

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 July to 30 September (Q3 2006)
6. **Summary of Overall Project Progress:**

Project implementation has achieved a level of uniformity and the roll-out of activities is consistent with the approved annual work plan and budget. The exception to this is the activities relating to benthic biodiversity survey and the analysis of data collected on seamounts collected through tagging and trophic sampling. IUCN have proposed a number of options for ways in which the delay in the work involved can be progressed. Their report is to be considered by the Regional Steering Committee in October.

Increasingly, efforts to identify and secure co-financing for activities described in the project are occurring. SPC has to-date reported co-financing from a number of externalities to the project for activities relating to tagging and trophic structure investigations. These sources include, but are not limited to PNG, New Zealand AID, French Pacific Fund, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research and the University of Hawaii, with proposals under consideration from the EU and the US State Department. Discussions also took place with the Japanese Government and the Secretariat for the WCPF Commission to look at ways in which USD2m of trust fund contributions can be attributed to assisting developing member of the WCPF Commission in the areas of data collection and regulation and enforcement.

As the work of the WCPF Commission picks up momentum, the project provides every possible opportunity within its framework to assist Pacific SIDS met their obligations. The challenges before them can not be underestimated. Two regular sessions of the WCPF Committee have taken place, the second of which endorsed a series of management and conservation measures and resolutions relating to seabirds and circle hooks, sharks, overcapacity, non-target fish species, turtles, authorisation to fish, identification of fishing vessels, measures in relation to bigeye and yellowfin tuna, albacore and northern Pacific albacore. Two regular sessions of the Technical and Compliance Committee have met, the most recent being 28 September. Two regular session of the Science Committee have also met the last as recently as August this year and within the time frame of this quarterly report. All Commission meeting outcomes at available at the Commission website <http://www.wcpfc.org/>

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

Component Two

| Sub-component 1.1: Fishery Monitoring | |
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| 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 | The further enhancement of TUFMAN database continued during this quarter with an emphasis on direct requests from countries and follow-ups from in-country visits. The ability to add port sampling and unloading totals was added, as well as reconciliation reports to cross-check sampling data with unloading data. The TUFMAN databases for Tonga, Nauru and Marshall Islands were updated during this period. |
| Activity 1.1.1.2: Develop reporting module for Commission data | Assistance was given to countries to prepare their data summaries and annual catch estimates for the SC2 meeting. Peer review was also provided for the Fishery Status Reports for Niue, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, FSM, New Caledonia, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Marshall Islands, Nauru and Palau. The Regional Tuna Data Template was completed and made available for peer review. SPC staff participated at the WCPFC Ad Hoc Task Group [Data] Meeting in Manila in early August. |
| 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 TUFMAN database was installed and configured to meet national requirements in Nauru and Tonga. Dedicated in-country training was given to users in these countries. Amendments and further support in the use of the TUFMAN database was carried out in the Marshalls Islands. |
| Activity 1.1.2.2: Support establishment and enhancement of national port sampling and observer programmes | 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 are aiming to run 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. Much of the support for sampling programmes went towards PNG during this quarter. In addition to attendance at the Senior Observer Workshop, dedicated port visits were made to each of the main boarding ports over an intensive two month period to work individually with the senior observers on their debriefing skills. Meanwhile general support and advice continued for the 12 active observer programmes around the region. Port sampling data collected from 25 port sampling sites was received, checked and feedback given to the port sampling supervisors. |
| Activity 1.1.2.3: Support the coordination of national monitoring programmes | Dedicated travel to Nauru, Tonga and the Marshall Islands concentrated on reviewing the national monitoring capacity and establishing each country's funding requirements. 'National Tuna Data Procedures Document's were also drawn up. These documents will help countries establish standard data collection and management procedures which will help to ensure they meet their data requirements up to and including the reporting stage. |
| 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 | |

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| Activity 1.1.3.1: Develop and make available common data formats | <p>The trial of the Longline Logbook started with the logbook delivered to Tonga and taken onboard by one fishing company. One vessel in Tonga will be asked to use the logbook over the duration of five trips.</p> <p>260 observer workbook and waterproof sampling pads, 130 debriefing forms, and 15 waterproof port sampling pads were distributed to observer programmes around the region.</p> |
| Activity 1.1.3.2: Hold Regional Workshops on regional and national fishery monitoring | The first 'Tuna Data Workshop' will take place at SPC in October. Work on planning and other administrative arrangements for the workshop started during this quarter. |
| Activity 1.1.3.3: Distribute newsletters, webpage and other forms of information exchange | <p>The LL Observer Guide was printed, distributed and made available on line http://www.spc.int/oceanfish/Docs/Statistics/LL%20OBSERVER%20GUIDE.pdf</p> <p>Work on the Fork Length newsletter continued with completion of an article on the Marshall Islands monitoring programme.</p> |
| 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 | <p>Two basic observer training course were completed in July. One took place in PNG, while the other occurred in French Polynesia with co-funding. SPC were present for the PNG Senior Observer Workshop in July.</p> <p>A sub-regional debriefing workshop was held in the Marshall Islands in September. The workshop was used by the regional coordinators (SPC and FFA) to work towards a standardised approach to debriefing training in the future.</p> |
| 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 | There was one attachment from Tonga to the SPC/OFP during this reporting period Attachment training included (i) an overview of tuna fishery data collection, (ii) familiarisation with OFP-developed database query tools (e.g. CES) and TUFMAN, and (iii) database management |
| 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, National Tuna Fishery Status Reports for Cook Islands and New Caledonia (OFP-funded activity) have been drafted and are awaiting final edits and approval prior to release. Work on NTFSRs for FSM, Vanuatu and Palau were progressed. |
| Activity 1.2.1.2: Hold In-country Stakeholder Workshops for delivery of National Status Reports | An in-country stakeholder workshop for the delivery of NTFSR was held in the Cook Islands during this quarter, and work that comprised part of the Vanuatuan NTFSR was also presented to an in-country stakeholder meeting in Vanuatu. |
| 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 | <p>Scientific presentations and advice was provided to the FFA SWG (August 2006) along with contributions to the associated brief.</p> <p>Scientific presentations and advice provision to the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC (August 2006)</p> |

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| Working Groups | |
| Activity 1.2.2.2: Present scientific briefs to preparatory meetings of Pacific SIDS for the Commission | Scientific presentations and advice provision to the Management Options Workshop (October 2006) and contributions to the associated brief. |
| 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 OFMP stock assessment workshop was held at SPC Headquarters in Noumea in early July 2006. The 2 week workshop provided participants with the background knowledge required to understand and interpret stock assessments and use their knowledge of stock assessment in domestic and regional decision making fora and processes. The workshop focussed on the species and assessment methods used in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. Tests and surveys of participants indicated significantly increased understanding of stock assessment after the workshop. It represented an important first step towards meeting the overall stock assessment related objectives of the OFMP. Its benefits will be lost without regular follow-up workshops, and other training/attachments of fisheries staff |
| 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 | Communications with Samoa and Federated States of Micronesia fishery departments were undertaken in order to organise an attachment of fishery personnel from each department to the OFP in the coming 4th quarter, to assist in the preparation of national status reports |
| Activity 1.2.3.3: Train scientific counterparts in-country | No in country training took place in 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 | |
| Activity 1.3.1.1: Collect observer-based sampling data, especially – stomach contents, tissue samples | The sampling strategy and work-plan report has been finalized and sent to PICT observer programmes. It was also released as an Information Paper at the WCPFC-SC2: (see www.wcpfc.org/sc2/pdf/SC2_EB_IP6.pdf) Biological sampling of stomach contents and tissue samples started in several countries and samples have been received from French Polynesia (39) and collected in Solomon Islands and FSM. Observers from Samoa and Cook Islands have also recently started to collect samples. Collaboration and organisation of sampling is under discussion with Marshall islands, and Fiji. |
| Activity 1.3.1.2: Lab-based analysis of samples | Lab-based analysis of samples is continuing. During the quarter, 114 stomach content samples have been examined and about 95 % of the resulting data/information has been entered into the data base. The total number of stomachs examined and with data entered in the database is 2801 from 68 different species. A lab assistant has been contracted (using co-funded sources) for a 6 month period to conduct a growth study on albacore using otolith seasonal structures. From the 274 archived samples, 70 have been prepared and analysed (daily and annual structures) and 68 already analysed samples have been re-analysed. Isotopes of 135 samples have been analysed and entered into the database. |

| Output 1.3.2: Collection and analysis of information on seamounts in the WTP LME | |
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| SPC | |
| Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops | <p>The seamount activity planning workshop took place during Q1-2006.</p> <p>The workshop report was released during Q3-2006 as an information paper at the WCPFC-SC2: www.wcpfc.org/sc2/pdf/SC2_EB_IP5.pdf .</p> |
| Activity 1.3.2.2: Describe Seamounts and analyse historical fishing patterns around seamounts | <p>An SPC contracted consultant completed the screening of 1207 shallow seamounts from the Kitchingman & Lai (2004) dataset, validating these via comparison with 20 other sources of data recovered and stored into a GIS. A final list was produced containing the position and depth of 496 validated seamounts. This represents 41% of the shallow seamounts from Kitchingman & Lai 2004 datase. Note that 711 – 59% - of the potential seamounts were in fact misidentified atolls, or islands. All the data is stored in a database and a report on this work is in preparation.</p> <p>A research consultant was appointed in July for a 6 month period to examine satellite oceanographic data (sea surface temperature, chlorophyll and sea surface height) in relation to seamounts. Public domain SST and chlorophyll data are available via a web-based interface, allowing visualization and analysis at monthly intervals with a spatial resolution of 9 km x 9km. The first part of the project involved the investigation of correlations between time series of chlorophyll and SST. The analyses use a specific sampling scheme around certain shallow seamounts to see if there is any variability indicative of seamount associated oceanographic features. The preliminary results show more variability in chlorophyll levels than is apparent for SST; whether this is a localised seamount effect or a product of phytoplankton patchiness that also occurs in ocean areas will be investigated. A second approach is to use GIS software to identify with greater precision those areas around seamounts with high levels of chlorophyll, during those months of the year where chlorophyll concentration is highest, for the area between PNG and New Caledonia. Sea surface temperature and Sea Level Anomaly may also be studied using the same method.</p> |
| Activity 1.3.2.3: Collect data at sea at selected seamounts, including tagging, trophic sampling and analysis | <p>The first tagging campaign of the co-funded PNG tagging project started as planned in August 2006 and is under way until mid-November 2006. To date 5,000 conventional tags (3,808 SKJ, 1,084 YFT and 108 BET) and 16 archival tags (5 YFT and 11 BET) have been released. 830 of them were released around seamounts (799 SKJ and 31 YFT). 2 conventional tags (1 SKJ and 1 YFT) have been recovered by fishing industry. Trophic sampling during the cruise resulted in the collection of 240 stomach samples (180 SKJ, 55 YFT and 5 BET) and included 15 SKJ sampled from around seamounts.</p> |
| Activity 1.3.2.4: Support national scientist participation in benthic biodiversity survey | <p>No work was conducted under this activity this quarter. However discussions and proposal preparation was started for a co-funded project with IRD (French Institute for the Research and Development) for a seamount sampling cruise; if accepted it will allow the completion of this activity.</p> |
| IUCN | |
| Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops | <p>All work under this component has been delayed due to problems with the vessel re-fit of the DeepOcean Quest. Details on options for implementing these activities can be found in the Situation Report prepared for the second OFM RSC in October 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 | |

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| 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 | No work was conducted on this activity this quarter. |
| Activity 1.3.3.2: Use enhanced models and data to assess ecosystem-based management options | The Ecological Risk Assessment proposed several indicators of species susceptibility and productivity that may be used to evaluate ecosystem-based management options (see Activity 1.3.5.1). |
| 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 | SC 2 working papers prepared and presented: 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 prepared and presented: 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 preliminary Ecological Risk Assessment was carried out and presented to SC2: http://www.wcpfc.org/sc2/pdf/SC2_EB_WP1.pdf This work was well received by the SC, which recommended that in the Commission provide funding in order to progress this work through 2007/8. |
| Activity 1.3.5.2: Present info on national & regional implications of results of ecosystem analysis to Pacific SIDS | Training was provided to representatives of Pacific SIDS through the Stock Assessment Workshop and briefings on ecosystem analysis were prepared for FFA representatives at SC2. |
| 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 | |
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| 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 | See Activity 2.1.1.2 and 2.1.2.2. |
| Activity 2.1.1.2: Hold a Regional Legal Consultation on Legal Issues, National Legal Structures and the Project strategy for legal work. | As a Project Strategy for Legal work, a legal consultant has been engaged to draft guidelines for fisheries legislation, which are to be used for any legislative review. This consultant's final report is due in mid-October. |
| 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. | One of the outputs of the WCPF Convention workshops, if the member country requests, is to draft legislation to address any gaps in the current laws. To date, no such requests have been made. However, it is expected that as we undertake more of these workshops that we will start getting such requests. |
| Activity 2.1.2.2. Undertake national legal reviews. | See Activity 2.1.1.2. All legislative reviews are on hold until the receipt of the consultant's report so that such guidelines are incorporate into any legislative review. |
| Activity 2.1.2.3. Provide draft Bills, regulations, license conditions and access agreements to Pacific SIDS. | See Activity 2.1.2.2. |
| 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. | See 2.1.1.2. A small working group met in July to discuss the draft guidelines for fisheries legislation. |
| Activity 2.1.3.2. Prepare legal briefs for Pacific SIDS for Commission and subsidiary body meetings. | Contributions were made to the brief for the Pac SIDS for the 2 nd Technical and Compliance Committee meeting held in September, and advice was provided to member countries at the 2 nd Scientific Committee meeting. |
| Activity 2.1.3.3. Hold Regional Legal Consultations. | Legal advise and contributions to the sub-regional consultations with tuna industries have been made. |
| 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. | FFA and FAO co-sponsored a regional workshop in Fiji on Port States Enforcement in August. |
| Activity 2.1.4.2. Hold National Legal Workshops. | Three workshops relating to the obligations under the WCPF Convention and the Commission's decisions were held in August and September. Such workshops were in the Cook Islands, PNG and Vanuatu. The Cook Is. and PNG workshops were co-financed respectively with Cook Islands Ministry of Marine resources, and to a large extent, by PNG National Fisheries Authority. |
| Activity 2.1.4.3. Attach legal staff | FFA funded a legal attachment for the legal advisor to Tonga Ministry |

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| to FFA and other institutions to participate in legal analyses. | of Fisheries to attend a 2-week course on law of the sea and maritime law at the Centre of Maritime Policy, 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. | Draft report on Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management on the Tuna Fisheries of Vanuatu prepared. Scoping consultation for Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management on the Tuna Fisheries of Palau was undertaken in Palau in August. (Note – this activity was not OFM Project funded but was fully funded by NZ AID.) |
| 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. | Studies were initiated and drafts or final reports were produced on bycatch mitigation options for seabirds, turtles and issues associated with shark finning. Studies were also undertaken on evaluation of management options for bigeye and yellowfin tuna including that relating to the management options for Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs), charter vessel control, purse seine closures and albacore tuna management. A consultancy on the WCPFC Special Requirements Fund was completed by Gillett, Preston and Associates from FFA core funding. |
| 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. | Briefs were prepared and presented to Pacific SIDS, and extensively used by SIDS on the full range of scientific (stock-specific and ecosystem-wide), technical and compliance issues as well as institutional issues related to the establishment of the Commission considered at the WCPFC Scientific committee (SC) and Technical & Compliance committee (TCC), and a meeting of the WCPFC Ad Hoc Task group on Data. Advice on purse seine effort limitation (Vessel day scheme) was provided to SIDS. |
| Activity 2.2.2.3. Hold Regional Fisheries Management Workshops and Consultations. | A meeting of the FFA Science Working Group was held before the WCPFC SC. Preparations were made for a Management Options Workshop in Q4 that will draw up SIDS proposals for conservation measures relating to target species, bycatch and compliance measures to be adopted by the Commission this year. The proposals will cover catch and effort limits for target species, bycatch mitigation measures and the establishment of MVCS programmes such as VMS and observer programmes. Informal regional consultations were held on albacore management. |
| 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 | |

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| 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. | The FFA Science Working Group meeting and planned Q4 Management Options Workshop include a substantial training component on aspects of ecologically sustainable fisheries. |
| Activity 2.2.4.2. Offer a TSC/USP Policy Training Course. | No activity this quarter |
| 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. | No activity this quarter |
| 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. | Continuation of Cook Island work (Note – this activity is not OFM Project funded but is fully funded by NZ AID.) |
| Activity 2.3.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of national oceanic fisheries management institutions. | Preparatory work, literature reviews and interviews with professionals having worked on Nauru fisheries has commenced. A team comprising a team leader with extensive institutional strengthening experience, a fisheries management specialist and an FFA Fisheries Management Adviser will be travelling to Nauru in early November to undertake in-country consultation associated with the scoping study on institutional strengthening of Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority. |
| 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. | A training workshop on the delivery of the EAFM process conducted by Dr Rick Fletcher was conducted in Vanuatu over 2 days prior to the Vanuatu Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management review consultation of the Vanuatu Tuna Fishery. This training workshop was attended by 3 fisheries managers from Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu as well as 4 FFA Officers who will all be responsible for delivery of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management process through Forum Member Countries and Territories. |
| Activity 2.3.2.2. Support strengthening of national environmental non-governmental organisations (ENGOS) and | ENGOS and INGOs participated in Vanuatu Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management review consultation of the Vanuatu Tuna Fishery in July 2006. |

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| industry non- governmental organisations (INGOs) to empower them to participate in oceanic fisheries management. | |
| Activity 2.3.2.3.Support national workshops for non-state stakeholders. | See 2.3.2.2 |
| 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. | MCS Country workshops include a module by the Legal officer on WCPFC implications on national compliance (no cost to project) |
| Activity 2.4.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of needs to strengthen and realign national compliance programs. | MCS Managers participated in legal review Workshop to review the status of existing laws governing compliance (no cost to project) |
| 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. | MCS staff participated in regional operations, (Kurukuru 06) undertaking planning and coordination of air and Sea patrols in conjunction with the Pacific Patrol boat program. Data harmonisation and integration tests of various display tools were undertaken as part of the exercise. (Project and non project funds used). |
| Activity 2.4.2.2.Provide advice on MCS coordination between Pacific SIDS and other states involved. | Ongoing support in terms of Niue treaty implementation and development, active advise on boarding and Inspections during multi-national and national operations (no project funds) |
| Activity 2.4.2.3.Prepare Niue Treaty subsidiary agreements. | Development of Niue treaty subsidiary agreements for the MCS working group meeting, 06, Brisbane. |
| 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. | Participated in the FAO Port state Measures in Suva, Fiji |
| Activity 2.4.3.2. Hold meetings of a Working Group of Pacific SIDS on MCS issues related to oceanic fisheries. | 9 th MCS working group, Brisbane '06, 22- 27 October. Conducted MCS review and data harmonisation as well as TCC preparations for Pacific SIDS IUU Prosecutions Workshop 4 th October 06, Brisbane. Reviewing cases, legislation and experience in prosecuting IUU cases. |
| 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. | Due to number of crosscutting issues, the 9 th MCS working group , Brisbane '06, 22- 27 October included substantial TCC preparations for Pacific SIDS |
| Output 2.4.4. Training of national compliance staff, especially in inspection and VMS. | |
| Activity 2.4.4.1. Present courses | Training Workshops in PNG and Vanuatu were conducted, including |

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| on National Inspection, VMS and other national MCS training programs. | legal aspects, dockside monitoring, boarding and inspection. |
| Activity 2.4.4.2. Attach national compliance staff to FFA and other Pacific SIDS. | PNG official (W. Waruru) on attachment to FFA. PNG elected to cover the costs and no project funds were used in the end. |

Component Three

| Sub-component 3.1: Information Strategy | |
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| 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. | Communication with IWLEARN was established with the view to seek some assistance with webpage management. UNEP funded workshop on webpage management scheduled for Nairobi in November and Bangkok. OFM Project exploring possible attendance. |
| Activity 3.1.1.2. Operate the Website/page. | See above |
| Activity 3.1.1.3. Project information materials including CDs, papers, videos, pamphlets, newsletters, interviews, press releases etc. | No activity this quarter. |
| 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 this quarter |
| Activity 3.1.2.2. Generate Knowledge Management Components for Website/page, newsletters, and progress reports. | No activity this quarter |
| 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. | The preparation of the first annual report of the project was undertaken using the required GEF/UNDP formats for project implementation review and an annual performance review. The report has been largely prepared by the PC, although sections that require access to the UNDP ATLAS database are to be completed by the Implementing Agency. The report only covers a 9 month period from 1 October 2005 to 30 June 2006 and is expected to be placed before the 2 nd meeting of the Regional Steering Committee on 10 October. At the time of writing this report the RSC2 had been postponed due to safety concerns in Honiara and revised dates are not yet known |
| Activity 3.2.1.5. Annual audit. | No activity this quarter however the auditors will be approach early next quarter to contract services for the 2006 Audit. |
| 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 | No activity this quarter |

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| studies to measure IW indicators. | |
| 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. | A draft co-financing agreement as prepared by the consultant is to be presented to the RSC2. It is expected that this will be completed as soon as it has been endorsed. |
| Activity 3.3.1.2. Support Pacific ENGO participation in the Commission. | See above |
| Activity 3.3.1.3. Provide information on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific ENGOs. | Two Regional ENGOs participated in the 2 nd regular session of the Technical and Compliance Committee for the Commission in late September 2006. |
| Activity 3.3.1.4. Hold national and regional Workshops for ENGOs. | These workshops are provided for in the draft co-financing agreement which will be co-ordinated by WWF SPO |
| Activity 3.3.1.5. Produce information materials to raise public awareness on oceanic fisheries management issues. | This is provided for in the draft co-financing agreement which will be co-ordinated by WWF SPO |
| Activity 3.3.1.6. Organise regional and national fora on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues for civil society participation. | This is provided for in the draft co-financing agreement which will be co-ordinated by WWF SPO |
| 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. | The Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association has yet to hold a first annual meeting to elect office bearers. A consultant has been appointed to draw up a corporate plan and other founding documents. It is expected that their inaugural meeting will take place in Nadi in February 2007. |
| Activity 3.3.2.2. Support Pacific INGO participation in the Commission. | Support will be provided for attendance at the Management Options Workshop and the 3 rd session of the Commission to be held at Apia, Samoa in December 2006. |
| Activity 3.3.2.3. Provide information flow on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific INGOs and businesses. | PITIA has observer status at Commission meetings. Communication links with the interim executive for the PITIA is established and maintained on matters relating to the Commission. |
| Activity 3.3.2.4. Support Pacific INGO consultations on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues. | Support will be provided for PITIA consultations on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues in February 2007. |
| 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 |

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| Activity 3.4.1.2. Appoint other PCU staff. | Completed |
| Activity 3.4.1.3. Procure equipment and other requirements to establish the PCU. | Completed |
| 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. | Completed |
| 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. | The second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee was scheduled for 10 October 2006. Concerns for safety in Honiara have resulted in the last minute postponement. The meeting is rescheduled and expected to be held at Nadi, Fiji on Saturday 21 October. |
| 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. | Three National Project reports have been received from FSM, the Cook Islands and Tonga. |
| Output 3.4.5. Reports on Project implementation, workplan and finances. | |
| Activity 3.4.5.1. Prepare periodic financial and narrative reports. | The 2006 Financial Report has been prepared for the second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee in October 2006. It contains the 2005 Financial Report (Acquittal), an interim 2006 financial report, a revised 2006 financial report and a draft AWP and Budget for 2007. |
| Activity 3.4.5.2. Prepare Annual Work plans | A draft AWP and Budget 2007 has been prepared for the approval of the second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee in October 2006. |
| Activity 3.4.5.3: Prepare Annual Project Reports | The PIR/APR has been prepared in consultation with UNDP Suva. This is expected to be presented to the RSC2. |

8. Challenges/Issues Encountered

General

- i) Enhanced methods to provide training and effective and efficient capacity building activities. The capacity to absorb training opportunities is complicated by the saturation of meetings, workshops etc and the small size of most national administrations;
- ii) Data summaries and other national reports due for submission to the Commission;
- iii) Reports on implementation of resolutions and conservation and management measures

Project Coordination

- i) Delays in IUCN work relating to Seamounts;
- ii) Postponement of the RSC2 due to safety concerns in Honiara;
- iii) Limited discussion on the requirements for the annual project reporting;
- iv) Misplacement of quarterly reports

9. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

General

- i) Investigating solutions to enhance training opportunities, including IT options;
- ii) Assistance provided by SPC to help countries meet their data submission obligations;
- iii) An assessment of how well Pacific SIDS are able to meet the submission demands for data summaries and other reports required by the Commission should be able to be assessed at the 3rd regular session of the Commission scheduled in December in Apia, Samoa.

Project Coordination

- i) Options paper to look for a way forward for the IUCN work related to seamounts;
- ii) RSC2 rescheduled to take place in Nadi, Fiji on 21 October;
- iii) Encourage opportunities for increased discussion and direct for the preparation of the annual report and other monitoring and evaluation requirements
- iv) PCU to present reports to UNDP HIR both electronically and in hard copy. All reports are to be signed and returned to the PCU. A complete inventory of reports to date have been produced to date in hard copy have been delivered to UNDP HIR for onward transmission to UNDP Suva.

10. Recommendations for Future Action

None

11. Report Prepared By:

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