

NATIONAL REPORT

*NATIONAL LEVEL ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT
REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (OFM RSC)*

Reporting Period, 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2008

1. **Country:** Kiribati

2. **Project Title:** Oceanic Fisheries Management: Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Pacific SIDs (Pacific SAP II)

3. **Period Covered:** 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2008

4. Summary of Overall Project Progress

Kiribati continues to involve and benefited from a number of activities/funding rendered under the project at regional and national level. Kiribati pleased to acknowledge the level of assistance provided under the project to facilitate capacity building at the national level, enable the country to participate well in the commission meetings and meet its obligation as required under the commission. The following the known list of activities provided with the support of the project for this reporting period.

5. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (as per annual work-plan):

National level activities

- Development of TUFMAN: With the assistance of OFP/SPC staff, the database was installed in May, 2008. The system has enhance the licensing system and more capable in accommodating more data sets as compared to the previous database used. Training provided was not enough and thus few problems have been encountered as still cannot activate some features of the database. Even-though SPC continue to assist when problem addressed to them, an in house training of staff was essential to better and fully utilize the database.
- EAFM workshop: FFA and SPC have delivered a series of consultations with fisheries staff and involved stakeholders for provision of an EAFM national report. Presentation of EAFM results have commenced and the full report has been submitted to the Fisheries in Kiribati.
- Prosecution & Dockside Workshops: The in-country workshop by FFA held in December, 2007 provide our staff with essential background for boarding of FFVs.
- NTFSR: Preparation of the report was still ongoing and Kiribati is expecting it whenever the report was ready.

- Computer support: Kiribati request procurement of 3 sets of computers to support, maintain TUFMAN in the offshore Division. The request have been approved and Kiribati is expecting one set this year and the remain two sets for 2009.

Regional level activities

- 2nd Tuna Data Workshop: Kiribati participated in the workshop hosted by OFP/SPC in Noumea in April, 2008. The workshop delivered technical skills and knowledge required to produce estimates for national fleets, another national obligation under the commission.
- Stock Assessment & ERA Workshop: Participant from Kiribati attended the workshop organized by OFP/SPC. The workshop facilitates scientific knowledge essential for participation in scientific committee as well as required in sustainable management of tuna resources.
- High Seas Boarding and Inspection Procedure Workshop: Enable the country to meet obligation to the commission and upgrade skills for boarding and inspection of FFVs.

6. Challenges/Issues Encountered

At this stage it is quite difficult to capture full report of activities supported by the project due to lack of readily available information. Kiribati still lack the understanding of some projects supported under GEF.

7. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

- Increase the level of awareness on all activities implemented under the project.
- Proper liaison between the Focal Point and Project Coordinator.
- Country visits by relevant staff of the Project.
- Built national data base to record and to keep track of Project activities that are funded under the GEF project for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

9. Recommendations for Future Action

To better fully understand the project and to enable Kiribati to participate effectively in the project, a follow up on all activities implemented under the project to ensure maximum benefits is derived and full understanding of the Project realized at national level.

10. Report Prepared By: Aketa Taanga, National (OFM Project) Focal Point.