

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

(Consolidated)

1. Country: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

2. Project Number/Code: PIMS No. 2992

3. Project Title: Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project

4. Executing Agency: Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency

5. Period Covered: 1 January 2008 to 31 March 2008

6. Summary of Overall Project Progress:

The project has completed thirty months of activities as at the end of the first quarter of 2008. This report covers the activities and progress made in the first quarter of 2008 from the 1 January through to the 31 March 2008.

Component One activities continue to roll-out according to planned schedule for the main part. IUCN have taken the decision to cancel the scientific research cruise and agreement has been reached for an alternative work plan that would remain within the parameters of the project objectives, outcomes and outputs. These activities along with those under Component Two that are to be coordinated by IUCN will commence in Q2, 2008.

Failure to report on all sub-components in Component Two results on the ability to confine comments on progress to those areas covered i.e. legal and compliance only.

Project coordination has not been presented with any significant challenges and those activities which are delayed are being addressed. A draft annual report for the project has been completed and UNDP Suva is in the process of completing the recruitment of consultants to undertake a mid-term review of the project.

Limited resources, including staffing levels in fisheries administrations and the increasing number of fisheries related meetings for the region continues to impact on project activities.

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

Specific outputs and results achieved under the project against quarterly work plans are reported in the following spreadsheet.

Component One

Sub-component 1.1: Fishery Monitoring	
Output 1.1.1: A template for national integrated monitoring programmes including logsheet, observer, port sampling and landing data collection and management; and provision of national data to the Commission	
Activity 1.1.1.1: Develop database and associated software	<p>TUFMAN versions 4.3.2 and 4.3.3 were released during this reporting period. Most of the work done on the TUFMAN system was to enhance performance and reports. Work included the development of three new reports summarising Telex catch information and the support of aggregating by EEZ in the logsheet catch reports.</p> <p>Very minor cosmetic changes and bug fixes were made to CES during this reporting period and the latest version of CES remains at 8.6.</p>
Activity 1.1.1.2: Develop reporting module for Commission data	A new report that provides an estimate of annual catch by combining the logsheet and unloadings data was produced during the reporting period. This new report provides a better estimate of annual catch than using the logsheet and unloadings data used alone.
Output 1.1.2: National monitoring systems based on the regional template for integrated monitoring, customised to meet national needs	
Activity 1.1.2.1: Support establishment and enhancement of national databases and software	<p>Version 4.3.2 TUFMAN was remotely installed in most member countries in January and February 2008.</p> <p>The Fisheries Database Manager installed TUFMAN version 4.3.2 in the Cook Islands in March 2008, updated database structures and provided a demonstration of the new features.</p> <p>The Fisheries Monitoring Supervisor and the Fisheries IT Officer visited Kiribati in March 2008, installed the latest version of TUFMAN, converted their previous database files to the TUFMAN Database structure and provided training in the use of TUFMAN.</p>
Activity 1.1.2.2: Support establishment and enhancement of national port sampling and observer programmes	A basic observer training course took place in PNG during the month of January. The course was augmented by the development of 'Competency Based Training (CBT) units'. This initiative is the first step in making countries more independent with the provision of observer training. CBT consultants and regional observer coordinators attended the basic training and developed the new training curriculum on the margins of the training course.
Activity 1.1.2.3: Support the coordination of national monitoring programmes	<p>In-country support was given to Solomon Islands (2 weeks) and Kiribati (2 weeks) during this quarter. The national tuna data procedures documents were advanced in both countries.</p> <p>The MOU for data entry support was extended for the Solomons and discussions started on the funding requirements for fishery monitoring in Kiribati.</p>
Output 1.1.3: A regional monitoring coordination capacity, to develop regional standards such as data formats, and to provide a clearing house for information on fishery monitoring	
Activity 1.1.3.1: Develop and make available common data formats	<p>The draft edition of the Data Collection Committee Report was completed and made available to participants for comments.</p> <p>A number of small packages including observer PS and LL workbooks and port pads, were distributed to six monitoring programmes during this quarter.</p>
Activity 1.1.3.2: Hold Regional Workshops on regional and national fishery monitoring	<p>Preparations were undertaken for the second Tuna Data Workshop which will be held in Noumea from the 7th to 11th April.</p> <p>http://www.spc.int/oceanfish/Html/Meetings/TDW2/index.htm</p>

Activity 1.1.3.3: Distribute newsletters, webpage and other forms of information exchange	The French translation of the Fork Length magazine was received from the translation section. No other progress this quarter.
Output 1.1.4: Training of national monitoring staff, particularly monitoring coordinators, observers and port samplers	
Activity 1.1.4.1: Organise and hold in-country observer & port sampling courses and other training activities	A full basic observer training course was held for 15 candidates in PNG. See Activity 1.1.2.2.
Activity 1.1.4.2: Regional training courses in integrated fishery monitoring	See activity 1.1.3.2.
Activity 1.1.4.3: Attach national monitoring personnel to SPC/OFP	There were no attachment training at SPC during this period.
Sub-component 1.2: Stock Assessment	
Output 1.2.1: National oceanic fisheries status reports prepared collaboratively with national scientific staff	
Activity 1.2.1.1: Prepare 6 National Oceanic Fisheries Status Reports (NTFSRs) annually	During the quarter, work on the NTFSRs for FSM, Nauru, and Kiribati were progressed, with FSM and Nauru drafts expecting to be soon completed and ready for review. The Palau draft NTFSR has been completed and is under review. The Tonga NTFSR has been finalised. The NTFSR schedule for 2008 is currently being finalised.
Activity 1.2.1.2: Hold In-country Stakeholder Workshops for delivery of National Status Reports	Ecological Risk Assessment outputs from the FSM NTFSR were utilised at an in-country EAFM risk assessment consultation in January 2008.
Output 1.2.2: Advice to Pacific SIDS on scientific issues in the work of the Commission	
Activity 1.2.2.1: Provide contributions to briefs on scientific issues for Pacific SIDS for meetings of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and Science Working Groups	Scientific advice provided at in-country EAFM consultations in FSM (January 2008), Nauru (January 2008) and Kiribati (January 2008)
Activity 1.2.2.2: Present scientific briefs to preparatory meetings of Pacific SIDS for the Commission	No activities in this quarter
Output 1.2.3: Training of national technical and scientific staff to understand regional stock assessment methods, and interpret and apply the results; and to use oceanographic data	
Activity 1.2.3.1: Hold Regional Workshops on stock assessment methods and analysis of oceanographic impacts on fisheries	Call for nominations for the 2008 Tuna Stock Assessment Workshops were sent out in February 2008. 10 participants are confirmed to date, with significantly more confirmations expected over the following month. Workshop planning and preparation of materials for these workshops was significantly progressed during February and March 2008 The second online revision exercise was provided to participants in January

	<p>2008 with a response deadline of February. 5 participants had responded so far with several more expected. An additional exercise has been drafted for March 2008, pending sufficient responses on the previous exercise. The ongoing development of this online endeavour will depend upon participation rates for the first 3 exercises.</p> <p>Two days of stock assessment training were provided for a Kiribati fisheries officer during his attachment to OFP in January 2008. Another two days stock assessment training was provided to Kiribati MFMRD fisheries staff during the in-country EAFM visit in January 2008</p>
Activity 1.2.3.2: Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP and other institutions to participate in Commission stock assessment work and preparation of national status reports	<p>OFP hosted an attachment of a fisheries officer from Kiribati MFMRD in January 2008, and from Palau in March 2008, during which they assisted with the preparation of their countries respective NTFSRs, and also received training in data analyses and stock assessment interpretation.</p> <p>Further attachments from Kiribati and Niue are planned for April.</p>
Activity 1.2.3.3: Train scientific counterparts in-country	In country stock assessment training was provided over 2 days for 7 fisheries staff from MFMRD in Kiribati in January 2008.
Sub-component 1.3: Ecosystem Monitoring and Analysis	
Output 1.3.1: Observer sampling and analysis of commercial fishery catches to determine trophic relationships of pelagic species in the WTP LME	
Activity 1.3.1.1: Collect observer-based sampling data, especially – stomach contents, tissue samples	<p>Biological sampling of stomach contents and tissue samples continued in several countries, with additional samples provided by the Fiji observer programme during the quarter. Samples have also been collected in Marshall Islands and are awaiting shipment to Noumea.</p> <p>Issue # 5 of the biological sampling SPC Newsletter was distributed in January.</p>
Activity 1.3.1.2: Lab-based analysis of samples	Lab-based analysis of samples is continuing. During the quarter, 177 stomach samples were examined and the resulting data/information entered into the database. The total number of stomachs examined and with data entered is now 3,627 samples from 68 different species.
Output 1.3.2: Collection and analysis of information on seamounts in the WTP LME	
SPC	
Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops	This activity was completed during Q1-2006 and Q3-2006.
Activity 1.3.2.2: Describe Seamounts and analyse historical fishing patterns around seamounts	<p>A scientific paper entitled “Enhanced seamount location database for the western and central Pacific Ocean: screening and cross-checking of 20 existing datasets” submitted to the peer-reviewed journal Deep-Sea Research has been revised according to reviewers comments and resubmitted. The seamount screening and database has been extended to the area that will be potentially managed by the South Pacific RFMO. This compilation work has been reported in the SPRFMO-V-SWG-05 for the SPRFMO meeting held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, 10-14 March 2008.</p> <p>A Spatial Analyst position (one year) is currently under recruitment utilising resources freed up by the cancellation of IUCN research cruise activities. This position will complete the analysis of seamount impacts on physical/biological oceanography and fishing patterns.</p>
Activity 1.3.2.3: Collect data at sea at selected seamounts, including	A second one-month tagging cruise in Solomon Islands was carried out in Feb-March, with an additional 17,025 tunas tagged and released with conventional tags and 12 with archival tags. To date, the tag recovery rates are 17.5 % and

tagging, trophic sampling and analysis	12.7 % respectively for the fish tagged in Solomon Islands and PNG.
Activity 1.3.2.4: Support national scientist participation in benthic biodiversity survey	Cancellation of IUCN cruise has been confirmed and with the cancellation of the IRD co-funded scientific cruise in 2008 in the Bismarck Sea (PNG), no benthic biodiversity survey is now planned for the project.
IUCN	
Activity 1.3.2.1: Hold seamount activity planning and review workshops	Completed by SPC in July 2006
Activity 1.3.2.2: Describe Seamounts and analyse historical fishing patterns around seamounts	<p>(i) Reallocate IUCN funds to SPC to enable SPC to contract a spatial analyst/physical oceanographer months to contribute to continued research initiated by SPC related to (a) identifying and classifying seamounts, and (b) analyzing historical fishing patterns by longline and purse seine vessels around seamounts, including comparing target and bycatch rates and age classes fishing within versus outside of seamount-influenced grounds.</p> <p>Initiated steps to implement a new component under this activity, to: (ii) Interview longline fishermen regarding fishing methods and gear and other strategies for fishing on seamounts versus in the open ocean. Interview purse seine fishermen to determine if seamounts are targeted for setting. If yes, collect information on any alterations to fishing methods and gear when fishing over seamounts. (Fisheries to be included in the study to be determined).</p>
Activity 1.3.2.3: Collect data at sea at selected seamounts, including tagging, trophic sampling and analysis	Cancelled due to postponement of seamount research cruise
Activity 1.3.2.4: Support national scientist participation in benthic biodiversity survey	Cancelled due to postponement of seamount research cruise
Output 1.3.3: Model-based analysis of ecosystem-based management options	
Activity 1.3.3.1: Incorporate ecosystem data and information into existing ecosystem models and refinement of those models as necessary	The work on the trophic structure qualitative models of pelagic ecosystems of different regions in the Pacific has been detailed into a publication that has been submitted to a peer-review paper for the special issue of the CLIOTOP meeting (14 March 2008).
Activity 1.3.3.2: Use enhanced models and data to assess ecosystem-based management options	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.
Activity 1.3.3.3: Use enhanced models and data to assess management options targeted specifically at seamounts	No work was conducted on this activity this quarter.
Output 1.3.4: Estimates of levels of by-catch in WCPO oceanic fisheries	
Activity 1.3.4.1: Review	Methodological development included consideration of the evaluation of (a)

historical observer data and methodological development	various statistical models (i.e., lognormal and negative binomial versions of delta and zero-inflated models) and (b) various parametric and nonparametric estimators of variance.
1.3.4.2: Estimate levels of by-catch	Catches of non-target species in the waters of Papua New Guinea were estimated. This work will be reported to PNG as part of a comprehensive by-catch evaluation including ERA.
Output 1.3.5: Results of ecosystem analysis and proposals for long-term ecosystem monitoring and operationalisation of the ecosystem-based approach for use by the Commission's Scientific Committee, especially its Ecosystems & Bycatch Working Group, and by Pacific SIDS	
Activity 1.3.5.1: Present results of ecosystem analysis to the Commission through the Ecosystem & Bycatch Working Group	No activity this quarter
Activity 1.3.5.2: Present info on national & regional implications of results of ecosystem analysis to Pacific SIDS	Ecological Risk Assessment (ERAs) for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) were presented at the review of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) by FSM Officials. SPC-OFP staff participated in the development of ERA methods workshop in Honolulu, USA; and in the FFA/SPC review of EAFM and planning meeting in Port Villa, Vanuatu.
Activity 1.3.5.3: Attach national technical staff to SPC/OFP and other institutions to participate in ecosystem analysis	No activity this quarter

Component Two

Sub-component 2.1: Legal Reform	
Output 2.1.1: A strategy and workplan for activities on regional and national legal issues	
Activity 2.1.1.1: Carry out legal and technical reviews of legal issues and national legal structures	Scheduled for second and third quarters, particularly in response to issues that arise from the WCPFC sub-regional workshops, and the regional conference to be held 7-9 April 2008 (see 2.1.1.2).
Activity 2.1.1.2: Hold a Regional Legal Consultation on Legal Issues, National Legal Structures and the Project strategy for legal work.	The preparation for the Regional Conference on Legal and Policy Trends in the Implementation of International Fisheries Instruments to be held at the Novotel Hotel, Nadi, 7-9 April 2008 is underway. This conference brings together experts from various disciplines and also nationals from member countries to discuss fisheries legal and policy issues. Co-funded by GEF and FFA core budget.
Output 2.1.2 New draft laws, regulations, agreements and license conditions in line with WCPF Convention prepared and shared with Pacific SIDS.	
Activity 2.1.2.1. Prepare templates of legal provisions to implement the Convention.	Scheduled for second quarter of 2008 to assist member countries in incorporating ongoing Commission requirements into their legislation.
Activity 2.1.2.2. Undertake national legal reviews.	Currently assisting Samoa in their legislative review. Working together with legal fellow from Samoa. Other countries scheduled for 2008 are Fiji, Kiribati and Vanuatu.
Activity 2.1.2.3. Provide draft Bills, regulations, license conditions and access agreements to Pacific SIDS.	Draft Act for Samoa shall be analysed with legal fellow from Samoa, and will be taken to national workshop for consultations with stakeholders. Legal analysis provided to Access Agreements Negotiations workshop (7-10, April 2008, Honiara) on minimum terms to be incorporated into access agreements/legislation.
Output 2.1.3. Proposals for the Commission from Pacific SIDS for legal arrangements to implement the Convention.	
Activity 2.1.3.1. Undertake legal studies on Commission and Convention issues including non-Contracting Parties and new members.	Scheduled for second, third and fourth quarters in preparation for the WCPFC sub-regional workshops, and WCPFC related meetings.
Activity 2.1.3.2. Prepare legal briefs for Pacific SIDS for Commission and subsidiary body meetings.	Scheduled for second, third and fourth quarters in preparation for the WCPFC sub-regional workshops, and WCPFC related meetings.
Activity 2.1.3.3. Hold Regional Legal Consultations.	See 2.1.1.2.
Output 2.1.4. Training of policy makers and legal personnel in oceanic fisheries management legal issues.	
Activity 2.1.4.1. Hold Regional Legal Workshops.	See 2.1.1.2.
Activity 2.1.4.2. Hold National Legal Workshops.	In-country prosecution and dockside boarding workshops scheduled for second, third and fourth quarters.

Sub-component 2.2: Policy Reform	
Output 2.2.1. National oceanic fisheries management Plans, policies and strategies.	
Activity 2.2.1.1. Prepare Plans, policy and strategy documents.	Completed FSM and Tonga EAFM reports.
Activity 2.2.1.2. Support the implementation of Plans, policies and strategies	Undertaking EAFM consultations in Port Vila to finalise the EAFM Guidelines and policy document
Activity 2.2.1.3. Undertake Plan, policy and strategy reviews.	Completed Vanuatu's National Tuna Management Review and stakeholder consultations
Output 2.2.2. Strategies and specific proposals for the overall development of the Commission, including its Secretariat and technical programs, and for Commission conservation and management measures.	
Activity 2.2.2.1. Undertake studies on Commission and Convention conservation and management issues.	
Activity 2.2.2.2. Prepare and present reports on regional oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific SIDS, including analysis of proposals for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies	Prepared briefing report for the Special PNA meeting (Honiara) & the WCPFC Chair's meeting in Canberra on bigeye & yellowfin management options (focusing on the Commission adopting management measures for the high seas which are compatible to inzone measures) Prepared briefing on all significant issues for the US Treaty and the SPRFMO and provided to Pacific SIDS attending the SPRFMO meeting in Ecuador.
Activity 2.2.2.3. Hold Regional Fisheries Management Workshops and Consultations.	No activity implemented this quarter
	No Activity implemented this quarter
IUCN	
Output 2.2.3. Identification of possible management options for seamounts, including compliance options. (IUCN)	
Activity 2.2.3.1. Undertake technical studies on management of oceanic fisheries around seamounts.	Literature review initiated to review the state of understanding of conservation issues resulting from pelagic longline fishing around seamounts. Literature review initiated to review and critique regional and national legal and policy frameworks to manage pelagic longline fisheries around seamounts.
Activity 2.2.3.2. Hold Workshops on seamount-related management options.	Work has not yet been initiated on this component. In late 2009 we will convene a technical workshop to discuss the state of knowledge of sustainability issues and alternative methods for managing pelagic longline fisheries around seamounts.
Activity 2.2.3.3. Prepare proposals on seamount-related conservation and management measures.	Work has not yet been initiated on this component. We will prepare an information paper for the 15 OFM participating countries outlining options for management of pelagic longline fishing around seamounts.
Output 2.2.4. Training of policy makers, technical personnel and other Pacific SIDS stakeholders to increase understanding of sustainable and responsible fisheries.	
Activity 2.2.4.1. Hold Regional	Workshop for the development of an Action Plan for Sea Turtles

Policy Consultations / Workshops.	
Activity 2.2.4.2. Offer a TSC/USP Policy Training Course.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.2.4.3. Present National Fisheries Management Seminars and Workshops	National fisheries management workshops were held for FSM, Tonga to present the respective EAFM Reports National fisheries management workshop was held for Vanuatu for the presentation of the final revised tuna management plan
Activity 2.2.4.4. Attach Fisheries Management personnel to FFA and arrange study tours for Pacific SIDS personnel to other Fisheries Commissions.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.2.4.5. Support relevant Ministerial meetings.	No activity this quarter
Sub-component 2.3: Institutional Reform	
Output 2.3.1. Strategies, plans and proposals for the reform, realignment and strengthening of national oceanic fisheries management administrations.	
Activity 2.3.1.1. Prepare a review of experience and best practices in institutional reform.	No activity this quarter
Activity 2.3.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of national oceanic fisheries management institutions.	Have undertaken the first stage of the institutional review for Kiribati fisheries
Activity 2.3.1.3. Present National Institutional Reform Workshops	No activity this quarter
Output 2.3.2. Processes for national consultation between stakeholders in oceanic fisheries management.	
Activity 2.3.2.1. Advise on and support national consultative processes.	Provided advice to FSM, Tonga and Vanuatu Fisheries departments and authorities on national consultative processes
Activity 2.3.2.2. Support strengthening of national environmental non-governmental organisations (ENGOs) and industry non-governmental organisations (INGOs) to empower them to participate in oceanic fisheries management.	Provision of support to strengthen Provincial stakeholder consultations in Vanuatu
Activity 2.3.2.3. Support national workshops for non-state stakeholders.	See activities 2.3.2.1 and 2.3.2.2
Activity 2.3.2.4. Arrange attachments and study tours for non-state stakeholders to learn from experience elsewhere.	No activity this quarter
Sub-component 2.4: Compliance Strengthening	
Output 2.4.1. Strategies, plans and proposals for realigning and strengthening national oceanic fisheries compliance programs.	
Activity 2.4.1.1. Prepare a review of	Preparations for the 11MCS Working Group meeting in Honiara, 31

Convention implications for national compliance.	March to 4 April to workshop outcomes 4WCPFC held in Guam in December 2007 and WCPFC High seas Boarding and Inspections procedures to held in Nadi, Fiji from 21-23 April 2008.
Activity 2.4.1.2. Undertake and support implementation of reviews of needs to strengthen and realign national compliance programs.	MCS Strategy. Workshop held in Brisbane in February with the objective building a framework for the MCS Strategy.
Output 2.4.2. Arrangements for regional coordination of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) activities.	
Activity 2.4.2.1. Support regional consultations on coordination of air and sea patrols.	Continue to provide support and advice to member countries; operations Raibalang between Palau and FSM in March 2008.
Activity 2.4.2.2. Provide advice on MCS coordination between Pacific SIDS and other states involved.	Provide advice and support to FSM and Palau for the operations Raibalang and Kiribati and Cooks in respect of fishing in the Lines Islands and Ecuador fishing vessels. Ecuador licensed by FSM and Kiribati's request to US Government to assist with the apprehension of a Japanese unlicensed fishing vessel in the Lines Islands.
Activity 2.4.2.3. Prepare Niue Treaty subsidiary agreements.	Preparations for 11MCS Working group meeting in Honiara to workshop the Niue Treaty as directed by FFC64.
Output 2.4.3. Strategies and proposals for regional compliance measures and programs.	
Activity 2.4.3.1. Undertake technical studies on compliance issues under the Convention.	Regional MCS Strategy workshop in February and 11MCS working Group meeting in Honiara in late March to early April.
Activity 2.4.3.2. Hold meetings of a Working Group of Pacific SIDS on MCS issues related to oceanic fisheries.	The holding of the 11 th MCS Working Group meeting (MCSWG) held at FFA's Conference Centre, in Honiara from 31 st March to 4 th April 2008. The MCSWG meeting is held annually and attended by representatives of the 17 FFA members. This gathering allows all practitioners and providers of regional fisheries surveillance to meet and discuss regional surveillances issues. At the recent Forum Leaders meeting at Vavau'u, Tonga, the Leaders strongly expressed support and commitment to fisheries as one of the region's strongest drivers for sustainable economic growth including a source of both export revenue and food security for the Forum Countries.
Activity 2.4.3.3. Prepare and present reports on regional compliance issues to Pacific SIDS, including analysis of proposals for the Commission and its Technical and Compliance Committee.	Workshop in Brisbane in February to put together a Regional MCS Strategy.
Output 2.4.4. Training of national compliance staff, especially in inspection and VMS.	
Activity 2.4.4.1. Present courses on National Inspection, VMS and other national MCS training programs.	Preparations for In-country Prosecution and Dockside training workshop in Fiji from the 25 of April to 2 of May 2008.
Activity 2.4.4.2. Attach national compliance staff to FFA and other Pacific SIDS.	MCS fellowship involving a Tuvaluan Master's student studying at the AMC, Tasmania 31 March to 11 April 2008. He is Nikolasi Apinelu, former Acting Director of Fisheries in Tuvalu. The New Zealand fellowship plan was scrapped due to lack of positive response from New Zealand.

Component Three

Sub-component 3.1: Information Strategy	
Output 3.1.1. Project Information System for capture, storage and dissemination of project data, lessons and best practices and provision of information products using experience and guidelines from IW:LEARN.	
Activity 3.1.1.1. Design logos and other Project identifiers, Project Website/page and Project Document Cataloguing System.	Completed.
Activity 3.1.1.2. Operate the Website/page.	A short term contract to further develop and refine the project website has been completed successfully. The local consultant worked closely with the PCU in implement changes to original website page. Improved aesthetics, more user friendly administrative conditions and a up load of back dated material are some of the improvements achieved. Initial feedback has so far been positive with some suggestions for further changes.
Activity 3.1.1.3. Project information materials including CDs, papers, videos, pamphlets, newsletters, interviews, press releases etc.	A electronic newsletter template has been designed as part of website short-term consultancy. The first edition has yet to be produced but is expected to be compiled and distributed in the second quarter of 2008. A number of recommendations are expected to be made in the final report of the website consultant, identifying appropriate material for the production project promotional items. Discussions with WWF regarding publications in 'lay terms' for NGO and other audiences to be progressed.
Output 3.1.2. Knowledge management process identifying innovative, best practice and replicable ideas within the Project and relevant to the Project and active involvement with IW:LEARN.	
Activity 3.1.2.1. Prepare Knowledge Management Strategy.	KM Strategy recommendations within the scope of the projects resources are being implemented. A draft annual report for the project completed in the first quarter of 2008 recognises the short falls of the project ability to address a comprehensive Knowledge Management Strategy.
Activity 3.1.2.2. Generate Knowledge Management Components for Website/page, newsletters, and progress reports.	See Activities 3.1.1.2, 3.1.1.3 and 3.1.2.1
Sub-component 3.2: Monitoring and Evaluation	
Output 3.2.1. Measures of, and reports on, overall project performance and delivery, including independent evaluations of the Project.	
Activity 3.2.1.1. Mid-term evaluation.	Coordinated by the project Implementing Agency country office, UNDP Suva, notice that the recruitment of consultants to undertake the mid-term review application period was extended was received early in the quarter. No further information on the recruitment process has been forthcoming.
Activity 3.2.1.2. Terminal evaluation.	No activity
Activity 3.2.1.3. Post evaluation (Year 8).	
Activity 3.2.1.4. Annual reviews.	A number of drafts have been received from the consultant for the annual review of the project. SPC and FFA staffs involved in the project funded activities have been invited to provide some initial

	comment. A further draft of the report is expected early this quarter. Due dates for the final submission of the report being delayed due to commitments of those providing comments. The final draft will be further circulated to participating countries, UNDP, WWF, PITIA, USP and all others involved intimately with the project.
Activity 3.2.1.5. Annual audit.	2007 Audit has commenced in the first quarter of 2008. The audit of SPC activities and expenditure has been completed and provided to the PCU for onward transmission to the project overall auditors.
Output 3.2.2. Analysis of process, stress-reduction and environmental status indicators as per the GEF International Waters Operational Strategy.	
Activity 3.2.2.1. Carry out baseline studies to measure IW indicators.	Incomplete activity that requires urgent attention – a priority in Q2 Gaps in baseline information are being addressed, specifically with regards to national institutions & supportive laws and policies reforms and the existence of inter-ministry coordination mechanisms.
Activity 3.2.2.2. Include indicator measures in progress reports.	To be completed.
Sub-component 3.3: Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising	
Output 3.3.1. ENGO participation and awareness raising in Convention-related processes.	
Activity 3.3.1.1. Conclude co-financing arrangement with a Pacific ENGO.	Completed.
Activity 3.3.1.2. Support Pacific ENGO participation in the Commission.	The agreed work plan in the FFA/WWF LOA provides for the support the participation of the WWF. WWF attended and the 4th session of the WCPF Commission held at Guam in December 2007 and other Commission related meetings.
Activity 3.3.1.3. Provide information on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific ENGOs.	See Activity 3.3.1.4 and 3.3.1.5
Activity 3.3.1.4. Hold national and regional Workshops for ENGOs.	No activity this quarter.
Activity 3.3.1.5. Produce information materials to raise public awareness on oceanic fisheries management issues.	No activity – current discussions with WWF-Pacific to produce material in non-technical language to raise awareness. WWF are also in the process of developing a website focusing on WCPFC and regional oceanic fisheries management.
Activity 3.3.1.6. Organise regional and national fora on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues for civil society participation.	See Activity 3.3.1.4
Output 3.3.2. Support industry participation and awareness raising in Convention-related processes.	
Activity 3.3.2.1. Conclude co-financing arrangement with Pacific INGO.	LOA completed.
Activity 3.3.2.2. Support Pacific INGO participation in the Commission.	Agreed work plan in the LOA with PITIA provides for support to regional policy meetings (MOW, October Rarotonga) and WCPFC4 (Guam, December).
Activity 3.3.2.3. Provide information flow on the Convention and	Further effort is required to engage PITIA and industry representatives and the transfer of information concerning the Convention and fisheries

oceanic fisheries management issues to Pacific INGOs and businesses.	management issues.
Activity 3.3.2.4. Support Pacific INGO consultations on the Convention and oceanic fisheries management issues.	See Activity 3.3.2.2.
Sub-component 3.4: Project Management and Coordination	
Output 3.4.1. Project Coordination Unit staffing and office.	
Activity 3.4.1.1. Appoint the Project Coordinator.	Completed
Activity 3.4.1.2. Appoint other PCU staff.	Completed
Activity 3.4.1.3. Procure equipment and other requirements to establish the PCU.	Software and fan purchased.
Output 3.4.2. Arrangements for coordination between Implementing and Executing Agencies.	
Activity 3.4.2.1. Preliminary UNDP/FFA/SPC/IUCN Consultations.	Completed
Activity 3.4.2.2. Conclude FFA/SPC and FFA/IUCN Letters of Agreement (LOAs).	Completed
Activity 3.4.2.3. UNDP/FFA Consultations.	On-going
Output 3.4.3. Regional Steering Committee meetings and reports.	
Activity 3.4.3.1. Hold Inception Workshop.	Completed
Activity 3.4.3.2. Hold Regional Steering Committee meetings.	RSC4 is scheduled to take place over a two day period in October 2008. Dates have been confirmed as the 10 – 11 October 2008 and will precede the FFA Management Options workshop. The report and outcomes of the mid-term review of the project are expected to be presented to the Regional Steering Committee.
Output 3.4.4. National Consultative Committee meetings and reports.	
Activity 3.4.4.1. Secure National Focal Point nominations.	Completed. Updated list of the project focal points has been posted on the project website. Changes to focal points in Nauru, Vanuatu and others have been incorporated.
Activity 3.4.4.2. Support National Consultative Committee meetings.	No activity
Output 3.4.5. Reports on Project implementation, workplan and finances.	
Activity 3.4.5.1. Prepare periodic financial and narrative reports.	On-going. Q4 financial and narrative reports completed (some gaps in FFA reporting) and submitted on time to UNDP.
Activity 3.4.5.2. Prepare Annual Work plans	No activity
Activity 3.4.5.3: Prepare Annual Project Reports	No activity
Other Comments	

<p>IUCN – Discussions to reached agreement on alternative activities to replace the cancelled research cruise consistent with the relevant project outputs and outcomes.</p>	<p>The PCU has coordinated the discussions between IUCN, the FFA, SPC and UNDP to identify alternative activities to replace the work that will now not be completed due to the cancellation of the ecosystem analysis research cruise.</p> <p>IUCN have appointed Eric Gilman based in the region (Hawaii) as a coordinator for these activities and an agreed work programme has been developed commencing in quarter 1 of 2008. Agreement to transfer part of the funding carried forward by IUCN to SPC to support the recruitment of a Spatial Oceanographer Analyst was reached.</p> <p>IUCN is expected to report this progress to the fourth session of the project regional steering committee in Apia later this year.</p>
--	--

8. Challenges/Issues Encountered

- i) Resolution of the delayed scientific research cruise (IUCN) with the decision to cancel this activity by IUCN;
- ii) Increasing number of fisheries meetings leading to difficulties in scheduling capacity building activities

9. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

- i) Confirmation of cancellation of the research cruise and the successful negotiation of alternative activities;
- ii) Endeavoring to coordinate attachments and look for innovative ways to transfer knowledge and skills to participating countries that do not involve fisheries staff having to leave their offices e.g. more in-country workshops, coordinated events between FFA & SPC, and internet forums (SPC)

10. Report Prepared By:

FFA – Moses Amos, Manu Tupou Roosen, Jean Gordon and Lamillar Pawut , PCU – Barbara Hanchard

SPC - John Hampton, with assistance from Valerie Allain, Don Bromhead, Deirdre Brogan, Bruno Leroy and Peter Williams.

IUCN – Eric Gilman