islands, FSM, Vanuatu and New Caledonia (OFP-funded activity) was progressed.
Activity 1.2.1.2: Hold In-country Stakeholder Workshops for delivery of National Status Reports	No in-country workshops for beneficiary countries were held this quarter.
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	No work was conducted under this activity this quarter.
Activity 1.2.2.2: Present scientific briefs to preparatory meetings of Pacific SIDS for the Commission	No work was conducted under this activity 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	The first regional stock assessment workshop is currently underway at SPC headquarters in Noumea. Extensive work on the development of workshop materials and other preparatory activities took place during the quarter.
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	No attachments took place this quarter.
Activity 1.2.3.3: Train scientific counterparts in-country	No in-country training took place this quarter.
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	

<p>Activity 1.3.1.1: Collect observer-based sampling data, especially – stomach contents, tissue samples</p>	<p>24 samples of stomachs, muscle and liver have been collected during an longline observer trip.</p> <p>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 next quarter.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3.1.2: Lab-based analysis of samples</p>	<p>Lab-based analysis of samples is continuing. A second lab assistant has been contracted for a 6 month period to help with stomach content analysis. During the quarter, 433 stomach contents have been examined and about 90 % of the information has been entered into the data base.</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>Output 1.3.2: Collection and analysis of information on seamounts in the WTP LME</p>	
<p>SPC</p>	
<p>Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops</p>	<p>The Report of the Seamount Research Planning Workshop held at SPC Headquarters on the 20-21 March 2006 has been produced and distributed to the participants for comments. The report will be finalised next quarter and provided as an Information Paper in the Ecosystems and Bycatch Specialist Working Group of the second Scientific Committee of the WCPFC in August 2006. The main results of this workshop were presented during the GEF session of the 5th SPC Heads of Fisheries Meeting in Noumea in March-April 2006. A popular article on this workshop has been published in the SPC Fisheries Newsletter Jan-Mar 2006, vol. 116 (33-35) and on the project web site.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3.2.2: Describe Seamounts and analyse historical fishing patterns around seamounts</p>	<p>As recommended during the Seamount Planning Workshop the screening of seamount location datasets to establish a more accurate list of seamounts and positions has started and 62% of the seamounts that can potentially be validated have been screened. The seamount positions of the Kitchingman and Lai (2004) dataset have been compared with 17 other sources of data. The Kitchingman and Lai dataset has been validated (+ or -) and complementary information added. All datasets are being incorporated into a GIS. Establishing this database is a prerequisite to the analysis of fisheries and oceanographic data.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3.2.3: Collect data at sea at selected seamounts, including tagging, trophic sampling and analysis</p>	<p>Preparations for the co-funded PNG tagging project continued during the quarter. Agreement has been reached to charter a pole & line vessel, <i>Soltai 6</i>, from the Solomon Taiyo fishing company. After some necessary modifications, the boat should be ready to start the tagging campaign in mid-august 2006. Tag reward posters have been translated into 9 languages. A planning meeting has been held at SPC headquarters during</p>

	<p>the week 26-30 June. Cruise plans, tagging strategy, biological sampling and logistics were finalised during the meeting. Preparation of the vessel and scientific and fishing equipment is now underway.</p> <p>The trophic sampling strategy during the PNG tagging project has been discussed and is under preparation.</p>
Activity 1.3.2.4: Support national scientist participation in benthic biodiversity survey	No work was conducted under this activity this quarter.
IUCN	
Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops	<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 an overall lack of confidence that the vessel will ever indeed sail, it has become quite clear that we can no longer count on DOQ in our plans under the OFM project - though DOQ says they remain keen to do this expedition, they cannot provide us with enough assurance of i) when the vessel will be ready to sail; and ii) when she would be available in the central Pacific.</p> <p>[Basically, hurricane Katrina continues to hinder progress, though the owners have also experienced problems with the project manager in terms of shoddy workmanship, ordering wrong pieces of equipment, etc. The owners are looking for a new shipyard and contractor and hope to continue work within the next two months. Assuming all goes well, they plan to test the vessel and submersibles in the Sea of Cortez and eastern tropical Pacific (Cocos-Galapagos corridor) in 2007. The owners are refusing to make any commitments to us or other potential partners until the vessel has been tested and is functioning, meaning that future cruise plans (e.g. our plans for the Pacific) would not be confirmed before early 2007 at the earliest (this assumes the vessel does indeed sail) and would mean the actual expedition would not occur before mid- to late-2008. While still a possibility in the long-term, we cannot dedicate further energy and resources into planning with DOQ at this point in time. If, in early 2007, we can get a written commitment to do the expedition as planned, we will proceed accordingly, but we cannot count on that happening at this point in time. We will continue to engage DOQ and press them to fulfill their original commitment to providing the vessel to the OFM project for four months to as described in the cruise proposal - we just cannot count on their ability to deliver and must develop alternative plans.]</p> <p>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>While a major frustration that severely restricts our capability to implement the four-month expedition as planned with DOQ, IUCN is confident that alternative plans will be developed, in close collaboration with SPC and building on the workshop it sponsored in March 2006.</p>
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	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.

ecosystem data and information into existing ecosystem models and refinement of those models as necessary	
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 seamounts	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.
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	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 nd meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee in August 2006
1.3.4.2: Estimate levels of by-catch	By-catch estimates and a preliminary ecological risk assessment for selected species will be presented to the 2 nd meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee in August 2006.
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	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.
Activity 1.3.5.2: Present info on national & regional implications of results of ecosystem analysis to Pacific SIDS	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.
Activity 1.3.5.3: Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP and other institutions to participate in ecosystem analysis	No attachments were conducted 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	Carried out legal and technical review for Fiji on the implications of the decisions of the 2 nd meeting of the WCPF Commission. Started preliminary analysis on implications of WCPF Decisions for Tuvalu. Prepared report on the

	challenges facing the management of the region's tuna resources for the 14 th Annual Conference of the Australia and New Zealand Society of International law in June.
Activity 2.1.1.2: Hold a Regional Legal Consultation on Legal Issues, National Legal Structures and the Project strategy for legal work.	Participated in the Review Conference of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement in New York. Assisted Forum Island Countries in the preparation of joint statements to the Plenary Meeting of the Conference.
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.	Prepared consultancy for the preparation of background materials for the development of guidelines to legislate for sustainable fisheries in the Pacific Islands
Activity 2.1.2.2. Undertake national legal reviews.	Assistance continued to be provided to Tokelau, Samoa and Fiji on the review of their national fisheries legislations. Contract signed with Consultant for legal reviews to be undertaken in all FFA members by October 2006. Request 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.
Activity 2.1.2.3. Provide draft Bills, regulations, license conditions and access agreements to Pacific SIDS.	Meeting on guidelines for national fisheries legislations took place in Brisbane. Report on the meeting together with the draft guidelines is being finalised.
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.	Paper prepared on implications of Commission measures for FFA members. Papers were presented to the annual meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee and the Parties to the Nauru Agreement.
Activity 2.1.3.2. Prepare legal briefs for Pacific SIDS for Commission and subsidiary body meetings.	FFA prepared commentary on the Rules of Procedure for the Scientific Committee. These were submitted to the Executive Director of the WCPF Commission
Activity 2.1.3.3. Hold Regional Legal Consultations.	Regional consultations on the development of model legislation convened in Brisbane from 4 -8 July 2006.
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.	No regional workshops were held during this quarter.
Activity 2.1.4.2. Hold National Legal Workshops.	National workshop conducted in Samoa and Fiji on the implications of decisions of the WCPF Commission.
Activity 2.1.4.3. Attach legal staff to FFA and other institutions to participate in legal analyses.	Two legal attachments were organised during the quarter. The first was a Legal Fellowship for Vanuatu and the second was legal fellowship for Tonga. The legal attachment for Tonga was undertaken at the Centre for Maritime Policy at the University

	of Wollongong.
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.	<p>Planned activities for the stakeholders consultation for the Vanuatu TMP. Dr. R. Fletcher, FFA, Regional consultants trainees and Vanuatu fisheries staff are involved in this process.</p> <p>Work continues for the Cook Island TMP with assistance from Les Clark, FFA consultant.</p> <p>Work for the Palau TMP is in the planning stage in consultation with the Palau Fisheries.</p>
Activity 2.2.1.2. Support the implementation of Plans, policies and strategies.	Provision of support and advice 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.
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.	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.
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.	<p>Prepare briefs for Science Committee and the Technical and Compliance meetings.</p> <p>Prepare pre-SC and TCC FFC meetings to discuss issues that are relevant to island state interests</p>
Activity 2.2.2.3. Hold Regional Fisheries Management Workshops and Consultations.	See 2.2.2.2.
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.	<p><i>See Component One for IUCN quarterly reporting: No activity under Component Two</i></p>
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.	First meeting of the Southern Tuna and Billfish Committee to discuss the working agenda for this committee that includes research program, fisheries management issues and albacore fisheries.
Activity 2.2.4.2. Offer a TSC/USP Policy Training Course.	Communication has commenced with USP to discuss the joint delivery of a Train Sea Coast (TSC) Fisheries Management Policy course. Revision of the existing module of the TSC Pacific Islands Region Fisheries Management will be proposed. This is an on-going activity.
Activity 2.2.4.3. Present National Fisheries Management Seminars and Workshops.	On going consultation with Vanuatu, Cook Island and Palau regarding the reviews of their TMPs.
Activity 2.2.4.4. Attach Fisheries Management personnel to FFA and arrange study tours for Pacific SIDS personnel to other Fisheries Commissions.	Arrange for the training of key personnel from selected pacific island countries to attend the train the trainers workshop in Vanuatu.
Activity 2.2.4.5. Support relevant Ministerial meetings.	Provided support for the 2 nd FFC Ministerial meeting.
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.	Consulted with and provided advice to Nauru on their proposed fisheries institutional reform program.
Activity 2.3.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of national oceanic fisheries management institutions.	On going work on the Nauru ISP.
Activity 2.3.1.3. Present National Institutional Reform Workshops.	No activity
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.	Vanuatu, Cook Islands and Palau
Activity 2.3.2.2. Support strengthening of national environmental non-governmental organisations (ENGOs) and industry non-governmental organisations	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. Same procedure was also carried out for the Cooks.

(INGOs) to empower them to participate in oceanic fisheries management.	
Activity 2.3.2.3. Support national workshops for non-state stakeholders.	Vanuatu stakeholders consultation workshop.
Activity 2.3.2.4. Arrange attachments and study tours for non-state stakeholders to learn from experience elsewhere.	No activity
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.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.4.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of needs to strengthen and realign national compliance programs.	Ongoing contributions to reviews of needs to strengthen and realign national compliance programmes under the auspices of activities in the legal sub-component continue.
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.	See Activity 2.4.3.2
Activity 2.4.2.2. Provide advice on MCS coordination between Pacific SIDS and other states involved.	See Activity 2.4.3.2 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.
Activity 2.4.2.3. Prepare Niue Treaty subsidiary agreements.	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.
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.	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.
Activity 2.4.3.2. Hold meetings of a Working	The annual regional meeting for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance which includes as a prior meeting, an annual

Group of Pacific SIDS on MCS issues related to oceanic fisheries.	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.
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.	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.
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.	An in-country Dockside boarding and Inspection Workshop has taken place in FSM in the first quarter of 2006. The workshop was 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.
Activity 2.4.4.2. Attach national compliance staff to FFA and other Pacific SIDS.	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.

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.	The process to engage a communications specialist to address awareness raising activities has commenced and it is expected that work will commence on the next quarter of 2006 with the view for possible ongoing services throughout the project on a consultancy basis.
Activity 3.1.1.2. Operate the Website/page.	The OFM Project website is operational and is maintained and administered by FFA and the PCU. Improvement in the upload of material to the webpage needs to occur.
Activity 3.1.1.3. Project information materials including CDs, papers, videos, pamphlets, newsletters, interviews, press releases etc.	No activity in this quarter (see Activity 3.1.1.1).
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 in this quarter (see Activity 3.1.1.1).
Activity 3.1.2.2. Generate Knowledge Management Components for Website/page, newsletters, and progress reports.	No activity in this quarter (see Activity 3.1.1.1).
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 this quarter
Activity 3.2.1.2. Terminal evaluation.	
Activity 3.2.1.3. Post evaluation (Year 8).	
Activity 3.2.1.4. Annual reviews.	Preparations for the production of the annual report for the project have commenced. This will be prepared according to formats required by UNDP and GEF and taking into account the logical framework analysis and the results identified that require verification. Reference to the UNDP Results driver need to also be taken into consideration.
Activity 3.2.1.5. Annual audit.	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.
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.	Terms of reference are being developed for the engagement of consultant to identify environmental indicators for the project. These TORs are being designed by Mr Les Clark who is currently engaged under the project as an Fisheries Management Consultancy. Calls for expressions of interest are expected to made once the TORs are agreed and finalised.
Activity 3.2.2.2. Include indicator measures in progress reports.	No activity this 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.	The report of the consultant that will be develop a strategy to engage ENGOs in project implementation is due for submission early Q3 2006. Visits to Suva based environmental NGOs took place in June and the consultant was accompanied by the PC to some of the organisations.
Activity 3.3.1.2. Support	The next annual session of the Commission meeting is

Pacific ENGO participation in the Commission.	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.
Activity 3.3.1.3. Provide information on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific ENGOs.	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. 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.
Activity 3.3.1.4. Hold national and regional Workshops for ENGOs.	No activity in this quarter
Activity 3.3.1.5. Produce information materials to raise public awareness on oceanic fisheries management issues.	No activity in this quarter
Activity 3.3.1.6. Organise regional and national fora on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues for civil society participation.	No activity in this quarter
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.	No activity this quarter
Activity 3.3.2.2. Support Pacific INGO participation in the Commission.	No activity this quarter
Activity 3.3.2.3. Provide information flow on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific INGOs and businesses.	No activity this quarter
Activity 3.3.2.4. Support Pacific INGO consultations on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues.	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 be convened along side it has been postponed until the third or fourth quarter of 2006.
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	Completed

Project Coordinator.	
Activity 3.4.1.2. Appoint other PCU staff.	Completed
Activity 3.4.1.3. Procure equipment and other requirements to establish the PCU.	Contribution towards the purchase of a high end printer for project use.
Output 3.4.2. Arrangements for coordination between Implementing and Executing Agencies.	
Activity 3.4.2.1. Preliminary UNDP/FFA/SPC/IUCN Consultations.	Concluded
Activity 3.4.2.2. Conclude FFA/SPC and FFA/IUCN Letters of Agreement (LOAs).	Concluded
Activity 3.4.2.3. UNDP/FFA Consultations.	<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>
Output 3.4.3. Regional Steering Committee meetings and reports.	
Activity 3.4.3.1. Hold Inception Workshop.	Concluded
Activity 3.4.3.2. Hold Regional Steering Committee meetings.	<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 were 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 www.ffa.int/gef</p>
Output 3.4.4. National Consultative Committee meetings and reports.	
Activity 3.4.4.1. Secure National Focal Point nominations.	A list of these can be located on the project webpage.
Activity 3.4.4.2. Support National Consultative Committee meetings.	<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</p>

	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.
Output 3.4.5. Reports on Project implementation, workplan and finances.	
Activity 3.4.5.1. Prepare periodic financial and narrative reports.	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.
Activity 3.4.5.2. Prepare Annual Workplans	The approved 2006 Annual Work Plan and Budget is followed. A draft work plan and budget will be prepared for approval by the Regional Steering Committee in Oct 2006.
Activity 3.4.5.3: Prepare Annual Project Reports	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.

8. Challenges/Issues Encountered

The two principle challenges faced by the project to date concern the procedures to secure in timely fashion advance requests and the delays, beyond the control of IUCN, of the arrangements to undertake the benthic biodiversity survey.

9. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

Consultations with UNDP Suva have resulted in a clearer understanding of onward obligations for UNDP to UNDP/GEF and for FFA and the PCU's in aide of its role in project coordination with its co-executing agencies.

IUCN are to review and develop contingency planning for light of the delays being experience.

10. Recommendations for Future Action

Regular communication and consultation

11. Report Prepared By:

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