



FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

3-7 December 2007

Tumon, Guam, USA

JAPAN TRUST FUND: STATUS REPORT:

WCPFC4-2007-FAC1/05 Suppl.

19th November 2007

Paper prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

The WCPFC Project on Capacity Building in Fisheries Statistics, Regulations and Enforcement for Small Island Developing States (Japan Trust Fund: JTF) originates from Japanese funding proposal to the WCPFC made in December 2005, at the 2nd Commission Meeting. After informal consultation between the Executive Director of WCPFC (recipient) and the Fisheries Agency of Japan (donor), this project was formulated. The primary objective of this Project is to support capacity building of the WCPFC members of the small island developing states (SIDS). Project implementation is planned to take place over 5 years starting from 2006 to 2010 with total available funding of approximately US\$2 million. Due to the difference between the fiscal year of Japan and the WCPFC, the project effectively started in 2007.

To promote efficiency and transparency and assist with the application of uniform procedures, including the invitation to submit proposals, project appraisal, approval and subsequent monitoring of implementation and reporting, a Steering Committee for the JTF (SC) was formed. It comprises 5 members including the Executive Director of the WCPFC Secretariat (Chair), and one representative each from FFA, SPC, the Government of Japan and the Federated States of Micronesia. FFA and SPC have been designated as the major execution bodies of the project. A Japanese scientist, Dr. Ziro Suzuki, was appointed as the JTF Coordinator on a short-term assignment to support the WCPFC Secretariat's role in administering the Project.

Funding status

Funding for 2006, made available in April 2007, was US\$ 443,851 (Table 1). As agreed at the Third Annual Session of the Commission, about a half (US\$215,000) of the 2006 JTF

allocation was assigned to the core budget of the WCPFC. Therefore, budget available for the 2007 JTF was US\$228,851. Available funds in 2007, after subtracting costs to support the Coordinator and other administrative costs, is US\$169,095. 2008 funding is estimated to be US\$460,170 after subtracting Coordinator support and other administrative costs. Although the JTF is provided on an annual basis, some flexibility has been demonstrated during the early execution phases, taking account the delayed provision of the 2006 JTF funds to the WCPFC Secretariat. To promote efficiency proposals for both 2007 and 2008 is being encouraged.

Table 1*. Funding status as of 1 November, 2007

<i>Funds available in 2007</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Funds available in 2008 (estimate)</i>
Project Year 1	443,851	443,851	Project Year 2
<u>Less</u> due to core budget	215,000	215,000	Balance from 2007
Funds available for project	228,851	228,851	574,026
<u>Less</u> estimate above for Dr			
Suzuki & Support fee	78,247	61,085	115,356
<u>Add</u> interest received		1,329	1,500
Available for activities	150,604	169,095	460,170

Activities of the Coordinator in 2007

In June 2007, the Coordinator was recruited to the Headquarters of the WCPFC in Pohnpei, FSM to take up his assignment. It was tentatively planned him stay and work at the Headquarters for 3 to 5 months every year during the Project period, depending on the demands of the Project. This year, the Coordinator completed his assignment in Pohnpei at the end of August. The Secretariat provided all necessary office facilities and advice, as required, so that the Coordinator's tasks were supported in a good and cooperative way. The followings are major activities of the Coordinator during his stay at WCPFC Headquarters.

- 1) Provision of the part of the JTF for 2007 SPC stock assessment workshop
 SPC requested some part of the 2007 stock assessment workshop from the 2007 JTF. This request was made before the call for proposal announcement because of critical lack of funding to the workshop and short period left to the workshop. The SC decided to give a total of US\$9,489 (total workshop budget was US\$70,658) as an exceptional case considering the importance and urgency of the workshop.
- 2) Trip to the SPC (July 11-13, Noumea) and FFA (July 15-18, Honiara) Headquarters

for initiation of the Coordinator's activities, mainly exchanges of information and views on objectives of the Fund among the key persons.

3) Call for the proposals to the JTF

The announcement was made by Circular in August to invite proposals with reception deadlines for the proposals for 2007 requested by the end of August and proposals for support in 2008 requested by the end of October.

4) Activities related to the proposals received

Several exchanges of information about the proposals made by the SPC and enquiry with FFA for the JFT were made before the deadlines of the acceptance of the proposals.

Proposal received for 2007 and 2008

As of 1 November, there are 7 proposals from SPC (Table 2) and one from FFA (Table 3), respectively. The SPC proposals are for 2007 and 2008 while the FFA's is for 2007 only.

Table 2. Title and budget of SPC proposals for JFT for years 2007 and 2008

Project Title	US\$
Annual tuna stock assessment workshops for fisheries officers from developing states within the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission	79,043
Expanding participation at the second Tuna Data Workshop (TDW-2)	25,000
Development of a module of the Tuna Fisheries Data Management System (TUFMAN) to support the entry, management and reporting of Observer Data	79,000
Development of video training resource material for the Tuna Catch and Effort Query System (CES) and the Tuna Fisheries Data Management System (TUFMAN)	34,000
Enhancing the value of National Tuna Fisheries Status Reports for developing states within the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission	24,900

Quantification of Ecological Risk Assessment for non-target and threatened, endangered and protected species into NTFSRs	66,000
Ensuring continued capacity building for national observer and port sampling programmes	45,000
TOTAL	352,943

Table 3. Title and budget of FFA proposal for 2007

Title:

Developing Legislation and Building Capacity of Pacific Islands States members of the FFA to implement the WCPFC High Seas Boarding and Inspection Procedures

Requested fund:

US\$ 80.000

Appraisal and approval of the proposals

The SC started e-mail based exchanges of opinions for appraisal and approval of the proposals from the beginning of November. The SC unanimously approved the all the proposals made by SPC and FFA since they were in line with the objectives of the fund and well justified by importance and significance of outcome of the projects. The SC agreed disbursement of funds for two SPC proposals (National Observer and Port Sampling Programmes and Enhancing the Value of National Tuna Fisheries Status Reports) and the FFA proposal that were planned for 2007. As for the actual execution of the 2008 proposals, it was agreed that, if it is needed, flexible approaches could be taken with respect to sharing the funds between the SPC and FFA ,