

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:** Solomon Islands
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

Like other countries in the region, Solomon Islands also involve and benefited from number of projects/activities funded by GEF in both national and regional level. Solomon Islands pleased to acknowledge the level of assistance provided under the GEF 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 and other regional organization. The following the known list of activities provided with the support of the GEF for this reporting period.

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

National level activities

- Development of TUFMAN SYSTEM: With the assistance of OFP/SPC staff, the Tufman System was installed in August, 2007. The system has enhanced the data manager and data entry officers to effectively manage the Solomon Islands Tuna data as compared to other system previously use. Under this particular activity, training was provided to our National Tuna Data Coordinator (NTDC) of how to manage and use this system. The NTDC and OFP/SPC staff provides in-house training for other staffs using the Tufman System.
- Observer Coordinator's Attachment (December 2007.Noumea).
- Observer Training (April 2008. Honiara).
- Data Officers Salary: The Salary of our NTDC and two Temporary officers was funded under GEF for the past 18 month. The initial agreement will laps by the end of this year but the SI Government is not in a position to absolve the NTDC and data entry staff into its system as agreed in the initial MOU. It is of national and regional interest if the contract of these officers can renewed at least for another year in order to bridge and minimize the that data gaps experience at both national and regional level.
- Follow up visit: In the past project period OFC Staff (statistic had made two follow up visit especially to help train staffs who involve in using Tufman system.
- Development of National Tuna Data Procedures: OFP staffs also assist us with developing of our National Tuna Data Procedure which now about 90% complete. The works involved include and one week visit

by OFP staff to Solomon Islands Fisheries and a week visit by NTDC to SPC, Noumea.

- Computer support: Solomon Islands request procurement of 1 set of computers to support and maintain TUFMAN in the offshore Division. This request has accepted and the computer is already with the NTDC.

Regional level activities

- Observer Coordinator to Observer Coordinators' workshop – Palau, July 2008
- 2nd Tuna Data Workshop: Solomon Islands 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 Solomon Islands 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.
- Observer Coordinator to Observer Coordinators' workshop – Palau, July 2008

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. Solomon Islands 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.
- 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 Solomon Islands 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: Hudson Wakio (NTDC).