

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

GEF Project ID: 4746

UNDP Project ID: 4607

FAO Project ID: 615567

Countries:	Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
Region:	Asia and the Pacific
Focal Area:	International Waters (GEF-5)
GEF Agencies:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Executing Agency:	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)

Date	Version	
10 September 2021	1	First draft
08 October 2021	2	Draft final
12 October 2021	3	Final

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Opening Page**PROJECT DETAILS:**

Project title:	EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS)		
Project ID:	GEF Project ID: 4746	UNDP PIMS ID: 4607;	FAO ID: 615567
Country:	Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu		
Region:	Asia and the Pacific		
Focal Area:	International Waters		
Funding Source:	GEF Trust Fund (GEF-5 replenishment cycle)		
GEF Focal Area Objective:	Objective 2 (IW-2): Catalyze multistate cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) while considering climatic variability and change		
Implementing Agencies:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)		
Implementation Modality:	IGO implementation		
Executing Agency:	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)		
Other Partners	Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA), Te Vaka Moana (TVM), Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA)		
<u>FINANCIALS:</u>			

Project Preparation Grant:	USD 200,000
GEF Project Grant:	USD 10,000,000
Cofinancing Total:	USD 84,934,375
GEF Agency Fees:	USD 1,000,000
Total Cost:	USD 95,134,375

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Concept Approved:	01 June 2012
Project Approved for Implementation:	30 June 2014
Start Date:	UNDP: 05 June 2015; FAO: 01 May 2015 (revised to 31 August 2015)
Closing Date (original):	UNDP: 05 June 2019; FAO: 30 April 2019
Closing Date (revised):	UNDP: 30 June 2021; FAO: 30 June 2021

TERMINAL EVALUATION DETAILS:

TE Timeframe:	July-September 2021		
TE Consultant	James	Lenoci	Reporting Language:
	English		

The TE Consultant would like to acknowledge the feedback and support provided by the project stakeholders.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	i
Abbreviations and Acronyms	
x	0
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Purpose of Evaluation.....	1
1.2 Evaluation Scope and Methodology.....	1
1.3 Structure of the TE report	1
1.4 Ethics	2
1.5 Evaluation Ratings	2
1.6 Audit Trail	3
1.7 Limitations.....	3
2 Project Description.....	4
2.1 Project start and duration	4
2.2 Development context.....	4
2.3 Problems that the project sought to address.....	5
2.4 Immediate and development objectives of the project.....	6
2.5 Expected results	6
2.6 Management arrangements.....	7
2.7 Main stakeholders	9
2.8 Theory of change.....	10
3 Findings	14
3.1 Project design / formulation.....	14
3.1.1 Analysis of results framework.....	14
3.1.2 Assumptions and risks.....	15
3.1.3 Gender responsiveness and social and environmental safeguards	16
3.1.4 Planned stakeholder participation.....	16
3.1.5 Lessons from other relevant projects	17
3.1.6 Linkages between project and other interventions	17
3.1.7 Replication approach	18
3.2 Project implementation.....	18
3.2.1 Adaptive management.....	18
3.2.2 Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements.....	20
3.2.3 Project finance and co-finance	21
3.2.4 Monitoring and evaluation	23
3.2.5 Tracking tool	24
3.2.6 Project implementation and execution	25
3.2.7 Risk management.....	26
3.3 Project results and impacts	26
3.3.1 Progress towards objective and expected outcomes	26
3.3.2 Relevance	37
3.3.3 Effectiveness	38
3.3.4 Efficiency	38
3.3.5 Sustainability.....	39
3.3.6 Country ownership.....	41
3.3.7 Gender equality and women's empowerment and cross-cutting issues	41
3.3.8 Cross-cutting issues.....	42
3.3.9 GEF additionality.....	43
3.3.10 Catalytic / replication effect	43
3.3.11 Progress to impact	44
3.3.12 Contributions towards achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).....	46
4 Main findings, conclusions, recommendations, and lessons	47
Annex 1: Evaluation Matrix	50
Annex 2: List of People Interviewed	53
Annex 3: List of Information Reviewed	54
Annex 4: Matrix of Rating Achievement of Project Objective and Outcomes	56
Annex 5: Cofinancing Table and supporting breakdowns.....	64

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Annex 6: Evaluation Consultant Code of Conduct Agreement Form	77
Annex 7: Rating Scales	78
Annex 8: Terms of Reference for Terminal Evaluation	80
Annex 9: Signed TE Final Report Clearance Form	73

List of Tables:

Table 1: Project information table	i
Table 2: Evaluation ratings	vi
Table 3: Recommendations table	viii
Table 4: Division of GEF Agency responsibilities	7
Table 5: SMART analysis of project results framework	11
Table 6: Status of responses to the midterm review recommendations	15
Table 7: Actual expenditures, 2015 through June 2021	18
Table 8: Project expenditures as reported by FFA, July 2015 - June 2021	18
Table 9: Status of tuna management plans and policies among the 14 Pacific SIDS	23
Table 10: Overview of stock status of interest to the WCPFC (updated on 16 Feb 2021)	39
Table 11: Project contributions towards achievement of SDGs	41

List of Figures:

Figure 1: Map of the Pacific Islands region showing the Pacific SIDS Exclusive Economic Zones	4
Figure 2: Schematic of project management arrangements	8
Figure 3: Project theory of change	10
Figure 4: Actual expenditures 2015-June 2021	19
Figure 5: Tuna fisheries related employment 2010-2019	25
Figure 6: Access fees by fishery 2008-2019	25
Figure 7: WCPO purse seine catch (tonnes p.a.), 2010-2018	28
Figure 8: Site visitors and page views for SustainPacFish.net, May 2017-May 2021	31
Figure 9: Site visitors and page views for TunaPacific, August 2018-April 2021	32
Figure 10: Tuna-dependent Pacific SIDS in the western and central Pacific Ocean	35
Figure 11: Moana Voices: Issues 1 and 2 (cover pages)	37
Figure 12: Press clipping from Fiji Sun, 30 August 2021	39
Figure 13: Majuro plots of the four key stocks, May 2015 (baseline) and Sep 2020	39
Figure 14: Shark bycatch rates in FFA members' EEZs, 2010-2018	40

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Executive Summary

The International Waters focal area project was approved under the GEF-5 replenishment cycle through an agency implementation modality, supported by the UNDP (lead agency) and FAO as the GEF implementing agencies and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) as the executing agency. Basic project information and finances are summarized below in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Project information table

Project title:	EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS)		
Project Details:		Project Milestones:	
Project ID:	UNDP: PIMS 4607 FAO ID: 615567	PIF Approval Date:	01 Jun 2012
GEF Project ID:	4746	CEO Endorsement Date:	30 Jun 2014
UNDP Atlas Business Unit, Award ID, Project ID:	Atlas ID: 88594 Project ID: 78204	ProDoc Signature Date (start date):	UNDP: 05 Jun 2015; FAO: 01 May 2015 (revised 31 Aug)
Country/Countries:	14 Pacific SIDS	Date Project Manager hired:	May 2015
Region:	Asia and the Pacific	Inception Workshop date	May 2015
Focal Area:	International Waters	Midterm Review Completion date:	Feb 2018
GEF Operational Programme or Strategic Priorities/Objectives	GEF-5 International Waters, Objective 2	Terminal Evaluation Completion date:	Sep 2021
		Revised Operational Closure date	30 Jun 2021
Trust Fund:	GEF Trust Fund		
GEF Agencies	United Nations Development Programme; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations		
Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity):	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)		
Sub-partners	SPC, PNA, TVM, MSG		
NGOs/CBOs involvement:	WWF		
Private sector involvement:	PITIA		
Financial Information:			
PPG:	at approval (USD)		at PPG completion (USD)
GEF grant for preparation:	200,000		200,000
Co-financing for preparation:	0		0
Project:	at CEO Endorsement (USD)		at TE (USD)
[1] UNDP contribution:	750,000		600,000
[2] FAO contribution	3,000,000		1,483,066
[3] Government:	31,196,910		19,322,510
[4] Other multi-/bi-laterals:	49,707,199		86,777,276
[5] Civil society:	180,266		260,229
[6] Private sector:	100,000		380,800
[7] Total co-financing [1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6]:	84,934,375		109,823,882
[7] Total GEF funding:	10,000,000		8,788,471
[8] Total project funding [6 + 7]:	94,934,375		118,612,352

Notes: *Total GEF expenditures reported through 30 Jun 2021

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

TERMINAL EVALUATION PURPOSE

The purpose of the TE was to provide an independent assessment of project results against what was expected to be achieved and draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project and aid in the overall enhancement of GEF agency programming. The TE process promotes accountability, value-for-money, and transparency.

METHODOLOGY

The TE was an evidence-based assessment, relying on feedback from individuals who have been involved in the design, implementation, and supervision of the project, review of available documents.

The timing of the TE coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic. As of 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic as the new coronavirus rapidly spread to all regions of the world. International travel to the region was restricted during the TE timeframe. As an adaptive management measure, stakeholder interviews were made on virtual platforms.

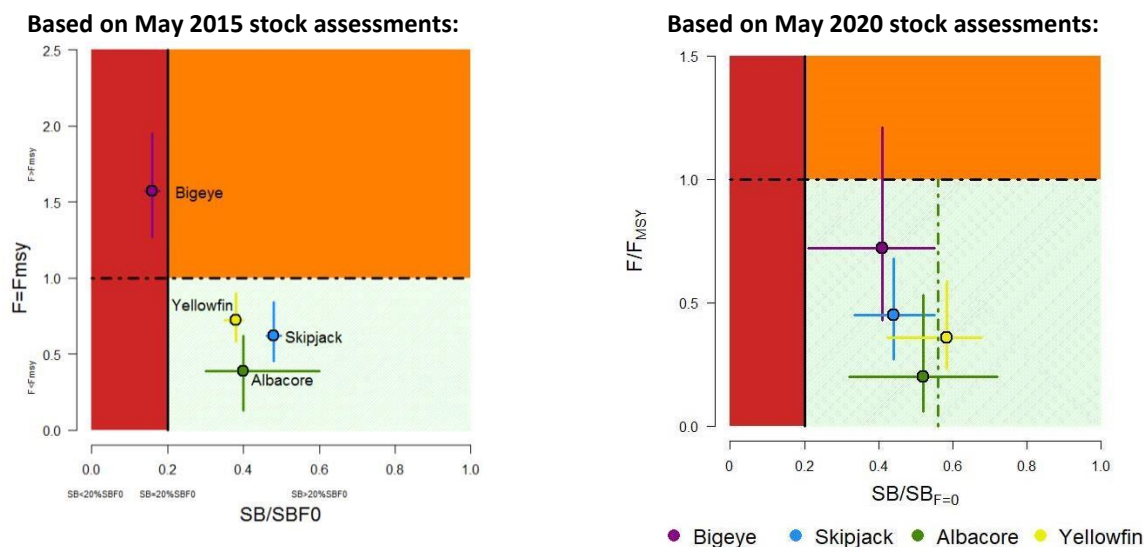
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The objective of the full-sized project is to support Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in meeting their obligations and effectively enforce global, regional and sub-regional agreements for the conservation and management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries. The project objective was aligned with the goal of the GEF-5 International Waters (IW) focal area: *promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services.*

The project, also referred to as OFMP-II, builds upon the successes achieved under the first phase of the project, and was jointly implemented by UNDP (lead GEF agency) and FAO, with the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) as the Executing Agency. The expected project outcomes included: (i) Implementation of agreed SAP incorporates ecosystem-based approaches to management of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs), and policy/legal institutional reforms into national/local plans; (ii) Institutions for joint ecosystem-based and adaptive management for LMEs demonstrate sustainability; (iii) Innovative solutions implemented for rebuilding or protecting fish stocks with rights-based management, and port management and produce measurable results; and (iv) Climatic variability and change at coasts and in LMEs incorporated into SAPs to reflect adaptive management.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS GENERATED**Status of four main WCPO tuna stocks:**

Based on the most recent stock assessments in September 2020, the four main WCPO tuna stocks (bigeye, skipjack, albacore, and yellowfin) are being harvested at sustainable levels, as shown below in the “Majuro” plots, comparing the assessment at project baseline in May 2015 with that of September 2020.

**Status of non-target species:**

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

During the lifespan of the project, there have been new and/or updated WCPFC CMMs adopted for globally threatened non-target species, including:

- **Sharks** (e.g., Silky Shark - *Carcharhinus falciformis*; IUCN Red List: Vulnerable VU)
- **Mobulid rays** (e.g., *Mobula birostris*, *Mobula mobular*, *Mobula thurstoni*, etc.; IUCN Red List: Endangered EN)
- **Seabirds**, particularly Albatrosses (e.g., Wandering Albatross – *Diomedea exulans*; IUCN Red List: VU), and Petrels (e.g., Black Petrel - *Procellaria parkinsoni*; IUCN Red List: VU)
- **Sea Turtles** (e.g., Hawksbill Turtle - *Eretmochelys imbricata*; IUCN Red List: CR; Leatherback - *Dermochelys coriacea*; IUCN Red List: VU)

Reliable estimates of the status of most non-target species are lacking due to limited data sources and monitoring systems.

RESULTS TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF GEF-5 IW OBJECTIVE 2 (*Catalyze multi-state cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) while considering climatic variability and change*)

Outcome 2.1: Implementation of agreed Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) incorporates ecosystem-based approaches to management of LMEs, ICM principles, and policy/legal/ institutional reforms into national/local plans

- The updated SAP (2020-2030) was endorsed in June 2019 by FCC Ministers in the 14 Pacific SIDS.

Outcome 2.2: Institutions for joint ecosystem-based and adaptive management for LMEs and local ICM frameworks demonstrate sustainability

- Supported by the well-established and financially sound regional fisheries management entities, including WCPFC, FFA, and PNA, the WCPO tuna stocks are being harvested sustainably based on the most recent stock assessments in September 2020.

Outcome 2.3: Innovative solutions implemented for reduced pollution, rebuilding or protecting fish stocks with rightsbased management, ICM, habitat (blue forest) restoration/conservation, and port management and produce measurable results

- The project supported innovative solutions for protecting WCPO tuna stocks, including wider operationalization of the PNA Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), more extensive application of Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and seasonal Fish Aggregation Device (FAD) closure.

Outcome 2.4: Climatic variability and change at coasts and in LMEs incorporated into updated SAP to reflect adaptive management and ICM principles

- In the updated SAP (2020-2030), Strategy B.1: “Improvements in Existing Monitoring Approaches and Methodologies”, includes the following proposed outcome: “Strengthen and expand data capture, predictive modelling and assessment, and subsequent adaptive management recommendations related to climate-induced changes and the need for community resilience”.

CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

SDG 14.2: The project strategy was predicated on strengthening regional, sub-regional, and national level capacities and systems for ecosystem-based management. The conservation and management measures with in the WCPFC are aimed at achieving the long-term conservation of tuna stocks. Ecosystem-based fisheries management principles are increasingly mainstreamed into the CMMs, reflecting the entire EEZs of the 14 Pacific SIDS.

SDG 14.4: Based on the most recent stock assessments, in September 2020, the four key tuna stocks in the WCPO are within biologically sustainable levels.

SDG 14.7: Access fee revenue collected by FFA member countries in 2019 from purse seine, longline and pole and line was USD 550 million, which is up from the baseline figure of USD 380 million in 2014. A recent study by J.D. Bell et al. (2021)¹ reported that 10 of the 14 Pacific SIDS are “tuna-dependent”, indicating that fishing for tuna plays a vital role in economic development and/or food security for the countries. The tuna species caught by purse-seine in the region are not overfished or subject to overfishing.

¹ Bell, J.D. et al. 2021. Pathways to sustaining tuna-dependent Pacific Island economies during climate change. Nature Sustainability. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-021-00745-z>

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

SDG 14.c: Pacific SIDS played a full role in the negotiation of UNCLOS, and the UN Fish Stocks Agreement, both of which have been ratified and implemented in national laws by all Pacific SIDS. The objective of the updated SAP (2020-2030) aims to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of the biological resources of the WCPO, consistent with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNDP AND FAO REGIONAL PROGRAMMING

UNDP Sub-regional programme document (SRPD) for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (2018-2022):

OFMP-II is relevant to SRPD Output 1.3. “Solutions developed at national and subnational levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services and waste”; Indicative indicator 1.3.1. “Number of UNDP project beneficiaries, disaggregated by sex, with access to sustainably managed natural resources (e.g., fisheries), ecosystem services (e.g., ecotourism), and waste.”

- **Project contributions.** Total employment related to tuna fisheries in FFA member countries for 2019 was estimated² at 23,861, representing an average year-on-year increase of 6.25% from 2010.

FAO Multi-country programming framework for the Pacific Islands (2018-2022):

The project is relevant to Output 2 of the multi-country programming framework: “Sustainable and climate-smart practices promoted to help build resilient agriculture, fisheries and forestry production systems”; Indicator target: “Five countries with strengthened capacities to implement policies, strategies or governance mechanisms that foster sustainable production and/or address climate change and environmental degradation by end 2019.”

- **Project contributions.** Each of the 14 Pacific SIDS have strengthened their capacities to develop and implement policies, strategies and governance mechanisms associated with management of oceanic fisheries. A few examples of updated tuna management plans during the course of the project’s lifespan include: Federated States of Micronesia (Management Plan on Tuna Fisheries, 2018), Marshall Islands (Tuna Management Plan, 2020-2025 – this is the third tuna management plan for the Marshall Islands), Palau (Tuna Fisheries Strategic Plan, 2017-2020), Tonga (National Tuna Management and Development Plan, 2018-2022), and Tuvalu (Tuna Management and Development Plan, 2018-2022)..

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND LESSONS LEARNED

Following a highly successful Phase I of the OFMP that closed in 2011, OFMP-II was focused on mainstreaming the ecosystem-based fisheries management approach at the regional, subregional, and national levels for durable management of migratory tuna stocks in the WCPO and generation of global environmental benefits. Over the course of the project implementation phase, which ran from June 2015 through June 2021, the WCPFC has adopted new and updated conservation and management measures (CMM) for the four key tuna stocks (bigeye, skipjack, albacore, and yellowfin), and each of these are being harvested at sustainable levels based on the most recent stock assessments in September 2020. The environmental additionality delivered through the GEF funds included supporting the implementation of improved management practices, such as wider operationalization of the PNA Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), as well as more extensive application of Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and seasonal Fish Aggregation Device (FAD) closure.

New and updated CMMs have also been adopted for conservation of non-target species, including sharks, rays, seabirds, and sea turtles, which signifies substantive commitment towards reducing bycatch of these globally threatened species. Environmental additionality of the GEF funds also extended to the substantive increased in the knowledge base on the potential impacts of climate change to the dynamics of the WCPO oceanic fisheries, something that has become a top priority in the region, particularly among the tuna-dependent Pacific SIDS.

The inclusive management arrangements of tuna stocks in the WCPO have also led to increased socioeconomic benefits. Officials from Pacific SIDS are holding senior positions in the WCPFC and its subsidiary entities. Access fee revenue collected by FFA member countries in 2019 from purse seine, longline and pole and line was USD 550 million, which is up from the baseline figure of USD 380 million in 2014, an average year-on-year increase of 8% over this time period. Employment in the fisheries sector reached 23,861 in 2019, representing an average 6.25% year-on-year increase since 2010. The highest proportion (65%) of employment was in the onshore processing sector, of which women make up 63% on the factory floor level. Importantly, women have been increasingly represented in high level fisheries management positions.

² Source: FFA, 2020. Economic and Development Indicators and Statistics: Tuna Fisheries of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

The updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Programme (SAP) (2020-2030) provided substantive governance additionality to the process of achieving and maintaining sustainable management of oceanic tuna fisheries of the WCPO. The TDA provides an important analysis of the key issues, barriers, drivers, and root causes affecting the transboundary nature of oceanic tuna fisheries. There is no other study that presents a comparable analysis of the interactions and causal pathways across a comprehensive set of parameters. The updated SAP presents a set of actionable priorities that feeds into the ecosystem based fisheries management approach that underpins the WCPO Convention, provides regional and national stakeholders with guidance on addressing root causes, and leverages funding from other sources by framing key issues. The GEF funding on this project fed into an ongoing, multiple-donor supported process focused on sustainable management of highly migratory species in the WCPO. The endorsement of the SAP by the 14 Pacific SIDS further strengthens multi-state cooperation in the region.

The GEF funds provided innovation additionality across several fronts, including building capacities in the application of electronic monitoring and substantive updates to information management systems that enable fisheries management entities to make more informed, science-based decisions. The design of the third phase of the OFMP has a strong innovation additionality dimension, focusing on emerging issues and technologies that require incremental donor support.

Under Component 4, resources were allocated for expanding stakeholder participation in the WCPO oceanic fisheries management processes. Funding to the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) and WWF supported engagement of the private sector and civil society, respectively, including participation in key meetings and development of advocacy and knowledge products. The investments in developing two websites (SustainPacFish and TunaPacific) have contributed to improved information and knowledge sharing, providing accessible platforms to the wider stakeholder community.

The project implementation was initiated in May 2015, nearly a year after obtaining GEF CEO endorsement in June 2014. The joint implementation modality, including the two GEF agencies UNDP and FAO, was thoughtfully addressed in the project design, with respect to distribution of thematic responsibilities. From an operational standpoint, this modality presented significant challenges, mostly regarding the multiple technical and financial reporting requirements, which affected project efficiency, i.e., inefficient use of available human resources.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic represented an extraordinary challenge to the way in which the project was running. Organizing in-person regional and sub-regional workshops and meetings was a central part of the project strategy. The project did a good job at adapting to the restricted circumstances, having to convene essentially all meetings virtually over the final 1-1/2 years of the implementation timeline. Whilst there are inherent limitations with virtual modalities, e.g., with respect to certain types of capacity building, the project's adaptive management efforts are commended. An unforeseen consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic was the need to redirect funds allocated for travel and workshop expenses. The project was able to procure several advisory support services and technical deliverables that were not originally envisaged.

The project benefitted from having the enabling structure and systems of the Executing Agency (FFA), a qualified and proactive Project Coordinator / Chief Technical Advisor, and a set of experienced and well-established sub-partner organizations. The partnership arrangements were clearly articulated in the Project Document, allowing a solid foundation for implementation. Outsourcing the execution of most of the outputs to the sub-partners and operating under the joint implementation modality, however, resulted in separate work "silos", which affected the overall coherence of the project. And there was essentially no tracking of co-financing contributions from the project partners and national governments during project implementation (only at the midterm review and TE), which might have facilitated additional synergies and adaptive management measures in line with the initiatives of the co-financing partners.

Good practices and lessons learned on the project are presented below.

Good Practices:

- Partnership roles and responsibilities were clearly articulated at project preparation phase with well-established and experienced sub-partners.
- Developing the Moana Voices publications was an innovative way to capture gender issues in the region, directly communicated by Pacific Women having active roles in the fisheries sector.
- Effective adaptive management measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including implementing remote methods for stakeholder engagement and redirecting funds (originally earmarked for travel expenses) for delivering technical assistance addressing key issues.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

- Incorporating some of the tracking tool indicators into the project results framework facilitated evaluation of contributions towards achievement of global environmental benefits.

Lessons Learned:

- Outsourcing execution of project outputs to multiple sub-partners requires a substantive technical support team to ensure overall coherence.
- Procedures for tracking and reporting project co-financing contributions should be agreed at project inception, and more importantly, synergies with co-financing partners should be advocated and facilitated throughout the project implementation phase.
- Monitoring and evaluation procedures should be clearly established at project preparation phase, resources allocated in the budget, and verified at project inception in order to ensure effective results-based management.
- National level stakeholder engagement did not include country, joint presence offices, and field offices of UNDP and FAO.
- The project strategy should be fully vetted prior to submission for GEF CEO endorsement, e.g., the output/activity on establishing national advisory committees.
- Procedures for allocating project management costs should be agreed at project inception.

EVALUATION RATINGS:

Evaluation ratings are summarized below in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Evaluation ratings

Criteria	Rating	Comments
1. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)		
M&E design at entry	Satisfactory	The M&E plan was developed using the standard UNDP/FAO template for GEF-financed projects. The indicative M&E budget was USD 431,578, or 4.3% of the USD 10 million GEF project grant. The M&E plan included a USD 36,028 line item for carrying out a “baseline study to refine and measure logframe indicators”. This baseline study was an important output, although delivered fairly late in the implementation timeframe (February 2017). For a few indicators, information sources were not in place to quantitatively assess progress.
M&E plan implementation	Satisfactory	The project implementation reports (PIRs) were the primary M&E reports, providing assessment of progress towards results, internal ratings, and adaptive management measures. The quality of the PIRs steadily increased over time, culminating with the 2021 PIR, having a new evidence based format with links to specific reports and records. Some of the baselines, indicators, and end targets in the project results framework were not clarified during project implementation. A few adjustments were recommended in the midterm review, but the suggested revisions were not reflected in the PIRs. There were shortcomings in tracking and reporting progress towards achievement of project results, e.g., legislation and policy instruments at the national levels, participation of industry and civil society, existing national consultative processes, and changes in awareness among different stakeholder groups.
Overall quality of M&E	Satisfactory	Overall, the quality of M&E on the project is rated as satisfactory. The RSC was an important mechanism/platform for M&E, providing strategic feedback and guidance. A significant level of adaptive management was applied during the COVID-19 pandemic. There were some shortcomings with respect to designing M&E procedures, and collecting and reporting quantitative information towards achievement of results.
2. Implementing Agency (IA) Implementation & Executing Agency (EA) Execution		

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Quality of UNDP-FAO Implementation / Oversight	Satisfactory	<p>The UNDP Pacific Office colleagues based in Fiji and the Regional Technical Advisor based in the Asia-Pacific Regional Hub in Bangkok remained closely involved throughout the project cycle. FAO also provided operational and technical support from multiple officers. With the project under FAO's Operational Partners Implementation Modality (OPIM), the regional office in Bangkok had oversight from an operational point of view. The Pacific Office based in Samoa provided technical support.</p> <p>The decision to prepare joint PIR's each year was sensible and provided a consolidated annual snapshot of project progress. However, the joint implementation modality of this project presented challenges, in terms of progress reporting, financial expenditure reporting, and sharing of information across the different parts of the project overseen by the two GEF agencies.</p>
Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	Satisfactory	<p>The FFA was the logical choice for Implementing Partner (Executing Agency), considering their mandate in supporting the Pacific SIDS. The enabling structure and systems of the FFA was beneficial for the execution of the project, delivering high level advice, strategic guidance in fisheries management, fisheries development, and fisheries operation, as well as procurement and financial management, and provision of office space and services for the PMU.</p> <p>Direct technical support to the PMU was limited. The work of the two PMU members (Project Coordinator/CTA and Finance Officer) was spread thin, tasked with coordinating the work of multiple sub-partners, monitoring progress towards achievement of results, preparing progress and financial reports, and facilitating information and knowledge sharing.</p>
Overall quality of Implementation / Execution	Satisfactory	<p>Overall, the quality of implementation and execution is rated as satisfactory. The implementation oversight delivered by UNDP and FAO was satisfactory separately; however, the joint implementation modality posed operational challenges to the project team, contributing to diminished efficiency and shortcomings in overall coherence of the project.</p>
3. Assessment of Outcomes		

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Criteria	Rating	Comments
Relevance	Highly Satisfactory	<p>The project is relevant across several fronts. The objective was consistent with the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. The design was aligned with the 1997 regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP), which was endorsed by ministerial level officials in the 14 Pacific SIDS. The project was developed to contribute towards the achievement of Objective 2 of the GEF-5 IW focal area strategy; at closure, the project remains relevant to current GEF-7 IW focal area strategy, specifically Objective 1.</p> <p>At a broader level, the project is relevant with respect to The Pacific Plan, and the FFA Regional Tuna Management and Development Strategy.</p> <p>The project has contributed to the priorities outlined in the UNDP sub-regional programme document for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (2018-2022), specifically Output 1.3: "Solutions developed at national and subnational levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services and waste"; and also with respect to the FAO multi-country programme framework for the Pacific Islands (2018-2022), namely Output 2: "Sustainable and climate-smart practices promoted to help build resilient agriculture, fisheries and forestry production systems.</p>
Effectiveness	Satisfactory	The project was successful in satisfactorily achieving expected results, which were consistent with national and regional priorities and aligned with SDGs and regional programming objectives of UNDP and FAO.
Project Objective:		
<i>To support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations to implement & effectively enforce global, regional & subregional arrangements for the conservation & management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries</i>		Satisfactory
Component 1: Regional Actions for Ecosystem- Based Management		
<i>Outcome 1.1: Comprehensive set of innovative on-the-water conservation & management measures (CMMs) adopted and applied by the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) for stocks of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME, incorporating rights-based and ecosystem-based approaches in decision-making & informed by sound scientific advice & information</i>		Satisfactory
<i>Outcome 1.2: Adaptive management of oceanic fisheries in the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME is put in place through better understanding of the impacts of climate change (CC)</i>		Satisfactory
Component 2: Sub-regional Actions for Ecosystem- Based Management		
<i>Outcome 2.1: Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements are operationalized & enforced, including rights-based cap & trade arrangements for in-zone tuna fisheries, enhancing ecosystem sustainability & incentivized by sustainable fishery certifications</i>		Satisfactory
Component 3: National Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management		
<i>Outcome 3.1: Innovative ecosystem-based on-the-water CMMs being effectively applied by Pacific SIDS in accordance with national plans & policies & with international, regional & sub-regional commitments & other relevant instruments</i>		Satisfactory
<i>Outcome 3.2: Integrated data & information systems & scientific analysis being used nationally for reporting, policy-making, monitoring & compliance</i>		Satisfactory
Component 4: Stakeholder Participation & Knowledge Management		
<i>Outcome 4.1: Greater multi-stakeholder participation in the work of the national & regional institutions with respect to oceanic fisheries management, including greater fisheries industry engagement & participation in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities</i>		Moderately Satisfactory
<i>Outcome 4.2: Increased awareness of oceanic fisheries resource & ecosystems management & impacts of climate change</i>		Satisfactory

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Efficiency	Moderately Satisfactory	Building on achievements from the first phase and having partnership roles and responsibilities clearly articulated at the project preparation phase boosted project efficiency. Initiating implementation was delayed, with the official start date and inception workshop (May 2015) were approximately one year after CEO endorsement was obtained in June 2014. The multiple reporting demands associated with the joint implementation modality diminished project efficiency, i.e., an inefficient use of human resources of the project team. The project did a good job adapting to the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, and was able to redirect funds earmarked for travel and workshop expenses for several technical activities that were not originally envisaged in the project strategy.
Criteria	Rating	Comments
		A moderately satisfactory rating is applied primarily because of the delay in initiating project implementation, and the inefficient use of human resources associated with the compounded reporting demands resulting from the joint implementation modality.
Overall project outcome rating	Satisfactory	The project remains highly relevant at project closure, and the project's objective and expected outcomes were achieved. Efficiency was rated at moderately satisfactory, but considering the relevance and effectiveness ratings, the overall outcome rating is satisfactory.
4. Sustainability		
Financial sustainability	Likely	This representation by Pacific SIDS officials strengthens the likelihood that the priorities facing the individual countries and the region as whole are integrated into strategic planning frameworks. Donor commitment to sustainable oceanic fisheries in the WCPO continues to be strong, including proposals under advanced development for follow-up GEF funding for the third phase of the OFMP project, as well as the ABNJ Tuna Project.
Socio-political sustainability	Likely	Oceanic fisheries are an important part of the socioeconomic fabric in the participating Pacific SIDS and across the region as a whole. There has been a steady increase in tuna fisheries related employment in the region, and an increasing number of officials from the 14 Pacific SIDS are holding positions within the WCPFC and its subsidiary bodies. This representation strengthens the likelihood that the priorities facing the individual countries and the region as a whole are integrated into strategic planning frameworks.
Institutional framework and governance sustainability	Likely	There are strong institutional framework and governance structures in place in the region, including those of the WCPFC, FFA, and PNAO. A rigorous set of compliance requirements have been established and are being adjusted and adapted to emerging threats and circumstances. Well-designed systems are operational for monitoring and reporting on compliance, guided by multi-stakeholder collaborative arrangements.
Environmental sustainability	Likely	The potential impacts of climate change underscore the importance of the work of the regional fisheries management organizations, donors such as GEF, and the broader stakeholder community at strengthening deliberative processes and reaching judicious agreements that help ensure sustainable management of migratory stocks and maintains socioeconomic benefits for the Pacific SIDS.
Overall likelihood of sustainability	Likely	There are strong sustainability structures in place at project closure that help ensure the durability of project results achieved and long-term sustainable management of migratory tuna stocks in the WCPO.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

TE recommendations are presented below in **Table 3**. Considering that the project is operationally closed, the recommendations are primarily referring to actions to follow up to the results achieved from the project.

Table 3: Recommendations table

No.	Recommendation	Responsible Entities	Timeframe
1.	Advocate and facilitate mainstreaming SAP priorities at the national level. The national tuna management plans are one of the key instruments for mainstreaming SAP priorities. There should be a concerted effort to align these national level plans with the regional SAP.	FFA, national gov't partners	Phase III

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

2.	Strengthen feedback mechanisms for better quantifying environmental additionality. It would be advisable to work with regional partners in establishing mechanisms for evaluating stress reduction outcomes resulting from wider adoption of improved management approaches and emerging technologies.	FFA, subpartners	Phase III
3.	Strengthen project coherence by embedding additional technical support positions into the project team. Apart from the Project Coordinator/Chief Technical Advisor and Fisheries Management Advisor roles, it would be advisable to include a Monitoring-ControlSurveillance (MCS) and a Knowledge Management (KM) Officer as technical support positions embedded into the project team.	FFA, UNDP	Phase III
4.	Develop an adaptive national stakeholder engagement strategy. Formulating specific national level activities through consultation with local stakeholders at the project preparation phase, and holding minimum annual stock-taking sessions to make adaptive management adjustments. Include colleagues from the GEF agency country offices, joint presence offices, and field offices in national level activities, where possible.	FFA, national gov't partners	Phase III
5.	Align sub-partner agreements with the project's results-based management systems. Sub-partner agreements and performance should be better tied results-based management requirements, including monitoring and evaluation towards achievement of performance metrics, co-financing contributions, synergies with complementary initiatives, etc.	FFA	Phase III
6.	Develop a process for improving coordination with complementary projects and initiatives. There are a number of complementary projects and initiatives in the region. It would be advisable to arrange regular coordination meetings or other mechanism to better align project activities.	FFA, UNDP	Phase III
7.	Further support securing of maritime jurisdictions as part of the regional actions towards responding to potential impacts of climate change. Securing maritime jurisdictions is important for Pacific SIDS in their blue economy based development.	FAO, FFA, WCPFC	Ongoing

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

Abbreviations and Acronyms ^x

AWP	Annual Work Plan
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CO	Country Office
CPD	Country Programme Document
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
CPUE	Catch per unit effort
EAS	East Asia Seas
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFA	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency
FIMS	Fisheries Information Management System
FRDP	Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IGO	Intergovernmental Organization
IUU	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing
IW	International waters
LME	Large marine ecosystem
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCS	Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MSG	Melanesian Spearhead Group
MTR	Midterm Review
OPIM	Operational Partners Implementation Modality (FAO)
PIF	Project Information Form
PIMS	Project Information Management System
PIOFMP II	Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project – Phase II
PIR	Project Implementation Review
PITIA	Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNA	Parties to the Nauru Agreement
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
RTA	Regional Technical Advisor
SAP	Strategic action programme
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPC	Secretariat for the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SRPD	Subregional programme document for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories
TDA	Transboundary diagnostic analysis
TE	Terminal evaluation
TORs	Terms of References
TVM	Te Vaka Moana
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USD	United States Dollar
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention
WCPO	Western and Central Pacific Ocean
WTPWP LME	Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool Large Marine Ecosystem
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Evaluation

Purpose

The purpose of the TE was to provide an independent assessment of project results against what was expected to be achieved and draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project and aid in the overall enhancement of GEF agency programming. The TE process promotes accountability, value-for-money, and transparency.

Objectives:

The **objectives** of the TE include the following.

- assess the achievement of project results supported by evidence (i.e., progress of the project objective and outcome targets).
- assess the contribution and alignment of the project to relevant national development plans or environmental policies.
- assess the contribution of the project results towards the relevant outcome and output of the Sub Regional Programme Document (SRPD) & United Nation Pacific Strategy (UNPS/UNDAF)
- assess cross cutting and gender mainstreaming issues
- examination on the use of funds and value for money
- draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP and FAO programming.

1.2 Evaluation Scope and Methodology

The overall approach and methodology of the evaluation followed the guidelines outlined in the following guidance documents:

- Guidelines for GEF Agencies in Conducting Terminal Evaluation for Full-sized Projects, Approved by the GEF IEO Director on 11th of April 2017
- UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed Projects, 2020

The TE was an evidence-based assessment, relying on feedback from individuals who have been involved in the design, implementation, and supervision of the project and review of available documents.

The timing of the TE coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic. As of 11 March 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic as the new coronavirus rapidly spread to all regions of the world. International travel to the region was restricted during this timeframe. As an adaptive management measure, stakeholder interviews were made on virtual platforms.

The evaluation included following activities:

As a data collection and analysis guidance tool, the evaluation matrix included as **Annex 1** was used to guide the evaluation. Evidence gathered during the evaluation was cross-checked among as many sources as practicable, to validate the findings.

The TE team interviewed key project stakeholders. A list of interviewed people is included in **Annex 2**.

A desk review was made of available reports and other documents, listed in **Annex 3**.

The project results framework was used as an evaluation tool, in assessing attainment of the project objective and outcome level indicators (see **Annex 4**).

The TE Consultant reviewed information regarding cofinancing realized throughout the duration of the project (see **Annex 5**).

1.3 Structure of the TE report

The TE report starts out with a description of the project, indicating the duration, main stakeholders, and the immediate and development objectives. The findings of the evaluation are broken down into the following three sections:

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

- Assessment of Project Design
- Assessment of Project Implementation
- Assessment of Project Results and Impacts

The assessment of project design focuses on how clear and practicable the project's objectives and components were formulated, and whether project outcomes were designed according to SMART criteria:

- **S: Specific:** Outcomes must use "change language", i.e., describing a specific end-of-project condition
- **M: Measurable:** Results, whether quantitative or qualitative, must have measurable indicators, making it possible to assess whether they were achieved or not
- **A: Achievable:** Results must be within the capacity of the partners to achieve
- **R: Relevant:** Results must make contributions to selected priorities of the national development framework
- **T: Time-bound:** Results are never open-ended. There should be an expected date of accomplishment. The project design assessment covers whether capacities of the implementation partners were sufficiently considered when designing the project, and if partnership arrangements were identified and negotiated prior to project approval. An assessment of how assumptions and risks were considered in the development phase is also included.

The quality of project implementation and execution is evaluated and rated. This assessment considers whether there was adequate focus on results, looks at the level of support provided, quality of risk management, and the candor and realism represented in the annual reports.

In GEF terms, project results include direct project outputs, short- to medium-term outcomes, and longer-term impact, including global environmental benefits, replication efforts, and local effects. Project results were evaluated and rated according to effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability and progress towards impacts. Effectiveness refers to the extent to which the project objective and outcomes have been achieved or how likely it is to be achieved by project closure. The assessment of relevance looks at the extent to which the activity is suited to local and national development priorities and organizational policies, including changes over time. Relevance also considers the extent to which the project is in line with GEF operational programs and strategic priorities under which the project was funded. Efficiency is a measure of the extent to which results have been delivered with the least costly resources possible; also called cost effectiveness or efficacy. The efficiency assessment also examines compliance with respect to the incremental cost concept, i.e., the GEF funds were allocated for activities not supported under baseline conditions, with the goal of generating global environmental benefits.

Assessment of the sustainability addresses the likelihood that project results will be sustained after GEF funding ceases, with respect to financial resources, institutional frameworks and governance, socioeconomic considerations and environmental factors. Progress towards impact is an assessment of the project theory of change, i.e., how project results will lead to long-term impact, according to the assumptions made and estimated intermediate states.

The assessment of project M&E systems includes an evaluation of the appropriateness of the M&E plan, as well as a review of how the plan was implemented, e.g., compliance with progress and financial reporting requirements, how were adaptive measures taken in line with M&E findings, and management response to the recommendations from the midterm review.

The report concludes with a set of recommendations for reinforcing and following up on initial project benefits and a discussion of good practices and lessons learned which should be considered for development and implementation of other UNDP and FAO supported, GEF financed projects.

1.4 Ethics

The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Ethical Guidelines for Evaluators, and the TE Consultant has signed the Evaluation Consultant Code of Conduct Agreement form (**Annex 6**).

1.5 Evaluation Ratings

The findings of the evaluation are compared against the targets set forth in the logical results framework and analyzed according to developments that occurred over the course of the project. The effectiveness and efficiency of project outcomes are rated according to the 6-point GEF scale, ranging from Highly Satisfactory (no shortcomings) to Highly Unsatisfactory (severe shortcomings). Monitoring & evaluation and execution of the implementing and executing agencies were also rated according to this scale. Relevance is evaluated to be either relevant or not relevant. Sustainability is rated according to the 4-point scale, ranging from Likely (negligible risks to the likelihood of continued

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

benefits after the project ends) to Unlikely (severe risks that project outcomes will not be sustained). More detailed descriptions of the rating scales are compiled in **Annex 7**.

1.6 Audit Trail

As an “audit trail” of the evaluation process, review comments to the draft report were compiled along with responses from the TE Consultant as an annex separate from the TE report. Relevant modifications to the report have been incorporated into the final version of the TE report.

1.7 Limitations

The TE was carried out according to the Terms of Reference (**Annex 8**) and UNDP and GEF guidelines for terminal evaluations of GEF-financed projects. The methodology of the TE was adjusted in response to the international travel restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

There were no significant limitations associated with language. Project reports were prepared in English and all interviews were held in English.

The key stakeholders involved in the design, implementation, and oversight of the project were interviewed. There were some limitations with respect to gaining feedback from the participating Pacific SIDS. Among the 14 SIDS, interviews and/or questionnaire surveys were conducted with officials from six (6) of the countries. The restricted travel and lack of direct feedback from each of the 14 Pacific SIDS represented limitations to the evaluation. Overall, the TE Consultant concludes that the information and feedback obtained sufficiently captured the results achieved by the project and prospects for sustaining results after GEF funding ceases.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

2 Project Description

2.1 Project start and duration

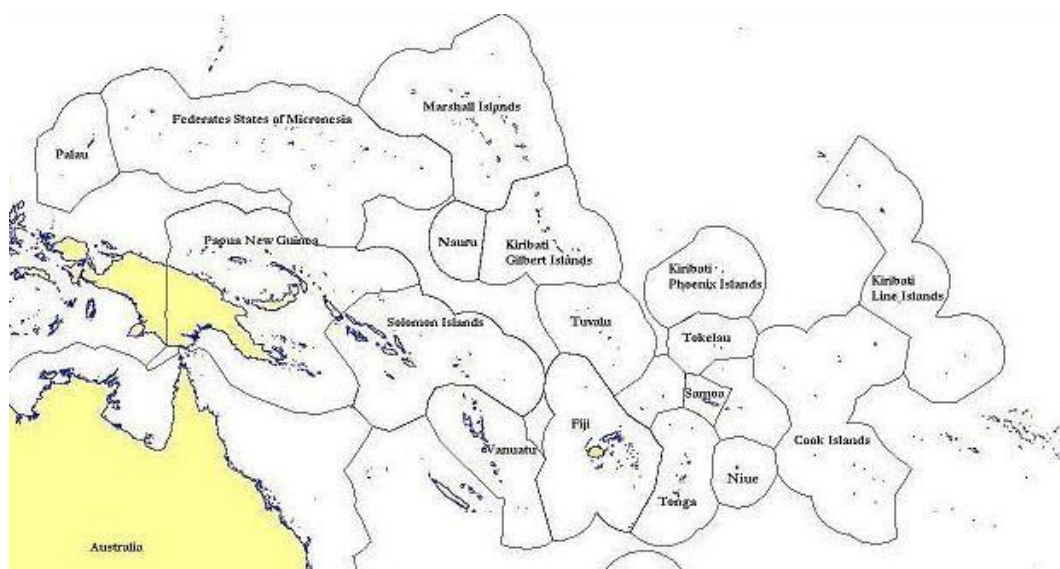
Key project dates are listed below:

Preparation Grant Approved:	01 June 2012
Project approved for implementation by GEF Secretariat:	30 June 2014
Project start (signed Project Document):	UNDP: 05 June 2015; FAO: 01 May 2015 (revised to 31 August 2015)
Project inception workshop:	May 2015
Midterm review (date of final report):	February 2018
Terminal evaluation (date of final report):	September 2021
Closing date (original):	UNDP: 05 June 2019; FAO: 30 April 2019
Closing date (revised):	UNDP: 30 June 2021; FAO: 30 June 2021

The project preparation grant was approved on 01 June 2012, and the project was approved for implementation by the GEF Secretariat approximately two years later, on 30 June 14. The project start date, when representatives from the 14 participating Pacific Island Countries (PACs), was 05 June 2015 for UNDP and 01 May 2015 for FAO (which was revised to 31 August 2015). The project inception workshop was held in May 2015. The midterm review was completed in February 2018 and the terminal evaluation report completed in September 2021. The original project closing dates were 05 June 2019 and 30 April 2019 for UNDP and FAO, respectively, which were revised to 30 June 2021, following two no-cost time extensions.

2.2 Development context

As described in the Project Document, the waters of the Pacific Islands region cover an area of around 40 million square kilometers, or around 8 per cent of the Earth's surface and equivalent to about 30% of the area of the Earth's land surfaces. As shown in **Figure 1**, most of this area falls within the national jurisdiction of 14 Pacific SIDS³, so that they are custodians of a significant part of the surface of the Earth and, in particular, custodians of a large part of one of the Earth's major international waters ecosystems. These waters at the same time divide Pacific Island communities across huge distances and unite them by substantial dependence on a shared marine environment and shared marine resources.



³ For the purpose of this project, the Pacific SIDS are Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. ⁴ Source: Project Document (Figure 1).

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Figure 1: Map of the Pacific Islands region showing the Pacific SIDS Exclusive Economic Zones⁴

The waters hold the world's largest stocks of tuna and related pelagic species. The waters of the Pacific Islands region provide around a third of the world's catches of tuna and related species, and over half of the world's supplies for canned tuna – and the broader Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) region, including those parts of Indonesia and Philippines in the Pacific Ocean, provides over half of the world's catches of the major species of tuna – over 2 million tons annually.

The waters of the region also contain globally important stocks of sharks, billfish and other large pelagic species, whales and other marine mammals and turtles. The conservation of these globally important transboundary fish stocks, and the protection of the associated transboundary non-target species, especially of sharks, seabirds and sea turtles, while considering climatic variability and change, constitutes the global environmental benefit for this project.

2.3 Problems that the project sought to address

Sustainable use of the transboundary oceanic fish stocks of the Pacific Islands region is for most Pacific SIDS the most important potential contributor to their sustainable development. For some SIDS, sustainable fisheries for these stocks may provide virtually the only prospect for the levels of sustainable development to which they aspire. These stocks are transboundary and globally important food stocks, and the fisheries for them affect the globally important stocks of other non-target species in these waters, especially sharks, seabirds and turtles. For this reason, GEF, UNDP and Pacific SIDS have placed the sustainable use of these stocks as a core element in their longer term relationship.

When this GEF/UNDP/Pacific SIDS partnership on transboundary oceanic stocks began in the mid 1990's, two key concerns were identified in relation to these stocks and the ecosystem of which they are part:

- i) a lack of understanding and knowledge about the target stocks and the impact of fishing on non-target species affected by fishing; and
- ii) the lack of a legally binding arrangement for the conservation and management of these stocks throughout their range, including the high seas, and of a coherent framework for the control of the fisheries upon those stocks.

In a pilot phase of GEF/UNDP/Pacific SIDS cooperation, implemented by UNDP, a new Convention to establish the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) was negotiated. The Commission, one of the world's largest regional fisheries management organization (RFMO), has as its objective the long term conservation and sustainable use of the region's highly migratory fish stocks. That pilot phase also supported basic scientific assessment and monitoring programmes at national and regional levels. Then, in the first full phase of GEF /SIDS cooperation under the Pacific Islands Oceanic fisheries Management Project (PIOFMP-I) , the Convention was brought into force largely through ratification by Pacific SIDS, and the Commission established. The support for science was refocused on ecosystem-related science and capacity building as the financing of the assessment work was passed over to the Commission. In addition, Pacific SIDS national laws were reformed to provide for the obligations associated with being Members of the Commission, and national legal, policy, control and monitoring programmes were restructured and strengthened.

With these developments, the initial foundational, institutional development phase of improvements to regional oceanic fisheries management to ensure sustainable use of transboundary oceanic fish stocks called for in the IW SAP has been largely accomplished as confirmed by the OFMP-I Terminal Evaluation, but substantially more needs to be done to translate these institutional developments into systematic, sustained changes in fishing patterns and on-thewater behavior.

There were six major inter-related concerns identified regarding sustainability in these fisheries for transboundary oceanic fish stocks:

- 1) the impact on target transboundary oceanic fish stocks;
- 2) the impact on other fish species, such as sharks and billfish;
- 3) the impact on other species of interest (such as marine mammals, seabirds and turtles);
- 4) the impact on food webs; 5) other impacts on biodiversity; and 6) the impact of climate change.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

2.4 Immediate and development objectives of the project

In their commitment to long term conservation and sustainable use through the WCPFC, Pacific SIDS have also pursued longer term socio-economic goals, concerned to ensure the long term viability and value of key oceanic stocks, and the fisheries upon them both for economic growth and food security. These goals include:

- increased access fees for government revenue;
- increased employment and private incomes associated with the domestic fisheries development (including that beyond the catching sector) that is expected to flow from better-managed national fisheries; and
- increased contributions to food security that are projected to be necessary as other inshore marine resources around islands become fully exploited and as populations grow, with protection of the rights of local fishers being an important element.

The project strategy was consistent with the UNDAF for the Pacific Sub-region (2013-2017) covering the Pacific SIDS except PNG. The UNDAF 2013-2017 was prepared by the UN agencies based in Fiji and Samoa, including UNDP and FAO and strives to make a difference in the Pacific by showing that *“the different members of the UN system and PACIFIC SIDS are on the same page as to development priorities, in-line with the imperatives and opportunities expressed in the Secretary-General’s Five Year Action Agenda of 2012; and by fully recognizing the diversity of PACIFIC SIDS it will work as a catalyst for addressing interrelated development challenges by approaching them from different, but complementary angles.”* The OFMP-II project outputs were directly aligned with the corresponding UNDAF Outcome Area 1 on Environmental management, climate change and disaster risk management, and Outcome Area 3 on Poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth, with the following sub-outcome statements:

- a) *Outcome 1.1:* By 2017, the most vulnerable communities across the PICTs are more resilient and select government agencies, civil society organizations and communities have enhanced capacity to apply integrated approaches to environmental management, climate change adaptation/mitigation, and disaster risk management; and
- b) *Outcome 3.1:* By 2017, inclusive economic growth is enhanced, poverty is reduced, sustainable employment is improved and increased, livelihood opportunities and food security are expanded for women, youth and vulnerable groups and social safety nets are enhanced for all citizens.

The project was also congruent with the UNDAF for PNG (2012-2015) outcome related to Environmental Management which targets “having regulatory frameworks in place to protect its natural resources and biodiversity for the effective benefit of current and future generations. It also linked with UNDP Strategic Plan, specifically Output 2.5 “Legal and regulatory frameworks, policies and institutions enabled to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation, and the indicator for Output 2.5.3 “Number of countries implementing national and sub-national plans to protect and restore the health, productivity and resilience of oceans and marine ecosystems”. This programme was prepared jointly by the UN agencies in PNG, including UNDP and FAO.

2.5 Expected results

The planned global environmental benefit for the Project was conservation of the globally important transboundary stocks of tunas, billfish and other large pelagic species, and the protection of the associated transboundary non-target species, especially of sharks, seabirds and sea turtles in the WTPWPLME, while considering climatic variability and change. This conforms closely with the IW GEF5 Objective 2: ***catalyze multi-state cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) while considering climatic variability and change.***

This result matches closely with the following elements of the envisaged IW global environmental benefits:

- multi-state cooperation to reduce threats to international waters
- restored and sustained marine ecosystems goods and services, including globally relevant biodiversity
- reduced vulnerability to climate variability and climate-related risks

The Project Objective was *To support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations to implement & effectively enforce global, regional & sub-regional arrangements for the conservation & management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries*

The Project had three technical components, which are specifically designed to address the project objective with outcomes at three levels, regional, sub-regional and national, plus a component designed to provide for stakeholder participation and knowledge management, and a project management component as follows:

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

- Component 1: Regional Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management
- Component 2: Sub-regional Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management
- Component 3: National Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management
- Component 4: Stakeholder Participation and Knowledge Management
- Component 5: Project Management

2.6 Management arrangements

The project was jointly implemented by the GEF agencies UNDP and FAO with the former as the lead agency. The breakdown of responsibilities between UNDP and FAO across the project components, outcomes, and outputs is shown below in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Division of GEF Agency responsibilities⁴

OFMP-II STRUCTURE	Budget (USD)	GEF Agencies (USD)	
		FAO	UNDP
1.1 : WCPFC CMMs			
1.1.1 CMMs for target stocks and non-target species	620,600	620,600	
1.1.2 Legal and compliance mechanisms	187,250	187,250	
1.2 Climate change impacts			
1.2.1 Climate change forecasts & vulnerability assessments	722,250	722,250	
1.2.2 Fisheries jurisdictional implications of sea level rise	0		
1.2.3 Updated TDA & IW SAP	73,800		73,800
Total	1,603,900	1,530,100	73,800
2 Sub-regional Actions for Ecosystem- Based Management			
2.1 Sub-regional conservation & management			
2.1.1 PNA management arrangements	1,600,000	1,600,000	
2.1.2 TVM management arrangements	300,000	300,000	
2.1.3 Other sub regional arrangements	100,000	100,000	
Total	2,000,000	2,000,000	
3.National Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management			
3.1 National conservation & management arrangements			
3.1.1 National management & policy enhancement	1,590,020		1,590,020
3.1.2 National laws & MCS enhancement	507,180		507,180
3.1.3 National bycatch management	192,600		192,600
3.2 Integrated data & information systems			
3.2.1 National monitoring	1,177,000		1,177,000

⁴ Source: Project Document (Section 6.2.1)

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

3.2.2 National scientific support	984,400		984,400
Total	4,451,200		4,451,200
4. Stakeholder Participation & Knowledge Management			
4.1 Stakeholder Participation			
4.1.1 Stakeholder awareness and involvement	280,000	280,000	
4.1.2 Coordination	373,430	373,430	
4.1.3 M & E	177,650	177,650	
4.2: Knowledge Management			
4.2.1 Knowledge management	638,820	638,820	
Total	1,469,900	1,469,900	
Project Management	475,000		475,000
GRAND TOTAL	10,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000

As the project Executing Agency, the FFA was responsible to ensure that the 14 project countries worked at the same time with the region's other GEF projects, as well as other bilateral and multilateral donor agencies in the region to define and address transboundary priority issues within the framework of their existing responsibilities under the WCPF Convention and other key global fisheries instruments. The Executing Agency acted as a regional platform for exchange of information and the synthesis of experiences and lessons, as well as providing the overall administrative support at the regional level. In order to fulfill these responsibilities, the Executing Agency established a Project Management Unit (PMU) with office space at the FFA Headquarters. The PMU was staffed by a Chief Technical Advisor/Project Coordinator and a Project Finance and Administration Officer.

The management arrangements of the project are illustrated in the schematic below in **Figure 2**.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

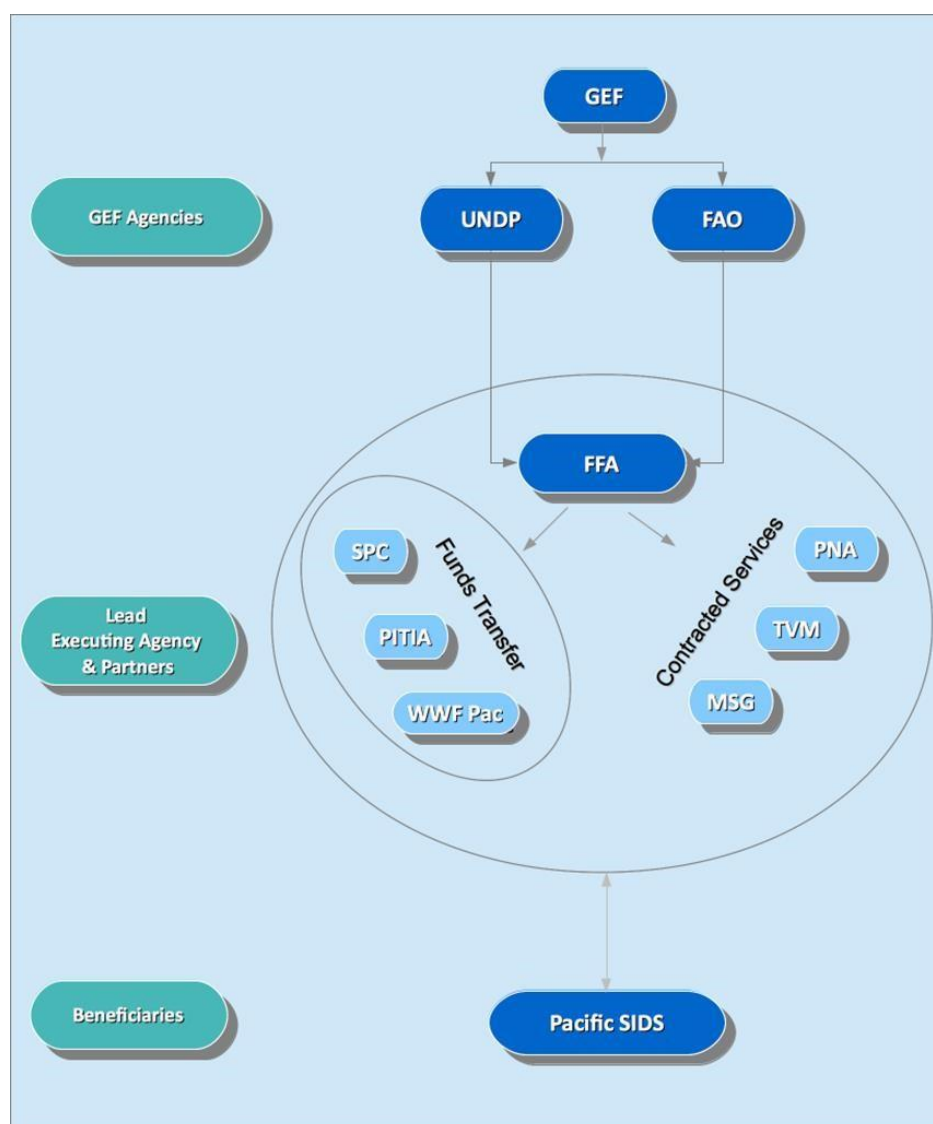


Figure 2: Schematic of project management arrangements⁵

2.7 Main stakeholders

The Project was executed by the FFA in collaboration with SPC, and with the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA), the Te Vaka Moana Arrangement (TVM), the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) and WWF-South Pacific Programme. All Pacific SIDS and these organisations and arrangements participated in the Regional Steering Committee and therefore were directly engaged in the overall management of Project activities. At national level, stakeholders were envisaged to participate in project implementation through National Consultative Committees which include a wider range of government agencies and non-government actors.

The Project was designed to promote broader stakeholder participation in project management, delivery of project outputs and participation in project activities, especially through the partnerships with PITIA and WWF, and the support for Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification processes, as well as the Project Knowledge Management activities. Based on experience in the first phase of the project, industry and environmental NGO representatives were expected to routinely participate and contribute positively to the implementation of Project activities both as participants in national delegations to meetings, workshops and informal working processes and directly as industry and environmental NGO representatives. The national stakeholder analyses included in the National reports provided the basis for identifying appropriate roles for stakeholders in project implementation.

⁵ Source: Project Document (Figure 7)

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

2.8 Theory of change

For the purposes of contextualizing and orienting the TE, the TE Consultant constructed a generalized theory of change for the project (see **Figure 3**) based upon the project strategy, the causal chain analysis included in the 2020 TDA, and the draft updated SAP (2020-2030).

The problem statement outlines the key threats to the sustainability of WCPO oceanic fisheries, including changes in species composition, loss of biodiversity, tuna stock ranges altering, and collapse in food security and livelihoods. The drivers to these threats included overfishing, bycatch of non-target species, climate change, and IUU fishing, particularly in high seas. Several barriers were hindering achievement of sustainability, including:

- Insufficient CMMs for target and non-target species
- Limited progress on implementation of regional compliance mechanisms
- Potential impacts of climate change not widely understood and not integrated into strategic planning
- Weaknesses in the PNA purse seine Vessel Day Scheme
- No formal harvest rights established for TVM tuna fisheries
- Outdated regulatory and planning frameworks at national levels
- Management decisions not based on timely and science-based information
- Narrow stakeholder participation
- Inefficient and insufficient knowledge sharing.

The project design was formulated to address these barriers by mainstreaming the ecosystem-based fisheries management approach across regional, sub-regional, and national levels.

The objective of the project was to support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations to implement & effectively enforce global, regional & sub-regional arrangements for the conservation & management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries.

The longer-term outcome described in the theory of change is as follows: durable multi-state cooperation for sustainable management of WCPO tuna stocks, while considering climatic variability and change. Impact drivers for achieving this outcome include:

- Adaptive management influenced by feedback from regional monitoring
- Regular joint surveys and sharing of information
- Consumer demand and willingness to pay for sustainable production
- SAP priorities mainstreamed at national levels
- Increased public awareness results in higher demands for sustainability Global environmental

benefits include:

- Sustainable fisheries
- Healthy marine ecosystems
- Conservation of globally significant biodiversity
- Food security and livelihoods

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

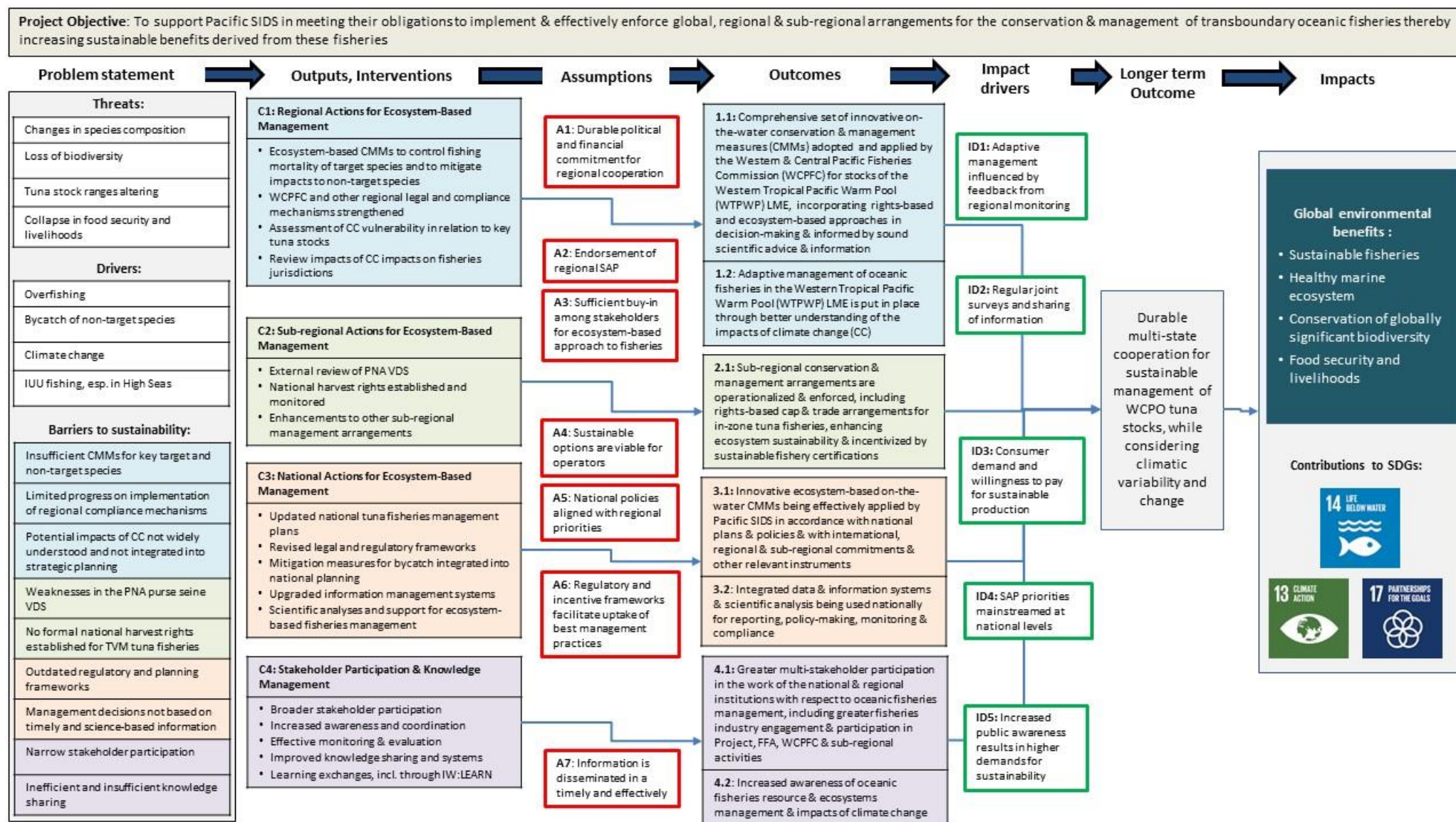


Figure 3: Project theory of change

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

3 Findings

3.1 Project design / formulation

The project design was formulated to build upon the foundational capacity focus of the first phase and deliver support to the Pacific SIDS in implementation of measures at regional, sub-regional and national levels, with a particular focus on mainstreaming ecosystem-based fisheries management approaches.

3.1.1 Analysis of results framework

As part of the TE, the project results framework for the project was assessed against “SMART” criteria, to evaluate whether the indicators and targets were sufficiently specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. With respect to the time-bound criterion, all targets are assumed compliant, as they are set as end-of-project performance metrics. The project results framework was found to be generally SMART-compliant, apart from the issues outlined below in **Table 5**.

Table 5: SMART analysis of project results framework

Indicator	End-of-Project target	MTR SMART analysis					Comments / analysis
		S	M	A	R	T	
Project Objective. To support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations to implement & effectively enforce global, regional & sub-regional arrangements for the conservation & management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries							
1. Number of Pacific SIDS meeting WCPFC obligations	All Pacific SIDS’ subsidiary legislation, policy instruments and license conditions aligned with WCPFC requirements & systematic processes in place in all Pacific SIDS for adoption of new measures	Q	Q	Q	Y	Y	“All” subsidiary legislation, policy instruments, and license conditions is absolute language, rendering the achievability questionable. There were limited monitoring systems in place to track progress.
2. Level of benefits to Pacific SIDS, including:	a) Access fees increasing by up to 10% per year	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	SMART compliant.
a) access fee revenue & b) employment by gender	b) Employment in SIDS growing by up to 5% per year, with increasing proportion of women	Q	Q	Y	Y	Y	Information sources for proportion of women employment were limited.
Outcome 1.1. Comprehensive set of innovative on-the-water conservation & management measures (CMMs) adopted and applied by the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) for stocks of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME, incorporating rights-based and ecosystem-based approaches in decision-making & informed by sound scientific advice & information							
3. Number of key target stocks to which comprehensive WCPFC CMMs are applied in EEZs	Comprehensive and effective CMMs applied to all four key target stocks in-EEZs by 2017.	Q	Q	Y	Y	Y	The terms “comprehensive” and “effective” are difficult to quantify; measurability uncertain.
4. Number of key non-target species impacted by WCPO tuna fisheries to which WCPFC CMMs are being applied	CMMs reflecting Scientific Committee advice & best practice among tuna RFMOs in place for protection of all major key non-target species identified by the Scientific Committee by end year 2 as threatened by WCPO tuna fisheries	Q	Y	Y	Y	Y	Generally SMART compliant. It would have been advisable to have indicated specific species when the midterm adjustments were made.
Outcome 1.2. Adaptive management of oceanic fisheries in the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME is put in place through better understanding of the impacts of climate change (CC)							
5. Extent to which understanding of impacts of CC is reflected in management arrangements, including impacts on jurisdiction	Management arrangements including jurisdictional arrangements have been reviewed to take into account effects of CC	Y	Y	Y	Q	Y	Generally SMART compliant; end target reads more as an output level indicator.
Outcome 2.1. Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements are operationalized & enforced, including rights-based cap & trade arrangements for in-zone tuna fisheries, enhancing ecosystem sustainability & incentivized by sustainable fishery certifications							

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

6. Status of Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements	Sub-regional arrangements, including cap & trade arrangements in purse seine & longline fisheries & eco-certification arrangements are in operation & contributing to fishery sustainability	Q	Y	Y	Y	Y	Generally SMART compliant; providing more quantifiable metrics in the end target would have been advisable.
Indicator	End-of-Project target	MTR SMART analysis					Comments / analysis
		S	M	A	R	T	
Outcome 3.1. Innovative ecosystem-based on-the-water CMMs being effectively applied by Pacific SIDS in accordance with national plans & policies & with international, regional & sub-regional commitments & other relevant instruments							
7. Number of Pacific SIDS applying ecosystem-based CMMs in accordance with new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations	At least 11 Pacific SIDS applying ecosystembased CMMs in accordance with new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	SMART compliant.
Outcome 3.2. Integrated data & information systems & scientific analysis being used nationally for reporting, policy-making, monitoring & compliance							
8. Use of oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis by Pacific SIDS	Enhanced oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis being used by all 14 Pacific SIDS, reflecting upgraded data & information systems in at least 10 Pacific SIDS, and newly integrated systems in at least 4 SIDS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	SMART compliant.
Outcome 4.1. Greater multi-stakeholder participation in the work of the national & regional institutions with respect to oceanic fisheries management, including greater fisheries industry engagement & participation in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities							
9. Percentage of participation by industry & other civil society stakeholders in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities, including INGO & ENGO participation	Greater understanding of the need for management & the issues involved with proactive contributions from industry & other elements of civil society to the conservation effort.	Q	Q	Q	Y	Y	The end target lacks specifics, rendering measurability and achievability questionable.
10. Number of national consultative or advisory processes/committees created or strengthened & operational	Effective national advisory processes established and operational in at least 10 Pacific SIDS isory committees established in at least 10 SIDS	Q	Y	Y	Y	Y	This indicator should have been better vetted during project preparation.
Outcome 4.2. Increased awareness of oceanic fisheries resource & ecosystems management & impacts of climate change							
11. Level of media coverage of relevant issues No. of communiques from relevant regional fora, including Pacific Island Leaders’ meetings covering oceanic fisheries	Widespread, well informed coverage in Pacific Islands media of issues associated with conservation management of target & nontarget species, & CC impacts	Q	Q	Q	Y	Y	The end target lacks specific metrics. Terms such as “widespread” and “wellinformed” are difficult to measure.
	Oceanic fisheries management regularly addressed in Leaders’ communiques	Q	Q	Y	Y	Y	Lacking specifics. The indicator states “the number of communiques ...”, but the end target phrasing describes “regularly addressed”.
12. Continuing donor interest in funding oceanic fisheries agencies & projects	Success in this Project & related activities encourages increased donor interest in Pacific Islands oceanic fisheries, attracted by the scope for increasing value through better management,	Q	Y	Y	Y	Y	Generally SMART compliant. It would have been helpful to include an approximate baseline value of donor funding.
SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Bound Green: SMART criteria compliant; Yellow: observation noted regarding SMART criteria; Red: not compliant with SMART criteria Note: The highlighted and struck-through entries were recommended revisions from the midterm review.							

3.1.2 Assumptions and risks

Ten (10) risks were identified in the project design and assessed for probability of occurrence and potential impact to implementation.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

- 1) Limits of SIDS institutional and human resources capacities
- 2) Gridlock in the WCPF Commission
- 3) Financial Sustainability of the WCPF Commission
- 4) Adequacy of financing for national programmes, especially for enforcement
- 5) Effects of Climate Change on the fisheries and the effectiveness of measures
- 6) Non enactment of laws and amendments
- 7) IUU fishing
- 8) Lack of industry interest
- 9) Ineffective M & E system
- 10) Lack of GEF/UNDP/ FAO Project visibility

Building upon lessons learned during the first phase of OFMP, the identified risks covered the key challenges that would likely face the second phase, including externalities, including the potential effects of climate change and IUU fishing.

The COVID-19 pandemic was understandably not foreseen. Capturing force majeure risks would have been prudent, including possible delays or disruptions associated with disaster hazards, such as typhoons or other natural disasters.

3.1.3 Gender responsiveness and social and environmental safeguards

The project was assigned an UNDP gender marker of GEN-1, which is defined as “outputs that will contribute ‘in some way’ to gender equality, but not significantly”.⁶ One of the project indicators was disaggregated by gender, namely the second objective level indicator on employment by gender. A gender analysis and gender action plan were not prepared at the design phase. The narrative of social sustainability (Section 5.1) in the Project Document includes a description of how gender mainstreaming would be addressed during implementation:

“That analysis recognizes the differences in impacts of the Project outcomes on men and women. Women have played an important role in PIOFMP-I implementation and in the development and preparation of PIOFMP-II. PIOFMP-II implementation will continue to be undertaken in a participatory and gender-sensitive manner with the stakeholders and target beneficiaries. Gender will also be addressed through the monitoring of participation in Project activities and the Project’s public imaging, including ensuring that branding is gender-sensitive and that project posts, recruitment of consultants, formulation of letters of agreement, etc. are all carried out in ways that promote equitable development. Opportunities will be taken to highlight the increasing achievements of women in commercial and technical roles.”

Annex C to the Project Document contain the environmental and social assessments and screenings conducted by the FAO and UNDP design teams. The result of the FAO initial review concluded that “the relevant environmental category is Category C defined by minimal or no adverse environmental (and social impacts) and no further analysis or impact assessment is required.”

Under Question 2 of the Environmental and Social Screening Checklist for UNDP, an answer of “yes” was provided for “Procurement (in which case UNDP’s Procurement Ethics and Environmental Procurement Guide need to be complied with)”. Nearly all the procurement on the project was carried out by the FFA. It is unclear whether the stated UNDP procurement ethics and environmental protection guide were complied with. The conclusion of the UNDP screening was that the project was characterized under Category 1 (no further action is needed).

In summary, cursory assessments and screenings of potential environmental and social risks were made. A more comprehensive assessment would have been advisable, considering the expansive and culturally unique region of the Pacific SIDS covered by the project.

3.1.4 Planned stakeholder participation

The planned stakeholder participation was integrated into the project strategy, based upon successful modalities during phase I and long-standing partnership arrangements.

⁶ Source: United Nations Development Group (UNDG), 2013. Financing for Gender Equality and Tracking Systems, Background Note, September 2013.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

The 14 Pacific SIDS nominated individuals as National Focal Points (NFPs) who were responsible for communicating with the PMU, coordinating national level activities, and represent their country the project Regional Steering Committee meetings.

FFA entered into agreement with regional sub-partners for execution of specific project outputs. SPC was tasked to carry out scientific climate change related activities under Component 1, as well as national data and scientific-related work in Component 3.

FFA cooperated with PNA, TVM and MSG in the execution of sub-regional activities for Outputs 2.1.1 (Sub-Regional Arrangements in Equatorial Fisheries), 2.1.2 (Sub-Regional Arrangements in TVM Fisheries) and 2.1.3 (Other Sub Regional Arrangements).

The strategy for phase II reflected the broader types and numbers of stakeholder engaged in oceanic fisheries in the region, including NGOs and the private sector. Under Component 4, the project planned to establish partnerships with

PITIA and WWF South Pacific, to help facilitate increased stakeholder engagement with the industry sector and civil society, respectively.

3.1.5 Lessons from other relevant projects

First and foremost, lessons from the first phase of the OFMP project were analyzed and taken into account in the design of OFMP-II. The Project Document narrative mentions that “the GEF portfolio of International Waters (IW) projects includes a wealth of best practices and lessons that are shared through regular meetings and the IW online knowledge management platform IW:LEARN”. Specific lessons from other GEF IW projects were not described in the project design.

3.1.6 Linkages between project and other interventions

The project design articulates a few linkages with other interventions in the region, including the FAO-GEF Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Tuna Project (GEF ID: 4581)⁷:

Under the description of Output 1.1.1, establishing measures based on reference points and harvest control rules were envisaged to build on the work on the application of the precautionary approach and management strategy frameworks that will be supported by the ABNJ Tuna Project. The activities under Output 1.1.1 also involved strengthening the work on conservation of sharks that is supported through the ABNJ Tuna Project.

The design of Output 1.1.2 was formulated to complement the ABNJ Tuna Project, regarding the effectiveness of the existing WCPFC VMS, observer, IUU listing, transshipment regulation, and high seas boarding and inspection programmes and adopting new WCPFC port state and CDS measures.

Other synergies with the ABNJ Tuna Project described in the Project Document include:

- a) FFA and SPC are on the ABNJ Tuna Project PSC, and the FFA representative will be the OFMP-II CTA.
- b) The LTOs from FAO will be the same for both projects and will participate in the ABNJ Project PSC and the OFMP-II RSC.
- c) ABNJ Project/PIOFMP-II coordination will be an agenda item at OFMP-II RSC meetings.

The Project Document also includes mention of the FAO, FFA, PNA, SPC and UNDP being partners in the Global Partnership for Oceans and key personnel involved in the development of the OFMP-II are also involved in the development of the World Bank-funded Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Investment Package under the Global Partnership for Oceans. Moreover, the narrative goes on to describe how the project would be integrated with other regional activities through the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific Marine Sector Working Group (CROP MSWG), which is also responsible for the development of the Pacific Oceanscape Initiative with Conservation International, and through FFA and SPC/OFP. Because few donors or technical agencies have the capacity to interact bilaterally with the large number of Pacific SIDS, most relevant donor assistance programmes related to oceanic fisheries management are implemented regionally through FFA or SPC/OFP and project activities were envisaged to be integrated with these programmes. At this level, the major donors were the EU, Australia and New Zealand, with support for some specific programmes from Canada, Chinese Taipei, France, Japan and the United States. At the time

⁷ Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ).

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

when the Project Document was developed, NGOs were becoming increasingly important in supporting ocean fisheries management programmes in Pacific SIDS, led by WWF and the Pew Charitable Trusts.

3.1.7 Replication approach

The replication approach described in the Project Document extends across three levels. At the regional level, the project was designed to feed into a well-established process of promoting further development of oceanic fisheries laws, programmes, and measures among Pacific SIDS. The strong emphasis on shared experience and skills among the participating countries through workshops, regional and subregional meetings, and other types of south-south cooperation was a central focus of the project.

The second level was associated with leveraging gains in the areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) through replication of high standards established in EEZs into programmes focused on ABNJ. Through the frameworks outlined in the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and the WCPFC Convention, the important principle of compatibility requires RFMOs, including the WCPFC, to ensure that standards in the ABNJ and EEZs are compatible and in particular to ensure that measures adopted in EEZs are not undermined by Commission measures for the ABNJ. By using this principle to raise the standards of management of oceanic fisheries in the ABNJ, Pacific SIDS have been able to reduce the scope for fishing states to obstruct conservation and management efforts in the ABNJ in order to protect the economic interests

of their fleets, which is the single biggest constraint on the effectiveness of the WCPFC. The GEF, financed FAO-implemented ABNJ Tuna Project provided a powerful opportunity to support this process.

Thirdly, the project promoted the replication of results in the Pacific Islands region in other oceans. The cooperation among Pacific SIDS has long been recognized as providing a global best practice in developing country cooperation in oceanic fisheries management, both in terms of the institutional arrangements, centered around FFA and SPC, and the standards of minimum terms and conditions for licensing which include a number of requirements that have been global precedent-setting as discussed in Section 1.3.1 on the Legal Landscape. The advances made by the PNA Members in rights-based management and sustainability certification have established important new global precedents. The project aimed to contribute to replication of those outcomes in other appropriate oceanic areas, including in collaboration with the ABNJ Tuna Project.

3.2 Project implementation**3.2.1 Adaptive management**

The project strategy remained largely consistent with the approved design at project entry, at least until the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted regional travel and in-person meetings.

It took roughly one year for the Project Document to be signed by all parties, marking the official start date of the project. Considering this delay and the gap between Phase I and Phase II, additional time was needed to regain stakeholder engagement, particularly at the national level.

The recommendations from the midterm review have been addressed by the project during the second half of the implementation timeframe, as summarized below in **Table 6**, based on findings of the TE and management responses documented by the project team.

Table 6: Status of responses to the midterm review recommendations

Midterm review recommendation	Status at terminal evaluation
1. Future projects involving multiple IAs, the IAs and executing partners should collaborate to develop a reporting system that efficiently reflects their joint requirements prior to the start of the project (in order to avoid delays in implementation and also reduce transaction costs for EAs)	Joint PIRs were agreed at project inception, and the timing of financial audits were coordinated. Other progress reports and financial reporting remained separate between the two GEF agencies.
2. The revisions to Output level indicators as in Table 6 be adopted for the Project.	The management response refers to modifying the phrasing of outcome level indicators under Component 1. Revisions were not reflected in the PIRs, which included the original phrasing from the Project Document.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

3.	To clarify that gender issues may be included in any/all of the four project components, and make any appropriate workplan and budget changes to reflect this.	The project continued Moana Voices, a collection of narratives from women in the Pacific. One of the objective level indicators regarding employment in the fisheries sector is disaggregated by gender.
4.	To reiterates the importance of gathering information to track the level of progress towards outcomes, indicators and targets, and make any appropriate workplan and budget changes to reflect this.	The management response to this recommendation states that this is already agreed in the project strategy. There remain shortcomings in the level of detail tracked to assess progress towards achievement of results.
5.	Through the PMU, promote active engagement with national fisheries departments highlighting role and potential for support for eligible national projects.	Improving engagement with national fisheries departments was meant to be addressed through enhanced FFA SLA processes. Stakeholder engagement at the national level remained a challenge during the second half of the project.
6.	FFA/PMU That FFA reviews approaches to sub-regional arrangements and identifies key or necessary success factors to be recorded as lessons learned from the Project and used in developing sub-regional management arrangements.	The management response mentions that progress was made with the delivery of activities by TVM and MSG. The financial audits carried out during project implementation flagged issues associated with sub-partner agreements.
7.	FFA / PMU develop case studies / lessons learned about what works best for national implementation – especially in relation to a systematic approach to compliance / implementation of CMMs	Such case studies have not yet been developed. The management response indicated that the recommendation was acceptable and could be
Midterm review recommendation		Status at terminal evaluation
		undertaken in the final year of the project. The project team plans on developing such case studies as part of the terminal report for the project.
8.	To develop a strategic approach to project communications including emphasis on audience-targeted knowledge products and use of social media (while respecting the requirements of confidentiality in certain areas).	Substantive progress was made during the second half of the project in developing the two websites and using these platforms for dissemination of information. The information shared on these platforms seemed to address some of the concerns identified during the MTR and mentioned by some of the interviewed stakeholders during the TE.
9.	To develop a proposal for Project extension of up to 18 months to provide sufficient time for effective delivery of activities and expenditure in support of Project outcomes that would not otherwise be achieved.	The referenced 18-month extension was requested and granted.
10.	That the IAs and executing partners commence a discussion towards development of a successor project targeting emerging issues/risks to Pacific fisheries.	At of the TE in July-August 2021, the Project Document for the third phase of OFMP had been drafted and was under internal UNDP review.

An impactful adaptive management measure on the project was the decision to support development of the Certificate IV in Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance qualification, being offered by The University of the South Pacific and the Pacific Technical and Further Education. This qualification program addressed an important gap in developing skilled professionals in monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS).

The constraints imposed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic starting in early 2020 presented significant disruptions to the implementation strategy for the remaining lifespan of the project. The discontinuation of in-person meetings and associated travel resulted in a substantive surplus of funds. Spending on recommended adaptive management measures were agreed during the November 2020 RSC meeting and others agreed subsequently during the first half of 2021, including but not limited to the following:

National level support:

- Marshall Islands. Development of a report documenting the history of MIMRA and the evolution of rights based fisheries management as experienced in the Marshall Islands.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

- Samoa. Development of a new integrated fisheries policy for the Fisheries Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- Cook Islands. Development and adoption of a reviewed and revised fisheries policy framework in the Cook Islands and the strengthening of MMR capacity to implement activities in support of policy.
- Vanuatu. Specialist oceanic fisheries advisory services and capacity building within the Vanuatu Ministry of Fisheries to improve active participation in WCPFM processes. Also a separate consultancy for providing inputs in support of the development of a clear set of strategies for the effective implementation and monitoring of Tuna Development in Vanuatu as outlined in the Vanuatu Tuna Management Plan Regional and subregional support:
- A consultancy contract for the development of audit points for the use of FFA members in relation to the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure for the Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMM 2019/O6).
- Preparation of a report on the level of compliance across the region in relation to WCPFC CMM 2017/04 on marine pollution and the disposal of plastic waste at sea. This includes an estimate of the amounts of plastic waste generated on a per vessel basis by vessel type and operation, a summary of current fishing vessel plastic waste disposal practices in FFA Member Countries and adjacent high seas and an estimate of the volumes of fishing vessel plastic waste that is being directly dumped into the ocean and a review of the potential impacts of this practice.
- A contract on allowing the PNAO to undertake work with integrated Information Platform FIMS to support the development and integration of a complete Electronic Monitoring module in the FIMS system and also the testing of body worn cameras by fisheries observers.
- A contract on supporting the provision of advice to FFA Secretariat and Members in supporting FFA decisionmaking on the design, development, adoption and application of a risk based system for prioritizing the assessment of compliance with the WCPFC's Conservation Management Measures (CMMs).
- A contract supporting a detailed analysis of the application of the methodology in considering the nature and extent of IUU fishing in the WCPFC. This included consideration of the context of the newly developed Performance Indicators for the Regional MCS Strategy (2018 – 2023) and mechanisms for benchmarking IUU mitigation against FFA operations. The study will provide an updated estimation of volumes of IUU fishing and a valuation of the estimated costs to the WCPFC region from IUU fishing.

Available funds were also utilized for knowledge management aspects on the project, including incorporation of the gender narratives documented in the publication Moana Voices into the FFA website.

3.2.2 Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements

The project was designed to feed into the mosaic of national, regional, and international stakeholder involvement in the sustainable management of oceanic fisheries in the WCPO.

Long-standing regional partnerships were utilized for delivery of several of the project outputs. FFA entered into subpartner agreements with SPC, PNA, and MSG, based on the outputs described in the Project Document. The roles and responsibilities of these sub-partners were clearly articulated in the Project Document.

Consistent with their mandate, it was sensible for FFA, the Executing Agency for the project, to facilitate engagement with the 14 Pacific SIDS involved in the project. National focal points were assigned among fisheries departments in the 14 Pacific SIDS. The project strategy adopted a demand-driven stakeholder engagement approach at the national level. An important assumption of this approach was proactive involvement by the national focal points. Considering the high demands and limited staff in many of the oceanic fisheries departments, it might have more efficient to have better defined the national level activities in the project design, and carry out an annual stock-taking analysis prior to development of each annual work plan. (lesson learned)

The design of the project included mechanisms for broadening stakeholder engagement as compared to Phase I, targeting increased involvement of the civil society and private sectors. FFA signed agreements/contracts with WWF and PITIA for outputs under Component 3. There is information in project progress reports on participation of civil society organizations supported by project funding, and awareness-raising materials developed for dissemination among PITIA members, as well as the broader private and the civil society sectors. There was limited quantitative evidence of increased participation or improved awareness among these stakeholder groups.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

3.2.3 Project finance and co-finance**Project Finance:**

Project finances have been reported according to UNDP, FAO, and FFA financial systems.

Based on information contained in the UNDP combined delivery reports (CDRs) and the FAO statements of expenditures, the status of project expenditures as of 30 June 2021 is presented below in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Actual expenditures, 2015 through June 2021

Component	GEF Agency	Actual Expenditures, 2015 through June 2021 (USD)								Indicative Prodoc Budget	Balance Jun 2021
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Total		
Component 1	UNDP	0	0	0	70,666	31,122	0	0	101,788	73,800	(9,226)
	FAO	58,850	121,733	375,877	350,438	306,620	297,820	0	1,511,338	1,530,100	
Component 2	UNDP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	410,880
	FAO	0	0	557,030	692,165	230,247	97,280	12,398	1,589,120	2,000,000	
Component 3	UNDP	0	726,070	724,481	958,421	208,142	408,676	261,784	3,287,573	4,451,200	598,765
	UNDP	0	51,129	574,590	3,649	(86,829)	0	22,323	564,862	0	
Component 4	FAO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120,341
	UNDP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Component 4	FAO	33,124	104,416	359,970	315,750	396,984	83,851	55,464	1,349,559	1,469,900	90,769
	UNDP	0	23,995	127,047	109,723	23,925	81,631	17,910	384,232	475,000	
Project Management	FAO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	661,546
	UNDP	0	801,194	1,426,119	1,142,458	176,360	490,306	302,017	4,338,454	5,000,000	
Sub-total, UNDP	UNDP	0	801,194	1,426,119	1,142,458	176,360	490,306	302,017	4,338,454	5,000,000	549,983
Sub-total, FAO	FAO	91,974	226,149	1,292,877	1,358,353	933,851	478,951	67,862	4,450,017	5,000,000	1,211,529
Total		91,974	1,027,343	2,718,996	2,500,811	1,110,211	969,257	369,879	8,788,471	10,000,000	

Figures in USD

Source of indicative budget figures: approved Project Document

Source of expenditures: Combined Delivery Reports (CDR) provided by UNDP, and Statement of Expenditures provided by FFA/FAO

*2021 expenditures based on a CDR dated 12 Aug 2021; this CDR indicates outstanding NEX advances of USD 600,277.12.

The financial expenditures presented above in **Table 7** do not match with the summary provided by FFA, reported in accordance with their fiscal year of July-June (see **Table 8**).

Table 8: Project expenditures as reported by FFA, July 2015 - June 2021

Total Expenditures	UNDP US\$	FAO US\$
July 2015 – June 2016	544,591.70	369,151.89
July 2016 – June 2017	973,003.62	951,905.48
July 2017 – June 2018	1,205,847.22	1,415,696.33
July 2018 – June 2019	638,396.62	1,251,353.79
July 2019 – June 2020	522,672.60	574,829.43
July 2020 – June 2021	904,567.97	361,510.83
Total, as of 30 June 2021	4,789,079.73	4,924,447.75
Balance, as of 30 June 2021	210,920.27	75,552.25

The UNDP combined delivery report (CDR) dated 12 August 2021 includes a note indicating outstanding NEX advances of USD 600,277.12. This would partly explain the significant discrepancy. There are likely similar advances from FAO. Financial reconciliation will be required prior to financial closure of the project.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Spending at the component level was fairly consistent with the indicative breakdown presented in the Project Document; however, there are more than USD 1.2 million not yet booked in the UNDP CDRs and FAO Statement of Expenditures.

Project management costs are reported at USD 384,232 through June 2021, which is USD 90,769 short of the allocated 5% figure of USD 475,000. Annual recorded project management costs varied widely, from USD 23,925 in 2019 to USD 127,047 in 2017; it seems as though there was no agreed methodology for accounting project management costs. (lesson learned)

Working through the disparate financial reporting systems and responding to findings and observations from financial audits, the Implementing Partner (Executing Agency) maintained appropriate financial controls allowing informed decisions during implementation.

Limited information was available on financial delivery. The 2019 audit report⁸ of the FAO portion of the project reported a financial delivery rate of 64% for that year. Spending under the UNDP components in 2019 was low, at USD 176,360 for the year (see **Figure 4**). Other findings and observations from financial audits, e.g., harmonizing reporting

among sub-partners, were addressed by the Implementing Partner and GEF agencies. A final audit is planned prior to financial closure of the project.

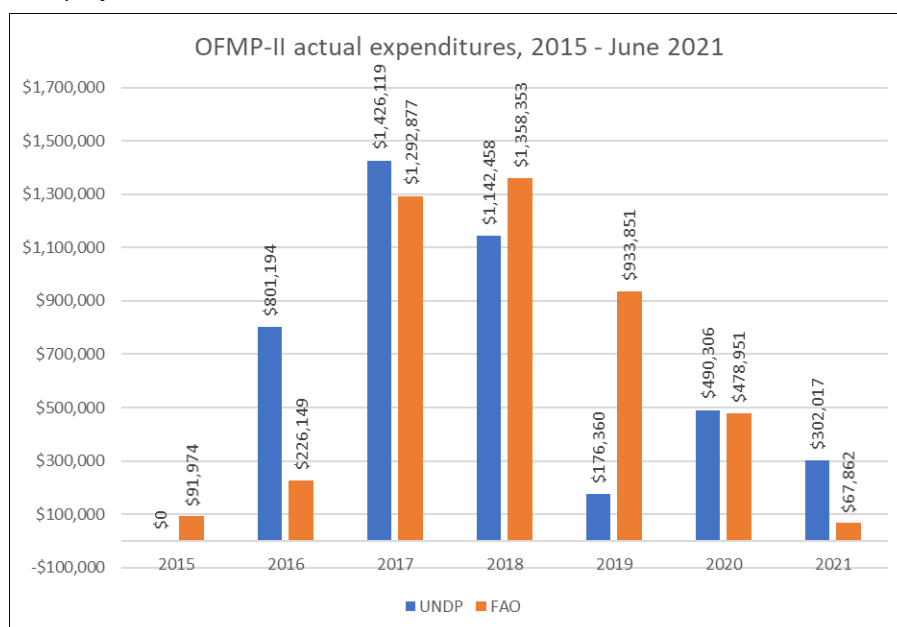


Figure 4: Actual expenditures 2015-June 2021

There were extenuating circumstances in 2019. The Fisheries Management Advisor resigned in January of that year, and the Project Coordinator was on health leave for a substantial number of months.

Co-finance:

The cumulative sum of materialized co-financing reported is USD 109,823,882 (see **Annex 5**), which exceeds the commitment total of USD 84,934,375 at project entry. Seven (FSM, Marshall Islands, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu) of the 14 participating SIDS provided letters confirming actual co-financing contributions. For the other seven countries (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, PNG, and Vanuatu) did confirm end-of-project contributions; the figures reported in the co-financing table in **Annex 5** are the values reported at midterm. PNA also did not provide end-of-project contributions; midterm reported figures (USD 1,000,000) are represented in the cofinancing table for this partner as well.

⁸ Lochan & Co., Financial Audit Report 2019, 19 May 2020.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Materialized co-financing from UNDP totaled USD 600,000, which is short of the USD 750,000 committed at project entry. FAO did not provide end-of-project contributions; midterm reported figures (USD 1,483,066) are represented in the co-financing table.

The co-financing contributions from FFA were nearly twice the value committed in their co-financing letter signed in 2013. Total in-kind co-financing was USD 66,693,794, compared to the committed figure of USD 34,556,069. The significant difference is largely attributed to the fact that the project ran for more than the designed 4-year duration. Grant co-financing from FFA also exceeds the value at project entry. The high level of co-financing highlights the enabling environment provided by FFA (and other partners), and increases the likelihood that co-financing will continue to be realized in the planned third phase of the project.

Other partners, including SPC, PITIA, and WWF, have reported actual co-financing figures greater than those committed at project entry. SPC reported actual grant and in-kind contributions of USD 4,969,840 and USD 3,344,149, respectively, compared to the committed sums at project entry of USD 3,603,000 and USD 3,450,000, respectively. PITIA's in-kind contribution was USD 380,800, nearly four times higher than the USD 100,000 documented in their co-financing letter. Actual in-kind contributions from WWF totaled USD 260,229, which is 44% more than the USD 180,266 confirmed in their co-financing letter from 2013.

The project had no system for regularly tracking and reporting actual co-financing. A formula was developed for keeping track of co-financing from the SIDS partners, but it was not followed up on during project implementation. Contributions from the two GEF Agencies, UNDP and FAO, were also not reported and tracked on a regular basis. (lesson learned)

3.2.4 Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) design at entry

M&E design at entry is rated as: Satisfactory

The M&E plan was developed using the standard UNDP/FAO template for GEF-financed projects. The indicative M&E budget was USD 431,578, or 4.3% of the USD 10 million GEF project grant. The M&E budget is considered sufficient; e.g., the current UNDP guidance for GEF-financed projects is that the M&E budget should be 3% of the total GEF grant for projects between USD 5-10 million. The M&E plan included a USD 36,028 line item for carrying out a "baseline study to refine and measure logframe indicators". This baseline study was an important output, although delivered fairly late in the implementation timeframe (February 2017), considering that the baseline conditions in the Project Document were largely representative of circumstances in 2013, whereas the project activities generally started in 2015. The M&E plan also included USD 120,000 for RSC meetings. With 14 Pacific SIDS and several regional partners involved on the project, convening annual RSC meetings was an important M&E mechanism.

Section 3.1.1 of this TE report provides a discussion on the project results framework, including SMART indicators. The results framework contains sources of verification for measuring progress towards achievement of the indicator end targets. In a few cases, information sources were not in place to quantitatively assess progress. For instance, there were limited data sources available to provide information on the proportion of women employed in the fisheries sector, which is one of the objective level indicators. Similarly, there were no consistent sources of information regarding catches and/or fishing mortalities of key non-target species, which was one of the indicators formulated to assess progress towards generation of global environmental benefits.

M&E implementation M&E implementation is rated as: Satisfactory

The project implementation reports (PIRs) were the primary M&E reports, providing assessment of progress towards results, internal ratings, and adaptive management measures. The quality of the PIRs steadily increased over time, culminating with the 2021 PIR, having a new evidence based format with links to specific reports and records. The PIR reports were available to the GEF Operational Focal Point(s) (OFPs). There was no evidence available regarding how else the OFP(s) were kept informed. M&E implementation was consistent with the M&E plan; there were no significant innovations introduced.

The PIR reports provided stakeholders an important synopsis of project progress and descriptions of key issues. Upon further development of the websites during the second half of the project, dissemination of project information, including monitoring reports, became more effective.

Self-evaluation ratings presented in the PIR reports were generally consistent among the project stakeholders who provided ratings. The Executing Agency generally tended to apply higher ratings than the UNDP and FAO regional

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

technical advisors. The ratings recorded in the MTR report are also consistent with the internal PIR ratings at the time of the review.

RSC meetings were convened generally once per year, which is a common frequency among many full-sized GEF projects. The 2020 RSC, held on 27 November of that year, was a virtual meeting due to the travel restrictions in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The RSC was an important M&E platform, providing an annual opportunity for project implementation parties to openly discuss progress and adaptive management measures.

Some of the baselines, indicators, and end targets in the project results framework were not clarified during project implementation. A few adjustments were recommended in the midterm review, but the suggested revisions were not reflected in the PIRs.

There were shortcomings in tracking and reporting progress towards achievement of project results, e.g., legislation and policy instruments at the national levels, participation of industry and civil society, existing national consultative processes, and changes in awareness among different stakeholder groups. One of the project indicators was disaggregated with respect to gender, namely regarding employment in the fisheries sector. The narrative accounts of women involved in the region's fisheries sector recorded in the Moana Voices publications (see Section 3.3.6 in this TE report) provided useful information regarding the perspectives of women, but these were not part of the project's M&E systems, nor were the perspectives of indigenous peoples, people having disabilities, and other vulnerable groups addressed.

From the risk analysis annexed to the Project Document: "Ineffective M&E system: A number of lesson's learned from the preceding OFMP project on the effectiveness of the M & E process have resulted in the investment of additional resources during the design of the project to address some of the practical complexities of the project M & E and remedy the identified weaknesses so the system becomes less of an administrative burden and more of a management tool." Establishing and implementing an effective M&E system seemed to also be an issue during Phase I.

With respect to monitoring of social and environmental risks, the screening made at the project design phase concluded low risks across the board. There was no evidence of updating the social and environmental risk analysis during the implementation phase.

Overall quality of M&E is rated as: Satisfactory

Overall, the quality of M&E on the project is rated as satisfactory. The RSC was an important mechanism/platform for M&E, providing strategic feedback and guidance. A significant level of adaptive management was applied during the COVID-19 pandemic. There were some shortcomings with respect to designing M&E procedures, and collecting and reporting quantitative information towards achievement of results.

3.2.5 Tracking tool

The GEF-5 International Waters (IW) tracking tool was applied for this project. The baseline assessment was completed on 01 March 2014, the midterm update was made on 10 October 2017, and the final assessment reported on 06 September 2021.

Some of the tracking tool indicators were incorporated into the project results framework (good practice), including establishment of national inter-ministry committees (included under Outcome 4.1), national/local reforms adopted and implemented (included under Outcome 3.1), preparation of an updated TDA (Outcome 1.2.3), and formulation of an updated Strategic Action Plan (SAP).

Three stress reduction indicators / local investments were included in the tracking tool:

- 1) Seasonal FAD closure in place in Pacific SIDS EEZs (Improved use of fish gear/techniques - % vessels applying improved gear/techniques)
- 2) No tuna discards by purse seine vessels in Pacific SIDS EEZs (Reduced fishing pressure – tons/yr reduction; % reduction in fleet size)
- 3) Purse seine efforts limits in place throughout Pacific SIDS EEZs

It would have been advisable to included one or more of these stress reduction indicators into the project results framework, not only providing information on progress to impact, but also there would have been a stronger emphasis on monitoring and evaluation, as the tracking tools were only updated at midterm and late in the process of the TE.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

The baseline and midterm assessments indicate the following for local investment No. 1 (seasonal FAD closure in place in Pacific SIDS EEZs): “Baseline study to determine baseline on progress on vessels covered applying the seasonal FAD closure”. The final assessment indicates that “comprehensive WCPFC management measures in place across the WCPFC and detailed compliance monitoring systems in place”.

For local investment No. 3 (purse seine effort limits in place throughout Pacific SIDS EEZs): “Baseline study to assess progress on % of vessels in high seas complying with VMS requirements”. At project closure, the final assessment indicates that “FFA and WCPFC maintain and closely monitoring VMS systems across both the purse seine and longline fleets”, and moreover “PNA VDS providing very effective EEZ management”.

3.2.6 Project implementation and execution

UNDP/FAO implementation oversight Quality of UNDP/FAO implementation / oversight is rated: Satisfactory

The joint implementation modality of this project presented challenges, in terms of progress reporting, financial expenditure reporting, and sharing of information across the different parts of the project overseen by the two GEF agencies.

The UNDP Pacific Office colleagues based in Fiji and the Regional Technical Advisor based in the Asia-Pacific Regional Hub in Bangkok remained closely involved throughout the project cycle. Representatives of the UNDP Pacific Office and the RTA participated regularly in the RSC meetings. The Pacific Office also provided financial induction training to the PMU during the inception phase of project implementation. The UNDP RTA provided strategic guidance to the project team and sharing best practices and lessons learned from overseeing GEF IW projects throughout the Asia and the Pacific region.

The UNDP Pacific Office provides regional and country support to 10 of the 14 Pacific SIDS that were involved in the project. The Pacific Office provides regional support to the other four countries, including Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Cook Islands, and Niue; however, there is a full resident office in Papua New Guinea, with a Country Programme Document, and the multi-country office based in Samoa covers Samoa and Niue. The country office of Papua New Guinea and the Samoa multi-country office were not directly involved in the project. (lesson learned)

The UNDP also is resident in Tuvalu, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu through Joint Presence Offices and/or Field Offices. These offices were not involved in the project, also a lesson learned as the project transitions to Phase III.

FAO also provided operational and technical support from multiple officers. With the project under FAO’s Operational Partners Implementation Modality (OPIM), the regional office in Bangkok had oversight from an operational point of view. The Pacific Office based in Samoa provided technical support. It took some time to find a practical working relationship with the FFA, the Executing Agency, e.g., with regard to providing updates on progress of the work of the sub-partners. Technical clearance by FAO of progress reports took time in the beginning of the project. The accessibility of information and other interactions with FFA seemed to smooth out during the second half of the project. Synergies with other complementary projects, e.g., FAO-GEF ABNJ Tuna Project, was facilitated by the fact that FFA and the Project Coordinator were also involved in that project.

The decision to prepare joint PIR’s each year was sensible and provided a consolidated annual snapshot of project progress. Other progress reports were generated separately for the UNDP and FAO components, including quarterly progress reports for UNDP and 6-month reports for FAO.

Overall, the quality and timeliness of support delivered by UNDP and FAO to the Implementing Partner (Executing Agency) was satisfactory, notwithstanding the challenges associated with multiple reporting demands.

The financial audits carried out pointed out some challenges in different accounting systems among the partners, delayed delivery from some of the sub-partners, among other findings.

Limited guidance was provided by UNDP and FAO to the PMU on co-financing tracking and allocation project management costs.

The screening made at the project design phase concluded low risks across the board. There was no evidence of updating the social and environmental risk analysis during the implementation phase.

Implementing Partner (Executing Agency) execution Quality of Implementing Partner execution is rated: Satisfactory

The FFA was the logical choice for Implementing Partner (Executing Agency), considering their mandate in supporting the Pacific SIDS.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Substantial co-financing was provided by FFA, totaling USD 66,93,794 of in-kind contributions and USD 11,76,493 of grant contributions over the period of July 2015 through June 2021. The enabling structure and systems of the FFA was beneficial for the execution of the project, delivering high level advice, strategic guidance in fisheries management, fisheries development, and fisheries operation, as well as procurement and financial management, and provision of office space and services for the PMU.

The Project Coordinator/Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) was appointed in May 2015, approximately a year following CEO endorsement of the project. The Project Coordinator/CTA was highly qualified, experienced in managing other donor funded projects, and had good working relationships with the national fisheries entities and sub-partners. The PMU was composed of two positions, the combined function of the Project Coordinator/Chief Technical Advisor and a Project Assistant/Finance Officer. A full-time Fisheries Management Advisor supported the PMU from 2016-2019. After departure of the person serving as Fisheries Management Advisor, the position was not refilled.

The direct technical support to the PMU were insufficient, in the opinion of the TE Consultant. The sub-partner organizations were tasked with delivering most of the project outputs; however, considering the large number of regional, sub-regional, and national stakeholders, it would have been advisable to have had additional technical support positions embedded with the PMU. Shortcomings that were identified in the midterm review and confirmed in the terminal evaluation include inconsistent engagement with national level stakeholders, room for improvement with respect to monitoring and evaluation, and reporting on project progress and sharing of knowledge and lessons learned.

Low delivery rates in 2019 were partly attributed to delays in recruiting a replacement for the Fisheries Management advisor, who resigned in January 2019 after serving out a 3-year contract.

Overall, FFA did a good job in managing and administering day-to-day activities on the project, managing the project funds, keeping stakeholders informed, managing project risks, and maintaining oversight on execution of activities conducted by sub-partners, consultants, and other service providers.

Overall implementation execution**Overall quality of implementation / execution is rated: Satisfactory**

Overall, the quality of implementation and execution is rated as satisfactory. The implementation oversight delivered by UNDP and FAO was satisfactory separately; however, the joint implementation modality posed operational challenges to the project team, contributing to diminished efficiency and shortcomings in overall coherence of the project.

3.2.7 Risk management

Information regarding risk management, identification of new or changing risks, and adaptive management measures taken in response to project risks were recorded in the PIR reports and RSC meeting minutes. The GEF agencies (UNDP and FAO), FFA as Implementing Partner (Executing Agency), representatives of the participating SIDS, and sub-partners were adequately informed and involved in risk management processes.

Critical risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed in the 2020 and 2021 PIR's, as well as in the RSC meetings convened during this time period. Adaptive management measures were taken in response to the restrictions imposed upon the onset of the pandemic.

Social and environmental risks were categorized as "low" in analyses carried out during the project preparation phase, and there was no follow-up assessment of social and environmental risks during implementation.

3.3 Project results and impacts**3.3.1 Progress towards objective and expected outcomes**

Project Objective. To support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations to implement & effectively enforce global, regional & sub-regional arrangements for the conservation & management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries

Achievement rating:

Satisfactory

Achievement of the project objective is rated **Satisfactory**, based upon the analysis of the following two indicators.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Indicator No. 1: Number of Pacific SIDS meeting WCPFC obligations				
Baseline		End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
Principal legislative & policy framework aligned with WCPFC obligations for most Pacific SIDS. But subsidiary legislation, policy instruments and license conditions need updating		All Pacific SIDS' subsidiary legislation, policy instruments and license conditions aligned with WCPFC requirements & systematic processes in place in all Pacific SIDS for adoption of new measures	Pacific SIDS continue to align their legislation, policy instruments and license conditions. Tuna management plans and policies in some countries are under review and development.	Mostly Achieved
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021	

The end target was rather absolute for a 4-year duration project, i.e., to have all subsidiary legislation, policy instrument, and license conditions aligned with WCPFC requirements. Substantive advances have been made over the course of the project implementation timeframe of 2015-2021; however, tuna management plans and policies in some countries are under review and development (see **Table 9**).

Table 9: Status of tuna management plans and policies among the 14 Pacific SIDS

FFA member country	Tuna management plans / policies	Date
Cook Islands	Longline Fishery Plan	2008
	Large Pelagic Longline Fishery Plan	2016
	Purse Seine Fishery Plan	2013
	Offshore Fisheries Policy	2012, requires review
	Marine Sector Policy	2017-2021, requires review
Federated States of Micronesia	Management Plan on Tuna Fisheries for the Federated States of Micronesia	2018
Fiji	Fiji Tuna Management and Development Plan	2014-2018 (being reviewed)
Kiribati	Kiribati National Fisheries Policy	2013 - 2025
FFA member country	Tuna management plans / policies	Date
Marshall Islands	Tuna Management Plan	2020 -2025 - is the third tuna plan for the Marshall Islands
Nauru	Draft Nauru Tuna Fisheries Development Plan	2020
Niue	Draft Management and Development Plan for the Niue Pelagic Fishery	April 2020
Palau	Tuna Fisheries Strategic Plan	2017-2020
Papua New Guinea	National Tuna Fishery Management and Development Plan	2014 being reviewed
Samoa	Tuna Management and Development Plan	2017-2021, Due for review
Solomon Islands	Draft Tuna Fisheries Management and Development Plan	2020 – 2023 (not yet adopted)
Tonga	Tonga National Tuna Management and Development Plan (TMDP)	2018 – 2022
Tuvalu	Tuna Management and Development Plan	2018-2022
Vanuatu	Revised Tuna Fishery Management Plan	2014 (under revision, due to be completed Oct 2020)

Indicator No. 2: Level of benefits to Pacific SIDS, including: a) access fee revenue & b) employment by gender			
Baseline	End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

13,803 directly employed in fishing and processing (2010) Updated baseline⁹: 22,736 directly employed in fishing and processing (2014)		Employment in SIDS growing by up to 5% per year, with increasing proportion of women	23,861 in 2019, representing an average 6.25% year-on-year increase since 2010. The highest proportion (65%) of employment was in the onshore processing sector, of which women make up 63% on the factory floor level. Women have been increasingly represented in high level fisheries management positions.	Achieved
Access fees estimated at \$111 ¹¹ million in 2010 Updated baseline: Access fees estimated at USD 380 million (2014)		Access fees increasing by up to 10% per year	USD 550 million, representing an approximate 8% year-on-year increase from 2014.	
Date:	2010 (2014)	June 2021	August 2021	

The updated baseline data documented in the February 2017 baseline report indicated 22,736 people were employed in the fisheries sector in 2014. It is unclear where this figure was obtained from, as the data set provided in the FFA Economic and Development Indicators and Statistics 2020 report shows a lower number in 2014 (see **Figure 5**).

⁹ Source: February 2017 Baseline study and performance indicators for the PIOFMP II (I. Cartwright) ¹¹
FFA Economic Indicators Update, October 2011

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

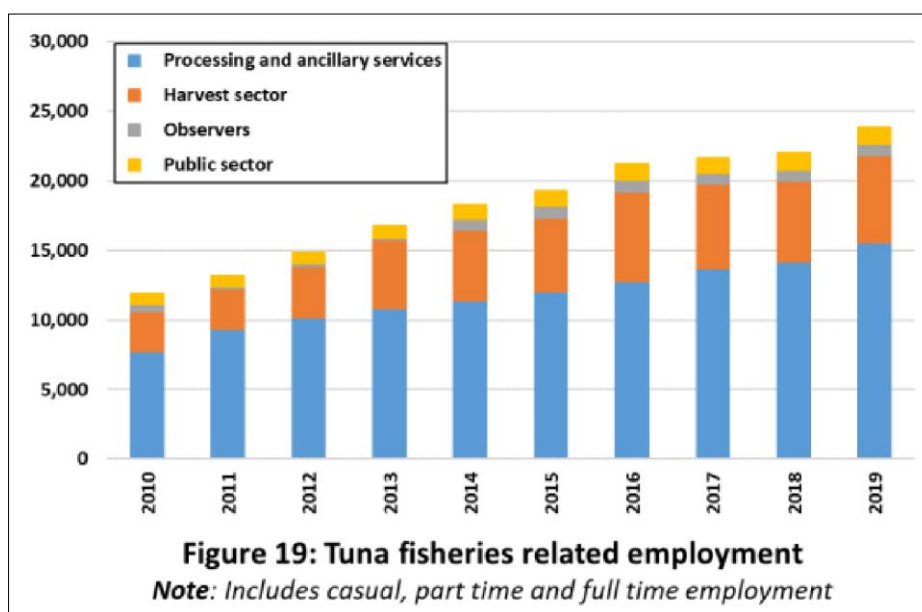


Figure 5: Tuna fisheries related employment 2010-2019¹²

Employment in the onshore processing sector made up approximately 65% of the total in 2019, followed by harvest (26%), public sector (5%), and observers (3%). Onshore processing accounts for the highest proportion of employment, at 65% of the total, and 66% of those employed are in Papua New Guinea, followed by 16% in Solomon Islands, 9% in Fiji, 4% in Marshall Islands, and 2% each in FSM and Kiribati. At the factory floor level, women made up an estimated 63% in 2019; the harvest sector and observer programs are male-dominated. Women are increasingly being represented in high level fisheries management positions, including the following among the project stakeholders (see Section 3.3.6 of this TE report).

As documented in the FFA Economic and Development Indicators and Statistics 2020 report, access fee revenue collected by FFA member countries in 2019 from purse seine, longline and pole and line was USD 550 million, which is up from the baseline figure of USD 380 million in 2014, an average year-on-year increase of 8% over this time period (see Figure 6).

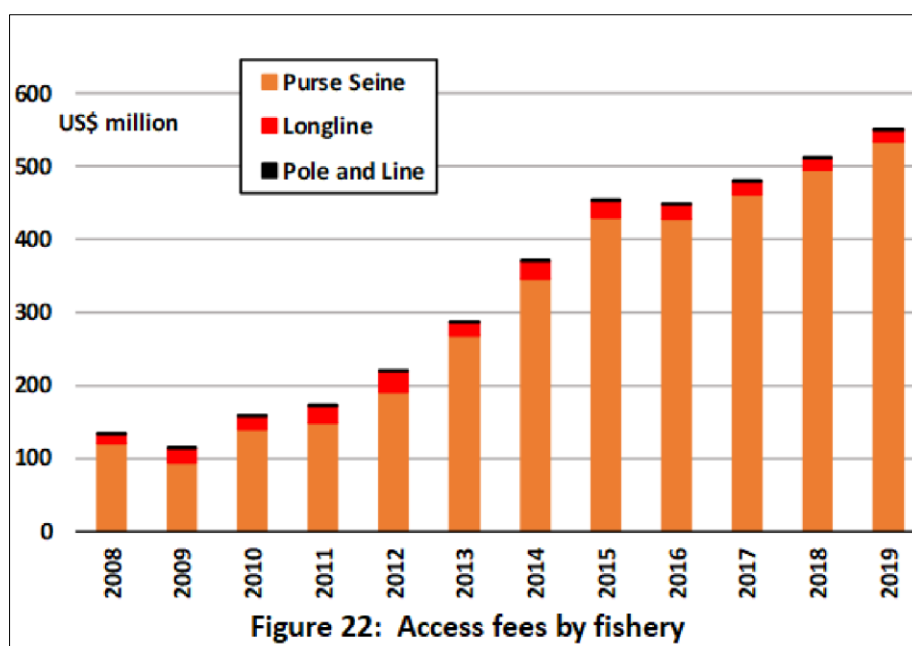


Figure 6: Access fees by fishery 2008-2019¹³

¹² Source: FFA, 2020. Economic and Development Indicators and Statistics: Tuna Fisheries of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

¹³ Source: FFA, 2020. Economic and Development Indicators and Statistics: Tuna Fisheries of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

COMPONENT 1: Regional Actions for Ecosystem- Based Management

Outcome 1.1: Comprehensive set of innovative on-the-water conservation & management measures (CMMs) adopted and applied by the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) for stocks of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME, incorporating rights-based and ecosystem-based approaches in decision-making & informed by sound scientific advice & information	
Achievement rating:	Satisfactory

Achievement of Outcome 1.1 is rated **Satisfactory**, based on the analysis of Indicator Nos. 3 and 4 below.

Indicator No. 3: Number of key target stocks to which comprehensive WCPFC CMMs are applied in EEZs				
Baseline		End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
Two Interim CMMs in place focusing on bigeye and south Pacific albacore, and both have been identified as insufficient. No systematic measures for management of other major target stocks.		Comprehensive and effective CMMs applied to all four key target stocks in EEZs by 2017.	The following CMMs are in now in place for the four main target species: CMM 2020-01 Conservation and Management Measure for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. CMM 2015-02 Conservation and Management Measure for South Pacific Albacore.	Achieved
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021	

The CMMs for the four main target species were each updated during the implementation timeframe of the project:

CMM 2020-01 Conservation and Management Measure for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (extended CMM 2018-01 for 2021) (Replaced CMM 2017-01 (2018), CMM 2016-01 (2017), CMM 2015-01 (2016), CMM 2014-01 (2015), CMM 2013-01 (2014), CMM 2012-01 (2013), replaced CMM 2008-01/CMM 2011-01 (2009-2012), which replaced and CMM 2005-01, and CMM 2006-01).

CMM 2015-02 Conservation and Management Measure for South Pacific Albacore Replaced CMM 2010-05 (20152011), CMM 2005-02 (2006 - 2010).

The proposed rephrasing of the end target for Indicator 3 (shown above) that was recommended in the MTR was not reflected in the project implementation reports (PIRs). In terms of effectiveness, CMM 2020-01 was adopted in December 2020, and the earlier measure remains in force until February 2022. There were no non-compliance findings against CMM 2015-02 among the Pacific SIDS in the WCPFC 2020 compliance report.

Indicator No. 4: Number of key non-target species impacted by WCPO tuna fisheries to which WCPFC CMMs are being applied				
Baseline		End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
Four preliminary CMMs in place for protection of cetaceans, whale sharks, seabirds & marine turtles, as well as controls on shark finning, & very recently adopted CMMs to protect some shark species but their effectiveness is not known		CMMs reflecting Scientific Committee advice & best practice among tuna RFMOs in place for protection of all major key non-target species identified by the Scientific Committee by end year 2 as threatened by WCPO tuna fisheries.	CMMs are in place for the following non-target species: Sharks: CMM 2019-04; Mobulid rays: CMM 2019-05; Seabirds: CMM 2018-03; Sea turtles: CMM 2018-04	Achieved
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021	

The proposed rephrasing of the end target for Indicator 4 (shown above) that was recommended in the MTR was not reflected in the PIRs. The intention of the MTR recommendation was to make the end target less absolute, i.e., instead of having CMMs for all major non-target species, the focus would have been on those species deemed threatened by WCPO tuna fisheries. The CMMs that have been adopted reflect the broad categories of non-target species. Moreover, guidelines are in place on safe release of encircled whale sharks (as of December 2015), best handling practices for safe

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

release of mantas and Mobulid rays (as of December 2017), and best practices for safe release of sharks, other than whale sharks and mantas/Mobulid rays (as of December 2018).

Outcome 1.2: Adaptive management of oceanic fisheries in the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME is put in place through better understanding of the impacts of climate change (CC)

Achievement rating:

Satisfactory

Achievement of Outcome 1.2 is rated **Satisfactory**, based on the analysis of Indicator No. 5 below.

Indicator No. 5: Extent to which understanding of impacts of CC is reflected in management arrangements, including impacts on jurisdiction				
Baseline		End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
There is a general understanding of the expected overall impacts but the information available has not been sufficiently specific to be reflected in management arrangements.		Management arrangements including jurisdictional arrangements have been reviewed to take into account effects of CC	<p>WCPFC Resolution 2019-01 Resolution on climate change as it related to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission was adopted during the Sixteenth Regular Session in Dec 2020.</p> <p>SPC completed updated modeling and assessments, increasing the knowledge base on the potential impacts of climate change.</p> <p>FAO delivered regional training in 2014 and 2015 on "Strategies and Capacity Building in Pacific SIDS to Address Climate Change Impacts on Jurisdictional Claims".</p> <p>Negotiating and finalizing maritime boundary issues are pending in the region.</p>	Partially Achieved
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021	

The project has contributed to the significant increase in the knowledge base of the potential impacts of climate change on the tuna fisheries in the WCPO. Addressing jurisdictional arrangements remains a work-in-progress. As the following recommendations were stated in the 2015 document entitled "Securing the Maritime Jurisdictions of Pacific SIDS against Climate Change", which was produced following the FAO-led regional trainings in 2014 and 2015.

- 1) *Consider the potential impacts of climate change on highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area and any related impacts on the economies of CCMs and food security and livelihoods of their people, in particular Small Islands Developing States and Participating Territories.*
- 2) *Support further development of science on the relationship between climate change and target stocks, nontarget species, and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent on or associated with the target stocks, as well as interrelationships with other factors that affect these stocks and species, and estimates of the associated uncertainties.*
- 3) *Take into account in its deliberations, including in the development of conservation and management measures, scientific information available from the Scientific Committee on the potential impacts of climate change on target stocks, non-target species, and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent on or associated with the target stocks.*
- 4) *Consider how climate change and fishing activities may be related and address any potential impacts in a manner consistent with the Convention.*
- 5) *Consider options to reduce the environmental impacts of the Commission related to headquarters operation and meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.*

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

COMPONENT 2: Sub-regional Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management

Outcome 2.1: Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements are operationalized & enforced, including rights-based cap & trade arrangements for in-zone tuna fisheries, enhancing ecosystem sustainability & incentivized by sustainable fishery certifications

Achievement rating:

Satisfactory

Achievement of Outcome 2.1 is rated **Satisfactory**, based on the analysis of Indicator No. 6 below.

Indicator No. 6: Status of Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements				
Baseline		End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
PNA purse seine VDS in early stages of implementation, other sub-regional arrangements broadly agreed or emerging but not yet implemented.		Sub-regional arrangements, including cap & trade arrangements in purse seine & longline fisheries & ecocertification arrangements are in operation & contributing to fishery sustainability.	Sub-regional arrangements are in place, including the PNA Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), which is operational across the purse seine fishery and the PNA members tropical longline fishery. Management arrangements in the southern longline fisheries continues under the guidance of the FFA South Pacific Group. Since MSC certification of the first Pacific tuna fishery in 2013, the number of certified tuna fisheries in the WCPO has increased to 26.	Achieved
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021	

As shown in **Figure 7**, overall, the patterns of purse seine catches in PNA waters and the WCPO more generally have been stable in recent years, largely due to the effectiveness of PNA Members in applying the VDS despite major oceanographic changes. This is important evidence of the effectiveness of the VDS sub-regional management arrangement.

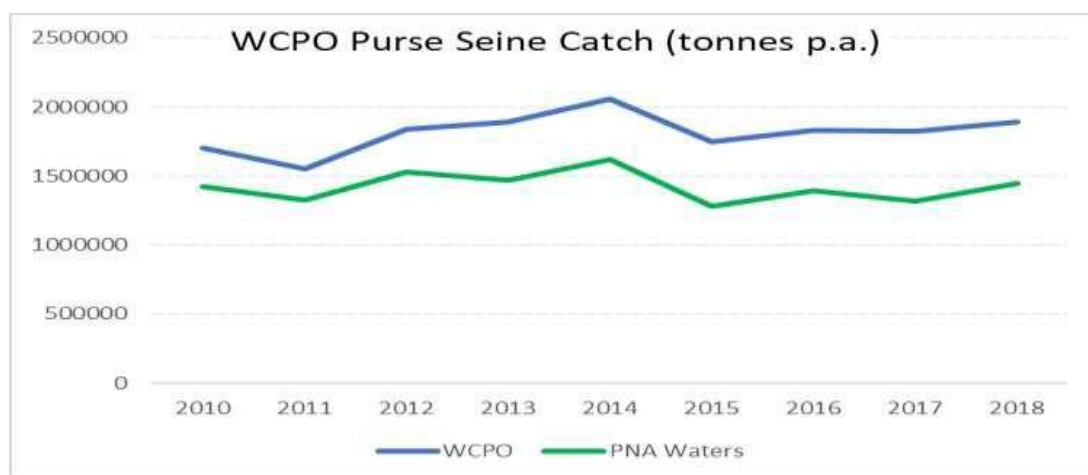


Figure 7: WCPO purse seine catch (tons p.a.), 2010-2018¹⁰

COMPONENT 3: National Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management

Outcome 3.1: Innovative ecosystem-based on-the-water CMMs being effectively applied by Pacific SIDS in accordance with national plans & policies & with international, regional & sub-regional commitments & other relevant instruments

¹⁰ Source: PNA VDS Technical & Scientific Committee, 9th Meeting, 18 May 2020, VDS-T&SC9/WP.6a: Purse Seine VDS TAE for 2021-23 (information in chart sourced from SPC logsheet data)

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Achievement rating:	Satisfactory
---------------------	---------------------

Achievement Outcome 3.1 is rated Satisfactory, based on the analysis of Indicator No. 7 below.

Indicator No. 7: Number of Pacific SIDS applying ecosystem-based CMMs in accordance with new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations

Baseline	End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
Almost all Pacific SIDS have revised national laws to include obligations associated with the	At least 11 Pacific SIDS applying ecosystem-based CMMs in accordance with	The WCPC 2020 compliance report indicates one Pacific SIDS was priority non-compliant against two CMMs	Achieved

WCPFC Convention, but substantial lags exist in implementation of agreed arrangements through national plans, regulations and license conditions, particularly for bycatch	new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations	(transshipment and VMS). Six SIDS were non-complaint against the CMM on charter notification.	
Date: 2013	June 2021	August 2021	

WCPFC 2020 Compliance report indicates the following:

- Vanuatu: Priority Non-Compliant: CMM 2009-06: Transshipment
- Vanuatu: Priority Non-Compliant to CMM 2014-02: Vessel Monitoring System
- Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands: Non-Compliant to CMM 201605: Charter Notification

Moreover, the FFA Harmonized Terms and Conditions of Access are agreed and adopted by all Pacific SIDS. None of the Pacific SIDS requested capacity development support in the WCPFC compliance report; this is indirect evidence of the role FFA plays in delivering training and capacity building to their member countries.

Outcome 3.2: Integrated data & information systems & scientific analysis being used nationally for reporting, policy-making, monitoring & compliance

Achievement rating:	Satisfactory
---------------------	---------------------

Achievement of Outcome 3.2 is rated Satisfactory, based on the analysis of Indicator No. 8 below.

Indicator No. 8: Use of oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis by Pacific SIDS

Baseline	End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
Most SIDS have operational monitoring, licensing & MCS (VMS) data systems in place, but their use is limited gaps, weaknesses & lack of integration of data systems. Phase I outputs, including National Tuna Fisheries Status Reports, national scientific webpages & scientific inputs into ecosystembased management plans provide a basis with enhanced skills for increased use of scientific advice in Phase II.	Enhanced oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis being used by all 14 Pacific SIDS, reflecting upgraded data & information systems in at least 10 Pacific SIDS, and newly integrated systems in at least 4 SIDS.	Significant advances achieved with respect to fisheries information management systems across the region, providing timely and accurate inputs to national tuna fisheries status reports and ecosystembased tuna management plans.	Achieved
Date: 2013	June 2021	August 2021	

Project funding delivered to SPC for further developing the Tuna Fisheries Data Management System (TUFMAN 2) and delivering training to Pacific SIDS. As described on the SPC website, TUFMAN 2 is a cloud-hosted, web database developed for Pacific Island Countries to manage their tuna fishery data. The system supports and integrates many types of tuna fisheries data and supports the major gears (longline, purse seine, pole-and-line) as well as artisanal vessels. The types of data supported include:

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

- Logsheets (captain reported data)
- Port sampling (measurement of fish at the port)
- Unloadings (record of the catch unloaded from the boat)
- Observer trips (collected by an independent observer on the boat)
- Packing lists (data on fish being shipped to another location)
- Vessel Activity Reports (counts of vessels leaving and entering the port)
- Vessel Position Reports (reports from boats at sea)
- VMS (regular automated vessel position reporting from a “black box” onboard)

The information on SPC’s website further explains how TUFMAN 2 also receives data (automatically) from other subregional and regional systems, such as the PNA FIMS, the RIMF VMS data and the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels.

Another online tool, the DORADO reporting system, interfaces with TUFMAN 2 to produce a wide range of integrated reports (i.e. reports using a single source or a combination of data types) to facilitate access to tuna fisheries data by SPC member countries. This web based reporting system currently features over 200 reports. The further development of the DORADO system was also supported with project funds.

TUFMAN 2 and DORADO support mapping of fishery data, such as the mapping of the vessel track for a trip sourced from Logbook, observer and VMS on the same map. Special reports in DORADO cater for the countries’ flag-state reporting obligations to the WCPFC, and produce specific tables and figures defined in the WCPFC reporting template.

COMPONENT 4: Stakeholder Participation & Knowledge Management

Outcome 4.1: Greater multi-stakeholder participation in the work of the national & regional institutions with respect to oceanic fisheries management, including greater fisheries industry engagement & participation in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities

Achievement rating:

Moderately Satisfactory

Achievement of Outcome 4.1 is rated **Moderately Satisfactory**, based on the analysis of Indicator Nos. 9 and 10.

Indicator No. 9: Percentage of participation by industry & other civil society stakeholders in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities, including INGO & ENGO participation

Baseline	End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
PITIA & WWF participated in Phase I & both have recently strengthened their programmes in oceanic fisheries management Major progress under Phase I in external communications by the Project needs to be built on.	Greater understanding of the need for management & the issues involved with proactive contributions from industry & other elements of civil society to the conservation effort.	The project supported PITIA and WWF in expanding outreach to the industry and civil society sectors, respectively. Resources were provided to support industry and civil society participation in key meetings; advocacy materials and knowledge products were prepared and disseminated. Contractual agreements with PITIA and WWF concluded in 2019; sustainability is unclear.	Mostly Achieved
Date: 2013	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	

Project support to PITIA and WWF was consistent with the incremental/catalytic objective of GEF funding. Increased participation of industry and civil society was supported in key meetings. Printed advocacy and knowledge management products were also produced and disseminated. At project closure, it is unclear how durable the involvement of industry and civil society participation will be moving forward.

Indicator No. 10: Number of national consultative or advisory processes/committees created or strengthened & operational

Baseline	End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
National consultative & advisory processes are	Effective national advisory processes established and	It seems that this indicator was not fully vetted at project preparation or at project	Not Achieved

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

variable & often weak if they exist at all.	operational in at least 10 Pacific SIDS. national advisory committees established & operational in at least 10 SIDS	inception. Project progress reports indicate that national and regional consultative processes are largely in place.	
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021

The proposed rephrasing of the end target of this indicator (shown above) that was recommended in the MTR was not reflected in the PIRs. Based on information gathered during the TE, national stakeholders indicated that national consultative processes are generally in place, and establishing new advisory committees or processes would not be needed. For example, the Coastal Fisheries Committee in Samoa is composed of the following stakeholders: Fisheries Division Sec, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Works & Transportation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour, Samoa Ports Authority, Fishing Associations for Savaii and Upolu, Boat builders, Exports, National University of Samoa, Police. And women make up 50% of the committee members in Samoa.

It might have been more advisable to have focused on broadening stakeholder involvement at the national level, possibly linking up with the activities designed to increase participation of industry and civil society.

Outcome 4.2: Increased awareness of oceanic fisheries resource & ecosystems management & impacts of climate change	
Achievement rating:	Satisfactory

Achievement of Outcome 4.2 is rated **Satisfactory**, based on the analysis of Indicator Nos. 11 and 12 below.

Indicator No. 11: Level of media coverage of relevant issues; No. of communiques from relevant regional fora, including Pacific Island Leaders' meetings covering oceanic fisheries.				
Baseline	End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment	
Phase I & the early period of operation of the WCPFC have generated greatly increased interest, focused on iconic nontarget species, especially sharks. Awareness of associated with target stocks is inadequate in relation to their regional & global importance General awareness of the expected impacts of CC on oceanic fish stocks & fisheries, but key institutional & legal aspects have not been raised	Widespread, well informed coverage in Pacific Islands media of issues associated with conservation management of target & non-target species, & CC impacts	Information and knowledge sharing was significantly improved during the second half of the project through the development of the SustainPacFish and TunaPacific websites.	Achieved	
	Oceanic fisheries management regularly addressed in Leaders' communiques	Through the knowledge management service provider, the project supported training Pacific journalists in writing and publishing stories on a range of issues affecting oceanic fisheries. There was limited evidence available on how regularly fisheries management is addressed in Leaders' communiques.	Partially Achieved	
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021	

As described in project progress reports, the **SustainPacFish** website was launched in 2017 following a survey of almost 100 potential users of the site who wanted knowledge on the status of Pacific tuna stocks, the activities and outcomes of OFMP2, statistics on the tuna catch, and examples of best practice for ensuring sustainable fisheries. The original site originally had 98 pages. In 2020, Econnect revamped the site, at a new web address, and pared the number of pages to 49, without losing content. Analytic data shows fluctuating numbers of visitors (see **Figure 8**), with a gradual increase in the time visitors stay on pages of the site.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

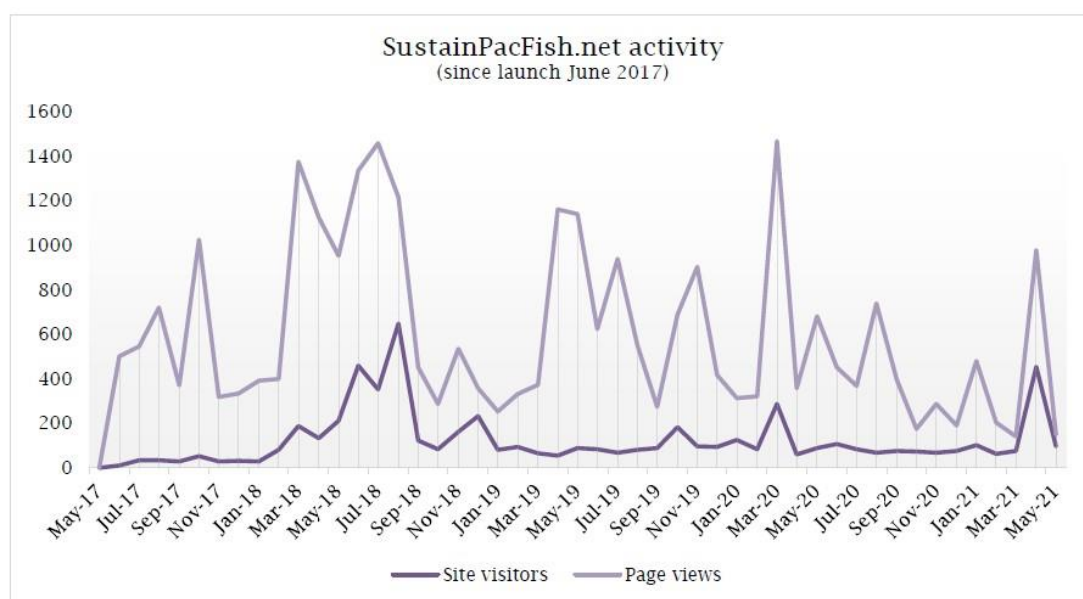


Figure 8: Site visitors and page views for SustainPacFish.net, May 2017-May 2021¹¹

TunaPacific was launched in November 2016, following a training workshop with 11 Pacific journalists. It relies on journalists and editors around the Pacific contributing stories to ensure the varied voices and worldviews of the region are at the forefront of the news presented. There are 487 stories published on the site. Overall, readership of TunaPacific has grown steadily. There was a noticeable dip in readership in early 2020 (see **Figure 9**). The reason for the drop is not known, although it does coincide with the outbreak of COVID-19 when people's focus changed as they grappled with the effects of lockdowns and border closures around the world. The site has seen a considerable jump in engagement this reporting period, with an influx of Pacific journalist contributed pieces published. The reflects the importance of regular contributions from Pacific journalists.

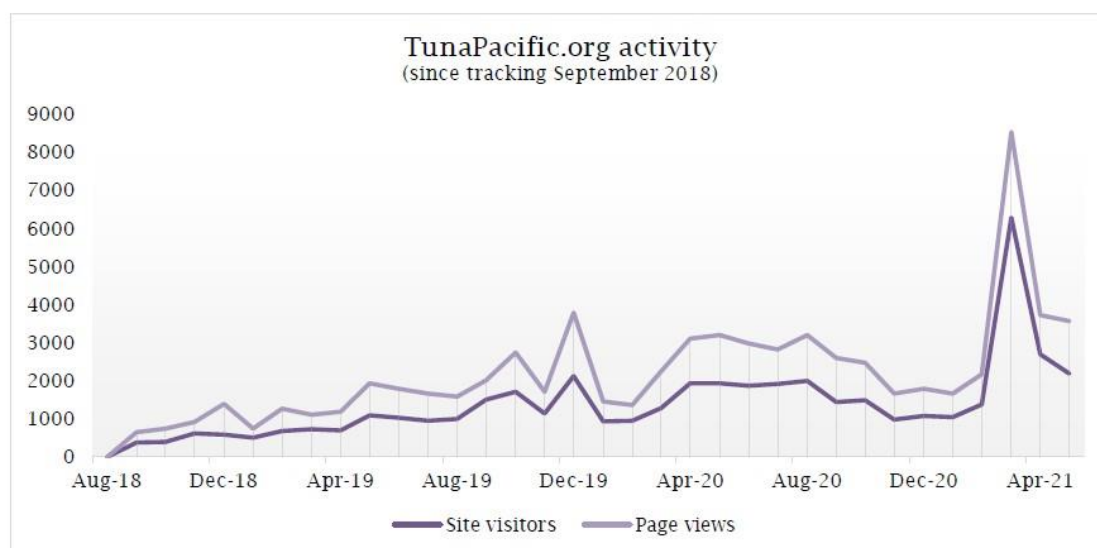


Figure 9: Site visitors and page views for TunaPacific, August 2018-April 2021¹²

With respect to the second end target to Indicator No. 11, the project provided important support in the training of Pacific journalists to write and publish more stories regarding the regional tuna fisheries. However, there was a lack of metrics available to assess the frequency and content of fisheries issues addressed in Leaders' communiques; lesson learned with respect to monitoring and evaluation.

¹¹ Source: Econnect Communication, Progress Report, 01 February to 31 May 2021.

¹² Source: Econnect Communication, Progress Report, 01 February to 31 May 2021.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Indicator No. 12: Continuing donor interest in funding oceanic fisheries agencies & projects				
Baseline		End Target	Status at TE	TE Assessment
Donors, including the ADB & World Bank shied away from fisheries as catches approached their limits because of perceived lack of potential development gains.		Success in this Project & related activities encourages increased donor interest in Pacific Islands oceanic fisheries, attracted by the scope for increasing value through better management.	Donor support remains robust, including proposed GEF funding for third phase of OFMP and follow-up to the ABNJ project. The EU remains an important multilateral donor, and bilateral funding has been secured from governments of Australia, New Zealand, Japan, among others.	Achieved
Date:	2013	June 2021	August 2021	

As noted in the 2020 PIR, FFA continues to sustain an annual operational budget of around USD 30 million with strong levels of donor project support from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, EU and various foundations. Most recently, this included a new agreement with the Government of New Zealand in support of the ongoing, sustainable management of the Pacific's offshore fisheries valued at is NZD\$ 18 million. The design of the third phase of OFMP is in the advanced stages. Similarly, there is a proposal under development for follow-up funding under the FAO-GEF ABNJ Tuna Project.

3.3.2 Relevance

Relevance is rated as: Highly Satisfactory

Relevance is rated Highly Satisfactory, because the project was closely aligned with a number of regional, subregional, and national strategies and plans. Firstly, the project objective was consistent with the Convention on the Conservation

and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, which was one of the first regional fisheries agreements adopted since the conclusion in 1995 of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement.

The project strategy was directly aligned with the 1997 regional SAP, which was endorsed by ministerial level representatives in each of the 14 Pacific SIDS. The project was developed to contribute towards the achievement of Objective 2 of the GEF-5 IW focal area strategy, namely "Catalyze multi-state cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of LMEs while considering climate variability and change". At project closure, the OFMP-II is also relevant to the GEF-7 IW programming directions, specifically Objective 1 on "Strengthening Blue Economy opportunities".

At a broader level, the project is relevant with respect to The Pacific Plan, endorsed by Pacific Island Forum leaders in 2005 with the aim to strengthen Pacific regional integration and cooperation across four key pillars: economic growth, sustainable development, good governance, and security.

The OFMP-II project addressed the regional priorities described in the FFA Regional Tuna Management and Development Strategy and the FFA Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Strategy which elaborate strategies for achieving the Pacific Plan goal for fisheries.

Regional priority: Pacific people, societies, economies, cultures and natural environments are resilient to changing conditions and extreme events resulting from climate change, climate variability and geological processes, to enhance the well-being of the people and to promote their sustainable development (Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP)).

UNDP Sub-regional programme document (SRPD) for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (2018-2022):

The SRPD was developed under the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP), which has a regional priority of the following: "Pacific people, societies, economies, cultures and natural environments are resilient to changing conditions and extreme events resulting from climate change, climate variability and geological processes, to enhance the well-being of the people and to promote their sustainable development."

OFMP-II is relevant to SRPD Output 1.3. "Solutions developed at national and subnational levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services and waste"; Indicative indicator 1.3.1. "Number of UNDP project

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

beneficiaries, disaggregated by sex, with access to sustainably managed natural resources (e.g., fisheries), ecosystem services (e.g., ecotourism), and waste.”

- **Project contributions.** Total employment related to tuna fisheries in FFA member countries for 2019 was estimated¹³ at 23,861, representing an average year-on-year increase of 6.25% from 2010.

FAO Multi-country programming framework for the Pacific Islands (2018-2022):

The project is relevant to Output 2 of the multi-country programming framework: “Sustainable and climate-smart practices promoted to help build resilient agriculture, fisheries and forestry production systems”; Indicator target: “Five countries with strengthened capacities to implement policies, strategies or governance mechanisms that foster sustainable production and/or address climate change and environmental degradation by end 2019.”

- **Project contributions.** Each of the 14 Pacific SIDS have strengthened their capacities to develop and implement policies, strategies and governance mechanisms associated with management of oceanic fisheries. A few examples of updated tuna management plans during the course of the project’s lifespan include: Federated States of Micronesia (Management Plan on Tuna Fisheries, 2018), Marshall Islands (Tuna Management Plan, 2020-2025 – this is the third tuna management plan for the Marshall Islands), Palau (Tuna Fisheries Strategic Plan, 2017-2020), Tonga (National Tuna Management and Development Plan, 2018-2022), and Tuvalu (Tuna Management and Development Plan, 2018-2022).

3.3.3 Effectiveness**Effectiveness is rated as: Satisfactory**

The project was successful in satisfactorily achieving expected results, which were consistent with national and regional priorities and aligned with SDGs and regional programming objectives of UNDP and FAO.

The achieved outcomes were consistent with what was planned, including strengthening of national capacities, applying innovative ecosystem-based fisheries management approaches, increasing the knowledge base with respect to the potential impacts of climate change on migratory fisheries, and enhancing knowledge sharing.

The project strategy was consistent with the human rights-based approach, namely by empowering the Pacific SIDS as “rights holders” with respect to planning and managing regional tuna fisheries. The project did not have a specific gender mainstreaming strategy; the narratives from Pacific women recorded in the Moana Voices publication (see Section 3.3.7 of this TE report) was a good adaptive management measure implemented.

3.3.4 Efficiency**Efficiency is rated as: Moderately Satisfactory**

There were a number of factors that boosted project efficiency. Firstly, building upon achievements realized during the first phase of the project and clearly articulating partnership arrangements at the project preparation phase gave the project a firm foundation to initiate implementation. Project implementation, however, did not start until May 2015, nearly a year after CEO endorsement was obtained on 14 June 2014. UNDP signed the Project Document in February 2015, FFA signed in April 2015, and the 14 Pacific SIDS signed between April and June 2015. The Project Coordinator/CTA was appointed in May 2015, the same month when the inception workshop was held. Considering the time gap between Phase I, it was necessary to regain visibility and interest among the stakeholders, particularly at the national level ones. Nevertheless, the delay in kicking off the project did attribute to the need to request the first no-cost time extension.

Efficiency was also diminished through the joint implementation modality, specifically related to the separate progress required by the two GEF agencies and the different financial reporting procedures. The time spent by the PMU fulfilling the multiple reporting demands was not the most efficient and economical use of the human resources on the team.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic represented an extraordinary challenge to the way in which the project was running, e.g., organizing in-person regional and sub-regional workshops and meetings was a central part of the project strategy. The project did a good job at adapting to the restricted circumstances, having to convene essentially all

¹³ Source: FFA, 2020. Economic and Development Indicators and Statistics: Tuna Fisheries of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

meetings virtually over the final 1-1/2 years of the implementation timeline. Whilst there are inherent limitations with virtual modalities, e.g., certain types of capacity building, the project's adaptive management efforts are commended.

An unforeseen consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic was the need to redirect funds allocated for travel and workshop expenses. The project was able to procure several technical activities that were not originally envisaged – which has enhanced overall project efficiency.

A moderately satisfactory rating is applied primarily because of the delay in initiating project implementation, and the inefficient use of human resources associated with the compounded reporting demands resulting from the joint implementation modality.

3.3.5 Sustainability

Sustainability is generally considered to be the likelihood of continued benefits after the GEF funding ends. Under GEF criteria each sustainability dimension is critical, and the overall ranking, therefore, cannot be higher than the lowest one.

Overall:**Likelihood that benefits will continue to be delivered after project closure: Likely**

There are strong sustainability structures in place at project closure that help ensure the durability of project results achieved and long-term sustainable management of migratory tuna stocks in the WCPO.

Financial dimension:**Likelihood that benefits will continue to be delivered after project closure: Likely**

There is a high likelihood that financial resources will continue to be available after GEF funding ends. Access fees have increased by an average year-on-year rate of 8% between 2014 and 2019, reaching USD 550 million in 2019. Whilst only a portion of these revenues are invested back into the fisheries sector, there is evidence of increasing staff among oceanic fisheries departments, increased levels of employment across the sector, and steady improvements in levels of compliance, implying sustained investment by the member countries.

Donor commitment to sustainable oceanic fisheries in the WCPO continues to be strong, including proposals under advanced development for follow-up GEF funding for the third phase of the OFMP project, as well as the ABNJ Tuna Project. Other multilateral donors include the World Bank and the EU, and bilateral funding from the governments of Australia and New Zealand provide important support to the region.

Moreover, regional fisheries management organizations, including the WCPFC, FFA, and PNAO, are well established with robust financing systems.

Socio-political dimension Likelihood that benefits will continue to be delivered after project closure: Likely

Oceanic fisheries are an important part of the socioeconomic fabric in the participating Pacific SIDS and across the region as a whole. A recent study reported that 10 of the 14 Pacific SIDS are “tuna-dependent” (see **Figure 10**), indicating that fishing for tuna plays a vital role in economic development and/or food security for the countries.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

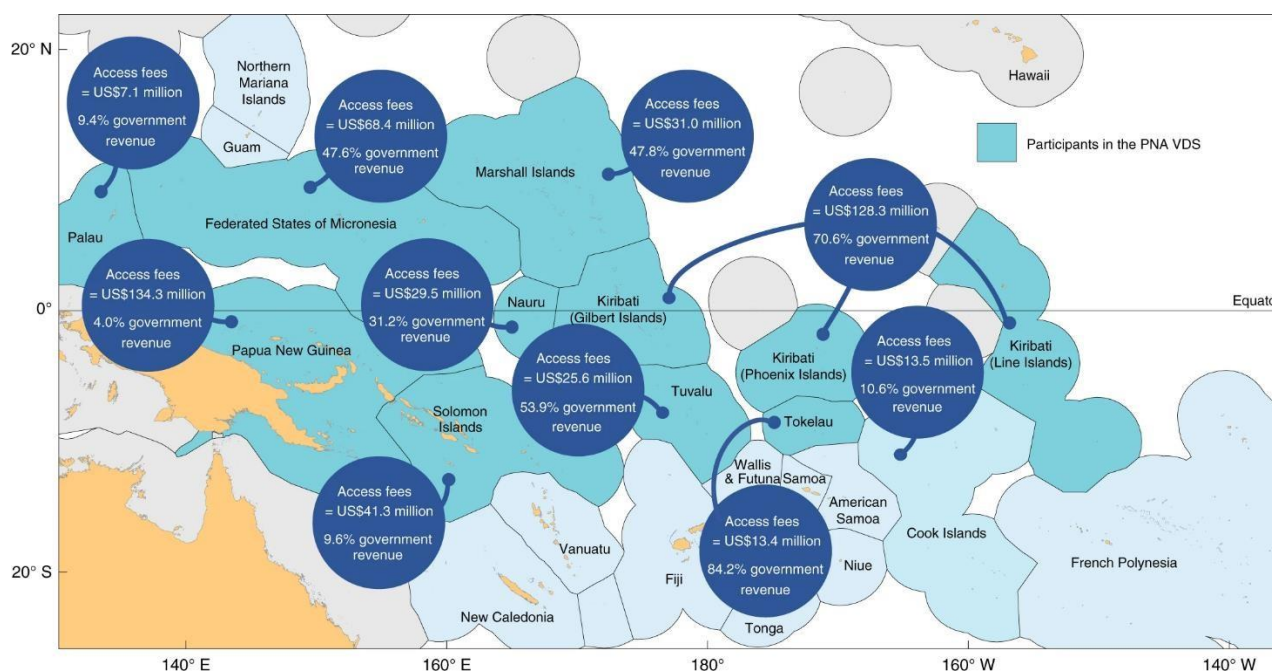


Figure 10: Tuna-dependent Pacific SIDS in the western and central Pacific Ocean¹⁴

There has been a steady increase in tuna fisheries related employment in the region, expanding from 13,803 in 2010 to 23,861 in 2019. Moreover, an increasing number of officials from the 14 Pacific SIDS are holding positions within the WCPFC and its subsidiary bodies, including but not limited to the ones listed below.

- Tuvalu: WCPFC Executive Director (male)
- Samoa: Chair SC, current (male)
- Samoa: Chair FAC, 2016-2018 (male)
- FSM: Chair IWG FADS (male)
- FSM: Co-Chair FAC (female)
- FSM: Chair IWG Audit Points (male)
- FSM: Chair IWG FAD (retired) (male)
- RMI: TCC Chair (2012-2014)
- RMI: WCPFC Chair (2016-2018) (female)
- RMI: TTC Chair (2019) (male)
- RMI: Chair IWG on CMS (male)
- RMI: Co-Chair IWG Transshipment (male)
- RMI: Chair SC, former (female)
- Tonga: Compliance Officer at WCPFC Secretariat (female)
- Tonga: Vice Chair SC (2019-present) (male)
- Niue: WCPFC Vice Chair, current (female)
- Cook Islands: Chair SC, former (female)

This representation by Pacific SIDS officials strengthens the likelihood that the priorities facing the individual countries and the region as a whole are integrated into strategic planning frameworks.

The deliberate focus of the OFMP-II to enhance stakeholder engagement among the civil society and the private sector further strengthens the socio-political dimension of sustainability.

Institutional framework and governance dimension:

¹⁴ Source: Bell, J.D. et al. 2021. Pathways to sustaining tuna-dependent Pacific Island economies during climate change. Nature Sustainability. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-021-00745-z>

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Likelihood that benefits will continue to be delivered after project closure: Likely

There are strong institutional framework and governance structures in place in the region, including those of the WCPFC, FFA, and PNAO. A rigorous set of compliance requirements have been established and are being adjusted and adapted to emerging threats and circumstances. Well-designed systems are operational for monitoring and reporting on compliance, guided by multi-stakeholder collaborative arrangements.

Environmental dimension:**Likelihood that benefits will continue to be delivered after project closure: Likely**

As outlined in the recent article by J.D. Bell et al. (2021), climate change poses a threat to tuna fisheries in the region. Under most scenarios assessed, the tropical waters of the Pacific are expected to warm further, resulting in a generally eastward shift of the Western Pacific Warm Pool. The forecasted consequences would be a redistribution of tuna stocks, possibly partly out of the EEZs of some of the Pacific SIDS and more into areas beyond national jurisdiction. These potential impacts underscore the importance of the work of the regional fisheries management organizations, donors such as GEF, and the broader stakeholder community at strengthening deliberative processes and reaching judicious agreements that help ensure sustainable management of migratory stocks and maintains socioeconomic benefits for the Pacific SIDS.

3.3.6 Country ownership

The design of OFMP-II was aligned with the 1997 SAP which was endorsed by all 14 of the participating Pacific SIDS. At project closure, an updated SAP (2020-2030) has been developed and endorsed at the ministerial level by the same 14 countries. This is important evidence of country ownership towards the ongoing process of reaching and maintaining sustainable management of oceanic fisheries in the WCPO.

At the national level, stakeholder involvement during project implementation was primarily confined to the governmental fisheries management entities, which makes sense considering the focus on oceanic fisheries.

The cross-cutting aspects of the project, such as employment in the fisheries sector, climate change impacts, gender mainstreaming, would have benefitted with a broader level of stakeholder engagement. ...

The activities implemented at the national level were demand driven, i.e., the national fisheries focal points indicated the type of support required. This was a sensible strategy in theory, facilitating high levels of ownership, for example. In practice, however, the national focal points are quite busy with their daily tasks and, based on interviews held as part of the TE, some of them have difficulties in distinguishing among the different donor-funded projects. It might have been more practicable to have formulated more specific activities at the project preparation phase – and revisit those at least annually to adjust for changed circumstances or priorities.

Countries that are not eligible for GEF funding ... French Polynesia ... recommendation.

3.3.7 Gender equality and women's empowerment and cross-cutting issues

The project design did not have a strong gender mainstreaming emphasis. One of the innovative activities on the project entailed launching Moana Voices (see **Figure 11**), a collection of first-person narratives of Pacific women, who share their insights and experiences. A total of three issues of Moana Voices were published. Issue 1 published in 2017 contained narratives from eight women; Issue 2 published in 2018 contained narratives from another eight women; and eight women provided narratives for Issue 3, published online in 2021.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746



Figure 11: Moana Voices: Issues 1 and 2 (cover pages)

Women are increasingly being represented in high level fisheries management positions, including the following among the project stakeholders:

- FFA: Director General
- FFA: Compliance Policy Advisor
- FFA: Surveillance Planning and Liaison Officer
- WCPFC: Compliance Manager
- WCPFC: former Chair (2014-2016)
- PNAO: Chief Executive Officer
- OFMP-I: Project Coordinator (2005-2011)
- Cook Islands: Secretary (Head), Ministry of Marine Resources
- Fiji: Director of Fisheries
- FSM: Assistant Director of Fisheries Management
- Kiribati: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries & Marine Resources Development
- Niue: Director General, Ministry of Natural Resources
- Palau: Fisheries Licensing & Revenue Officer
- RMI: Deputy Director, Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority
- RMI: Compliance Officer, MIMRA
- UNDP: Programme Officer
- UNDP: M&E and Country Coordination Analyst
- FAO: Senior Fisheries Advisor
- SPC: Senior Fisheries Scientist
- World Bank PROP: Project Manager
- EU PEUMP: Project Manager

3.3.8 Cross-cutting issues

Cross-cutting issues were reflected in the project strategy, e.g., the objective level indicator of increasing employment in the fisheries sector.

The results of the project contributed to other cross-cutting issues, including those outlined in the FFA-SPC 2014-2024 *Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Pacific Fisheries*. The roadmap includes a food security oriented goal, aiming to ensure an additional 40,000 tons of tuna for regional consumption in 10 years. Quantitative assessment has been

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

difficult due to a lack of baseline information, but there are reported trends of catch of locally based fleets in the region supplied local markets. And some of the Pacific SIDS are promoting increase tuna catches by artisanal fleets, contributing towards employment and food security goals. The importance of canned tuna to local markets further contributes to food security.

The FFA-SPC regional roadmap also mainstreams the principles of the human rights approach, e.g., by setting goals for the safety and well-being of workers in the sector: “Establish high standards for employment in the fishing and processing industry. Development of a tuna industry should not compromise the health, safety and well-being of Pacific Islanders. Uniform minimum standards and a renewed emphasis on training will help to avoid countries being played off against each other”.

3.3.9 GEF additionality

The updated TDA and SAP (2020-2030) provided substantive governance additionality to the process of achieving and maintaining sustainable management of oceanic tuna fisheries of the WCPO.

The TDA provides an important analysis of the key issues, barriers, drivers, and root causes affecting the transboundary nature of oceanic tuna fisheries. There is no other study that presents a comparable analysis of the interactions and causal pathways across a comprehensive set of parameters.

The updated SAP presents a set of actionable priorities that feeds into the ecosystem based fisheries management approach that underpins the WCPO Convention, provides regional and national stakeholders with guidance on addressing root causes, and leverages funding from other sources by framing key issues.

The GEF funding on this project fed into an ongoing, multiple-donor supported process focused on sustainable management of highly migratory species in the WCPO. The endorsement of the SAP by the 14 Pacific SIDS further strengthens multi-state cooperation in the region.

The project also delivered environmental additionality, in achieving more sustainable levels of four key tuna stocks in the WCPO through improved management practices, such as more extensive application of VMS and seasonal FAD closure. These actions have also contributed to the improved status of non-target species, including ones that are threatened.

The GEF funds provided innovation additionality across several fronts, including building capacities in application of electronic monitoring and substantive updates to information management systems that enable fisheries management entities to make more informed, science-based decisions. The design of the third phase of the OFMP has a strong innovation additionality dimension, focusing on emerging issues and technologies that require incremental donor support.

3.3.10 Catalytic / replication effect

The underlying design of the project, involving 14 Pacific SIDS, was essentially a south-south cooperation approach.

Knowledge transfer on the project was facilitated on several fronts, particularly through the interactions on the regional and subregional meetings, capacity building activities, and production and dissemination of knowledge products, training modules, and communication posts.

Knowledge and information sharing were strengthened through the development of the following two websites:

- SustainPacFish (<https://sustainpacfish.ffa.int>), an information hub,
- TunaPacific (www.tunapacific.org), a news hub

The project support towards development of the Certificate IV in Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance qualification, being offered by The University of the South Pacific and the Pacific Technical and Further Education has had a catalytic effect, being also taken up by the ABNJ Tuna Project.

The development of Phase III of the OFMP is clear evidence of the catalytic effect of the results achieved under this current phase.

The project actively participated and contributed to GEF IW:LEARN¹⁵ events and activities, promoting replication in other oceans.

¹⁵ IW:LEARN (<https://iwearn.net>) is GEF's International Waters learning exchange and resource network.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

A recent example of a catalytic effect was published in the Fiji Sun's website. Supported by the project-funded bioeconomic study carried out for Fiji by SPC-FFA, the Government of Fiji recently announced an extension of offshore licenses to help reinvigorate the economy while ensuring sustainable management of tuna fisheries (see **Figure 12**).



Figure 12: Press clipping from Fiji Sun, 30 August 2021

3.3.11 Progress to impact

Progress towards verifiable changes in environmental stress and environmental status:

Based on the most recent stock assessments in September 2020, the four main WCPO tuna stocks (bigeye, skipjack, albacore, and yellowfin) are being harvested at sustainable levels, as shown below in the “Majuro” plots, comparing the assessment at project baseline in May 2015 with that of September 2020 (see **Figure 13**).

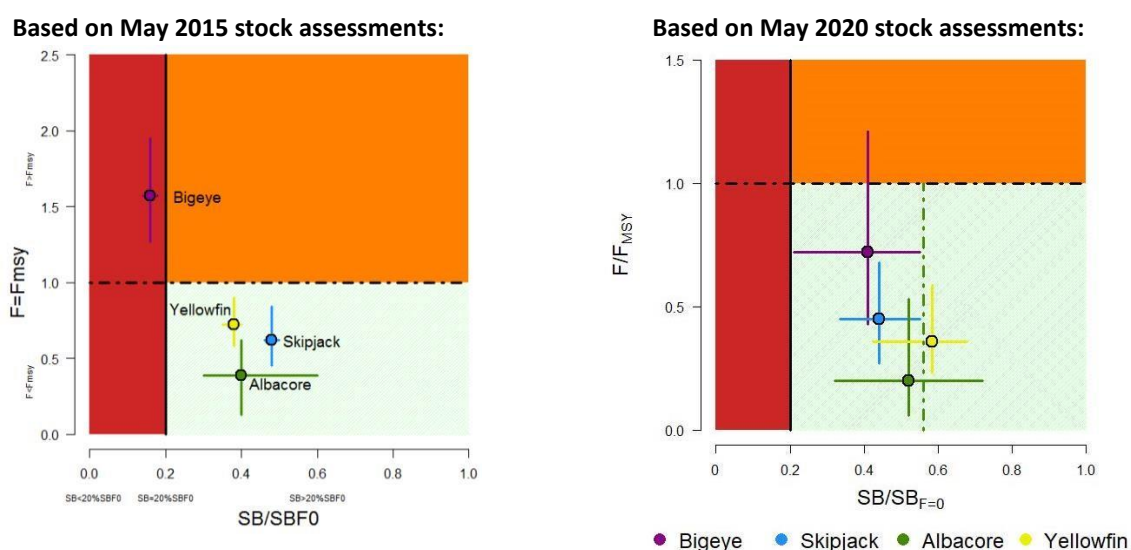


Figure 13: Majuro plots of the four key stocks, May 2015 (baseline) and Sep 2020²⁰

The Majuro plots show status of the stocks according to reference points on fishing mortality (F/F_{msy}) and spawning biomass (SB/SBF_0). Stocks in the green area are estimated to be healthy, overfishing is occurring for stocks in the orange area (i.e., catches are too high for sustainability), and stocks are considered overfished in the red area (i.e., the level of spawning biomass is too low to sustain the stock).

An overview of stock status of interest to the WCPFC (updated in February 2021) is shown below in **Table 10**.

Table 10: Overview of stock status of interest to the WCPFC (updated on 16 Feb 2021)²¹

Stock	Latest Assessment	Overfished ²²	Overfishing ¹	Next Assessment
WCPO Tuna				
01 Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	2020 (SC16)	No (100%) ²³	No (87.5%) ²⁴	2023
02 Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	2020 (SC16)	No (100%)	No (100%)	2023
03 Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	2019 (SC15)	No	No	2022
04 South Pacific albacore tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	2018 (SC14)	No	No	2021

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Northern Stocks				
------------------------	--	--	--	--

²⁰ Source: Baseline plot extracted from the February 2017 Baseline study and performance indicators for the PIOFMP II (I. Cartwright); Sep 2020 plot extracted from the FFA-SPC Tuna Fishery Report Card 2020.

²¹ Source: WCPFC website: [Overview of Stocks of Interest to the WCPFC | WCPFC](#)

²² The determination of overfished and overfishing is a likelihood not a firm statement – where a percentage is provided that indicates probability.

²³ 100% probability of being $SB/SB_{F=0} > LRP$ ²⁴ 87.5% probability of being $F < F_{MSY}$

Stock	Latest Assessment	Overfished ²²	Overfishing ¹	Next Assessment
05 North Pacific albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	2020 (SC16)	No	No	2023
06 Pacific bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus orientalis</i>)	UPDATE 2020 (SC16)	Yes	Yes	2023
07 North Pacific Swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>)	2018 (SC14)	No	No	2022
WCPO Billfish				
08 Southwest Pacific swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>)	2017 (SC13)	No (100%)	No (68%)	2021
09 Southwest Pacific striped marlin (<i>Kajikia audax</i>)	2019 (SC15)	Likely (50%)	No (56%)	2023
10 North Pacific striped marlin (<i>Kajikia audax</i>)	2019 (SC15)	Yes	Yes	2024
11 Pacific blue marlin (<i>Makaira nigricans</i>)	2016 (SC12)	No	No	TBD
WCPO Sharks				
12 Oceanic Whitetip Shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>)	2019 (SC15)	Yes	Yes	TBD
13 Silky shark (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>)	2018 (SC14)	No (indicative)	Yes (indicative)	2023
14 South Pacific blue shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	2016 (SC12)	N/A	N/A	2021
15 North Pacific blue shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	2017 (SC13)	No	No	2022
16 North Pacific shortfin mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>)	2018 (SC14)	No (>50%)	No (50%)	2023
17 Pacific bigeye thresher shark (<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>)	2017 (SC13)	N/A	N/A	2022
18 Southern Hemisphere Porbeagle shark (<i>Lamna nasus</i>)	2017 (SC13)	N/A	Very low	2022
19 Whale Shark (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>)	'PS Risk' 2018 (SC14)	N/A	N/A	TBD

Whilst there has been a reported decrease in bycatch of sharks in FFA members' EEZs (see Figure 14), the stock status of some species, including the Oceanic Whitetip Shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*; IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered CR) are estimated to be overfished or overfishing is occurring. The Oceanic Whitetip Shark was the first shark species to be subject to prohibitions on retention, transshipment, storage, and landing by the major Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs), including the WCPFC.

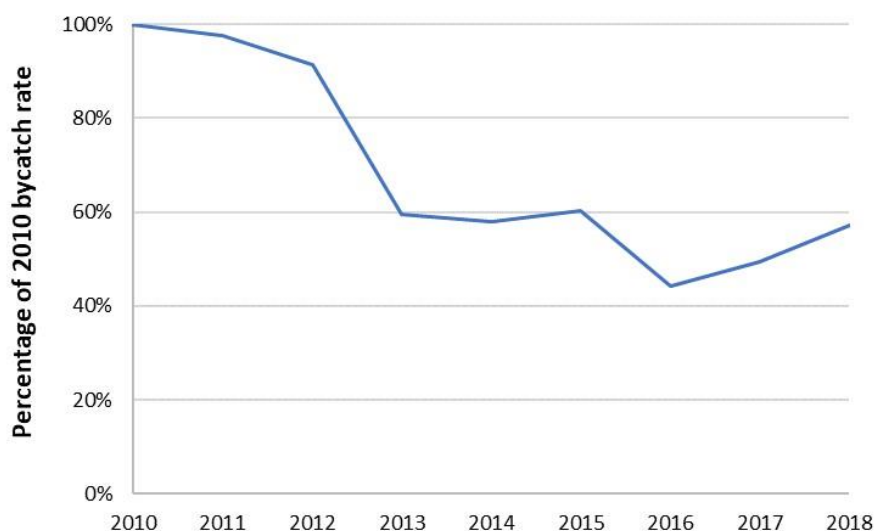


Figure 14: Shark bycatch rates in FFA members' EEZs, 2010-2018¹⁶

During the lifespan of the project, there have been new and/or updated WCPFC CMMs adopted for globally threatened non-target species, including:

- **Sharks** (e.g., Silky Shark - *Carcharhinus falciformis*; IUCN Red List: Vulnerable VU)

¹⁶ Source: FFA-SPC, Tuna Fishery Report Card 2020

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746


- **Mobulid rays** (e.g., *Mobula birostris*, *Mobula mobular*, *Mobula thurstoni*, etc.; IUCN: Red List: Endangered EN)
- **Seabirds**, particularly Albatrosses (e.g., Wandering Albatross – *Diomedea exulans*; IUCN Red List: VU), and Petrels (e.g., Black Petrel - *Procellaria parkinsoni*; IUCN Red List: VU)
- **Sea Turtles** (e.g., Hawksbill Turtle - *Eretmochelys imbricata*; IUCN Red List: CR; Leatherback - *Dermochelys coriacea*; IUCN Red List: VU)

Reliable estimates of the status of most non-target species are lacking due to limited data sources and monitoring systems.

3.3.12 Contributions towards achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The project has made substantive contributions toward achievement of SDG 14, as outlined below in **Table 11**.

Table 11: Project contributions towards achievement of SDGs

SDG target / indicator	Project contribution
 <p>Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</p>	
<p>Target 14.2. By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.</p> <p>Indicator 14.2.1. Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches</p>	<p>The project strategy was predicated on strengthening regional, sub-regional, and national level capacities and systems for ecosystem-based management. The conservation and management measures with in the WCPFC are aimed at achieving the long-term conservation of tuna stocks. Ecosystem-based fisheries management principles are increasingly mainstreamed into the CMMs, reflecting the entire EEZs of the 14 Pacific SIDS.</p>
<p>Target 14.4. By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.</p> <p>Indicator 14.4.1. Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels</p>	<p>Based on the most recent stock assessments, in September 2020, the four key tuna stocks in the WCPO are within biologically sustainable levels.</p>
<p>Target 14.7. By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism.</p> <p>Indicator 14.7.1. Sustainable fisheries as a percentage of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries.</p>	<p>A recent study by J.D. Bell et al. (2021)¹⁷ reported that 10 of the 14 Pacific SIDS are “tuna-dependent”, indicating that fishing for tuna plays a vital role in economic development and/or food security for the countries. The tuna species caught by purse-seine in the region are not overfished or subject to overfishing.</p>

¹⁷ Bell, J.D. et al. 2021. Pathways to sustaining tuna-dependent Pacific Island economies during climate change. Nature Sustainability.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-021-00745-z>

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

<p>Target 14.c. Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of “The future we want”.</p> <p>Indicator 14.c.1. Number of countries making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources.</p>	<p>Pacific SIDS played a full role in the negotiation of UNCLOS, and the UN Fish Stocks Agreement, both of which have been ratified and implemented in national laws by all Pacific SIDS. The objective of the updated SAP (2020-2030) aims to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of the biological resources of the WCPO, consistent with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).</p>
---	--

Secondary contributions have been made to **SDG 13** (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts) and **SDG 17** (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable development).

4 Main findings, conclusions, recommendations, and lessons

Main findings

Following a highly successful Phase I of the OFMP that closed in 2011, OFMP-II was focused on mainstreaming the ecosystem-based fisheries management approach at the regional, subregional, and national levels for durable management of migratory tuna stocks in the WCPO and generation of global environmental benefits. Over the course of the project implementation phase, which ran from June 2015 through June 2021, the WCPFC has adopted new and updated conservation and management measures (CMM) for the four key tuna stocks (bigeye, skipjack, albacore, and yellowfin), and each of these are being harvested at sustainable levels based on the most recent stock assessments in September 2020. The environmental additionality delivered through the GEF funds included supporting the implementation of improved management practices, such as wider operationalization of the PNA Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), as well as more extensive application of Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and seasonal Fish Aggregation Device (FAD) closure.

New and updated CMMs have also been adopted for conservation of non-target species, including sharks, rays, seabirds, and sea turtles, which signifies substantive commitment towards reducing bycatch of these globally threatened species. Environmental additionality of the GEF funds also extended to the substantive increased in the knowledge base on the potential impacts of climate change to the dynamics of the WCPO oceanic fisheries, something that has become a top priority in the region, particularly among the tuna-dependent Pacific SIDS.

The inclusive management arrangements of tuna stocks in the WCPO have also led to increased socioeconomic benefits. Officials from Pacific SIDS are holding senior positions in the WCPC and its subsidiary entities. Access fee revenue collected by FFA member countries in 2019 from purse seine, longline and pole and line was USD 550 million, which is up from the baseline figure of USD 380 million in 2014, an average year-on-year increase of 8% over this time period. Employment in the fisheries sector reached 23,861 in 2019, representing an average 6.25% year-on-year increase since 2010. The highest proportion (65%) of employment was in the onshore processing sector, of which women make up 63% on the factory floor level. Importantly, women have been increasingly represented in high level fisheries management positions.

Conclusions

The updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Programme (SAP) (2020-2030) provided substantive governance additionality to the process of achieving and maintaining sustainable management of oceanic tuna fisheries of the WCPO. The TDA provides an important analysis of the key issues, barriers, drivers, and root causes affecting the transboundary nature of oceanic tuna fisheries. There is no other study that presents a comparable analysis of the interactions and causal pathways across a comprehensive set of parameters. The updated SAP presents a set of actionable priorities that feeds into the ecosystem based fisheries management approach that underpins the WCPO Convention, provides regional and national stakeholders with guidance on addressing root causes, and leverages funding from other sources by framing key issues. The GEF funding on this project fed into an ongoing, multiple-donor

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

supported process focused on sustainable management of highly migratory species in the WCPO. The endorsement of the SAP by the 14 Pacific SIDS further strengthens multi-state cooperation in the region.

The GEF funds provided innovation additionality across several fronts, including building capacities in the application of electronic monitoring and substantive updates to information management systems that enable fisheries management entities to make more informed, science-based decisions. The design of the third phase of the OFMP has a strong innovation additionality dimension, focusing on emerging issues and technologies that require incremental donor support.

Under Component 4, resources were allocated for expanding stakeholder participation in the WCPO oceanic fisheries management processes. Funding to the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) and WWF supported engagement of the private sector and civil society, respectively, including participation in key meetings and development of advocacy and knowledge products. The investments in developing two websites (SustainPacFish and TunaPacific) have contributed to improved information and knowledge sharing, providing accessible platforms to the wider stakeholder community.

The project implementation was initiated in May 2015, nearly a year after obtaining GEF CEO endorsement in June 2014. The joint implementation modality, including the two GEF agencies UNDP and FAO, was thoughtfully addressed in the project design, with respect to distribution of thematic responsibilities. From an operational standpoint, this modality presented significant challenges, mostly regarding the multiple technical and financial reporting requirements, which affected project efficiency, i.e., inefficient use of available human resources.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic represented an extraordinary challenge to the way in which the project was running. Organizing in-person regional and sub-regional workshops and meetings was a central part of the project strategy. The project did a good job at adapting to the restricted circumstances, having to convene essentially all meetings virtually over the final 1-1/2 years of the implementation timeline. Whilst there are inherent limitations with virtual modalities, e.g., with respect to certain types of capacity building, the project's adaptive management efforts are commended. An unforeseen consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic was the need to redirect funds allocated for travel and workshop expenses. The project was able to procure several advisory support services and technical deliverables that were not originally envisaged.

The project benefitted from having the enabling structure and systems of the Executing Agency (FFA), a qualified and proactive Project Coordinator / Chief Technical Advisor, and a set of experienced and well-established sub-partner organizations. The partnership arrangements were clearly articulated in the Project Document, allowing a solid foundation for implementation. Outsourcing the execution of most of the outputs to the sub-partners and operating under the joint implementation modality, however, resulted in separate work "silos", which affected the overall coherence of the project. And there was essentially no tracking of co-financing contributions from the project partners and national governments during project implementation (only at the midterm review and TE), which might have facilitated additional synergies and adaptive management measures in line with the initiatives of the co-financing partners.

Recommendations

The following recommendations have been formulated based upon the findings of the TE.

No.	Recommendation	Responsible Entities	Timeframe
1.	Advocate and facilitate mainstreaming SAP priorities at the national level. The national tuna management plans are one of the key instruments for mainstreaming SAP priorities. There should be a concerted effort to align these national level plans with the regional SAP.	FFA, national gov't partners	Phase III
2.	Strengthen feedback mechanisms for better quantifying environmental additionality. It would be advisable to work with regional partners in establishing mechanisms for evaluating stress reduction outcomes resulting from wider adoption of improved management approaches and emerging technologies.	FFA, subpartners	Phase III

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

3.	Strengthen project coherence by embedding additional technical support positions into the project team. Apart from the Project Coordinator/Chief Technical Advisor and Fisheries Management Advisor roles, it would be advisable to include a Monitoring-Control Surveillance (MCS) and a Knowledge Management (KM) Officer as technical support positions embedded into the project team.	FFA, UNDP	Phase III
4.	Develop an adaptive national stakeholder engagement strategy. Formulating specific national level activities through consultation with local stakeholders at the project preparation phase, and holding minimum annual stock-taking sessions to make adaptive management adjustments. Include colleagues from the GEF agency country offices, joint presence offices, and field offices in national level activities, where possible.	FFA, national gov't partners	Phase III
5.	Align sub-partner agreements with the project's results-based management systems. Sub-partner agreements and performance should be better tied results-based management requirements, including monitoring and evaluation towards achievement of performance metrics, co-financing contributions, synergies with complementary initiatives, etc.	FFA	Phase III
6.	Develop a process for improving coordination with complementary projects and initiatives. There are a number of complementary projects and initiatives in the region. It would be advisable to arrange regular coordination meetings or other mechanism to better align project activities.	FFA, UNDP	Phase III
7.	Further support securing of maritime jurisdictions as part of the regional actions towards responding to potential impacts of climate change. Securing maritime jurisdictions is important for Pacific SIDS in their blue economy based development.	FAO, FFA, WCPFC	Ongoing

Lessons**Good Practices:**

- Partnership roles and responsibilities were clearly articulated at project preparation phase with well established and experienced sub-partners.
- Developing the Moana Voices publications was an innovative way to capture gender issues in the region, directly communicated by Pacific Women having active roles in the fisheries sector.
- Effective adaptive management measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including implementing remote methods for stakeholder engagement and redirecting funds (originally earmarked for travel expenses) for delivering technical assistance addressing key issues.
- Incorporating some of the tracking tool indicators into the project results framework facilitated evaluation of contributions towards achievement of global environmental benefits.

Lessons Learned:

- Outsourcing execution of project outputs to multiple sub-partners requires a substantive technical support team to ensure overall coherence.
- Procedures for tracking and reporting project co-financing contributions should be agreed at project inception, and more importantly, synergies with co-financing partners should be advocated and facilitated throughout the project implementation phase.
- Monitoring and evaluation procedures should be clearly established at project preparation phase, resources allocated in the budget, and verified at project inception in order to ensure effective results-based management.
- National level stakeholder engagement did not include country, joint presence offices, and field offices of UNDP and FAO.
- The project strategy should be fully vetted prior to submission for GEF CEO endorsement, e.g., the output/activity on establishing national advisory committees.
- Procedures for allocating project management costs should be agreed at project inception.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Annex 1: Evaluation Matrix

Evaluation Criteria Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
Relevance: Is the project relevant with respect to the environmental and development priorities at the local, regional and national levels?			
To what extent is the principle of the project in line with national priorities and the UN Pacific Strategies for the countries?	Level of participation of the concerned agencies in project activities. Consistency with relevant strategies and policies.	Minutes of meetings, Project progress reports, national and regional strategy and policy documents, UN Pacific Strategies for the countries	Desk review, interviews
To what extent is the project aligned to the main objectives of the GEF focal area?	Consistency with GEF strategic objectives	GEF Strategy documents, PIRs, Tracking Tools	Desk review, interview with RTAs
To what extent is the project aligned to the strategic objectives of UNDP and FAO?	Consistency with UNDP and FAO strategic objectives	UNDP Strategic Plan, Country Programme Documents, UNDP Pacific's Sub Regional Programme Document	Desk review, interview
Effectiveness: To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved?			
Assessment of progress made toward achieving the indicator targets agreed upon in the logical results framework			
Sustainability: To what extent are there financial, institutional, social-economic, and/or environmental risks to sustaining longterm project results?			
What evidence is available showing sufficient funding has been secured to sustain project results?	Financial risks	Progress reports, sectoral plans, budget allocation reports, testimonial evidence	Desk review, interviews
How have individual and institutional capacities been strengthened, and are governance structures capacitated and in place to sustain project results?	Institutional and individual capacities	Progress reports, testimonial evidence, training records	Desk review, interviews
What social or political risks threaten the sustainability of project results?	Socio-economic risks	Socio-economic studies, macroeconomic information	Desk review, interviews
Which ongoing circumstances and/or activities pose threats to the sustainability of project results?	Risks to sustainability	Sectoral plans, progress reports, macroeconomic information	Desk review, interviews, field visits
Have delays affected project outcomes and/or sustainability, and, if so, in what ways and through what causal linkages?	Impact of project delays	Progress reports	Desk review, interviews
Impact: Are there indications that the project has contributed to, or enabled progress toward long lasting desired changes?			
What verifiable environmental improvements have been made?	Verifiable environmental improvements	Progress reports, sectoral plans, municipal development plans	Desk review, interviews, theory of change analysis
What verifiable reductions in stress on environmental systems have been made?	Verifiable reductions in stress on environmental systems	Progress reports, sectoral plans, municipal development plans	Desk review, interviews, theory of change analysis

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

How has the project demonstrated progress towards these impact achievements?	Progress toward impact achievements	Progress reports, sectoral plans, municipal development plans	Desk review, interviews, theory of change analysis
Efficiency: Was the project implemented efficiently, in-line with international and national norms and standards?			

Evaluation Criteria Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
How was the project efficient with respect to incremental cost criteria?	Incremental cost	National strategies and plans, progress reports	Desk review, interviews
To what extent were the project objective and outcomes realized according to the proposed budget and timeline?	Efficient utilization of project resources	Progress reports, financial records	Desk review, interviews
Country Ownership:			
How are project results contributing to national development plans and priorities?	Development planning	Government approved plans and policies	Desk review, interviews
Which governments policies or regulatory frameworks were approved in line with the project objective?	Policy reform	Government approved plans and policies	Desk review, interviews
How have governmental and other cofinancing partners maintained their financial commitment to the project?	Committed cofinancing realized	Audit reports, project accounting records	Desk review, interviews
Stakeholder Involvement and Partnership Arrangements:			
How has the project consulted with and made use of the skills, experience, and knowledge of the appropriate government entities, NGOs, community groups, private sector entities, local governments, and academic institutions?	Effective stakeholder involvement	Meeting minutes, reports, interview records	Desk review, interviews, field visits
How were partnership arrangements properly identified and roles and responsibilities negotiated prior to project approval?	Partnership arrangements	Memorandums of understanding, agreements	Desk review, interviews
How have partnerships influenced the effectiveness and efficiency of project implementation?	Effective partnerships	Progress reports, interview records	Desk review, interviews, field visits
How have relevant vulnerable groups and powerful supporters and opponents of the processes been properly involved?	Inclusive stakeholder involvement	Meeting minutes, reports, interview records	Desk review, interviews, field visits
How has the project sought participation from stakeholders in (1) project design, (2) implementation, and (3) monitoring & evaluation?	Stakeholder involvement	Plans, reports	Desk review, interviews, field visits
Catalytic Role:			

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

How has the project had a catalytic or replication effect in the country?	Catalytic effect	Interview records, municipal development plans	Desk review, interviews
Synergy with Other Projects/Programs			
How were synergies with other projects/programs incorporated in the design and/or implementation of the project?	Collaboration with other projects/programs	Plans, reports, meeting minutes	Desk review, interviews
Preparation and Readiness			
Were project objective and components clear, practicable, and feasible within its time frame?	Project coherence	Logical results framework	Desk review, interviews
Evaluation Criteria Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
How were the capacities of the executing institution(s) and its counterparts properly considered when the project was designed?	Execution capacity	Progress reports, audit results	Desk review, interviews
Were counterpart resources, enabling legislation, and adequate project management arrangements in place at project entry?	Readiness	Interview records, progress reports	Desk review, interviews, field visits
Financial Planning			
Did the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allowed management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allowed for timely flow of funds?	Financial control	Audit reports, project accounting records	Desk review, interviews
Has there been due diligence in the management of funds and financial audits?	Financial management	Audit reports, project accounting records	Desk review, interviews, field visits
Has promised cofinancing materialized?	Realization of cofinancing	Audit reports, project accounting records	Desk review, interviews
Supervision and Backstopping			
How have GEF agency staff members identified problems in a timely fashion and accurately estimate their seriousness?	Supervision effectiveness	Progress reports	Desk review, interviews
How have GEF agency staff members provided quality support, approved modifications in time, and restructured the project when needed?	Project oversight	Progress reports	Desk review, interviews
How has the implementing agency provided the right staffing levels, continuity, skill mix, and frequency of field visits for the project?	Project backstopping	Progress reports, back-tooffice reports, internal appraisals	Desk review, interviews, field visits
Monitoring & Evaluation			

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Were intended results (outputs, outcomes) adequately defined, appropriate and stated in measurable terms, and were the results verifiable?	Monitoring and evaluation plan at entry	Project document, inception report	Desk review, interviews
How has the project monitoring & evaluation plan been implemented?	Effective monitoring and evaluation	Progress reports, monitoring reports	Desk review, interviews
How has there been focus on resultsbased management?	Results based management	Progress reports, monitoring reports	Desk review, interviews
Cross Cutting Issues			
How were gender issues integrated in project design and implementation?	Greater consideration of gender aspects.	Project document, progress reports, monitoring reports	Desk review, interviews, field visits
How were effects on local populations considered in project design and implementation?	Positive or negative effects of the project on local populations.	Project document, progress reports, monitoring reports	Desk review, interviews, field visits

Annex 2: List of People Interviewed

Name	Position	Organization
Jose Padilla	Regional Technical Advisor	UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
Loraini Sivo	Programme Officer	UNDP Pacific Office, Fiji
Merewalesi Laveti	Monitoring, Evaluation and Country Coordination Analyst	UNDP Pacific Office, Fiji
Liao Chongguang	Programme Officer	FAO RAP Bangkok
Jessica Sanders	Senior Fisheries Advisor	FAO Reginal Office, Samoa
Hugh Walton	OFMP-II Project Coordinator / Chief Technical Advisor	FFA
Matt Hooper	Deputy Director	FFA
Wetjens Dimmlich	Director, Fisheries Management	FFA
Graham Piling	Deputy Director FAME, Head of OFP	SPC
Valerie Alain	Senior Fisheries Scientist (Climate Change Ecosystem Analysis)	SPC
Steven Hare	Senior Fisheries Scientist – National and Sub Regional Team Leader	SPC
Andrew Hunt	Data Analyst / Trainer	SPC
Les Clark	Advisor to PNAO	PNAO
Maurice Brownjohn	Commercial Manager	PNAO
Brett Haywood	PITIA Chair	PITIA

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Alfred (Bubba) Cook	Senior Fisheries Program Officer	WWF
Rhea Moss-Christian	Former Chair (2014-2016)	WCPFC
Pamela Maru	Secretary (Head of Ministry)	Cook Islands, Ministry of Marine Resources
Magele Etuati Repeti	Assistant CEO	Samoa, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Fisheries Division
Eugene Pangelinan	Executive Director	Federated States of Micronesia, National Oceanic Marine Resources Authority
Glen Joseph	Director	Marshall Islands, Marine Resources Authority
Tuikolongahua Halafihi	CEO	Tonga, Ministry of Fisheries
Mike Batty (completed questionnaire)	Fisheries Advisor	Tuvalu

Annex 3: List of Information Reviewed

#	Item (electronic versions preferred if available)
1	Project Identification Form (PIF)
2	UNDP Initiation Plan
3	Final UNDP-GEF Project Document with all annexes
4	CEO Endorsement Request
5	UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) and associated management plans (if any)
6	Inception Workshop Report
7	Mid-Term Review report and management response to MTR recommendations
8	All Project Implementation Reports (PIRs)
9	Progress reports (quarterly, semi-annual or annual, with associated workplans and financial reports)
10	Oversight mission reports
11	Minutes of Project Board Meetings and of other meetings (i.e. Project Appraisal Committee meetings)
12	GEF Tracking Tools (from CEO Endorsement, midterm and terminal stages)
13	GEF/LDCF/SCCF Core Indicators (from PIF, CEO Endorsement, midterm and terminal stages); for GEF-6 and GEF-7 projects only
14	Financial data, including actual expenditures by project outcome, including management costs, and including documentation of any significant budget revisions
15	Co-financing data with expected and actual contributions broken down by type of co-financing, source, and whether the contribution is considered as investment mobilized or recurring expenditures
16	Audit reports
17	Electronic copies of project outputs (booklets, manuals, technical reports, articles, etc.)
18	Sample of project communications materials
19	Summary list of formal meetings, workshops, etc. held, with date, location, topic, and number of participants
20	Any relevant socio-economic monitoring data, such as average incomes / employment levels of stakeholders in the target area, change in revenue related to project activities

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

- | | |
|----|---|
| 21 | List of contracts and procurement items over ~US\$5,000 (i.e. organizations or companies contracted for project outputs, etc., except in cases of confidential information) |
| 22 | List of related projects/initiatives contributing to project objectives approved/started after GEF project approval (i.e. any leveraged or “catalytic” results) |
| 23 | Data on relevant project website activity – e.g. number of unique visitors per month, number of page views, etc. over relevant time period, if available |
| 24 | UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD) |
| 25 | List/map of project sites, highlighting suggested visits |
| 26 | List and contact details for project staff, key project stakeholders, including Project Board members, RTA, Project Team members, and other partners to be consulted |
| 27 | Project deliverables that provide documentary evidence of achievement towards project outcomes |
| 28 | Updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) |
| 29 | Updated Strategic Action Program (SAP) |

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Annex 4: Matrix of Rating Achievement of Project Objective and Outcomes

Indicator	Baseline	End of Project target	Self-assessment (2021 PIR)	TE Comments	TE Assessment
Project Objective. To support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations to implement & effectively enforce global, regional & sub-regional arrangements for the conservation & management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries				Rating: Satisfactory	
1. Number of Pacific SIDS meeting WCPFC obligations	Principal legislative & policy framework aligned with WCPFC obligations for most Pacific SIDS. But subsidiary legislation, policy instruments and license conditions need updating	All Pacific SIDS' subsidiary legislation, policy instruments and license conditions aligned with WCPFC requirements & systematic processes in place in all Pacific SIDS for adoption of new measures	<p>ACHIEVED</p> <p>Those Pacific SIDS that the project has supported have aligned their legislation, policy and license condition to the WCPFC requirements and processes at some level.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>RMI: - Revised TMP, MIMRA Corporate & Strategic plan renewed, IUU NPOA updated, licensing LL VDS in place and PS VDS on going and developed</p> <p>Cook Islands: Current legalization remains relevant (and flexible) in scope to address WCPFC increasing requirements and systematic process for the period. Licensing conditions are reviewing annually and are consistent with Commission requirements</p> <p>FSM: FSM court has ruled on how to implement CMMs. Review of Title 24 in place, National laws updated for consistency with all measures.</p> <p>Regulations updated - Flag State, Administrative penalties applied, EM/ER supporting regulations drafted for roll out of programs</p> <p>FFA members have achieve very high levels of WCPFC CMM compliance as evidenced in CM report.</p> <p>FFA has provided technical assistance in completing WCPFC Part 1 and 2 reports and other WCPFC obligations annually on an 'as requested' basis</p>	Pacific SIDS continue to align their legislation, policy instruments and license conditions. Tuna management plans and policies in some countries are under review and development.	Mostly Achieved
2. Level of benefits to Pacific SIDS, including: a) access fee revenue & b) employment by gender	13,803 directly employed in fishing and processing (2010)	Employment in SIDS growing by up to 5% per year, with increasing proportion of women	<p>ACHIEVED</p> <p>Employment</p> <p>Since the project started, the total employment identified to be related to tuna fisheries in FFA member countries in 2019 was estimated at 23,861. This was an increase of 9% from the previous year and 24% since 2015 equating to 5% per annum since project inception. The onshore processing sector makes the largest contribution to employment with about 65%. Total employment in the onshore processing sector in 2019 at 15,571. The harvest, observers and the public sector contributed around 26%, 3% and 5% of total employment respectively. The project was able to determine that the majority of those employed in the processing sector are employed in PNG, which accounts for about 66% of all processing works. Around 16% of processing employment is in the Solomon Islands, 9% in Fiji, 4% in the Marshall Islands, and 2% both in FSM and in Kiribati. Employment within the</p>	23,861 in 2019, representing an average 6.25% year-on-year increase since 2010. The highest proportion (65%) of employment was in the onshore processing sector, of which women make up 63% on the factory floor level. Women have been increasingly represented in high level fisheries management positions.	Achieved

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Indicator	Baseline	End of Project target	Self-assessment (2021 PIR)	TE Comments	TE Assessment
			processing sector is dominated, at least at the factory floor level, by female employees which make up an estimated 63% of the workforce. The harvest sector and observer programs are, however, overwhelmingly male dominated while 67% of the public sector employees are male		
	Access fees estimated at \$111 ¹⁸ million in 2010	Access fees increasing by up to 10% per year	Over the last 5 years of project implementation, total revenue generated from access fees has increased by almost 50%. The rapid growth in access fees since 2011 has been extremely impressive, with an average annual growth rate of 15.3% between 2011 and 2019. Access fee revenue collected by FFA member government from purse seine, longline and pole and line reached a new record of \$550 million in 2019. This represents a \$38 million increase (8%) from the previous year. Prior to 2012: 6% of the estimated value of the catch were taken from respective EEZ. The access fee benchmark price was set at \$5000 in 2011, increased to \$6000 in 2014 and again increased to \$8000 in 2015 where it currently stands.	USD 550 million, representing an approximate 8% year-on-year increase from 2014.	Achieved
COMPONENT 1: Regional Actions for Ecosystem- Based Management					
Outcome 1.1: Comprehensive set of innovative on-the-water conservation & management measures (CMMs) adopted and applied by the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) for stocks of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME, incorporating rights-based and ecosystem-based approaches in decision-making & informed by sound scientific advice & information				Rating: Satisfactory	
3. Number of key target stocks to which comprehensive WCPFC CMMs are applied in EEZs	Two Interim CMMs in place focusing on bigeye and south Pacific albacore, and both have been identified as insufficient. No systematic measures for management of other major target stocks.	Comprehensive and effective CMMs applied to all four key target stocks by 2017.	ACHIEVED. FFA Members has actively supported the Secretariat and SPC in influencing the development of WCPFC CMMs. All four of the main WCPO tuna stocks are currently harvested at sustainable levels. The following CMMs are in now in place for the four main target species CMM 2020-01 Conservation and Management Measure for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (extended CMM 2018-01 for 2021) (Replaced CMM 2017-01 (2018), CMM 2016-01 (2017), CMM 2015-01 (2016), CMM 2014-01 (2015), CMM 2013-01 (2014), CMM 2012-01 (2013), replaced CMM 2008-01/CMM 2011-01 (2009/2012), which replaced and CMM 2005-01, and CMM 2006-01.) CMM 2015-02 Conservation and Management Measure for	The following CMMs are in now in place for the four main target species: CMM 2020-01 Conservation and Management Measure for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. CMM 2015-02 Conservation and Management Measure for South Pacific Albacore.	Achieved

¹⁸ FFA Economic Indicators Update, October 2011

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

			South Pacific Albacore Replaced CMM 2010-05 (2015-2011), CMM 2005-02 (2006 - 2010)		
--	--	--	---	--	--

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Indicator	Baseline	End of Project target	Self-assessment (2021 PIR)	TE Comments	TE Assessment
4. Number of key non-target species impacted by WCPO tuna fisheries to which WCPFC CMMs are being applied	Four preliminary CMMs in place for protection of cetaceans, whale sharks, seabirds & marine turtles, as well as controls on shark finning, & very recently adopted CMMs to protect some shark species but their effectiveness is not known	CMMs reflecting Scientific Committee advice & best practice among tuna RFMOs in place for protection of all major non-target species identified by the Scientific Committee by end year 2 as threatened by WCPO tuna fisheries.	<p>ACHIEVED</p> <p>Managements are in place for the following non-target species:</p> <p>1. Sharks CMM 2019-04 Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks (Effective 1 November 2020 (except for Indonesia), replaced CMM 201007, CMM 2011-04, CMM 2012-04, CMM 2013-08 and CMM 2014-05) CMM 2010-07 had replaced CMM 2009-04, which replaced CMM 2008-06 and CMM 2006-05 In addition to this, the following are also in place: Guidelines for safe release of encircled whale sharks as at Dec 2015; Best handling practices for safe release of mantas and mobulids as at Dec 2017; Best handling practices for safe release of sharks (other than whale sharks and mantas/mobulids) as at Dec 2018.</p> <p>2. Rays CMM 2019-05 Conservation and Management Measure on Mobulid Rays caught in association with fisheries in the WCPFC Convention Area (effective 1 Jan 2020)</p> <p>3. Seabirds CMM 2018-03 Conservation and Management Measure to mitigate the impact of fishing for highly migratory fish stocks on seabirds (replaced CMM 2017-06, CMM 2015-03 (effective 1 Jan 2017), and CMM 2012-07(1 July 2014), which replaced CMM 2007-04) AND Safe handling and release guidelines for seabirds as at Dec 2019;</p> <p>4. Sea Turtles CMM 2018-04 Conservation and Management Measure of Sea Turtles (replaces CMM 2008-03 on 1 January 2020)</p>	CMMs are in place for the following non-target species: Sharks: CMM 2019-04; Mobulid rays: CMM 2019-05; Seabirds: CMM 2018-03; Sea turtles: CMM 2018-04	Achieved
Outcome 2 (1.2): Improved inter-sector coordination and collaboration at national level				Rating: Satisfactory	

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

5. Extent to which understanding of impacts of CC is reflected in management arrangements, including impacts on jurisdiction	There is a general understanding of the expected overall impacts but the information available has not been sufficiently specific to be reflected in management arrangements.	Management arrangements including jurisdictional arrangements have been reviewed to take into account effects of CC	ACHIEVED FFA members led the WCPFC in adopting WCPFC Resolution on Climate Change in 2019. This followed the committed research and modeling of the SPC Oceanic Fisheries Management Program under the support of OFMP II. This work has been widely reported and presented across global fora and very well received in climate change science. The work on climate change impact jurisdictional arrangements was led directly by FAO prior to project commencement and in the early stages of the project. Work has been ongoing in boundary delimitation consultations.	WCPFC Resolution 2019-01 Resolution on climate change as it related to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission was adopted during the Sixteenth Regular Session in Dec 2020. SPC completed updated modeling and assessments, increasing the knowledge base on the potential impacts of climate change. FAO delivered regional training in 2014 and 2015 on "Strategies	Partially Achieved
--	---	---	--	---	---------------------------

Indicator	Baseline	End of Project target	Self-assessment (2021 PIR)	TE Comments	TE Assessment
				and Capacity Building in Pacific SIDS to Address Climate Change Impacts on Jurisdictional Claims". Negotiating and finalizing maritime boundary issues are pending in the region.	
COMPONENT 2: Sub-regional Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management					
Outcome 2.1: Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements are operationalized & enforced, including rights-based cap & trade arrangements for inzone tuna fisheries, enhancing ecosystem sustainability & incentivized by sustainable fishery certifications				Rating: Satisfactory	

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

6. Status of Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements	PNA purse seine VDS in early stages of implementation, other sub-regional arrangements broadly agreed or emerging but not yet implemented.	Sub-regional arrangements, including cap & trade arrangements in purse seine & longline fisheries & eco-certification arrangements are in operation & contributing to fishery sustainability.	Fully ACHIEVED in the last reporting period Sub regional conservation arrangements are in place on purse seine and long line fisheries and ecosystem certification arrangements, (MSC) contributing to fishery sustainability. This is specific to the use of the PNA VDS which sets an overall Total Allowable Effort (TAE) limit on the number of days fishing vessels can be licensed to fish in PNA Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) per year. Each country is allocated a share of the TAE for use in its zone each year. These VDS days can be traded between countries in cases where a country has used up all its days while another has spare days. The PNAO VDS is now fully operational across the entire Purse Seine Fishery and the PNA Members Tropical Longline Fishery. Management arrangements in the southern longline fisheries continue to progress under the guidance of the FFA South Pacific Group Since MSC certification of the first Pacific Tuna Fishery in 2013 with the Fiji Tuna Longline Fishery, the number of MSC certified tuna fisheries in the WCPO has increased to 26.	Sub-regional arrangements are in place, including the PNA Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), which is operational across the purse seine fishery and the PNA members tropical longline fishery. Management arrangements in the southern longline fisheries continues under the guidance of the FFA South Pacific Group. Since MSC certification of the first Pacific tuna fishery in 2013, the number of certified tuna fisheries in the WCPO has increased to 26.	Achieved
--	--	---	---	--	-----------------

COMPONENT 3: National Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management

Outcome 3.1: Innovative ecosystem-based on-the-water CMMs being effectively applied by Pacific SIDS in accordance with national plans & policies & with international, regional & sub-regional commitments & other relevant instruments					Rating: Satisfactory
7. Number of Pacific SIDS applying ecosystem-based CMMs in accordance with new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations	Almost all Pacific SIDS have revised national laws to include obligations associated with the WCPFC Convention, but substantial lags exist in implementation of agreed arrangements through national plans, regulations and license	At least 11 Pacific SIDS applying ecosystem-based CMMs in accordance with new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations	ACHIEVED 13 of 14 Pacific SIDS are showing very high levels of compliance with the annual WCPFC Compliance Monitoring Report. One Pacific SID registered as non-compliant against 4 CMMS on a total of 41 current measures. FFA Harmonised Terms and Conditions of Access agreed and adopted by all Pacific SIDS.	The WCPC 2020 compliance report indicates one Pacific SIDS was priority non-compliant against two CMMs (transshipment and VMS). Six SIDS were non-complaint against the CMM on charter notification.	Achieved

Indicator	Baseline	End of Project target	Self-assessment (2021 PIR)	TE Comments	TE Assessment
	conditions, particularly for bycatch		Ongoing evolution of National Fisheries Management and Development Plans, laws and regulations and fisheries policies.		
Outcome 3.2: Integrated data & information systems & scientific analysis being used nationally for reporting, policy-making, monitoring & compliance					Rating: Satisfactory

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

8. Use of oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis by Pacific SIDS	Most SIDS have operational monitoring, licensing & MCS (VMS) data systems in place, but their use is limited gaps, weaknesses & lack of integration of data systems. Phase I outputs, including National Tuna Fisheries Status Reports, national scientific webpages & scientific inputs into ecosystem-based management plans provide a basis with enhanced skills for increased use of scientific advice in Phase II.	Enhanced oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis being used by all 14 Pacific SIDS, reflecting upgraded data & information systems in at least 10 Pacific SIDS, and newly integrated systems in at least 4 SIDS.	ACHIEVED National Tuna Fisheries Status Reports, national scientific webpages & scientific inputs into ecosystem-based national management plans well advanced across all Pacific SIDS Under OFMP at SPC, the project has provided national data management systems updates to all members with Tufman 2 rollout. This has been paralleled by the provision of technical assistance to National Scientific analysis in more than 10 countries.	Significant advances achieved with respect to fisheries information management systems across the region, providing timely and accurate inputs to national tuna fisheries status reports and ecosystembased tuna management plans.	Achieved
COMPONENT 4: Stakeholder Participation & Knowledge Management					
Outcome 4.1: Greater multi-stakeholder participation in the work of the national & regional institutions with respect to oceanic fisheries management, including greater fisheries industry engagement & participation in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities				Rating: Moderately Satisfactory	
9. Percentage of participation by industry & other civil society stakeholders in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities, including INGO & ENGO participation	PITIA & WWF participated in Phase I & both have recently strengthened their programmes in oceanic fisheries management Major progress under Phase I in external communications by the Project needs to be built on.	Greater understanding of the need for management & the issues involved with proactive contributions from industry & other elements of civil society to the conservation effort.	ACHIEVED As noted in the 2020 PIR, project inputs in to WWF and PITIA were completed as at 30 June 2019. For PITIA, the project provided resources to support industry participation and inputs into key management meetings and a means to ensure management arrangements could be clearly conveyed to Domestic Industry. For WWF, the project provided the means to support Community Based Organisations to participate in WCPFC forums as well as other related forums at the national level. The project also supported PITIA and WWF outreach activities as a means of promoting improved understanding of Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Management with stakeholders and communities.	The project supported PITIA and WWF in expanding outreach to the industry and civil society sectors, respectively. Resources were provided to support industry and civil society participation in key meetings; advocacy materials and knowledge products were prepared and disseminated. Contractual agreements with PITIA and WWF concluded in 2019; sustainability is unclear.	Mostly Achieved
10. Number of national consultative or advisory processes/committees created or strengthened & operational	National consultative & advisory processes are variable & often weak if they exist at all.	Effective national advisory processes established and operational in at least 10 Pacific SIDS.	At the commencement of the project it was agreed that Members already had well established consultative process with FFA and that the national level management of project related activities could be transacted through these processes. However, FFA Members did agree to support an overall Project Steering Committee (PSC) comprising the heads of Fisheries Administrations and representatives of the Forum Fisheries Committee (FFC).	It seems that this indicator was not fully vetted at project preparation or at project inception. Project progress reports indicate that national and regional consultative processes are largely in place.	Not Achieved
Indicator	Baseline	End of Project target	Self-assessment (2021 PIR)	TE Comments	TE Assessment

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

			The Project Steering Committee has met a total of 8 times in the duration of the project commencing in 2015 annually except for 2017 and 2018 when there were two meetings a year. Due to the COVID related travel restrictions, the 2020 meeting was held virtually.		
Outcome 14 (4.2): MPA network strengthened in the Yellow Sea				Rating: Satisfactory	
11. Level of media coverage of relevant issues; No. of communiques from relevant regional fora, including Pacific Island Leaders' meetings covering oceanic fisheries	Phase I & the early period of operation of the WCPFC have generated greatly increased interest, focused on iconic non-target species, especially sharks. Awareness of associated with target stocks is inadequate in relation to their regional & global importance General awareness of the expected impacts of CC on oceanic fish stocks & fisheries, but key institutional & legal aspects have not been raised	Widespread, well informed coverage in Pacific Islands media of issues associated with conservation management of target & non-target species, & CC impacts.	The FFA contract with Econnect Communications to continue to maintain and develop both sustainpacfish and tunapacific and both sites continue to increase in profile. Both sites are continuously updated with new material and the project has supported a small team of Pacific Island journalists to provide new news stories.	Information and knowledge sharing was significantly improved during the second half of the project through the development of the SustainPacFish and TunaPacific websites.	Achieved
		Oceanic fisheries management regularly addressed in Leaders' communiques.	For WCPFC 16, the project supported two Pacific Island journalists to participate in the meeting and file stories accordingly. All media press releases were reviewed and edited by the CTA.	Through the knowledge management service provider, the project supported training Pacific journalists in writing and publishing stories on a range of issues affecting oceanic fisheries. There was limited evidence available on how regularly fisheries management is addressed in Leaders' communiques.	Partially Achieved
12. Continuing donor interest in funding oceanic fisheries agencies & projects	Donors, including the ADB & World Bank shied away from fisheries as catches approached their limits because of perceived lack of potential development gains.	Success in this Project & related activities encourages increased donor interest in Pacific Islands oceanic fisheries, attracted by the scope for increasing value through better management.	ACHIEVED As noted for the 2020 PIR FFA continues to sustain an annual operational budget of around US\$ 30 million with strong levels of donor project support from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, EU and various foundations. Most recently, this included a new agreement with the Government of New Zealand in support of the ongoing, sustainable management of the Pacific's offshore fisheries valued at is NZD\$18 million. The project can also report that a Project Design Document for a new OFMP III GEF funded project is in the final stages of review prior to submission to GEF.	Donor support remains robust, including proposed GEF funding for third phase of OFMP and follow-up to the ABNJ project. The EU remains an important multilateral donor, and bilateral funding has been secured from governments of Australia, New Zealand, Japan, among others.	Achieved

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Annex 5: Cofinancing Table and supporting breakdowns

Cofinancing Source	Type	GEF Agencies		Recipient Country Governments		Other (Multilateral Agencies)		Civil Society Organizations		Private Sector		Total Cofinancing	
		Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
GEF Agencies:													
UNDP	In-kind	750,000	600,000									750,000	600,000
FAO*	In-kind	2,500,000	1,250,000									2,500,000	1,250,000
	Grant	500,000	233,066									500,000	233,066
Sub-total, GEF Agencies		3,750,000	2,083,066									3,750,000	2,083,066
Recipient Country Governments													
Cook Islands*	In-kind			420,772	191,756							420,772	191,756
FSM	In-kind			1,671,576	1,671,576							1,671,576	1,671,576
Fiji*	In-kind			888,476	382,052							888,476	382,052
Kiribati*	In-kind			1,586,656	682,276							1,586,656	682,276
Marshall Islands	In-kind			4,835,608	4,835,608							4,835,608	4,835,608
Nauru*	In-kind			1,716,310	738,028							1,716,310	738,028
Niue	In-kind			247,344	247,344							247,344	247,344
Palau*	In-kind			865,416	372,136							865,416	372,136
PNG*	In-kind			15,373,960	6,610,942							15,373,960	6,610,942
Samoa	In-kind			859,604	859,604							859,604	859,604
Solomon Islands	In-kind			1,256,650	1,256,650							1,256,650	1,256,650
Tonga	In-kind			666,434	666,434							666,434	666,434
Tuvalu	In-kind			808,104	808,104							808,104	808,104
Vanuatu*	In-kind			0	0							0	0
Sub-total, Recipient Country Governments				31,196,910	19,322,510							31,196,910	19,322,510
Other (Multilateral Agencies)													

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

FFA	Grant					6,098,130	11,769,493					6,098,130	11,769,493
	In-kind					34,556,069	66,693,794					34,556,069	66,693,794
SPC	Grant					3,603,000	4,969,840					3,603,000	4,969,840
	In-kind					3,450,000	3,344,149					3,450,000	3,344,149
PNA*	In-kind					2,000,000	1,000,000					2,000,000	1,000,000
Sub-total, Other (Multilateral Agencies)						49,707,199	87,777,276					49,707,199	87,777,276
Cofinancing Source	Type	GEF Agencies		Recipient Country Governments		Other (Multilateral Agencies)		Civil Society Organizations		Private Sector		Total Cofinancing	
		Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
Civil Society Organizations													
WWF	In-kind							180,266	260,229			180,266	260,229
Sub-total, Civil Society Organizations								180,266	260,229			180,266	260,229
Private Sector													
PITIA										100,000	380,800	100,000	380,800
Sub-total, Other										100,000	380,800	100,000	380,800
Total cofinancing for project implementation:		3,750,000	2,083,066	31,196,910	19,322,510	49,707,199	87,777,276	180,266	260,229	100,000	380,800	84,934,375	109,823,882
All figures in United States dollars (USD)													
*Information on end-of-project contributions was not provided by these partners. The actual co-financing figures presented are the contributions reported at midterm.													

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Breakdown of actual co-financing from UNDP:

(provided by the UNDP Pacific Office in an email correspondence on 08 October 2021)

1. Participating in the yearly PSC meeting including time and travel costs - 2 staff over 5 years - \$60,000
2. Direct Project Cost for Support Services for Audit, MTR, TE services charged to UNDP not covered by the project or GMS fee - \$5,000
3. Financial Induction trainings provided to PMU during the early stages of the project – estimated staff time (1) – 10,000
4. PO/Field Office support to Fisheries from the respective countries for the 5 years implementation – Tuvalu, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu – estimated staff time (5) - \$250,000
5. Monitoring and Evaluation – 2 staff proforma (funded through TRAC/DFAT for RSD) for 3 years - \$200,000 6. Financial Monitoring and Oversight – 1 staff proforma – 2 years – UNDP TRAC allocation – \$75,000

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Breakdown of actual co-financing from FFA:**OFMP II co-financing (USD):**

FFA Outputs	Budget	Actual (July 2015 to June 2021)
1. High level Advice	9,283,250	22,742,008
2. Fisheries Management	11,134,185	9,222,493
3. Fisheries Development	6,012,838	17,935,666
4. Fisheries Operations	14,223,926	28,563,120
Total	40,654,199	78,463,287

Distribution of FFA co-financing based on the assumed percentages:

Components	%	USD
1. Regional	29.4%	23,068,206
2. Sub-regional	13.3%	10,435,617
3. National	45.9%	36,014,649
4. Knowledge Management / Awareness	6.4%	5,021,650
5. Project Management	5.0%	3,923,164
Total		78,463,286
Grant	15.0%	11,769,493
In-kind	85.0%	66,693,794
Total		78,463,287

Breakdown of actual co-financing from SPC:

SPC Co-financing for the period July 2015 to May 2021				
Core	Programme Funding	Fishing Monitoring	EU (PEUMP) (started late 2018)	TOTAL
USD 3,344,149.35	USD 3,794,052.20	USD 295,162.31	USD 880,625.35	USD 8,313,989.21

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746



**PACIFIC ISLANDS
TUNA INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION**

02 August 2021

Mr James Lenoc

Dear James

Re: PITIA- OFMP II project Terminal Evaluation and summary of in kind co-financing contribution.

I am writing at your request to provide a breakdown of co-financing on behalf of the Pacific Island Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) as a partner to The Pacific Island Forum Fisheries Agency in favor of the OFMP II project.

I can confirm that PITIA has collaborated with the FFA OFMP II Project in terms of in kind co-financing, as per below.

Summary of in-kind co-financing contribution from PITIA		
Activity	Cost US\$ p/Yr	4 Yr Cost (US\$)
1. PITIA Chair (4 hours p/week @ \$200 p/hour)	41,600	166,400
2. PITIA Board collectively (4 hours p/week @ \$200)	41,600	166,400
3. Training and Capacity Building (Average of 3 weeks training p/year = 120 hours p/participant @ \$5 p/hour paid by employer. Average participants p/training – 20 persons.	12,000	48,000
Total	95,200	380,800

PITIA very much appreciates the support through the OFMP II Project and its contribution to Capacity Building facilitated by Forum Fisheries Agency and the opportunity for representation at regional management meetings to contribute towards Labor Standards, Management measures and Harvest control Limits which is imperative to maintain certifications such as MSC, and pollution management in terms of MARPOL rules and implementation to name a few, while PITIA builds its Country Membership.

Yours Sincerely,

Brett Haywood
Chair
Pacific Island Tuna Industry Association

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Breakdown of materialized co-financing from WWF:

Bula Hugh

Hope this email finds you well. Bubba had mentioned back in July that we needed to confirm that the agreed in-kind co-financing of \$45.066 per annum (\$180,266 total) was applied. Our finance team have gone through their records and we can confirm that we had exceeded the agreed in-kind co-financing with WWF co-financing at the end of FY20 amounting to a total of **\$260, 229.46** as seen by the contributing projects in the table below.

Please let me know if this information is fine in this (email) format or if you require that we send you a signed letter stating the above.

vinaka

Duncan Williams | Programme Manager - Sustainable Fisheries and Seafood Programme | WWF Pacific | Tel: + 679 331-5533 | E-mail: dwilliams@wwfpacific.org | Skype: duncanwill1



	FJD				USD			
	FY18	FY19	FY20	Total	FY18	FY19	FY20	Total
SPPO0131	\$ 6,184.87	\$ 24,360.55	\$ 1,524.23	\$ 32,069.65	\$3,004.80	\$11,385.70	\$ 680.60	\$ 15,071.09
SPPO0141		\$145,251.31	\$ 94,803.36	\$240,054.67	0	\$67,887.94	\$42,331.72	\$110,219.66
SPPO0127	\$14,215.07	\$108,432.40	\$173,235.14	\$295,882.61	\$6,906.11	\$50,679.42	\$77,353.18	\$134,938.71

Note: Converted using WWF Corporate Rates as at June Each FY

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

**Confirmation of materialized co-
financing: Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)**



National Oceanic Resource Management Authority

FSM NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

P.O. Box PS122

PALIKIR, POHNPEI, FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA 96941

Tel: [\(691\) 320-5181/2700](tel:(691)320-5181/2700)

Fax: [\(691\) 320-2383](tel:(691)320-2383)

Email: mail@norma.fm

Website: www.norma.fm



September 13, 2021


Hugh Walton
OFMP II CTA
Forum Fisheries Agency
P.O Box 629
Honiara, Solomon Islands

Dear Hugh:

Re: OFMP II co-financing

I wish to confirm that the OFMP II co-financing amount of \$1,671,576 agreed by FSM in a letter dated 27th April, 2013 to FAO and UNDP has been (either- fully realised or exceeded) over the course of the project.

Sincerely,


Eugene Pangelinan
Executive Director

Niue

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Confirmation of materialized co-financing:



GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

Ministry of Natural Resource

Alofi, Niue

Alofi
Niue

20 September 2021

Hugh Walton
OFMP II CTA
Forum Fisheries Agency
PO Box 629
Honiara
Solomon Islands

Dear Hugh,

Re: OFMP II co-financing

Fakalofa Lahi Atu. I wish to confirm that the OFMP II co-financing amount of \$ 247,344 agreed by Niue in a letter dated 12th June, 2013 to FAO and UNDP has been fully realized over the course of the project.

Sincerely,

Poimatagi Okesene
Acting Director-General
Ministry of Natural Resources,

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Confirmation of materialized co-financing:



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
MARSHALL ISLANDS MARINE RESOURCES AUTHORITY
PO BOX 860 MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS 96960

20 September 2021

Hugh Walton
OFMP II CTA
Forum Fisheries Agency
PO Box 629
Honiara
Solomon Islands

Dear Hugh:

Re: OFMP II co-financing

I wish to confirm that the OFMP II co-financing amount of \$ 4,835,608 agreed by RMI in a letter dated 25th July, 2013 to FAO and UNDP has been exceeded over the course of the project.

Sincerely,



Glen Joseph
Executive Director

Phone: (692) 625-8262/5632 Fax: (692) 625-5447 Email: inquiry@mimra.com website: <http://www.mimra.com>

Samoa

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Confirmation of materialized co-financing:

P.O. Box 1874
Apia
Samoa

Tel: (685) 22561, 22562,
22563, 22564
Fax: (685) 24576
E-mail: info@maf.gov.ws



Government of Samoa

Please address all correspondence to the
Chief Executive Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

6th September 2021

Mr Hugh Walton
OFMP II CTA
Forum Fisheries Agency
Honiara, SOLOMON ISLANDS.

Subject: OFMP II Co-financing

Dear Hugh,

I wish to confirm that the OFMP II co-financing amount of \$ 859,604 agreed by Samoa in a letter dated 24th October, 2013 to FAO and UNDP has been fully realised over the course of the project.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Magele Etuati Ropeti, written over a horizontal line.

Magele Etuati Ropeti
ACEO-Fisheries

“.....enhancing partnerships to develop and sustain agriculture and fisheries.....”

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Confirmation of materialized co-financing:

Solomon Islands



Solomon Islands Government

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

Tel: (677)39143
Fax: (677)38730
Direct line: (677)28604
Email: cramofafia@fisheries.gov.sb

Kukum Highway
P.O. Box G2, Honiara
Solomon Islands

Date: 20 Sept 2021

**Hugh Walton
OFMP II CTA
Forum Fisheries Agency
PO Box 629
Honiara
Solomon Islands**

Dear Hugh

Re: OFMP II co-financing

I wish to confirm that the OFMP II co-financing amount of \$ 1,256,650 agreed by the Solomon Islands in a letter dated 19th December, 2013 to FAO and UNDP has been fully realised over the course of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Ramofafia'.

**Dr. Christain Ramofafia
PERMANENT SECRETARY**

Tonga

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Confirmation of materialized co-financing:

All correspondence to be addressed to
Chief Executive Officer
Ministry of Fisheries
P.O.Box 871
Nuku'alofa
KINGDOM of TONGA



Telephone : (676) 21 399, 27 799
Telex : 66 369 PRIMO TS
Fax : (676) 23 891
Email: ceo@tongafish.gov.to

File No: F8/5/1268

Date: 10th September, 2021

Hugh Walton
OFMP II CTA
Forum Fisheries Agency
PO Box 629
Honiara
Solomon Islands

Dear Hugh

Re: OFMP II co-financing

I wish to confirm that the OFMP II co-financing amount of \$ 666,434 agreed by Tonga in a letter dated 27th August, 2013 to FAO and UNDP has been fully realised over the course of the project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi'.

.....
Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi
CEO, Ministry of Fisheries



Tuvalu

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Confirmation of materialized co-financing:



GOVERNMENT OF TUVALU
Tuvalu Fisheries Department
Ministry of Fisheries and Trade
Private Mail Bag, Funafuti,
TUVALU
Tel [688] 20343



Date: 6th September 2021

Hugh Walton
OFMP II CTA
Forum Fisheries Agency
PO Box 629
Honiara
Solomon Islands

Dear Hugh,

Re: OFMP II co-financing

I wish to confirm that the OFMP II co-financing amount of \$ 808,104 agreed by Tuvalu in a letter dated 15th July, 2013 to FAO and UNDP has been fully realised (and in fact exceeded) over the course of the project.

We have estimated our co-financing to be around \$250,000 per year for the five years of the project.

Sincerely,


Sam Finikaso
Director of Fisheries

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Annex 6: Evaluation Consultant Code of Conduct Agreement Form

Evaluators / Consultants:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and: respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/ or oral presentation of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

TE Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System

Name of Consultant: James Lenoci

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signature:

22 June 2021



James Lenoci, TE Consultant

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
GEF Project ID: 4746

Annex 7: Rating Scales

Outcome Ratings

The overall ratings on the outcomes of the project are based on performance on the following criteria: a.

Relevance

- b. Effectiveness
- c. Efficiency

Project outcomes are rated based on the extent to which project objectives were achieved. A six-point rating scale is used to assess overall outcomes:

- Highly satisfactory (HS): Level of outcomes achieved clearly exceeds expectations and/or there were no short comings.
- Satisfactory (S): Level of outcomes achieved was as expected and/or there were no or minor short comings.
- Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Level of outcomes achieved more or less as expected and/or there were moderate short comings.
- Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): Level of outcomes achieved somewhat lower than expected and/or there were significant shortcomings.
- Unsatisfactory (U): Level of outcomes achieved substantially lower than expected and/or there were major short comings.
- Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): Only a negligible level of outcomes achieved and/or there were severe short comings.
- Unable to Assess (UA): The available information does not allow an assessment of the level of outcome achievements.

The calculation of the overall outcomes rating of projects considers all the three criteria, of which relevance and effectiveness are critical. The rating on relevance determines whether the overall outcome rating will be in the unsatisfactory range (MU to HU = unsatisfactory range). If the relevance rating is in the unsatisfactory range then the overall outcome is in the unsatisfactory range as well. However, where the relevance rating is in the satisfactory range (HS to MS), the overall outcome rating could, depending on its effectiveness and efficiency rating, be either in the satisfactory range or in the unsatisfactory range.

The second constraint applied is that the overall outcome achievement rating may not be higher than the effectiveness rating.

During project implementation, the results framework of some projects may have been modified. In cases where modifications in the project impact, outcomes and outputs have not scaled down their overall scope, the evaluator should assess outcome achievements based on the revised results framework. In instances where the scope of the project objectives and outcomes has been scaled down, the magnitude of and necessity for downscaling is taken into account and despite achievement of results as per the revised results framework, where appropriate, a lower outcome effectiveness rating may be given.

Sustainability Ratings

The sustainability is assessed taking into account the risks related to financial, sociopolitical, institutional, and environmental sustainability of project outcomes. The evaluator may also take other risks into account that may affect sustainability. The overall sustainability is assessed using a four-point scale.

- Likely (L). There is little or no risks to sustainability.
- Moderately Likely (ML). There are moderate risks to sustainability.
- Moderately Unlikely (MU). There are significant risks to sustainability.
- Unlikely (U). There are severe risks to sustainability.
- Unable to Assess (UA). Unable to assess the expected incidence and magnitude of risks to sustainability.

Project M&E Ratings

Quality of project M&E is assessed in terms of:

- Design

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
 GEF Project ID: 4746

- Implementation

Quality of M&E on these two dimensions is assessed on a six point scale:

- Highly satisfactory (HS): There were no short comings and quality of M&E design / implementation exceeded expectations.
- Satisfactory (S): There were no or minor short comings and quality of M&E design / implementation meets expectations.
- Moderately Satisfactory (MS): There were some short comings and quality of M&E design/implementation more or less meets expectations.
- Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): There were significant shortcomings and quality of M&E design / implementation somewhat lower than expected.
- Unsatisfactory (U): There were major short comings and quality of M&E design/implementation substantially lower than expected.
- Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): There were severe short comings in M&E design/ implementation.
- Unable to Assess (UA): The available information does not allow an assessment of the quality of M&E design / implementation.

Implementation and Execution Rating

Quality of implementation and of execution is rated separately. Quality of implementation pertains to the role and responsibilities discharged by the GEF Agencies that have direct access to GEF resources. Quality of Execution pertains to the roles and responsibilities discharged by the country or regional counterparts that received GEF funds from the GEF Agencies and executed the funded activities on ground. The performance is rated on a six-point scale.

- Highly satisfactory (HS): There were no short comings and quality of implementation / execution exceeded expectations.
- Satisfactory (S): There were no or minor short comings and quality of implementation / execution meets expectations.
- Moderately Satisfactory (MS): There were some short comings and quality of implementation / execution more or less meets expectations.
- Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): There were significant shortcomings and quality of implementation / execution somewhat lower than expected.
- Unsatisfactory (U): There were major short comings and quality of implementation / execution substantially lower than expected.
- Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): There were severe short comings in quality of implementation / execution.
- Unable to Assess (UA): The available information does not allow an assessment of the quality of implementation / execution.

Terminal Evaluation Report

EAS: Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States

GEF Project ID: 4746

Annex 8: Terms of Reference for Terminal Evaluation

Location	Homebased
Project Name	<i>Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States</i>
Consultancy Position	Terminal Evaluation Consultant
Type of Contract	Individual Contractor
Post Level	International Consultant
Languages required:	English
Duration of Initial Contract:	30 days commencing no later than March 5 and completion by May 20, 2021

TERMS OF REFERENCE

BACKGROUND

Introduction

In accordance with UNDP and GEF M&E policies and procedures, all full and medium-sized UNDP support GEF financed projects are required to undergo a terminal evaluation upon completion of implementation. These terms of reference (TOR) set out the expectations for a Terminal Evaluation (TE) of the project, ***'Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS)', PIMS 4607*** implemented through Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA); Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). The project started on June 2015 and is in its final year of implementation. The TE process must follow the guidance outlined in the document ['Guidance For Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects'](#)

It is noted that this project is jointly implemented by UNDP and FAO. As UNDP the lead agency, the conduct of the terminal evaluation is being led by UNDP.

Project Background and Information

The objective of the full-sized project is to support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations and effectively enforce global, regional and sub-regional agreements for the conservation and management of trans-boundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries. The objective is in-line with the IW GEF-5 goal of *the promotion of collective management of trans-boundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services*. Activities of the project's four main components relate to regional, sub-regional and national actions for ecosystem-based management, as well as the coordination and management of knowledge. The main project outcomes include: (i) Implementation of agreed SAP incorporates ecosystem-based approaches to management of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs), and policy/legal institutional reforms into national/local plans; (ii) Institutions for joint ecosystem-based and adaptive management for LMEs demonstrate sustainability; (iii) Innovative solutions implemented for rebuilding or protecting fish stocks with rights-based management, and port management and produce measurable results; and (iv) Climatic variability and change at coasts and in LMEs incorporated into SAPs to reflect adaptive management. The project will build on the successes of PIOFM-I and will be implemented in partnership with FAO through FFA and other organizations such as SPC, WWF over a four-year timeframe.

Since the pandemic of COVID-19 **Solomon Islands** has had 17 reported Covid 19 cases within its borders. Entry restrictions however has been announced by the Govt of Solomon Islands ,with entry restrictions effective as of 27 March 2020-until 27 March 2021. In terms of the delivery of the project, the implementation of the project has been slow in meeting quarterly planned targets. The travel ban has affected the delivery of some procured items into the country and the travel of one international consultant to complete conduct a training course on the Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy and Strategy. The project outcomes however have not changed and still remains as is.

TE Purpose

The TE report will assess the achievement of project results against what was expected to be achieved and draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming. The TE report promotes accountability and transparency and assesses the extent of project accomplishments.

Further to this, the objectives of the evaluation will be to:

- assess the achievement of project results supported by evidence (i.e. progress of project's outcome targets),
- assess the contribution and alignment of the project to relevant national development plan or environmental policies;
- assess the contribution of the project results towards the relevant outcome and output of the Sub Regional Programme Document (SRPD) & United Nation Pacific Strategy (UNPS/UNDAF)
- assess any cross cutting and gender issues
- examination on the use of funds and value for money
- and to draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming.

The TE will be conducted according to the guidance, rules and procedures established by UNDP and GEF as reflected in the [Guidance For Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects](#)

Terminal Evaluation Approach and Methodology

The TE report must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful.

The TE team will review all relevant sources of information including documents prepared during the preparation phase (i.e. PIF, UNDP Initiation Plan, UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure/SESP) the Project Document, project reports including annual PIRs, project budget revisions, lesson learned reports, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the team considers useful for this evidence-based evaluation. The TE team will review the baseline and midterm GEF focal area Core Indicators/Tracking Tools submitted to the GEF at the CEO endorsement and midterm stages and the terminal Core Indicators/Tracking Tools that must be completed before the TE field mission begins.

The TE team is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, government counterparts (the GEF Operational Focal Point), Implementing Partners, the UNDP Country Office(s), the Regional Technical Advisor, direct beneficiaries and other stakeholders.

Engagement of stakeholders is vital to a successful TE. Stakeholder involvement should include interviews with stakeholders who have project responsibilities, including but not limited to (list); executing agencies, senior officials and task team/component leaders, key experts and consultants in the subject area, Project Board, project beneficiaries, academia, local government and CSOs, etc. Dependent on the travel restrictions, the TE team is expected to conduct field missions to (locations), including the following project sites. Location will be confirmed during inception.

The specific design and methodology for the TE should emerge from consultations between the TE team and the above-mentioned parties regarding what is appropriate and feasible for meeting the TE purpose and objectives and answering the evaluation questions, given limitations of budget, time and data. The TE team must, however,

use gender-responsive methodologies and tools and ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as other cross-cutting issues and SDGs are incorporated into the TE report.

The final methodological approach including interview schedule, field visits and data to be used in the evaluation must be clearly outlined in the TE Inception Report and be fully discussed and agreed between UNDP, stakeholders and the TE team.

An overall approach and method for conducting project terminal evaluations of UNDP supported GEF financed projects has developed over time. The evaluator is expected to frame the evaluation effort using the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact, as defined and explained in the UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed Projects

1. Interviews using standard questionnaire

A set of standard questions covering each of these criteria have been drafted and are included with in [Annex C](#) this TOR (fill) The evaluator is expected to amend and finalize report.

The evaluation must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. The evaluator is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with government counterparts, in particular the GEF operational focal point, UNDP Country Office, project team, UNDP GEF Technical Adviser based in the region and key stakeholders.

2. In country Field Mission & validation

The evaluator is expected to conduct a field mission to Solomon Islands to FFA HQ (but noting the current pandemic situation she/he may have to conduct this remotely until travel restrictions have been lifted), including the project sites. Interviews will be held with the following organizations and individuals at a minimum. Specific individual's contacts will be discussed during inception phase:

- Pacific Islands Forum Fishing Agency (FFA) -
- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC): -
- Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) -
- Te Vaka Moana (TVM):
- Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) -
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF) South Pacific:

3. Interviews of UNDP and FAO Staff

The evaluator is expected to conduct interviews of UNDP staff who have been involved in oversight of the project for context and information on how the project has evolved. This will include the staff with the UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji and the Regional Technical Adviser from UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub.

From the FAO Liao Chongguang and Jessica Sanders.

4. Literature/Desktop Review

The evaluator will review all relevant sources of information, such as the project document, project reports – including Annual APR/PIR, project budget revisions, midterm review, progress reports, GEF focal area tracking tools, project files, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the evaluator considers useful for this evidence-based assessment. A list of documents that the project team will provide to the evaluator for review is included in [Annex B](#) of this Terms of Reference.

5. Analysis and reporting

Data collated will be analyzed and presented based on the evaluation criteria and ratings. Analysis will be provided in matrix, tables to best present findings and key recommendations; Reporting to be conducted in RBM (resultsbased management) approach.

6. Presentation of final draft to country office and stakeholders

The final report must describe the full TE approach taken and the rationale for the approach making explicit the underlying assumptions, challenges, strengths and weaknesses about the methods and approach of the evaluation.

As of 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic as the new coronavirus rapidly spread to all regions of the world. Travel to Solomon Islands has been restricted from late March 2020 until March 2021 as has been recently announced by the government of Solomon Islands. If it is not possible to travel to or within the country for the TE mission then the TE team should develop a methodology that takes this into account the conduct of the TE virtually and remotely, including the use of remote interview methods and extended desk reviews, data analysis, surveys and evaluation questionnaires. This should be detailed in the TE Inception Report and agreed with the Commissioning Unit.

If all or part of the TE is to be carried out virtually then consideration should be taken for stakeholder availability, ability or willingness to be interviewed remotely. In addition, their accessibility to the internet/computer may be an issue as many government and national counterparts may be working from home. These limitations must be reflected in the final TE report.

If a data collection/field mission is not possible then remote interviews may be undertaken through telephone or online (skype, zoom etc.). International consultants can work remotely with national evaluator support in the field if it is safe for them to operate and travel. No stakeholders, consultants or UNDP staff should be put in harm's way and safety is the key priority.

A short validation mission may be considered if it is confirmed to be safe for staff, consultants, stakeholders and if such a mission is possible within the TE schedule. Equally, qualified and independent national consultants can be hired to undertake the TE and interviews in country as long as it is safe to do so

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Scope of Work

The TE will assess project performance against expectations set out in the project's Logical Framework/Results Framework (see ToR Annex A). The TE will assess results according to the criteria outlined in the [Guidance For Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects](#). The Findings section of the TE report will cover the topics listed below.

A full outline of the TE report's content is provided in the TOR (see Annex F).

The asterisk "(*)" indicates criteria for which a rating is required.

Findings

i. Project Design/Formulation

- National priorities and country driven-ness
- Theory of Change
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Social and Environmental Safeguards
- Analysis of Results Framework: project logic and strategy, indicators

- Assumptions and Risks
- Lessons from other relevant projects (e.g. same focal area) incorporated into project design
- Planned stakeholder participation
- Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector • Management arrangements ii.

Project Implementation

- Adaptive management (changes to the project design and project outputs during implementation)
- Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements
- Project Finance and Co-finance
- Monitoring & Evaluation: design at entry (*), implementation (*), and overall assessment of M&E (*)
- Implementing Agency (UNDP) (*) and Executing Agency (*), overall project oversight/implementation and execution (*)
- Risk Management, including Social and Environmental Standards iii. Project Results

- Assess the achievement of outcomes against indicators by reporting on the level of progress for each objective and outcome indicator at the time of the TE and noting final achievements
- Relevance (*), Effectiveness (*), Efficiency (*) and overall project outcome (*)
- Sustainability: financial (*) , socio-political (*), institutional framework and governance (*), environmental (*), overall likelihood of sustainability (*)
- Country ownership
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Cross-cutting issues (poverty alleviation, improved governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster prevention and recovery, human rights, capacity development, South-South cooperation, knowledge management, volunteerism, etc., as relevant)
- GEF Additionality
- Catalytic Role / Replication Effect
- Progress to impact

Main Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learned

- The TE team will include a summary of the main findings of the TE report. Findings should be presented as statements of fact that are based on analysis of the data.
- The section on conclusions will be written in light of the findings. Conclusions should be comprehensive and balanced statements that are well substantiated by evidence and logically connected to the TE findings. They

should highlight the strengths, weaknesses and results of the project, respond to key evaluation questions and provide insights into the identification of and/or solutions to important problems or issues pertinent to project beneficiaries, UNDP and the GEF, including issues in relation to gender equality and women's empowerment.

- Recommendations should provide concrete, practical, feasible and targeted recommendations directed to the intended users of the evaluation about what actions to take and decisions to make. The recommendations should be specifically supported by the evidence and linked to the findings and conclusions around key questions addressed by the evaluation.
- The TE report should also include lessons that can be taken from the evaluation, including best and worst practices in addressing issues relating to relevance, performance and success that can provide knowledge gained from the particular circumstance (programmatic and evaluation methods used, partnerships, financial leveraging, etc.) that are applicable to other GEF and UNDP interventions. When possible, the TE team should include examples of good practices in project design and implementation.
- It is important for the conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned of the TE report to include results related to gender equality and empowerment of women. The TE report will include an Evaluation Ratings Table, as shown below:

**ToR Table 2: Evaluation Ratings Table for
'Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the
Pacific Small Island Developing States (PIOFMP-II)'**

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	Rating ¹
M&E design at entry	
M&E Plan Implementation	
Overall Quality of M&E	
Implementation & Execution	Rating
Quality of UNDP Implementation/Oversight	
Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	
Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	
Assessment of Outcomes	Rating
Relevance	
Effectiveness	
Efficiency	
Overall Project Outcome Rating	
Sustainability	Rating
Financial resources	
Socio-political/economic	
Institutional framework and governance	
Environmental	
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	

- The International Consultant (the team leader) will be responsible for the overall design and writing of the Terminal evaluation Report. The consultant cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation, and/or implementation (including the writing of the Project Document) and should not have a conflict of interest with project's related activities.

¹ Outcomes, Effectiveness, Efficiency, M&E, I&E Execution, Relevance are rated on a 6-point rating scale: 6 = Highly Satisfactory (HS), 5 = Satisfactory (S), 4 = Moderately Satisfactory (MS), 3 = Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), 2 = Unsatisfactory (U), 1 = Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). Sustainability is rated on a 4-point scale: 4 = Likely (L), 3 = Moderately Likely (ML), 2 = Moderately Unlikely (MU), 1 = Unlikely (U)

The TE team will be held to the highest ethical standards and is required to sign a code of conduct upon acceptance of the assignment. This TE will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation'. The TE team must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The TE team must also ensure security of collected information before and after the TE and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information, knowledge and data gathered in the TE process must also be solely used for the TE and not for other uses without the express authorization of UNDP and partners

Expected Outputs and Deliverables

Deliverable	Content	Timing	Responsibilities
Inception Report	Evaluator provides clarifications on timing and method	No later than 2 weeks before the evaluation mission should it happen. (10 March 2021)	Evaluator submits to UNDP CO
Presentation	Initial Findings	End of evaluation mission if it happens. (29 March 21)	To project management, UNDP CO
Draft Final Report	Full report, (per annexed template F) with annexes	Within 3 weeks of the evaluation mission (13 April 21)	Sent to CO, reviewed by RTA, PCU, GEF OFPs
Final Report* + Audit Trail	Revised report and TE audit trail in which the TE details how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final TE report.	Within 1 week of receiving UNDP comments on draft by 20 May 21	Sent to CO for uploading to UNDP ERC.

All final TE reports will be quality assessed by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). Details of the IEO's quality assessment of decentralized evaluations can be found in Section 6 of the UNDP Evaluation Guidelines.²

Institutional Arrangement

- The consultant will be monitored, overseen and supervised by UNDP Pacific Fiji in close cooperation with the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA).
- The consultant will report directly to UNDP Head of Resilience and Sustainable Development Unit and/or her/his representative and UNDP Regional Technical Specialist/Advisor based in / Bangkok, Thailand.
- The consultant expected to produce a final report upon successful completion of activities according to the agreed schedules.
- The consultant is expected to provide his/her own computer.
- UNDP will provide an updated stakeholder list with contact details (phone and email).
- The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the TE team to provide all relevant documents, set up stakeholder interviews, and arrange field visits.
- Project team will provide logistic support in the implementation of remote/virtual meeting if travel to project site is restricted.

Access at: <http://web.undp.org/evaluation/guideline/section-6.shtml>

Duration of the Work

The total duration of the evaluation will be 30 days over a time period of 3 months starting on the 05 March 2021. Need to revise this The tentative TE timeframe is as follow:

Timeframe	Activity
	Application closes
26 February 2021	Selection of TE team
04 March 2021	Preparation period for TE team (handover of documentation)
10 March 2021– 4 days	Document review and preparation of TE Inception Report
12 March 2021– 2 days	Finalization and Validation of TE Inception Report; latest start of TE mission
30 Mar 2021 – 14 days	TE mission (virtual as optional): stakeholder meetings, interviews, field visits, etc.
2 April 2021	Mission wrap-up meeting & presentation of initial findings; earliest end of TE mission
13 April 2021 – 7 days	Preparation of draft TE report
21 April 2021	Circulation of draft TE report for comments
28 April 2021- 3 days	Incorporation of comments on draft TE report into Audit Trail & finalization of TE report
05 May 2021	Preparation and Issuance of Management Response
20 May 2021	Expected date of full TE completion

Options for site visits should be provided in the TE Inception Report.

Duty Station

The consultant will be homebased and will be expected to provide support remotely based on the current travel restrictions from COVID 19-

COMPETENCIES

The following competencies are required:

- Demonstrates integrity and commitment to UN principles and values and ethical standards;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills;
- Ability to work well as part of a multi-cultural team and displays gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability;
- Ability to work in a team;
- Self-management, emotional intelligence and conflict management;
- Analytical and strategic thinking/results orientation;
- Experience in participating and following the project cycle, creative capacity solving problems;
- Computer literacy (e.g. Microsoft Word, Excel, and Power Point) is a prerequisite;
- Ability to engage various partners and stakeholders and build strong relationships with clients and other stakeholders;
- Demonstrates strong commitment and patience to deal with competing deadlines, demands, and interests.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Educational Qualifications:

- A Master's degree in conservation, biology, sustainable management, or other closely related fields

Experience

- Experience applying SMART indicators and reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios;
- Experience in evaluating GEF and/or donor funded initiatives;
- Experience working in Pacific region;
- Relevant experience with result-based management evaluation methodologies;
- Experience in relevant technical areas for at least 10 years - biodiversity conservation, climate change/ Invasive Aliens Species management
- Competence in adaptive management, as applied to Biodiversity conservation/
- Demonstrated understanding of issues related to gender and; experience in gender sensitive evaluation and analysis.
- Excellent communication skills;
- Demonstrable analytical skills;
- Project evaluation/review experiences within United Nations system will be considered an asset;
- Experience with implementing evaluations remotely will be considered an asset.

Language requirements

- Fluency of English language is required (verbal and written).

Price Proposal and Schedule of Payments

Lumpsum - The total amount quoted shall be all-inclusive and include all costs components required to perform the deliverables identified in the TOR, including professional fee, travel costs, living allowance (if any work is to be done outside the IC's duty station) and any other applicable cost to be incurred by the IC in completing the assignment. The contract price will be fixed output-based price regardless of extension of the herein specified duration. Payments will be done upon completion of the deliverables/outputs and as per below percentages:

- 20% payment upon satisfactory delivery and approval of TE Inception Report to the Commissioning Unit by March 10, 2021
- 40% payment upon satisfactory delivery of the draft TE report to the Commissioning Unit by April 13, 2021
- 40% Final payment upon satisfactory delivery of the final TE report and approval by the Commissioning Unit and RTA (via signatures on the TE Report Clearance Form) and delivery of completed TE Audit Trail by May 20, 2021

Criteria for issuing the final payment:

The final TE report includes all requirements outlined in the TE TOR and is in accordance with the TE guidance.

The final TE report is clearly written, logically organized, and is specific for this project (i.e. text has not been cut & pasted from other TE reports). The Audit Trail includes responses to and justification for each comment listed.

In general, UNDP shall not accept travel costs exceeding those of an economy class ticket. Should the IC wish to travel on a higher class he/she should do so using their own resources

In the event of unforeseeable travel not anticipated in this TOR, payment of travel costs including tickets, lodging and terminal expenses should be agreed upon, between the respective business unit and the Individual Consultant, prior to travel and will be reimbursed.

Evaluation Method and Criteria**Cumulative analysis**

The award of the contract shall be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as a) responsive/compliant/acceptable; and b) having received the highest score out of set of weighted technical criteria (70%). and financial criteria (30%). Financial score shall be computed as a ratio of the proposal being evaluated and the lowest priced proposal received by UNDP for the assignment.

Technical Criteria for Evaluation (Maximum 70 points)

- Criteria 1: Relevance of Education – Minimum Master’s degree in conservation, biology, sustainable management, or other closely related fields (Max 15 points)
- Criteria 2: Experience in relevant technical areas for at least 10 years - biodiversity conservation, invasive alien species management, climate change adaptation (Max 20 points)
- Criteria 3: Demonstrated understanding of issues related to gender and; experience in gender sensitive evaluation and analysis. (Max 5 points)
- Criteria 4: Experience in evaluating GEF and/or donor funded initiatives (Max 20 points)
- Criteria 5: Experience working in Pacific region (Max 10 points)

Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 49 points (70% of the total technical points) would be considered for the Financial Evaluation. Interviews may be conducted for shortlisted bidders only as part of the technical evaluation process to validate the technical evaluation scores may be adjusted accordingly.

Documentation required

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications. Please group them into **one (1) single PDF document** as the application only allows to upload maximum one document:

- **Cover letter**, including a) a brief description of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment.
- **Personal CV**, indicating all past experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of at least three (3) professional references.
- **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability** using the template provided in Annex II.
- **Financial proposal**, as per template provided in Annex II.

Note: Successful individual will be required to provide proof of medical insurance coverage before commencement of contract for the duration of the assignment including signing UNDP declaration on statement of good health. If the selected/successful Candidate is over 65 years of age and required to travel outside his home country; He/She will be required provide a full medical report at their expense prior to issuance to contract. Contract will only be issued when proposed candidate is deemed medically fit to undertake the assignment.

Incomplete and joint proposals may not be considered. Consultants with whom there is further interest will be contacted.

The successful consultant shall opt to sign an Individual Contract or a Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA) through its company/employer with UNDP.

Women applicants are also encouraged to apply.

Annexes

- Annex I - [Individual IC General Terms and Conditions](#)
- Annex II – [Offeror’s Letter to UNDP Confirming Interest and Availability for the Individual IC, including Financial Proposal Template](#)

For any clarification regarding this assignment please write to Mr. Ronald Kumar at ronald.kumar@undp.org.

Annexes

ToR ANNEX A: List of Documents to be reviewed by the TE Team

- ToR Annex A: Project Logical/Results Framework
- ToR Annex B: List of Documents to be reviewed by the Evaluator
- ToR Annex C: Evaluation Questions
- ToR Annex D: TE Rating Scale
- ToR Annex E: Evaluation Consultant Code of Conduct and Agreement Form
- ToR Annex F: Evaluation Report Outline
- ToR Annex G: TE Report Clearance Form
- ToR Annex H: TE Report Audit Trail

ToR ANNEX A:

Applicable GEF Expected Outcomes:	Applicable GEF Outcome Indicators:	Contributions of Proposed Project
Outcome 2.1: Implementation of agreed Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) incorporates ecosystem-based approaches to management of LMEs, ICM principles, and policy/legal/institutional reforms into national/local plans	Indicator 2.1: Adoption or implementation of national/local reforms; functioning of national inter-ministry committees	National reforms and successful management measures will be delivered in all Pacific SIDS in the WTPWP LME to ensure sustainability of the oceanic fishery resources.
Outcome 2.2: Institutions for joint ecosystem-based and adaptive management for LMEs and local ICM frameworks demonstrate sustainability	Indicator 2.2: Cooperation frameworks agreed and include sustainable financing	The WCPF Convention and the Commission were agreed and established with GEF support implemented by UNDP through FFA. The Commission is now financially self-sustaining; the proposed project will strengthen WCPFC further by supporting countries meet their obligations to the Convention to ensure long-term sustainability. In addition, the project will support the PNA who have the most productive tuna fishing grounds, to strengthen their subregional organization and management.
Outcome 2.3: Innovative solutions implemented for reduced pollution, rebuilding or protecting fish stocks with rights-based management, ICM, habitat (blue forest) restoration/conservation, and port management and produce measureable results	Indicator 2.3: Measurable results for reducing landbased pollution, habitat, and sustainable fisheries from local demonstrations, including community benefits (disaggregated by gender)	There will be measurable results from innovative management arrangements including rights-based cap and trade management systems, enhanced compliance and enforcement schemes including port state controls and catch tracking, and by-catch mitigation arrangements. These results will include increased benefits for Pacific SIDS.
Outcome 2.4: Climatic variability and change at coasts and in LMEs incorporated into updated SAP to reflect adaptive management and ICM principles	Indicator 2.4: Updated SAPs and capacity development surveys	OFM aspects of the Pacific Islands IW SAP will be updated based on a new diagnostic analysis taking into account climate change and achievements in strengthening regional and sub-regional management arrangements

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Planned Global Environmental Benefits from the Project	Status of 4 key ³ WCPO tuna stocks	3 of the 4 key tuna stocks not subject to overfishing, but fishing mortality	Scientific projections indicate that fisheries on the major target stocks expected to result under	SC Reports	WCPFC CMMs, PNA VDS & Implementing Arrangements & other

Includes bigeye, skipjack, south Pacific albacore and yellowfin tunas, which make up over 95% of the commercial catch in SIDS waters

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Conservation of the globally important transboundary stocks of tunas, billfish and other large pelagic species, and the protection of the associated transboundary nontarget species, especially of sharks, seabirds and sea turtles in the WTPWPLME, while considering climatic variability and change		is rising on those 3 stocks, measures are needed to maintain sustainability.	the CMMs are sustainable		regional & subregional arrangements are effectively complied with
	Status of key ⁴ WCPO non-target species	Status of stocks of non-target species largely unknown. WCPFC has adopted mitigation measures to reduce mortalities of key non-target species, and requirements for species-specific reporting of catches of sharks and sea turtles, captures of seabirds and interactions with cetaceans.	Reductions in catches and/or fishing mortalities of key nontarget species.		WCPFC can control fishing in the high seas Agreement on CMMs can be reached in the WCPFC with other Commission Members
Project Objective To support Pacific SIDS in meeting their obligations to implement & effectively enforce global, regional & sub-regional arrangements for the conservation & management of transboundary oceanic fisheries thereby increasing	Number of Pacific SIDS meeting WCPFC obligations	Principal legislative & policy framework aligned with WCPFC obligations for most Pacific SIDS. But subsidiary legislation, policy instruments and licence conditions need updating.	All Pacific SIDS' subsidiary legislation, policy instruments and licence conditions aligned with WCPFC requirements & systematic processes in place in all Pacific SIDS for adoption of new measures.	TCC Reports	

sustainable benefits derived from these fisheries	Level of benefits to Pacific SIDS, including: a) access fee revenue & b) employment by gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13,803 directly employed in fishing and processing (2010) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment in SIDS growing by up to 5% per year. with increasing proportion of women Access fees increasing by up to 10% per year 	FFA Economic Indicators Report	
---	---	---	--	--------------------------------	--

4

Includes 13 species of sharks impacted by fishing, 5 species of sea turtles, seabirds and cetaceans

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access fees estimated at \$111¹⁹ million in 2010 			
Component 1 Regional Actions for Ecosystem- Based Management					
Outcome 1.1: Comprehensive set of innovative on-the-water conservation & management measures (CMMs) adopted and applied by the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission	Number of key target stocks to which comprehensive WCPFC CMMs are applied in EEZs	Two Interim CMMs in place focusing on bigeye and south Pacific albacore, and both have been identified as insufficient. No systematic measures for management of other major target stocks	Comprehensive CMMs applied to all four key target stocks in EEZs by 2017.	WCPFC Reports, including reports of Commission sessions, the Scientific Committee (SC) & the Technical & Compliance Committee	Differences between WCPFC Members do not result in gridlock in the Commission WCPFC is financially sustainable

¹⁹ FFA Economic Indicators Update, October 2011

(WCPFC) for stocks of the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME, incorporating rights-based and ecosystem-based approaches in decision-making & informed by sound scientific advice & information	Number of key non-target species impacted by WCPO tuna fisheries to which WCPFC CMMs are being applied	Four preliminary CMMs in place for protection of cetaceans, whale sharks, seabirds & marine turtles, as well as controls on shark finning, & very recently adopted CMMs to protect some shark species but their effectiveness is not known	CMMs reflecting Scientific Committee advice & best practice among tuna RFMOs in place for protection of all key non-target species	(TCC)	WCPFC SC & scientific work is adequately resourced & functions effectively
Output 1.1.1 Ecosystem-based CMMs to control fishing mortality for the 4 major target stocks & to mitigate fishing impacts on key non-target species	Extent of submission of proposals for CMMs on target & non-target species by SIDS, & support for proposed CMMs on target & nontarget species by SIDS	Partial & interim CMMs are in place on only two of the key target species (south pacific albacore & bigeye tuna), and both have been identified as insufficient.	CMMs reflecting global best practices submitted to the Commission & supported by SIDS for conservation & management of key tuna species, & protection of all key non-target species	WCPFC Reports, including reports of Commission sessions, the SC & TCC, & the Finance & Administration Committee	Limits of SIDS institutional & human resources capacities do not prevent them from participating effectively in the WCPFC

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
reflecting global best practices supported by all Pacific SIDS are submitted to WCPFC for adoption		CMMs in place to reduce the impact of fishing on turtles, seabirds, whale sharks, oceanic whitetip sharks, & cetaceans		Reports of WCPFC External Reviews FFA briefs for WCPFC meetings	SIDS are able to maintain positions of regional solidarity in the face of pressure from DWFNs on preparation of proposals & support for WCPFC CMMs
	Percentage of SIDS participating in WCPFC sessions including proportion of representation & office holding, including those	Baseline study will quantify the level of participation by SIDS at WCPFC sessions & SIDS personnel are beginning to become office holders.	80% participation maintained by SIDS in all relevant WCPFC meetings, with SIDS personnel holding senior offices in the WCPFC & its subsidiary bodies. Gender target to be established by the baseline study	Reports of FFA Management Options Consultations & other relevant ad hoc consultation	

	by gender in SIDS delegations				
	Number of briefs prepared & preparatory working groups facilitated to support SIDS for relevant WCPFC meetings	Processes developed in Phase I for preparation of Briefs & common SIDS positions	All request for briefing documents and preparatory working groups are completed and improved participation of Pacific SIDS		
Output 1.1.2 WCPFC & other regional legal arrangements & compliance mechanisms in 8 key areas (see EOP target) to implement CMMs effectively & deter IUU fishing prepared &/or supported by all Pacific SIDS	Status of key WCPFC & other regional legal arrangements & compliance mechanisms operationalized.	WCPFC Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), Regional Observer Programme (ROP) and high Seas Boarding I Inspection Programme (HSBI) in early phase of partial implementation, Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMS) under trial, no Port State Measure or Catch Tracking FFA MTCs out of date.	WCPFC VMS, ROP & HSBI operational, CMS operational & Port State & Catch Tracking CMMs adopted. FFA MTCs updated Niue Treaty Implementing Arrangements in effect Reporting to WCPFC streamlined/automated Cooperative surveillance & enforcement enhanced under Niue Treaty	WCPFC Reports, including reports of Commission sessions & the Technical & Compliance Committee Reports of FFA Consultations on WCPFC & relevant FFC reports	Distant water fishing members of the WCPFC are not able to obstruct efforts to deter IUU fishing Additional & effective sources of assistance to SIDS in MCS capacity building are identified & taken up

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
		Niue Treaty Implementing Arrangements developed but not in effect.			

	Extent of preparation & support of proposals for WCPFC & other regional legal arrangements & compliance mechanisms by SIDS	Progress on CMS is constrained, & progress on Port state & Catch Documentation CMMs is severely constrained by considerations related to SIDS capacities	SIDS submit, or support proposals for CMS & relevant CMMs, including CMMs for Port State & Catch Tracking, & streamlined/automated procedures for reporting to the WCPFC		
	Patterns of participation by SIDS in WCPFC & TCC sessions including extent of representation & office holding, including participation by gender in SIDS delegations	There is a high level of participation by SIDS at TCC sessions & SIDS personnel are beginning to become TCC office holders.	At least 85% participation by SIDS in all TCC meetings, with SIDS personnel holding senior offices in the Commission & its subsidiary bodies		
Outcome 1.2: Adaptive management of oceanic fisheries in the Western Tropical Pacific Warm Pool (WTPWP) LME is put in place through better understanding of the impacts of climate change (CC)	Extent to which understanding of impacts of CC is reflected in management arrangements, including impacts on jurisdiction	There is a general understanding of the expected overall impacts but the information available has not been sufficiently specific to be reflected in management arrangements	Management arrangements including jurisdictional arrangements have been reviewed to take into account effects of CC	Project Reports FFA, PNA, TVM & WCPFC Records	Analysis of impacts of CC demonstrates need for management to be adapted
Output 1.2.1 CC forecasts & vulnerability of the Pacific SIDS region assessed in relation to 4 key target stocks and 6 key bycatch species & results &	Forecasts of subregional CC impacts on major target species made available and accessible	WCPO-wide forecasts prepared for skipjack & bigeye tuna	Forecasts of subregional CC impacts on 4 major target species available by year 3	Project reports SPC scientific reports	Appropriate technical experts can be recruited Available data supports finer scale (subregional)
	Number of assessments of	No information	Preliminary assessments of CC impacts for 6 key		

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
--	------------	----------	-----------------------	-------------------------	-------------

recommendations communicated to managers of potential impacts on oceanic fisheries	CC impacts on key bycatch species		bycatch species by year 4		forecasts & analysis)
Output 1.2.2 Sea level rise impacts on fisheries jurisdictions assessed for 14 Pacific SIDS & Pacific SIDS governments informed on priority areas of action and policy options, with related initiatives & related training of at least 45 personnel	Scope & quality of technically sound information made available by the Project on the implications of sea level rise/CC on jurisdictional claims, including country-specific information	Some general legal and academic analyses undertaken, but no countryspecific or SIDS region-specific work known	Analyses available of legal, political & economic implications of sea level rise/CC for the Pacific SIDS on their jurisdictional claims & sovereign rights with policy and strategy options, with priority to SIDS most vulnerable to inundation.	Project reports, including reports of national & regional consultations	SIDS attach priority to addressing the effect of sea level rise on fisheries jurisdiction
	Availability of national country assessments and technical reports including impact studies and the regional strategy through a knowledge hub		These analyses available through a knowledge hub		SIDS can reach agreement on a regional approach
	No. of SIDS personnel trained in relevant fields.	No record of training in these areas	At least 45 policy, legal and maritime boundaries personnel trained in legal and socio-economic implications of climate change for oceanic fisheries jurisdiction.		
	Increased awareness of jurisdictional implications of CC demonstrated	Broad concerns held but no real awareness of possible responses	Jurisdictional implications of CC addressed at appropriate regional & global fora	Reports of regional & global fora, including the Pacific Islands Forum, & media coverage	Relevant global fora attended by Pacific SIDS high level government representatives
Output 1.2.3 Updated TDA for oceanic fisheries & updated oceanic	Status of the revised TDA endorsement and implementation	Transboundary issues analyses undertaken in 1997	Revised TDA including climate variability and change adopted by the end of Year 2	Updated TDA finalized & endorsed by Pacific SIDS	Technical expertise can be sourced to

fisheries					update the technical
	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
management aspects of the Pacific Islands IW SAP	Status of the revised SAP endorsement and implementation	South Pacific SAP adopted in 1997	Revised SAP incorporates new information on stock status, institutional & economic developments, & climate variability and change prepared by the end of Year 2	Ministerial level adoption of a declaration to update relevant sections of the SAP by year 3	elements of the TDA & SAP SIDS have time in a crowded regional calendar to consider the updated TDA & SAP elements

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Component 2 Sub-regional Actions for Ecosystem- Based Management					
Outcome 2.1 Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements are operationalized & enforced, including rights-based cap & trade arrangements for in-zone tuna fisheries, enhancing ecosystem sustainability & incentivized by sustainable fishery certifications	Status of Sub-regional conservation & management arrangements	PNA purse seine VDS in early stages of implementation, other subregional arrangements broadly agreed or emerging but not yet implemented	Sub-regional arrangements, including cap & trade arrangements in purse seine & longline fisheries & eco-certification arrangements are in operation & contributing to fishery sustainability	Project records Records of PNA, TVM & other subregional groupings	Sub-regional & arrangements strengthen, & do not undermine sustainable development of oceanic fisheries SIDS remain committed to sub-regional management arrangements
Output 2.1.1 Recommendations of the external review of the PNA VDS being implemented and applied to 1 million tonnes of catch annually in the EEZs of 7 of the 9 participating SIDS, including 20,000 tonnes of MSCcertified catch	Status of rights-based cap & trade vessel-day schemes, & other PNA management arrangements	PNA purse seine VDS beginning to operate with acknowledged weaknesses External review of the purse seine VDS planned PNA longline VDS in trial phase	VDS recommendations implemented and applied to catch of 1 million tonnes in the EEZs of 7 of the 9 participating SIDS Longline VDS in operation. Other PNA management arrangements in operation	PNA Records MSC Audit reports	PNA Members maintain solidarity on key issues
	Volume of MSCcertified catch supplied to the market	PNA free school purse seine skipjack fishery certified but no catch marketed	20,000 tonnes of MSC-certified catch supplied to the market annually		Industry find it attractive to provide certified catch
Output 2.1.2 National harvest rights established and monitored for the 5 SIDS TVM participants	Status of harvest rights & related management regimes for TVM fisheries	No formal national harvest rights established for TVM tuna fisheries	National Harvest rights for TVM longline & purse seine fisheries agreed & beginning to be used	TVM, FFA & WCPFC (TCC & Commission meeting) records	TVM & other SIDS able to agree on compatible inzone management

	Status of monitoring arrangements & operational activities for TVM fisheries	Monitoring arrangements are operational at national level, but these need to be applied to	Monitoring of use of harvest rights for TVM tuna fisheries beginning to be implemented		arrangements DWFNs prepared to cooperate in management of key stocks
--	--	--	--	--	--

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
		monitoring harvest rights			occurring in the high seas
Output 2.1.3 Enhancements to other sub-regional management arrangements	Status of other subregional management arrangements	Additional subregional management arrangements are emerging. MSG FTAC operations initiated, but limited in impact to date	Technical capacity of FTAC strengthened, outcomes and outputs mainstreamed for implementation. Other sub-regional arrangements contributing to sustainable development of oceanic fisheries where appropriate	Project Records Records of other subregional management arrangements	SIDS perceive other subregional arrangements as contributing to sustainable development of oceanic fisheries

Component 3. National Actions for Ecosystem-Based Management

Outcome 3.1 Innovative ecosystem-based on-the-water CMMs being effectively applied by Pacific SIDS in accordance with national plans & policies & with international, regional & subregional commitments & other relevant instruments	Number of Pacific SIDS applying ecosystembased CMMs in accordance with new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations	Almost all Pacific SIDS have revised national laws to include obligations associated with the WCPFC Convention, but substantial lags exist in implementation of agreed arrangements through national plans, regulations and licence conditions, particularly for bycatch	At least 11 Pacific SIDS applying ecosystem-based CMMs in accordance with new or revised management plans, fisheries policies, MCS plans & laws/regulations	FFA Work Programme & Technical Reports WCPFC Reports	
---	--	--	---	---	--

Output 3.1.1 9 new national oceanic fisheries management plans and/or policies in support of ecosystem-based management adopted with enhancement of fisheries management skills of 60 SIDS fisheries	Number of Pacific SIDS that have adopted new or revised oceanic fisheries management plans and/or, policies	9 SIDS have been identified as requiring assistance to enhance national plans and policies	New national management plans and/or policies adopted in at least 9 SIDS in support of ecosystembased management	FFA Work Programme & Technical Reports	SIDS remain committed to regional & subregional management arrangements
	Number of fisheries management institutional & human resources capacity	New skills needed as management arrangements become more	National capacity building & awareness raising activities	Project progress reports	Countries willing to host & participate in workshops & make staff

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
management personnel in all 14 SIDS	building activities by SIDS	comprehensive, sophisticated & complex	conducted in all 14 Pacific SIDS		available for attachments.
	Number of fisheries management planning & policy personnel trained by SIDS & gender	Large number of new management personnel appointed during Phase I requiring training	At least 60 management personnel in 14 SIDS trained in fisheries management, planning & policy	Training/ workshop/ attachment reports	Appropriate national personnel able to participate National specialists

Output 3.1.2 11 revised national laws and regulations, &/or strengthened MCS programmes, and updated licence conditions in all 14 SIDS to operationalise WCPFC CMMs & other relevant conservation & management instruments with support through skills enhancement of law and compliance in 14 SIDS	Number of Pacific SIDS that have adopted new or revised national laws, regulations, license conditions & strengthened MCS programmes	Almost all national laws revised to include obligations associated with becoming Party to the WCPFC Convention, but 11 SIDS identified as requiring assistance to include in national laws & regulations additional requirements arising from WCPFC CMMs & other subregional & regional instruments. Related improvements needed in licensing conditions in all 14 SIDS	Revised national laws, regulations &/or strengthened MCS programmes adopted in at least 11 SIDS (to apply WCPFC CMMs, & regional & subregional arrangements including PNA Implementing Arrangements, MTCs, & the Niue Treaty subsidiary arrangement). Updated licence conditions in all 14 SIDS	FFA Work Programme & Technical Reports	available to take part
	Number of national legal & MCS reviews, consultations & workshops by SIDS	New skills needed as CMMs & MCS arrangements become more comprehensive, sophisticated & complex, & the threat of IUU fishing increases	National legal & MCS reviews, consultations & workshops conducted in all 14 SIDS		
	Number of legal, MCS & enforcement training activities & personnel trained by SIDS & gender		At least 55 legal & 320 compliance officers trained to implement WCPFC CMMs, FFA MTCs & national laws	Training Reports	
	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
		Large numbers of new legal & MCS personnel requiring training			

Output 3.1.3 Mitigation measures for key ⁷ bycatch species, including key shark species, integrated into national management planning processes by at least 11 SIDS	Number of National Plans of Action & National Management Plans for bycatch, & revisions to national laws, regulations & license conditions related to bycatch	Known shortfalls & delays in SIDS implementation of monitoring of bycatch, especially key shark species, & bycatch mitigation measures. Weak regional standards for shark conservation	At least 11 SIDS have integrated bycatch mitigation into national management planning processes at the national level & aligned national requirements with relevant subregional or regional measures or global instruments. Better understanding of potential contribution of bycatch to food security	Project documentation WCPFC Compliance Monitoring reports	Sufficient priority attached to bycatch mitigation Improved information on bycatch rates & mortalities becomes available Resources available for bycatch mitigation monitoring & research
Outcome 3.2 Integrated data & information systems & scientific analysis being used nationally for reporting, policymaking, monitoring & compliance	Use of oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis by Pacific SIDS.	Most SIDS have operational monitoring, licensing & MCS (VMS) data systems in place, but their use is limited gaps, weaknesses & lack of integration of data systems. Phase I outputs, including National Tuna Fisheries Status Reports, national scientific webpages & scientific inputs into ecosystembased management	Enhanced oceanic fisheries data and scientific analysis being used by all 14 Pacific SIDS, reflecting upgraded data & information systems in at least 10 Pacific SIDS, and newly integrated systems in at least 4 SIDS.	Project records FFA, SPC WCPFC Reports	SIDS capacity constraints do not unduly constrain their participation in data & scientific work

7

See footnote 33

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
--	------------	----------	-----------------------	-------------------------	-------------

		plans provide a basis with enhanced skills for increased use of scientific advice in Phase II			
Output 3.2.1 Upgraded national data & information management systems developed & operationalized in 10 SIDS with training for around 350 personnel	Level of development of SIDS national integrated data & information systems	Most SIDS have operational monitoring, licensing & MCS (VMS) data systems in place, but with some gaps & weaknesses & they are not integrated.	Upgraded data & information systems in operation in 10 SIDS.	Project reports	Countries can afford to release staff for training & attachments.
	Number of monitoring & data staff trained in each SIDS & gender balance in participation	Large number of new monitoring & data personnel requiring training	Training provided to around 350 national monitoring & data personnel		
Output 3.2.2 National scientific analysis & support for ecosystembased management provided to all 14 Pacific SIDS, with training for around 120 personnel	Number of comprehensive scientific advice provided to all Pacific SIDS	Basic stock assessment work now financed by the Commission, allowing a shift in emphasis to providing national advice building on Phase I progress.	Scientific advice & analysis on oceanic fisheries applied by all 14 SIDS	SPC Reports Project reports	All SIDS seek national scientific advice
	Number of participation by SIDS in SC sessions including extent of representation & office holding, including participation by gender in SIDS delegations	There is a high level of participation by SIDS at WCPFC & SC sessions & SIDS personnel are beginning to become office holders.	85% participation maintained by SIDS in SC meetings, with SIDS personnel holding senior offices in the SC	SC reports	Limits of SIDS technical & scientific capacities do not prevent them from participating effectively in the SC

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
	Number of technical & scientific staff trained in each SIDS by gender	Regional workshops, attachments & in-country training in Phase I have established the foundation for scientific analyses.	Around 120 national technical & scientific personnel trained in stock assessment methods & interpretation & ecosystem assessment & monitoring	Project reports SPC presentations to SIDS for WCPFC & SC meetings, & relevant SPC & FFA meetings	Countries can afford to release staff for training & attachments.
Component 4. Stakeholder Participation & Knowledge Management					
Outcome 4.1 Greater multistakeholder participation in the work of the national & regional institutions with respect to oceanic fisheries management, including greater fisheries industry engagement & participation in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities	Percentage of participation by industry & other civil society stakeholders in Project, FFA, WCPFC & sub-regional activities, including INGO & ENGO participation	PITIA & WWF participated in Phase I & both have recently strengthened their programmes in oceanic fisheries management Major progress under Phase I in external communications by the Project needs to be built on	Greater understanding of the need for management & the issues involved with proactive contributions from industry & other elements of civil society to the conservation effort	Project reports PITIA & WWF websites PITIA, WWF, FFA/FFC, SPC & WCPFC reports	High degree of political commitment to transparency & inclusivity Project activities & outcomes are effective in contributing to focusing increased attention on oceanic fisheries, especially management & conservation issues
	Number of national consultative or advisory processes/committees created or strengthened & operational	National consultative & advisory processes are variable & often weak if they exist at all	Formal advisory committees established & operational in at least 10 SIDS		

Output 4.1.1 Broader stakeholder (Pacific SIDS, regional institutions, fishing industry & business sector, environmental NGOs, local NGOs, civil society, among others) awareness & involvement	Pacific Island tuna industry contribution to oceanic fisheries management	PITIA has begun to play a fuller role in 2012.	Widespread understanding among industry of the oceanic fisheries management issues important to the Pacific Islands tuna industry PITIA providing info on the value	PITIA website Media statements made through agreed collective industry positions PITIA promotional material	PITIA remains active & able to participate in Project activities PITIA able to use the knowledge & expertise of its Board & members to
---	---	--	--	---	---

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
			of Pacific fisheries to national economies & the importance of management & conservation efforts	Reports of PITIA meetings	contribute to this process
	Extent of WWF & other ENGO engagement in oceanic fisheries management	WWF has recently strengthened its engagement in WCPO tuna fisheries Growing interest by ENGOs generally in WCPO tuna fisheries management	Activities of WWF & other ENGOs contribute to improved oceanic fisheries management, including through raising awareness & supporting ecocertification	Websites of WWF & other ENGOs ENGO media statements & promotional material	WWF & other ENGOs able to maintain a focus on WCPO tuna fisheries
Output 4.1.2 Increased awareness & coordination through project workshops & meetings contributing to	No. of SIDS participating in Project Meetings	Level of participation in PIOFMP-I	Full participation by SIDS	Reports of Project activities and Meetings Project Gender Analysis	Senior SIDS personnel can find time to participate in the Inception Workshop & RSC meetings
	Percentage of participation of women in such events based on sexdisaggregated data	Level of participation in PIOFMP-I	Increasing nos. of women participating as SIDS representatives		

wider support for national, subregional & regional project activities with increased participation by women	Key FFA and FAO staff from PEOFMP-II and ABNJ Tuna Projects participate in respective PSCs, where PEOFMP-II/ABNJ Tuna Project coordination is discussed	Key FFA, SPC and FAO personnel have been involved in the development of the PEOFM-II and ABNJ Tuna Projects	FFA CTA attends Tuna ABNJ Project PSC FAO Tuna Project LTO attends PEOFMP-II RSC PEOFMP-II/Tuna ABNJ coordination is discussed at respective PSCs		
Output 4.1.3 Effective project implementation through M&E with feedback mechanisms utilizing the regional & subregional arrangements & existing national mechanisms	Use of M&E Information	N/A	M&E information being used to ensure effectiveness of project activities & being fed into regional fisheries processes	RSC, FFC & SPC Heads of Fisheries Reports Mid-term and Final Evaluation Reports	SIDS participate effectively in M&E processes

	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Outcome 4.2 Increased awareness of oceanic fisheries resource & ecosystems management & impacts of climate change	Level of media coverage of relevant issues	Phase I & the early period of operation of the WCPFC have generated greatly increased interest, focused on iconic nontarget species, especially	Widespread, well informed coverage in Pacific Islands media of issues associated with conservation management of target & nontarget species, & CC impacts	Internet searches Project documentation Technical Reports & media coverage	Project activities & outcomes are effective in contributing to focusing increased attention on oceanic

	No. of communiques from relevant regional fora, including Pacific Island Leaders' meetings covering oceanic fisheries	sharks. Awareness of associated with target stocks is inadequate in relation to their regional & global importance General awareness of the expected impacts of CC on oceanic fish stocks & fisheries, but key institutional & legal aspects have not been raised.	Oceanic fisheries management regularly addressed in Leaders' communiques	Communiques from Pacific Leaders' meetings & other regional fora	fisheries, especially management & conservation issues
	Continuing donor interest in funding oceanic fisheries agencies & projects	Donors, including the ADB & World Bank shied away from fisheries as catches approached their limits because of perceived lack of potential development gains.	Success in this Project & related activities encourages increased donor interest in Pacific Islands oceanic fisheries, attracted by the scope for increasing value through better management,	Donor reports	
Output 4.2.1 Knowledge management (KM) & information systems (IS) that support communications and advocacy efforts by Pacific SIDS for the best	KM & IS strategy developed and adopted	Phase I strategy provides a basis but needs further development	Strategy developed in year 1 and implemented by Year 2	KM & IS strategy documentation	Skilled media expertise can be attracted to work with the Project
	Project website established and launched in Year 1	Website from Phase I still in operation, but needs updating	Website is in operation by Year 2, and routinely updated, capturing results	Measures of website use	Sufficient interest among stakeholders to make website
	Indicators	Baseline	End of project target	Sources of verification	Assumptions

management of their oceanic fisheries resources, including creation of a project website, publications, participation in relevant UNDP, FAO and GEF events and information exchanges particularly in IW;LEARN			from Project activities, and providing links to key sources of information on regional oceanic fisheries		effective means of communication & information dissemination
	Number of Pacific SIDS using quality promotional materials	Some experience in Phase I, with some successes, that can be built on, but this was an area identified as needing greater priority in PIOFMP-II	Project promotional materials being used by all 14 SIDS	Project CDs, pamphlets, videos, publications & giveaways	
	Number of staff participation in relevant UNDP, FAO & GEF events (especially IW:LEARN)	Partnership developed with UNDP & GEF now needs to be complemented by association with FAO	Number of Project staff & counterparts participating in GEF, UNDP & FAO events especially biennial IW Conferences	Project Documents including travel reports	Counterparts available to participate in these events

ANNEX B: LIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE REVIEWED BY THE EVALUATORS

#	Item (electronic versions preferred if available)
1	Project Identification Form (PIF)
2	UNDP Initiation Plan
3	Final UNDP-GEF Project Document with all annexes
4	CEO Endorsement Request
5	UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) and associated management plans (if any)
6	Inception Workshop Report
7	Mid-Term Review report and management response to MTR recommendations
8	All Project Implementation Reports (PIRs)
9	Progress reports (quarterly, semi-annual or annual, with associated workplans and financial reports)
10	Oversight mission reports
11	Minutes of Project Board Meetings and of other meetings (i.e. Project Appraisal Committee meetings)
12	GEF Tracking Tools (from CEO Endorsement, midterm and terminal stages)
13	GEF/LDCF/SCCF Core Indicators (from PIF, CEO Endorsement, midterm and terminal stages); for GEF-6 and GEF-7 projects only
14	Financial data, including actual expenditures by project outcome, including management costs, and including documentation of any significant budget revisions
15	Co-financing data with expected and actual contributions broken down by type of co-financing, source, and whether the contribution is considered as investment mobilized or recurring expenditures
16	Audit reports
17	Electronic copies of project outputs (booklets, manuals, technical reports, articles, etc.)
18	Sample of project communications materials
19	Summary list of formal meetings, workshops, etc. held, with date, location, topic, and number of participants

20	Any relevant socio-economic monitoring data, such as average incomes / employment levels of stakeholders in the target area, change in revenue related to project activities
21	List of contracts and procurement items over ~US\$5,000 (i.e. organizations or companies contracted for project outputs, etc., except in cases of confidential information)
22	List of related projects/initiatives contributing to project objectives approved/started after GEF project approval (i.e. any leveraged or “catalytic” results)
23	Data on relevant project website activity – e.g. number of unique visitors per month, number of page views, etc. over relevant time period, if available
24	UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD)
25	List/map of project sites, highlighting suggested visits
26	List and contact details for project staff, key project stakeholders, including Project Board members, RTA, Project Team members, and other partners to be consulted
27	Project deliverables that provide documentary evidence of achievement towards project outcomes
	<i>Add documents, as required</i>

Annex C: **Content of the TE report**

i. Title page

- Title of UNDP-supported GEF-financed project
 - UNDP PIMS ID and GEF ID
 - TE timeframe and date of final TE report
 - Region and countries included in the project
 - GEF Focal Area/Strategic Program
 - Executing Agency, Implementing partner and other project partners
 - TE Team members
- ii. Acknowledgements
- iii. Table of Contents
- iv. Acronyms and Abbreviations

1. Executive Summary (3-4 pages)

- Project Information Table
- Project Description (brief)
- Evaluation Ratings Table
- Concise summary of findings, conclusions and lessons learned
- Recommendations summary table

2. Introduction (2-3 pages)

- Purpose and objective of the TE
- Scope
- Methodology
- Data Collection & Analysis
- Ethics
- Limitations to the evaluation
- Structure of the TE report

3. Project Description (3-5 pages)

- Project start and duration, including milestones
- Development context: environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy factors relevant to the project objective and scope
- Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted
- Immediate and development objectives of the project
- Expected results
- Main stakeholders: summary list
- Theory of Change

4. Findings

(in addition to a descriptive assessment, all criteria marked with (*) must be given a rating8)

4.1 Project Design/Formulation

- Analysis of Results Framework: project logic and strategy, indicators
- Assumptions and Risks
- Lessons from other relevant projects (e.g. same focal area) incorporated into project design
- Planned stakeholder participation
- Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector

4.1 Project Implementation

- Adaptive management (changes to the project design and project outputs during implementation) • Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements

8

See ToR Annex F for rating scales.

- Project Finance and Co-finance
- Monitoring & Evaluation: design at entry (*), implementation (*), and overall assessment of M&E (*)
- UNDP implementation/oversight (*) and Implementing Partner execution (*), overall project implementation/execution (*), coordination, and operational issues

4.2 Project Results

- Progress towards objective and expected outcomes (*)
- Relevance (*)
- Effectiveness (*)
- Efficiency (*)
- Overall Outcome (*)
- Country ownership
- Gender
- Other Cross-cutting Issues
- Social and Environmental Standards
- Sustainability: financial (*), socio-economic (*), institutional framework and governance (*), environmental (*), and overall likelihood (*)
- Country Ownership
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Cross-cutting Issues
- GEF Additionality
- Catalytic Role / Replication Effect

- Progress to Impact

5. Main Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations & Lessons

- Main Findings
- Conclusions
- Recommendations
- Lessons Learned

6. Annexes

- TE ToR (excluding ToR annexes)
- TE Mission itinerary
- List of persons interviewed
- List of documents reviewed
- Summary of field visits
- Evaluation Question Matrix (evaluation criteria with key questions, indicators, sources of data, and methodology) • Questionnaire used and summary of results
- Co-financing tables (if not include in body of report)
- TE Rating scales
- Signed Evaluation Consultant Agreement form
- Signed UNEG Code of Conduct form
- Signed TE Report Clearance form
- *Annexed in a separate file*: TE Audit Trail
- *Annexed in a separate file*: relevant terminal GEF/LDCF/SCCF Core Indicators or Tracking Tools, as applicable

ANNEX D.EVALUATION QUESTIONS

This is a generic list, to be further detailed with more specific questions by CO and UNDP GEF Technical Adviser based on the particulars of the project.

Evaluative Criteria Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
Relevance: How does the project relate to the main objectives of the GEF focal area, and to the environment and development priorities at the local, regional and national levels?			
• Is the project relevant to Nauru's environmental policies & Nauru development plan?	•	•	•
• Is the project relevant to United National Pacific Strategy for the country?	•	•	•
• Is the project relevant to UNDP Pacific's Sub Regional Programme Document?	•	•	•
• Is the project addressing the needs of the targeted beneficiaries?	•	•	•
• Is the project specifically addressing gender issues and any other	•	•	•
• • How is the project complementary to the actions of other stakeholders active in the country/region?	•	•	•
• • Is the project internally consistent in its design?	•	•	•
Effectiveness: To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved?			
• Are the activities and outputs of the project consistent with the project's goals and objectives?	•	•	•
• To what extent has the delivered project outputs contributed to the achievement of its expected outcomes?	•	•	•
• Were the project's expected targets against the outcomes achieved?	•	•	•
• How was risk managed during the project?		•	•

• What are the lessons learnt from the project in terms of effectiveness?		•	•
• Which changes could have been made in project's design to improve its effectiveness?		•	•
• How could the project have been more effective in achieving results?		•	•
Efficiency: Was the project implemented efficiently, in-line with international and national norms and standards?			
• Was adaptive management needed and used to ensure efficient use of resources?	•	•	•
• Were the accounting and financial systems in place adequate?	•	•	•
• • Were progress reports produced in a timely manner and in compliance to project reporting requirements?	•	•	•
• Was project implementation as cost-effective as originally envisaged?	•	•	•
• Was the expected co-finance leveraged as initially expected?	•	•	•
• Were the reported lessons learnt shared among project stakeholders for subsequent improvement of project implementation?	•	•	•
• Which partnerships and networking were facilitated among stakeholders? Be specific to mention any legal agreements or memorandum of understanding signed to ascertain partnership.	•	•	•
• Was local capacity and know-how adequately mobilized?	•	•	•

Sustainability: To what extent are there financial, institutional, social-economic, and/or environmental risks to sustaining long-term project results?			
• Were sustainability issues adequately addressed at project design?	•	•	•
• Is there evidence that some partners and stakeholders will continue their activities beyond project termination? And if such partners/stakeholders were identified, which ones were they?	•	•	•
• Which are the main risks to the continuation of policies and actions initiated by the projects? (financial, institutional, socioeconomic, environmental)	•	•	•
• Are project actions and results being scaled up or replicated elsewhere in the region?	•	•	•
• Did the project adequately address institutional and financial sustainability issues?	•	•	•
• • How is the beneficiary planning to mainstream the lessons learnt to ensure quality reporting to the global platforms?	•	•	•
Gender equality and women's empowerment: How did the project contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment?			
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
Impact: Are there indications that the project has contributed to, or enabled progress toward, reduced environmental stress and/or improved ecological status?			
• How likely is the project to achieve its long-term goal?	•	•	•

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are stakeholders more aware about the project’s contribution towards setting up an EMIS and ensuring that it is operational? Which ones?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the impact of the project for the citizens of Nauru in terms of awareness about the government’s commitment to reporting its updated environmental data to the global platforms of the Rio conventions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the level of influence and visibility of the project in Nauru in promoting sustainable development?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•

