

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 October 2007 to 31 December 2007

6. Summary of Overall Project Progress:

The fourth quarter of 2007 saw the project complete twenty seven months of activities under the guidance of the Oceanic Fisheries Programme at SPC and the FFA. During this period the third meeting of the Regional Steering Committee for the project successfully convened in Rarotonga in October at which project progress and challenges were reported. Project awareness and project activities expected to be progressed by the IUCN remain challenges, although assurances have been made that matters will be decided by the close of 2007 by IUCN. Impacting greatly on the work of the project is the number of fisheries events and meetings in the region and the burden of keeping abreast with the weight of obligations by small and poorly resourced Pacific islands fisheries administrations and other government departments involved in regional fisheries issues.

Considerable progress has been achieved with the roll out and improvement of the TUFMANs database by SPC and the support towards helping build the capacity of Pacific fisheries administrations in stock assessment and their scientific reporting obligations to the Commission. Equally, those project activities that are guided by the FFA in the Policy Component of the project continue to be invaluable for the preparations required by Pacific islands countries to allow them to participate effectively in the work of the Commission. The outcomes of the most recent Commission meeting in December at Guam failed to adopt some much needed conservation measures to address widely held concerns for the bigeye and yellowfin stocks in the region. This remains a disappointment but Pacific islands members of the Commission are resolute in their efforts to be responsible fisheries managers and anticipate that in 2008 they will need to be instrumental in finding solutions for impasse at the Commission.

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>TUFMAN versions 4.3 and 4.3.1 were released during this reporting period. Features of the new TUFMAN include a complete suite of reports to support the reporting of pole-and-line catch and effort data, short-cuts for the data entry of certain fields (dates and positional information), the addition of a VESSEL HISTORY table and a new purse seine unloading data entry component.</p> <p>CES was enhanced to provide reporting down to the vessel set level and the interface for the CES Mapping was redesigned. The latest version of CES is now 8.6.</p>
Activity 1.1.1.2: Develop reporting module for Commission data	There was no specific work undertaken on the TUFMAN Commission reporting module during this reporting period, although the Data Quality Reports (which are fundamental to the information that will be reported in the TUFMAN Commission reporting module) were reviewed and fine-tuned.
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>Version 4.3 of TUFMAN was thoroughly tested during this period and installed in the Solomon Islands during October 2007 under the supervision of the Database Manager. Once trialled the new version will be rolled out to a number of countries. Further developments on TUFMAN during late November/early December advanced the version to 4.3.1, which was installed in the Marshall Islands in mid December 2007.</p> <p>The CES database system, with the most up-to-date tuna fishery data, was provided to all member countries in December 2007.</p> <p>The Observer Trip View System with the most up-to-date observer data was provided to RMI, Solomon Islands and Fiji.</p>
Activity 1.1.2.2: Support establishment and enhancement of national port sampling and observer programmes	<p>The 7th Regional Observer Coordinators' Workshop was conducted in the third week of November. The theme of the workshop was "Observer Professionalism" with focus on Competency-Based Training (CBT) standards for observers and observer debriefers. The opportunity was also taken to review technical innovations that are coming of age as observer tools – in particular temperature-depth-recorders and electronic data-collection devices. Time was also allocated to looking at different biological sample collection projects currently being carried out in the region.</p> <p>The workshop was immediately followed by the first meeting of the Pacific Island Regional Fisheries Observers (PIRFO) CBT standards development steering committee, which is helping direct the work of a consultant in developing these CBT standards for the region. The workshop and meeting, facilitated by SPC, were jointly funded by SPC and FFA and the project.</p> <p>Attachment training at the OFP for the Solomon Islands and Fiji Observer Coordinators were provided in December – the training focused mainly on use of TUFMAN and the Observer Viewer system developed at SPC.</p> <p>Ongoing technical advice was provided to Solomon Islands Fisheries, as their new observer coordinator finds his feet and the new Solomon Island Fisheries restructuring project gets under way.</p> <p>Support was provided for the Solomon islands and Papua New Guinea observer coordinators to attend the 7th Data Collection Committee (DCC7) held in the 2nd week of November. At DCC7 the latest version of regional observer data</p>

	collection forms was decided upon so that redesigns, printing and distribution can take place in early 2008.
Activity 1.1.2.3: Support the coordination of national monitoring programmes	In-country support was given to Fiji during two one week trips in Oct-Nov. The Fiji National Tuna Data Procedures Document was updated and discussions had on possible funding support. The MOU to fund the NTDC position for a further year in Vanuatu was negotiated and the previous year's annual work report clarified. New requests for funding to support monitoring work in the Solomon Islands and FSM were received.
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	With the up-coming changes to regional forms, in line with the December DCC7 outcomes, fewer standard forms were shipped this quarter. Thirty-nine workbooks, nine waterproof pads and 15 pads of logsheets were sent out to national monitoring programmes this quarter.
Activity 1.1.3.2: Hold Regional Workshops on regional and national fishery monitoring	The next Tuna Data Workshop is currently scheduled for April 7-11 2008. A Regional Observer Coordinator's Workshop and a meeting of the SPC/FFA Data Collection Committee were conducted in November 2007.
Activity 1.1.3.3: Distribute newsletters, webpage and other forms of information exchange	The Fork length newsletter was published and made available on the SPC website http://www.spc.int/oceanfish/Docs/Statistics/Fork_Length_7.pdf . Over 500 hard copies were also posted out to national monitoring programmes.
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	No specific training courses were carried out during this quarter when resources were tied up with regional tagging issues. However some informal training activity was carried out with respect to observer involvement in tagging issues. This was a busy quarter on observer and port sampler CBT standards development.
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	Attachments from Fiji and the Solomon Islands visited the Statistics and Monitoring section of the OFP. Attachment training included (i) General overview of regional tuna fisheries data collection, (ii) A review and update of their national TUFMAN system and the concept of the national procedures document (iii) Training and exercises in the Observer Viewer System
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 (NTFSRs) annually	During the quarter, work on the NTFSRs for FSM, Nauru, and Kiribati were progressed. The Palau draft NTFSR has been completed and is under review. The Tonga NTFSR has been finalised. The NTFSR schedule for 2008 is currently being finalised.
Activity 1.2.1.2: Hold In-country Stakeholder Workshops for delivery of National Status Reports	Outputs from the FSM NTFSR were presented at an in-country EAFM stakeholder workshop in Pohnpei.
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scientific presentations and advice provision to the FFA preparatory meeting for the Commission (December 2007). 2. Scientific presentations and advice provision to the WCPFC (December 2007). 3. Scientific advice provided at in-country EAFM consultation (FSM – November 2007)
Activity 1.2.2.2: Present scientific briefs to preparatory meetings of Pacific SIDS for the Commission	Scientific presentations and advice were given to the pre-Commission preparatory meeting of the FFA (December 2007)
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	<p>A preliminary online portal for Stock Assessment Workshop revision exercises was developed by OFP, to enable the 2007 workshop participants to revise and maintain their understanding of stock assessment during the period between annual workshops. The first online revision exercise was provided to participants in November 2007 with a response deadline of December. Nine of the 22 participants had responded by the deadline (with generally excellent results), with several more expected. Further exercises have been drafted for January and February 2008. The ongoing development of this online endeavour will depend upon participation rates for the first 3 exercises.</p> <p>Two days of stock assessment training is planned for a Kiribati fisheries officer during his attachment to OFP in January 2008.</p>
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 activity this quarter due to WCPFC and other commitments, both by SPC and FFA members. Attachment of a Kiribati fisheries officer to OFP in early January 2008 has been confirmed.
Activity 1.2.3.3: Train scientific counterparts in-country	Limited activity this quarter. Intended training in FSM in Q4 2007 was impeded by FSM fisheries officers absence (due to ill health) during the visit. In country training is planned during EAFM visits to Nauru and Kiribati in January 2008.
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	<p>Biological sampling of stomach contents and tissue samples is undertaken in several countries and coordinators from Palau and Tonga have indicated a willingness to start sampling in their region. The 100 Samples that have been collected in Fiji and the 30 samples that have been collected in FSM are now in the Laboratory in Nouméa. 30 samples were collected in Marshall Islands and 135 samples collected during the tagging project in Solomon Islands.</p> <p>Issue # 4 of the biological sampling SPC Newsletter was distributed in November in conjunction with issue # 7 of “Fork Length, the observer and port sampler newsletter”.</p> <p>An overview of the stomach sampling has been presented during the 7th Regional Observer Coordinator’s Workshop and stomach sampling strategies have been established for each region.</p>
Activity 1.3.1.2: Lab-based analysis of samples	Lab-based analysis of samples is continuing. During the quarter, 117 stomach samples were examined and the resulting data/information entered into the

	database. The total number of stomachs examined and with data entered is now 3,450 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	A scientific paper entitled "Enhanced seamount location database for the western and central Pacific Ocean: screening and cross-checking of 20 existing datasets" has been submitted to the peer-reviewed journal Deep-Sea Research. The seamount screening and database has been extended to the area that will be potentially managed by the South Pacific RFMO. The database now contains 6,825 cross-checked underwater features including seamounts.
Activity 1.3.2.3: Collect data at sea at selected seamounts, including tagging, trophic sampling and analysis	Tag recaptures from the PNG releases continue to be processed, with total recaptures now numbering 7,743, including 37 archival tag recoveries. In Oct-Nov, a one-month tagging cruise in Solomon Islands was carried out, with an additional 11,180 tunas tagged and released. To date, 1,250 of these tagged fish had been recaptured and the tags returned to SPC.
Activity 1.3.2.4: Support national scientist participation in benthic biodiversity survey	IRD budget restrictions have resulted in the cancellation of the planned co-funded scientific cruise in 2008 in the Bismarck Sea (PNG) to study the influence of seamounts on benthic and pelagic ecosystems.
IUCN	
Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops	<i>See comments on challenges at the end of the report.</i>
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	Progress on trophic structure qualitative models of pelagic ecosystems of different regions in the Pacific were presented by co-PIs at two meetings: PFRP-PI in Honolulu, Hawaii, Nov. 2007 and CLIOTOP in La Paz, Mexico, Dec. 2007.
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	No activity this quarter.
1.3.4.2: Estimate levels of by-catch	No activity this quarter.
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 activity this quarter
Activity 1.3.5.2: Present info on national & regional implications of results of ecosystem analysis to Pacific SIDS	Ecological Risk Assessments (ERAs) were prepared for Nauru and for the Federated States of Micronesia and presented at the FFA Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) workshops in those countries.
Activity 1.3.5.3: Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP and other institutions to participate in ecosystem analysis	No activity 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	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.	<p>As a Project Strategy for Legal work, a legal consultant was engaged to draft guidelines for fisheries legislation, which are to be used for any legislative review. This consultant's draft report has been received, and will be sent to member countries for comment by a particular date. Thereafter, legislative reviews will re-commence; priority work for Samoa, Fiji and Vanuatu.</p> <p>Samoa's initial consultation of the legislative review process took place in July 2007. Second stage of the review process to commence in early 2008.</p>
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.	<p>One of the outputs of the WCPF Convention workshops, if the country requires, is to draft legislation to address any gaps in the current laws.</p> <p>In December 2007, Kiribati has requested assistance with their legislation and this is planned for June 2008.</p>
Activity 2.1.2.2. Undertake national legal reviews.	See Activity 2.1.1.2. All legislative reviews are on hold until the finalisation 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.
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 WCPFC4. Other contributions have been made to the brief for the TCC 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 Regional Legal workshop for November 2007 now to be held in April 7-9 2008 in Nadi, Fiji Islands..
Activity 2.1.4.2. Hold National Legal Workshops.	National workshops consolidated into the three sub-regional workshops. Three workshops relating to the obligations under the WCPF Convention and the Commission's decisions were held in June,

	July and September. These workshops were in the Marshall Islands,, Tonga and Solomon Islands. Extensive legislative matrices outlining all WCPFC obligations for each country were done and presented at each workshop. This was provided with assistance from the Legal Consultant.
	A Solomon Islands legal fellow did his one week fellowship attachment with the Legal Services in December 2007 and completed the second week in January 2008.

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 draft of the FSM, Tonga and Nauru EAFM reports completed in December 2007
Activity 2.2.1.2. Support the implementation of Plans, policies and strategies.	See Activity 2.2.1.1
Activity 2.2.1.3. Undertake Plan, policy and strategy reviews.	No activity in this quarter
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.	A cost-benefit study of management options for bigeye and yellowfin was undertaken and provided to Pacific SIDS as a basis for preparing proposals for WCPFC4
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.	Reports on bigeye and yellowfin management options, transshipment, regional observer programme, cooperating non-Members and sea turtle conservation were prepared for the regional Management Options Workshop. A briefing on all significant issues for WCPFC4 was prepared and presented to Pacific SIDS
Activity 2.2.2.3. Hold Regional Fisheries Management Workshops and Consultations.	Building on information shared and positions developed at the sub-regional workshops held in prior quarters, the Annual Management Options Workshop (MOW) was held in October to finalise positions and identify priority areas for the annual WCPFC meeting in Guam in December 2007. Draft measures developed at the MOW were forwarded to the Commission to form the basis of discussion on proposed measures on various issues. A pre-WCPFC meeting of FFA Members was held discussing the brief as referred to in 2.2.2.2 above and positions, strategies and key proponents / presenters were agreed for the WCPFC meeting. GEF Fisheries Management Adviser attended and presented briefing papers at the pre-WCPFC meeting of FFA Members and provided advice to members at the annual WCPFC meeting in Guam.
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.	<i>See comments at the end of the report.</i>
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 Activity 2.2.2.3
Activity 2.2.4.2. Offer a TSC/USP Policy Training Course.	Completion of the TSC/USP Policy training course. No activity during this quarter
Activity 2.2.4.3. Present National Fisheries Management Seminars and Workshops.	FSM EAFM stakeholder consultation workshop completed
Activity 2.2.4.4. Attach Fisheries Management personnel to FFA and arrange study tours for Pacific SIDS personnel to other Fisheries Commissions.	Participation in the IOTC meeting. No attachments of Fisheries management personnel to FFA during 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.	Draft Report was distributed to GEF focal points and FFA contacts this quarter. No comments received and report will be finalised 1 st quarter 2008.
Activity 2.3.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of national oceanic fisheries management institutions.	A request to FFA to undertake Institutional Reform/ Strengthening Scoping Study was received from Kiribati in October 2007. A one week planning exercise to Kiribati involving Institutional Reform / Strengthening consultants was undertaken in November 2007. A draft Planning report and TOR for Scoping Study have been received and are being assessed before forwarding to Kiribati and others for comment. Full scoping study expected to be undertaken in April 2008.
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.	
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.	
Activity 2.3.2.3. Support national workshops for non-state	

stakeholders.	
Activity 2.3.2.4. Arrange attachments and study tours for non-state stakeholders to learn from experience elsewhere.	
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.	
Activity 2.4.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of needs to strengthen and realign national compliance programs.	
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.	
Activity 2.4.2.2. Provide advice on MCS coordination between Pacific SIDS and other states involved.	
Activity 2.4.2.3. Prepare Niue Treaty subsidiary agreements.	
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.	
Activity 2.4.3.2. Hold meetings of a Working Group of Pacific SIDS on MCS issues related to oceanic fisheries.	
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.	
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.	
Activity 2.4.4.2. Attach national compliance staff to FFA and other Pacific SIDS.	

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. Short term contract developed to undertake Website related work which will involve some changes to the layout of the site and clear the back log of updating contents, principally project related reports and documentation.
Activity 3.1.1.3. Project information materials including CDs, papers, videos, pamphlets, newsletters, interviews, press releases etc.	Short Term website consultancy will produce a dynamic newsletter template linked to the webpage. It is expected also that the consultancy will identify and recommend material suitable for audio, print and CD/DVD production. Discussions with WWF regarding publications in 'lay terms' for NGO and other audiences to be progressed.
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.	KM Strategy circulated for comment. No comments were received from stakeholders and the PCU takes the prerogative to implement those recommendations that are considered appropriate and for which funds are available.
Activity 3.1.2.2. Generate Knowledge Management Components for Website/page, newsletters, and progress reports.	See Activities 3.1.1.2, 3.1.1.3 and 3.1.2.1
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.	To be coordinated by UNDP Suva.
Activity 3.2.1.2. Terminal evaluation.	No activity
Activity 3.2.1.3. Post evaluation (Year 8).	
Activity 3.2.1.4. Annual reviews.	Consultant contracted to perform an annual review of the project. Interviews and questionnaires were undertaken in the margins of the Commission meetings held at Guam in November and early December. A draft of the report is expected to be available in early 2008.
Activity 3.2.1.5. Annual audit.	Arrangements for the 2007 audit have been made. Audit instructions have been made available in good time by UNDP Fiji.
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	Gaps in baseline information are being addressed, specifically with regards to national institutions & supportive laws and policies reforms

studies to measure IW indicators.	and the existence of inter-ministry coordination mechanisms.
Activity 3.2.2.2. Include indicator measures in progress reports.	To be completed.
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. WWF will be supported at SC3 (Honolulu in August), TCC3 (September, venue TBA) and 4 th session of the WCPF Commission at Pohnpei in December.
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.	A follow-up ENGO workshop took place from at Suva Fiji coordinated by WWF Pacific from 1 – 2 November 2007
Activity 3.3.1.5. Produce information materials to raise public awareness on oceanic fisheries management issues.	No activity – current discussions with WWF-Pacific to produce material in non-technical language to raise awareness.
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.	LOA completed.
Activity 3.3.2.2. Support Pacific INGO participation in the Commission.	LOA provides for support to regional policy meetings (MOW, October Rarotonga) and WCPFC4 (Pohnpei, December)
Activity 3.3.2.3. Provide information flow on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific INGOs and businesses.	Project publication disbursed.
Activity 3.3.2.4. Support Pacific INGO consultations on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues.	See Activity 3.3.2.2.
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 and other requirements to establish the PCU.	Software and fan purchased.
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.	RC3 was held on 6 October at Rarotonga Cook Islands preceding the MOW. Meeting papers were provided in advance and 10 countries provided national reports to the RSC. An adopted record of proceedings was endorsed electronically.
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.	Funds have been provided to the Nauru Fisheries Authority to support the convening of a National Consultative Committee meeting, the first of two meetings which took place at Nauru on 13 December 2007. Project country visit is scheduled to Palau in Jan 2008. It is anticipated that Palau will seek similar support for NCC.
Output 3.4.5. Reports on Project implementation, workplan and finances.	
Activity 3.4.5.1. Prepare periodic financial and narrative reports.	On-going. Q3 financial and narrative reports completed and submitted on time to UNDP.
Activity 3.4.5.2. Prepare Annual Work plans	2008 annual work plan prepared with work quarterly budget and work descriptions completed and submitted to RSC3 6 Oct.
Activity 3.4.5.3: Prepare Annual Project Reports	July 2006 – June 2007 period of reporting – UNDP/GEF PIR/APR and GEF Framework Results reports completed and submitted to UNDP/GEF and tabled at RSC3.

8. Challenges/Issues Encountered

- i) Ongoing – IUCN deferment of activities:
 - 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
- ii) Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP & FFA – this continues to be very 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.
- iii) Similar issues for scheduling attachments for country visits encountered, increasing and competing domestic and travel commitments by project focal points.

9. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

- i) IUCN are expected to make a final decision concerning the research cruise at the end of 2007.
- ii) Attachments are still being planned and undertaken by SPC (to complement stock assessment training and NTFSR work) and at FFA whenever possible.
- iii) continuing to liaise with project focal points to schedule in-country assistance and visits by the PCU.

10. Report Prepared By:

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