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OUTLINE SAP II PROJECT: NATIONAL PROJECT PREPARATION REPORTS

Fiji

Foreword

This brief report was prepared by Ian Cartwright and Seremaia Tuqiri during a visit to Suva from 21 to 25 June 2004. It aims to assemble information relating to Fiji necessary for the preparation of the GEF SAP II Project.

The main aims of the report are to:

- make an assessment of the implications of the WCPF Convention for Fiji;
- identify possible activities to support implementation by Fiji of the WCPF Convention;
- make an analysis of the incremental costs to Fiji of activities related to the Convention;
- undertake an analysis of stakeholders in Fiji with interests in the regional oceanic fisheries resources;
- identify relevant consultative mechanisms in Fiji for the GEF SAP II Project; and
- collect information relating to available indicators of performance in areas related to the WCPF Convention and to the financial sustainability of Fiji's participation in the Commission and implementation of the WCPF Convention.

The report is based on available published information and information provided to the mission by the stakeholders listed in Annex 3.

1. Background

1.1 Status of Oceanic Fisheries

Fiji has an EEZ of 1.29million km², which supports a substantial domestic tuna fishing industry. Foreign fishing has occurred in Fijian waters since the early 1950s. Domestic fisheries started with pole and line ventures in the mid 70's and continued until the 1990s when low prices and relatively high costs made this form of fishing largely uneconomic. Taiwanese and Korean longline activity, primarily targeting albacore, increased in the 1980s, with substantial growth of the domestic longline fleet occurring over the last 10 years. In the last five years, the numbers of domestic longliners has gone from 43 to 101 (2003). As at June 2004, 84 longline vessels are fishing in Fiji's EEZ, of which 57 have full licenses, the balance operating on provisional licenses.

Matching the growth in effort, catches by the domestic fleet have increased from around 5,000 tonnes in 1998 to an all time high in 2002 of 16,472 tonnes, of which 12,800 tonnes (74%) was taken in the Fijian EEZ. Environmental factors and adverse economic conditions led to a reduction in catches in 2003 to 11,000 tonnes, of which 7,400 tonnes was caught in the EEZ.

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The value of the Fijian tuna catch is estimated at FJ\$200 million¹ (2003) with exports worth approximately FJ\$120 million. This makes tuna fishing one of Fiji's major industries, ranking third behind tourism and sugar. The domestic tuna industry in Fiji in 2002 accounted for some 900 jobs on vessels, with a further 1,500 employed in shore-based facilities.

A significant volume of tuna is transhipped at ports in Fiji by foreign vessels, and in particular Taiwanese longliners (88% of total transshipments in 2002). Other minor transshipments include those by China, Vanuatu and Japan. In 2002 a total of around 11,300 tonnes of tuna and related species was recorded as being offloaded, around 10,500 tonnes (93%) of which was albacore. The PAFCO cannery in Levuka processes much of the albacore, and produced around 12,600 tonnes of loins and 418,766 cases of tuna in 2002, primarily for export.

Fiji exports most of its tuna catch to Japan and America, these two markets receiving 57% and 41% of Fiji's tuna catch respectively in 2002. In the same year, 12,582 tonnes of frozen tuna was exported and 3,630 tonnes exported unfrozen for the sashimi market.

1.2 Oceanic Fisheries Management

The objective of the Fiji Tuna Development and Management Plan is:

To provide for maximum sustainable benefits to Fiji from the resource.

The Plan states that this objective:

implies setting the harvest levels that will not damage the stock and putting into practice a licensing policy that will ensure that maximum benefits from fishing are enjoyed by Fijians.

It further stated that:

the Government has also taken the opportunity to use the Plan to help improve the disparity within the segments of the Fijian population by providing preferential criteria for Indigenous Fijians to have access to licenses consistent with the aims of the Government through the Social Justice Act.

Commercial tuna fishing is now focused on longline operations. The longline fishery is managed under a system of catch and effort limits with an overall TAC for yellowfin, bigeye and albacore of 15,000 tonnes, and a limit on the number of longline vessel licenses of 110. Of these 110 licenses, 60 are open licenses, 25 are reserved for indigenous Fijians and 25 for vessels associated with processors. Licenses are issued annually.

The area between internal waters and the shoreward boundary of archipelagic waters is closed to vessels over 20 metres and those owned by non-indigenous Fijians. All vessels using 'commercial' fishing gear i.e. longline, purse seine, pole and line require a license, irrespective of length. There is a proposal currently before Cabinet that the area of archipelagic waters be reserved for indigenous interests.

1.3 Oceanic Fisheries Institutional Arrangements

¹ US1.00 = FJ\$1.77

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The institutional structure of the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests is in the process of structural change. A National Fisheries Authority has been proposed under the new Fisheries Bill, which is with Cabinet. Currently the Oceanic Fisheries Management Services Division (OFMSD) of the Fisheries Department is responsible for oceanic fisheries management. The Fisheries Department has a total staff of 188, of which 36 are in the OFMSD. Of these 36 posts, only two are established, with the balance employed as project staff. One SPC funded contract officer is also employed by the Division, using EU funding. The Fisheries Department has an annual operating budget of FJ\$5.85 million. The OFMSD, with the exception of two core-funded established posts, is funded entirely from a trust fund from that portion of the license fees not paid to government. The OFMSD has five activity areas: Administration, Information Technology, Licensing and Enforcement, Observers, and Offshore Tuna Data Analysis. While oceanic fisheries are a high priority within the Fisheries Department, the OFMSD budget of F\$490,000 is only around 12% of the total Fisheries Department budget.

The main government agencies involved in oceanic fisheries are the:

- Office of the Solicitor General, which provides legal advice, drafts legislation and attends meetings as legal advisors
- Navy Division of the Fiji Military Forces, which undertakes surveillance and enforcement duties using three ocean-going patrol boats and two support vessels;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade which is active in the international aspects of fisheries policy, including work related to the WCPF Convention and other regional and international aspects of fisheries affairs;
- Fiji Police Force, which in collaboration with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions is responsible for prosecutions and enforcement.
- Department of Environment which has interests in respect of marine conservation and sustainability issues, including turtles and other by-catch.

Fisheries policy is largely driven by the Fisheries Department. Consultation with government departments and other stakeholders (including industry and NGOs) on policy matters is dealt with through:

- an industry-based body, the Offshore Tuna Council², whose membership comprises all Fiji License holders, those owning fish processing and packaging factories and representatives of government; and
- various ad-hoc committee processes, called to consult on specific issues, e.g. the review of the Tuna Management Plan.

Consultation with government departments on licensing and project matters occurs through two specific committees:

The **Licensing Committee** – responsible for making recommendations on all license applications for oceanic fisheries in Fiji. Cabinet appoints members of the Committee which comprise the CEO Fisheries and Forests, CEO Foreign Affairs and External Trade, CEO Home Affairs and Immigration and the Director of Fisheries. A large number of co-opted members also sit on the committee, including those from the line Ministries outlined above. There is no industry or environmental NGO participation.

² Currently the Offshore Tuna Council meets very infrequently.

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Application for licenses by fishing operators, including those involved in joint-ventures with local partners, are increasingly coming under closer scrutiny.

The **Project Committee**- responsible for considering all project proposals relating to fisheries in coastal and oceanic waters, e.g. foreign investment in oceanic fisheries. Membership comprises the Deputy Director of Fisheries, Principal Fisheries Officer (Research) and the Principal Fisheries Officer/Project Officer whose area is being applied for.

The Department of Environment is responsible for broader aspects of environmental management, including marine pollution.

1.4 Donor Involvement

The major ongoing donor involvement is the provision of three Pacific Patrol Craft and associated training and logistical support by the Australian Defence Force. A range of donors contribute to the regional programmes of oceanic fisheries assistance provided by FFA and SPC that are utilised by Fiji on a regular basis.

1.5 Other Oceanic Fisheries Management Issues

Other significant oceanic fisheries management issues that arose during the mission to Fiji include:

- fleet mobility with an increasing number of Fiji-based vessels holding licenses to multiple zones and in particular Vanuatu and Tuvalu;
- increasing cooperation with neighbouring states on such matters as compliance, and data exchange;
- increasing transshipments from DWFN vessels, increasing port state responsibilities and associated costs;
- concern over the impact of purse seine fishing on the longline fishery;
- licensing arrangements and qualifying criteria for longline vessels remain a source of ongoing controversy;
- determining optimum fleet size and/or catch to ensure both economic and biological sustainability; and
- the need to differentiate between environmental and fishery driven effects on catch rates.

2. Fiji and the WCPF Convention

2.1 Overview

Fiji's primary aims in the MHLC and PrepCon process have been:

- to achieve the overall conservation of tuna resources within the WCPO, with particular concern over the need to control capacity in the purse seine sector, due to the flow-on impacts on bigeye and yellowfin tuna targeted by the longline fishery;
- to derive an equitable share for Fiji of the overall TAC for the WCPO;
- to create a framework that will encourage the development of domestic fishing industries; and

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- to establish a cost-effective management framework and Commission that maximises the use of current regional arrangements, and is not a burden on Pacific Island Countries.

Major short term areas of implications for Fiji as a Member of the Commission and a Party to the WCPF Convention are seen as follows:

- need to update legislation to comply with the requirements of the WCPF Convention;
- need to improve flag state control, including the establishment of a process to authorise Fijian flagged vessels fishing on the high seas, and to better control Fiji flagged vessels fishing in the EEZs of other FFA states;
- requirement to improve dockside monitoring processes and coverage to deal with increasing transshipments and use of Fiji as a base by DWFN;
- need to improve the pattern of participation and understanding by the private sector in the processes of the Commission.

Overall, Fiji has taken steps to implement an oceanic fisheries management framework but will need to update and strengthen it to respond to requirements associated with the Convention.

2.2 *Implications of the Convention*

2.2.1 *Legal*

The 1972 Fisheries Act requires substantial revision to be compatible with the requirements of recent regional and international instruments, including the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and WCPF Convention. A Bill has been before Cabinet dealing with a comprehensive suite of fisheries management arrangements covering all aspects of Fisheries, including oceanic fisheries. This Bill is now back with Fisheries for modification and will require updating to take account of WCPF Convention requirements.

Instrument	Status
WCPF Convention	Ratified
UN Convention on the Law of the Sea	Ratified
UN Fish Stocks Agreement	Ratified
Driftnet Convention	Ratified
Convention on Biological Diversity	Ratified
FAO Code of Conduct	Accepted
FAO Compliance Agreement	Endorsed
FAO International Plans of Action	Endorsed, not yet implemented
WSSD Fisheries Targets	Not formally adopted
FFA Minimum Terms and Conditions	Implemented

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While there is substantial legal expertise available in the Office of the Solicitor General (40 legal staff), no one legal specialist is assigned to Fisheries. Both the Office of the Solicitor General and the Fisheries Department are of the opinion that substantial benefits would be gained by basing a lawyer in Fisheries, as is the case with a number of other Ministries.

There is currently an inadequate understanding of legal commitments under the Convention, including flag state obligations and links with practical fisheries management initiatives, including improved compliance.

There is a need to improve the harmonisation of legislation between the Fisheries Act and associated legislation including that relating to the environment.

2.2.2 Policy/Institutional

The oceanic fisheries management framework in Fiji is in transition, awaiting the passing of the new Fisheries Act and the creation of the Fiji Islands National Fisheries Authority (FINFA). The structure of FINFA needs to be formalised as a matter of priority. In the meantime, the OFMSD is constrained in its activities by the level of funding it receives under current cost recovery arrangements.

Fiji's participation in the WCPF Commission will continue to be led by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests. Consultation with stakeholders will be undertaken on an ad-hoc basis until alternative consultative processes are developed. Clear national positions on regional and multilateral issues including a sub-regional approach to the management of longline fishing and allocation have yet to be developed. Fiji is interested in using the bio-economic model to inform policy decisions the national/sub-regional issues, such as the optimum levels of purse seine and longline catches.

The cost of financial contributions for Fiji to the WCPF commission is expected to be in the range of US\$8-12,000 per year once the Commission is fully established, although it may be more in the first year or two if major fishing states delay becoming Members of the Commission. OFMSD intends to increase income by accessing licence fee revenues. A proposal is with Cabinet that when approved, will result in additional income from vessels based and landing in Fiji but not fishing in Fiji's EEZ (license fees of @F\$2,500 per vessel, and per visit fees for DWFN and other vessels landing in Fiji (@F\$200 per visit).

2.2.3 Compliance

Compliance and enforcement activities are carried out by the Naval Division through the operation of three ocean-going patrol vessels, the Fiji Police Force, the Department of Fisheries, and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution. Naval officers have been given Fisheries boarding powers to board vessels. A good database of registered vessels and gear characteristics is kept with the Department of Fisheries. There is recognition of the increasing mobility of fishing fleets and the associated compliance issues. To deal with such issues Fiji has entered into collaborative compliance arrangements with Vanuatu and Tuvalu and there are plans to do the same with the Solomon Islands. The use of the Niue Treaty to formalise these arrangements is under consideration.

The capacity of Navy staff in relation to understanding and implementation of fisheries-associated legal instruments requires strengthening.

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There is support for a standardised (region wide) format for dockside boarding procedures and associated training.

The FFA VMS facility is managed by the Naval Division. While it is operational (there should be a daily download), regular technical problems have been experienced. The latest problem rendered the VMS system ineffective for 3 weeks. A minimum criterion imposed on all fishing vessels is that they must be 'seen' as target on the VMS system before they can be licensed to fish in Fiji waters. Fiji considers that there is a need to avoid duplication of VMS systems (between the FFA and Commission VMS systems).

The efficiency in monitoring and surveillance activities is hampered by tight operational budget for the Naval Division. With all five active vessels at sea (3 patrol craft and 2 support vessels) there is only sufficient funding to cover 16 days per year of effective surveillance.

Given the current funding constraints and high level of activity in Fiji's EEZ, vessel boarding and inspection on the high seas by Fiji patrol boats is not expected to be undertaken in the immediate future. An authorisation process to enable high seas boarding and inspection is yet to be developed, although the Fisheries Act allows for this.

2.2.4 Monitoring

Fiji has a well developed system of data collection, verification and analysis of catch and effort data. It also has the capability to log and generate data before it transmission to SPC for review. This work has been well supported by SPC under the IW SAP Project, and by the EU-Procfish Project. A database has been set up containing Fiji's catch and effort data by species, gear, and fleet type that will meet the requirements of the Commission. There is now a desire to move towards training programmers and data analysts to do more detailed in-country analysis of both national and regional fisheries data

While most vessel landings are well monitored ensuring a high level of port sampling coverage, some data gaps from landings still exist.

An onboard observer programme aimed at the domestic longline fleet is in place, with an approximate observer coverage of 20%. A common terms of reference (TOR) has been agreed to with Vanuatu (see Compliance section) to qualify Fiji Observers to become Vanuatu Observers, once multi-licensed vessels enter Vanuatu waters. This cross-accreditation is expected to be an on going requirement.

Tuna tagging research was supported and a preference expressed for a tagging programme to be done every 5 years or so, with the objective of creating understanding of both local movement and regional mobility of tuna.

2.2.5 Scientific Analysis

Scientific Analysis

Fiji, with software and training assistance provided by SPC, has now developed a good data collection and analysis capability. This year (2004) for the first time Fiji will be preparing their annual SCTB data report unaided, with SPC providing final checking of data and calculations. Fiji is capable of providing some data analysis,

DRAFT

including spatially disaggregated catch and effort data, in support of the management process.

The trend whereby recent stock assessment advice provided by SPC has increasingly focused on the impact of fishing on stocks in the Fiji EEZ has been welcomed by all stakeholders. While progress is acknowledged, there is considered to be a need expand this activity and thereby provide a greater understanding of the relative impacts of fishing and environmental factors on tuna stocks.

Fiji is keen to build on the progress made with national data collection and analysis, and wishes to progress towards gaining a national capability to interpret regional stock assessment data. There is also a requirement to better understand and monitor the relationship between long line and purse seine fisheries.

Ecosystem analysis

Tuna by-catch is currently not considered to be an issue for Fiji, but is recognised as an emerging issue with the potential to impact exports. Under current practises, and using the SPC definitions, there is virtually no longline by-catch, with retained non-target species being landed as by-product and finding a ready market. Data on by-catch taken within the EEZ is generally sketchy and work to date on by-catch issues has been minimal. There is a need to improve the understanding of the ecosystem-based management aspects of the Convention and how these can be practically addressed by Pacific Island countries.

Large scale oceanographic changes undoubtedly have impacts on Fiji's oceanic fisheries however there is little capacity to monitor and analyse large scale impacts, or to separate these impacts from the impacts of fishing. Analysis conducted through the Oceanic Fisheries Programme of the SPC is providing greater understanding of the local situation with respect to large scale ENSO-driven changes.

3. Potential Contribution of SAP II Project

Potential areas in which the SAP II Project could contribute to assisting Fiji in the implementation of national activities related to the WCPF Convention are summarised in the table below.

Activity	Incremental Actions	Possible Interventions
<i>Legal</i>		
Revise Legal framework	Provide legal advice in support of review of Fisheries Act	Legal review
Support Commission participation	Provide legal input into national positions	Training for dedicated fisheries legal officer
Implement Commission decisions	Understand legal implications	Regional Legal Workshops
<i>Policy</i>		
Participate in the Commission and new regional management arrangements	Meet commission financial contributions Additional Commission and FFA meeting participation Develop regional and national vision for future management arrangements	Institutional Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management Training/Consultations Workshops on alternative fisheries management strategies

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Strengthen In-Zone Management/ Provide data to the Commission	Develop defensible and compatible national reference points	Regular (biennial) management plan review
<i>Compliance</i>		
Increase IUU deterrence in-zone	<p>Increase understanding and implementation of legal instruments</p> <p>Support for collaborative surveillance operations.</p> <p>Implement high seas authorisation process</p>	<p>Technical assistance and training to on national and regional compliance implications of Convention</p> <p>MCS working groups at regional and sub-regional levels, with technical support</p>
<i>Monitoring</i>		
Improve at-sea data	Expand Observer Programme	Ongoing assistance from SPC with training and overall monitoring strategy
Improve catch composition data	Expand Port Sampling Programme	<p>Capacity building focussing on training programmers and data analysts</p> <p>Increase standardisation of forms and procedures</p>
<i>Science</i>		
Improve national statistical info	Strengthen national capacity to analyse national data	Ongoing support from SPC
Provide catch/effort estimates to the Commission	Strengthen national capacity to interpret regional analyses	Training for national scientific staff to interpret stock assessments and oceanographic information
Improve understanding of oceanic resources and ecosystem	Enhanced capacity to interpret fishing vs environmentally driven changes to the fishery, and oceanographic information	Training for national scientific staff to interpret stock assessments and oceanographic information

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ANNEXES

- Annex 1 Incremental Cost/Co-financing Analysis
- Annex 2 Stakeholder Inventory and Analysis (including consultative mechanism inventory)
- Annex 3 Record of Stakeholder Consultation
- Annex 4 Indicator Availability
- Annex 5 Sustainability Analysis

DRAFT

Annex 1 Incremental Cost/Co-financing Analysis

Summary

National Funding		
Theme	Total 2005-2009 Baseline	Total 2005-2009 Incremental
(FJ\$ '000)		
1 Law	199	175
2 Policy/Management	1088	465
3 Compliance	3270	875
4 Monitoring	625	400
5 Science	200	150
Total	5382	2065

Base Data

Institution	Programme	Theme	2004 Budget	%OFM	2004 OFM Budget
Fisheries Dept	Executive Mgmt	Policy/Mgmt	491	25%	122.8
	Offshore	Monitoring	170	100%	170.0
OFMSD	Fisheries				
OFMSD	Data Anal.	Science	50	100%	50.0
OFMSD	Reg&Enforce	Compliance	110	100%	110.0
Navy	P. Boat Ops	Compliance	1040	60%	624.0
For Aff	Poltical/Treaties	Policy/Mgmt	14490	1%	144.9
S.G.		Law	4480	1%	44.8
Total					1266.5

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Annex 1 Incremental Cost/Co-financing Analysis

Details

Theme	Institution	Programme	2004 OFM budget	2004 WCPF Increment	2004 Non-WCPF Baseline	2005-2009 Baseline	New WCPF Increment					Total	Total Incr
							2005	2006	2007	2008	2009		
1 Law	S.G.	Law	45	5	40	199	30	30	30	30	30	150	175
2 Policy/Mgmt	Fisheries D For Affairs	Executive Mgmt	123	20	103	514	38	38	38	38	38	190	290
		Pacific	145	30	115	575	5	5	5	5	5	25	175
3 Compliance	OFMSD	Compliance	110	30	80	400	25	25	25	25	25	125	275
	Navy	Compliance	624	50	574	2870	70	70	70	70	70	350	600
4 Monitoring	OFMSD	Offshore Fisheries	170	45	125	625	35	35	35	35	35	175	400
5 Science	OFMSD	Offshore Fisheries	50	10	40	200	20	20	20	20	20	100	150
			1266	190	1076	5382	2228					1115	2065

Fiji has an extensive and active domestic fishing fleet, some vessels of which fish on the high seas and in the EEZs of other FFA members. While a number of the future Commission and current regional obligations are now being met and funded, Fiji intends to improve performance in a number of additional areas. These include updating legislation, improving licensing/authorisation arrangements and reducing in-zone IUU through increased compliance, including through increased patrol boat activity. Current cost recovery arrangements are being extended, and the establishment of the Fiji Islands National Fisheries Authority (FINFA) will provide additional funding resources.

Cofinancing cost estimates are based on:

Law: New fisheries legal post

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Policy/Management; Participation in the Commission; Commission financial contribution; Establishment of the Fiji Islands National Fisheries Authority (FINFA) with expanded OFM functions financed by new cost recovery arrangement

Compliance: Costs of additional fisheries dedicated patrols

Monitoring: Expanded observer staff

Science: Establishment of the Fiji Islands National Fisheries Authority (FINFA) with expanded OFM functions financed by new cost recovery arrangement

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Annex 2 Stakeholder Inventory and Analysis (including consultative mechanism inventory)

Country: Fiji
 Date: 23rd June 2004
 Data Recorder: Seremaia Tuqiri E-mail: stuqiri@wwfpacific.org.fj

Stakeholder	Representative / Post	Contact details Country Code (679)	Description of interests (factors that may influence participation)	Stakeholder analysis and preliminary participation plan		
				1 st stakeholder (role in decision making)	2 nd stakeholder (2-way flow of information)	<i>Other</i> <i>[Keep informed]</i>
Department of Fisheries	Apolosi Turaganivalu Principal Fisheries Officer	Ministry of Fisheries & Forests GPO Box 358, Suva Tel: 336 1122 Fax: 336 1184	National fisheries authority	X		
Foreign Affairs & External Trade	Ross Ligairi Deputy Permanent Secretary (Political & Treaties)	P.O. Box 2220 Govt Buildings, Suva Tel: 330 9667 Fax: 330 1741	Foreign policy and Treaty administration and negotiation	X		
Naval Division	Bradley Bower Maritime Commander	Naval Division Fiji Military Forces GPO Box 102, Suva Tel: 331 2585 Fax: 331 4783	Fisheries compliance		X	
Fiji Police Force	Kevueli Bulamainivalu Asst. Commissioner of Police (Operations)	P.O. Box 239, Suva Tel: 331 2999 Fax: 330 3199	Compliance and enforcement		X	
Office of the Solicitor General	Nainendra Nand Solicitor General	Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 2213 Govt Buildings, Suva Tel: 330 9866	Drafting of legislation		X	

DRAFT

		Fax: 330 5421				
Fiji Trade and Investment Board			Business Sector		X	
Department of Environment	Epeli Nasome Director of Environment	P.O. Box 2131 Govt Buildings, Suva Fiji Tel: 331 1699 Fax: 331 2879	GEF Focal Point		X	
Fiji Islands Maritime Safety Administration (FIMSA)	Director of Marine	P.O. Box 326, Suva Tel: 331 5266 Fax: 330 3251	Vessel safety and registration		X	
Environmental NGOs e.g. Greenpeace and WWF	Oceans Campaigner/Fisheries Conservaton Officer	-	Conservation interests		X	
The University of the South Pacific	Leon Zann Professor of Marine Studies zann_1@usp.ac.fj	-	Training and education providor		X	
Vessel Operators		-	Industry	X		
Fish Processing plant operators		-	Industry	X		
General Public		-	Socio-economic			X

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Inventory of Project-related national consultative mechanisms

Consultative body	Parent/host body	Representative/contact details	Area(s) of interest	Frequency of meetings	Members and affiliations
1. Oceanic Fisheries Licensing Committee	Department of Fisheries Min. of Fisheries & Forests	CEO Fisheries & Forests (Chair)	Looks at all licence applications for the oceanic fisheries in Fiji	Ad hoc?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEO Foreign Affairs & External Trade - CEO Home Affairs & Immigration - Director of Fisheries - Fisheries Licensing Officer (Committee Secretary) <p><i>Co-opted Members</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solicitor General's Office - Fiji Navy - Fiji Islands Revenue & Customs Authority (FIRCA) - Legal - Fiji Inland Revenue Services - Fiji Customs Services - Fiji Islands Trade & Investment Bureau - Reserve Bank of Fiji - Fiji Islands Maritime Safety Administration (FIMSA) - Immigration Department - Deputy Director of Fisheries - Principal Fisheries Officer (Management Services) - Principal Fisheries Officer (Research) - Principal Fisheries Officer or Project Officer whose area is being applied for - Fisheries Licensing Officer (Committee Secretary)
2. Fisheries Project Committee	Department of Fisheries	Deputy Director of Fisheries (Chair)	Looks at all project proposals relating to fisheries in the oceanic and coastal waters	Ad hoc	All Fiji licence holders and those owning fish processing and packaging factories

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3. Fiji Islands Offshore Fisheries Council (presently the FIOFC is a loose set up with no code of conduct or articles of association)	Industry	Current acting Chair is Mr David Lucas, Solander (Pacific) Ltd.	Set up with the intention of providing a cohesive and consultative forum specifically for industry and government.	Ad hoc at the present time	
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Annex 3 – Record of Stakeholder Consultation

GEF SAP II Country Mission – FIJI

PRIMARY STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Wednesday, 23rd June 2004

Marine Studies Programme

The University of the South Pacific

Participant List:

Jone Amoe, Project Officer (OTP), Department of Fisheries; Filipe Viala, National Fisheries Observer Coordinator, Department of Fisheries; Neomai Ravitu, Project Officer, Department of Fisheries, Lt. Bradley Bower, Maritime Commander, Republic of Fiji Navy; Andrew Hughes, Commissioner of Police, Fiji Police; Kevueli Bulamainavalu, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Fiji Police; Jonasa Leakai, Staff Officer, Central Police Station, Fiji Police; Ross Ligairi, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Political & Treaties), Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade; Seruwaia Sikivou, Statistician, Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics; Peniasi Kunatuba, Consultant, Agape Fishing Company; Josateki Nawalowalo, Director, Seafresh (Fiji) Ltd; Aneil Sami, Seafresh (Fiji) Ltd; Sivoki Matananiu; Robert Stone, Fisheries Consultant; Lisa Stone, The Gourmet Food Company; David Lucas, Solander Pacific Ltd; Russel Dunham, Fiji Fish Co. Ltd.; Joni Nawalowalo, Fisherman; Prof. Leon Zann, Director, Marine Studies Programme, USP; Dr. Vina Ram Bidesi, Lecturer, Marine Studies Programme, USP; Dr. Edward Anderson, Lecturer, Marine Studies Programme, USP; Pio Manoa, Oceans Campaigner, Greenpeace; Lagi Toribau, Assistant Oceans Campaigner, Greenpeace; Kesaia Tabunakawai; Regional Conservation Director, WWF South Pacific Programme (WWF-SPP); Penina Solomona, Marine Officer, WWF SPP; Alice Heffernan, Researcher, WWF SPP; Etika Rupeni, Fiji Country Programme Manager, WWF; Saimoni Tuilaucala (**CHAIR**), Acting Director, Ministry of Fisheries & Forests; Apolosi Turaganivalu, (**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**) Principal Fisheries Officer, Department of Fisheries.; Ian Cartwright, Mission Consultant (International); Seremaia Tuqiri, Mission Consultant (Regional).

The mission to Fiji held a primary stakeholder consultation after the public forum. It was held at the USP Marine Studies Programme Lecture Theatre to discuss the purpose and development of the SAP II project. There were a total of 28 participants on record.

Mr Ian Cartwright gave a presentation on GEF SAP II Project: Strengthening National Fisheries Management (on the implementation of the new Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention). Issues raised in the discussion were as follows:

- On authorisation to board on the high seas after 19th June 2004 – would this require Commission licensing? It was noted that this was so. Australia had taken this stand.
- Regarding the perception that quota allocation could be increased based on catch history, it was noted that the Commission would provide the forum to negotiate quota allocation. It was further noted that there was a lot of pressure to try and get a share of the quota allocation pie. The Commission must promptly deal with the allocation issue in order to stabilise the industry. Allocation must also be agreed to by consensus.
- Economic efficiency/viability of the vessels needed to be considered as well, not just biological sustainability. It was better to have a fewer fishing vessels and make a profit

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that to have a higher number and lose out. There was a need to push this at the Commission level.

- Need to know and deal with differing objectives placed on oceanic fisheries by respective Pacific Island countries (PICs). Concern was expressed with fishing techniques employed by vessels fishing in other PICs, while others want to gain as much as they could from their fishing licences. Tuna is shared stock – Fiji's fish stocks are dictated by fishing vessels in surrounding EEZs
- Cost recovery should be attributable to fishing activity, and should be based on a transparent model that both government and industry have both bought into.
- Need to be more informed about local stocks as this would enable countries to responsibly decide what management options they need to take.
- Cost-effective compliance was going to be a challenge particularly with respect to illegal, unidentified, and unreported (IUU) fishing. Presently there was barely any money to cover maintenance, surveillance and enforcement.
- Participation in the design of national arrangements should include a broader involvement of stakeholders.
- The WCPF Convention is a regional arrangement. Other countries in the region must fully buy into regional arrangements. Fiji is developing its tuna management plan and is working to make sure that there is political buy in.

Other consultations were held prior to and after the two meetings. These were with:

- **Department of Fisheries**
 - Apolosi Turaganivalu, Principal Fisheries Officer (MS)
 - Filipe Viala, National Fisheries Observer Coordinator
 - Jone Amoe, Project Officer (Oceanic Tuna Programme)
 - Anare Raiwalui
- **Naval Division, Fiji Military Forces**
 - Lt. Bradley Bower, Maritime Commander,
- **Fiji Police Force**
 - Mr Kevueli Bulamainavalu Assistant Commissioner of Police (Operations),
- **Department of Environment**
 - Mr Epele Nasome, Director of Environment,
- **Office of the Solicitor General**
 - Mr Nainendra Nand, Solicitor General,
 - Mr Eliesa Tuiloma, Senior Legal Officer,

Courtesy calls were made to:

- Mr Mitieli Baleivanualala, CEO Ministry of Fisheries & Forests
- Mr Malakai Tuiloa, Deputy Director of Fisheries

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- Mr Cama Tuiloma Fiji, CEO Local Government, Squatter Settlement, & Environment and GEF Focal Point.

GEF SAP II Country Mission – FIJI

PUBLIC FORUM

Wednesday, 23rd June 2004

Marine Studies Programme

The University of the South Pacific

Participant List

Filipe Viala, Department of Fisheries; Jone Amoe, Department of Fisheries; Neomai Ravitu, Department of Fisheries; Louise Isimeli, Department of Fisheries; Timoci Koroi, Republic of Fiji Navy; Esiteri Puamau, National Planning Office; Ovini Ralulu, National Planning Office; Nemani Mati, Prime Minister's Office; Akuila Ratu, Prime Minister's Office; S. Sanegar-Talemaisainiai, Ministry of Information; Aneil Sami, SeaFresh (Fiji); Josateki Nawalowalo, SeaFresh (Fiji) Ltd.; David Lucas, Solander Pacific Ltd.; Robert Stone, Fisheries Consultant; Lisa Stone, The Gourmet Food Company; Jonacani Damuni, Captain, Longline fishing vessel; Joni Nawalowalo, Fisherman; Lagi Toribau, Greenpeace; Pio Manoa, Greenpeace; Aliti Koroi; WWF Fiji Programme; Nicola Thomson; WWF South Pacific Programme; Alice Heffernan, WWF South Pacific Programme, Sophie Lubet, Embassy of France; Megan Streeter, Secretariat of the Pacific Community; Robin Yarrow, USP Council; Paul Kausimae

USP; Dr Vina Ram Bidesi, Marine Studies Programme, USP; Iliapi Tuwai, Marine Studies Programme, USP; Dr Edward Anderson, Marine Studies Programme, USP; Alan Resture, Institute of Marine Resources, USP; Dr Sandra Tarte, History/Politics Department, USP; Dr Elise Huffer, ADPAC Studies, USP; Tooti Tekinaiti, USP (student); Jacob Gala, USP (student); Stanley Wale, USP (student); James Tafatu, USP (student); Fiona Indu, USP (student); Abraham L. Haiuasi, USP (student); Philip L. Houlia, USP (student); Marie Pene

USP (student); Hubert Baselo, USP (student); Edward Danitofea, USP (student); Gabriel Victor Titili, USP (student); Mavis Depaune, USP (student); Monte Depaune, USP (student)

Haji Arumae; USP (student); John Talu, USP (student); Viliame Gabriel, USP Andy Johnston, University of Melbourne; Alumeci, Fiji Sun; Samantha Rina, Fiji Sun; Verenaisi Raicola, The Fiji Times; Timoci Vula, Fiji Daily Post; Samisoni Pareti, Islands Business Magazine, Matelita Ragogo, AFP/Pacific Magazine; Seru Waqanikalou, FM96; Saimoni Tuilaucala (**CHAIR**), Ministry of Fisheries & Forests; Apolosi Turaganivalu (**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**), Department of Fisheries; Ian Cartwright, GEF SAP II Country Mission Team; Seremaia Tuqiri, GEF SAP II Country Mission Team.

The Mission to Fiji held a public forum prior to the stakeholder consultation, to create awareness of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention and the tuna industry in the Pacific Islands. The forum was held at the Marine Studies Programme, USP. Those present included representatives from line ministries and departments, fishing industry, regional institutions, undergraduate and post-graduate students, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and the media (refer to participant list above). The forum was chaired by the Director (Corporate Services) of the Ministry of Fisheries & Forests who was also serving as Acting Director Fisheries.

Mr Ian Cartwright gave a presentation on the Management of Oceanic Fisheries of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. Issues raised in the public forum were as follows:

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- Recent trends were not displaying much of a difference as in 2000. It raised the question as to whether current capacity was too much.
- Fishing effort and vessel movement must be closely monitored particularly in situations where inflatable fish aggregating devices (FADs) are deployed. Current management systems may be lagging behind in dealing with this issue.
- States that are part of the Commission who have yet to sign and ratify must do so quickly. Fiji (like the other Pacific Island countries that have signed and ratified) should not be managing on its own a fishery whose target stock is trans-boundary in nature and therefore requires trans-boundary management.
- ‘By-catch’ may need to have a regional definition because true by-catch in the Pacific is very small.
- The issue of allocation needs to be resolved as soon as possible

GEF SAP II Country Mission – FIJI

Annex 4 – Availability of National Indicators

Indicator	Availability	Current Value, if easily available
1. Coverage of:		
a) catch and effort logsheets: domestic fleet	✓	Around 80%,
b) catch and effort logsheets: foreign fleet		
c) port sampling	✓	
d) observers: domestic fleet	✓	18%
2. Levels of budgets and staffing for these programmes	✓	
3. Levels of fleet capacity and fishing effort	✓	
4. Catch of target species,	✓	
5. Levels of mortality of related species, including by-catch and seabirds	×	Not easily available

Note: this analysis does not include a range of national indicators which are known to be available for all countries such as status of legislation, undertaking of national reforms etc.

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Annex 5 - Sustainability Analysis

Annual Government Revenue from Licensing: FJ\$320,000

Annual In-Zone Catch Value: xxx

Annual Domestic Catch Value: xxx

Annual Production Value (including value of processing): =FJ\$200 million

Expected Annual Commission Contributions: US\$8,000 -12,000

Estimated Annual Government Incremental Costs: FJ\$413,000