



**WEST PACIFIC EAST ASIA  
OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT**

**PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE  
SECOND SESSION**

13 August 2011  
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia



**WCPFC-SC7-2011/GN-IP-05  
WPEA OFM/PSC02/WP-03**

**Summary of 2010-2011 WPEA OFM Project Report**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The WPEA OFM Project aims to build capacity in Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam to fully engage in regional initiatives to conserve and manage fisheries for highly migratory fish stocks, by addressing data gaps in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) tuna fishery and reforming policy, legal and institutional arrangements in light of Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) requirements. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has committed to providing USD 925,000 to the three-year WPEA Project (2010-2012). GEF support would not have been possible without the formal involvement of several significant project partners. In addition to in-kind and cash contributions by the participating countries (Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam), the Project had secured co-financing or funding in-kind partnership arrangements with the Australian International Development Assistance Agency (AusAID), the US National Marine Fisheries Service, the Government of Japan through the WCPFC Japan Trust Fund, the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research (ACIAR) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

The WPEA Project was supposed to commence in May 2009. With this anticipation, an official Inception Workshop was coordinated and convened in Cebu, Philippines, 3-4 July 2010, with the WCPFC Secretariat and the three participating countries, which was supported by co-financed contributions secured by the WCPFC. As noted in the Project Document, the WCPFC Secretariat became a co-executing agency together with the UNOPS, and the Science Manager (SM) of the Commission was designated as the Project Manager of the WPEA OFM Project. UNDP noted that the WPEA project was officially commenced on 6 January 2010 when the last participating country signed the Project Document. The first year Annual Work Plan (AWP) and budget was developed and submitted to the UNDP and UNOPS early January 2010, which was finalized on 15 September 2010, when the first tranche of the GEF budget was transferred to WCPFC from UNOPS. The second year AWP and budget schedule that was agreed with the three participating countries was submitted to the UNOPS on 28 March 2011 and has been implemented so far.

**II. SUMMARY OF WPEA ACTIVITIES**

According to Project Results Framework in the Project Document, WPEA OFM has been focusing on two components: i) monitoring, data enhancement and fishery assessment, and ii) policy, institutional strengthening and fishery management. For the first component, the project continues to establish infrastructures of the integrated fishery monitoring programmes for tuna catch data collection from port sampling, logbooks and observer programmes in Indonesia, Philippines and Viet Nam. Various

trainings and auditing processes have been conducted for data/database managers for quality control, total catch estimation and stock assessments. These have strengthened the capacity of national scientists to represent their respective countries particularly at the Scientific Committee meetings of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries (WCPF) Commission. For the second component, activities are being undertaken to strengthen national capacity on legal and policy area in tuna fisheries to fully comply with international agreements, especially those of the WCPF Convention requirements, through potential reforms of policies and regulations. These efforts will build on the ongoing development of national tuna management plans and the improvement of national tuna association activities in each of the three countries.

The second year AWP carries over most of the project activities from the first year AWP in order to continue and strengthen those activities. Key activities are summarized in the matrix below.

Category	Activity
Tuna fishery monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuation and expansion of data collection from port sampling</li> <li>Convene a Review WS on annual catch estimates and audit of data collection</li> <li>Implementation of logbook programme</li> <li>Observer training, workshop on briefing/debriefing, and data collection</li> <li>Coordination and monitoring of tag recovery activity</li> </ul>
Capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training in database and data analysis</li> <li>Participation in SPC's Tuna Data WS and Stock Assessment WS and convene national-level stock assessment workshop</li> <li>Development of data and research inventory</li> <li>Development of national tuna fishery profile</li> </ul>
Policy and management of tuna fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convene a workshop to review and possible reform national policy, legal and institutional arrangements in light of WCPFC requirements</li> <li>Develop 'Implementation Manual' of the WCPF Convention and conservation and management measures</li> <li>Develop a framework to improve the activities of national level tuna association</li> <li>Develop national tuna management plan</li> <li>Develop and maintain knowledge management system, including website development, for WPEA OFM Project</li> </ul>

Based on the AWP since early 2010, the following outputs have been produced.

Doc No.	Title	Status
	<b>INDONESIA</b>	
IDN-01	Report on the recruitment of port samplers in Bitung and Kendari	Completed
IDN-02	Report on the training of port samplers	Completed
IDN-03	First Indonesia/WCPFC port sampling data review workshop	Completed
IDN-04	Quarterly report on tuna fishery data collection/management	Completed
IDN-05	First year AWP – Annual report on the progress of data collection	Completed
IDN-06	Report on data manager's training on data and database at SPC	Completed
IDN-07	Data Inventory for the WCPFC related tuna fishery and survey data	Completed
IDN-08	Research inventory – Report on the national level tuna research	Completed

IDN-09	Terms of reference for national tuna coordinator	Completed
IDN-10	Project progress report	Completed
IDN-11	Trip report on the stock assessment and ecosystem monitoring training workshop	Completed
IDN-12	Indonesian tuna fishery profile	On-going
IDN-13	Terms of reference on the review consultancy of policy and legal arrangements for WCPFC-related matters and Prepare checklist of compliance shortfalls	Completed
IDN-14	Consultancy report on the review of Indonesia's policy and legal arrangements on tuna fisheries	On-going (Draft)
IDN-15	Report of the workshop on the review of policy and legal arrangements for WCPFC-related matters	Completed
IDN-16	Consultancy report on national tuna management plan	On-going (Draft)
IDN-17	WS report on national tuna management plan	On-going
IDN-18	Consultancy Report on National level Tuna Association	On-going
IDN-19	WS Report on National level Tuna Association	On-going
	<b><i>PHILIPPINES</i></b>	
PHL-01	Second Philippines/WCPFC annual tuna fisheries catch estimates review workshop	Completed
PHL-02	Trip report on the 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuna Data Workshop	Completed
PHL-03	Philippines WPEA Progress Report	Completed
PHL-04	Trip report on the ecosystem monitoring and analysis workshop and stock assessment workshop 2010	Completed
PHL-05	Workshop report on domestic stock assessment workshop	Completed
PHL-06	Consultancy report on the review of policy, legal and institutional arrangements for Philippine compliance with the WCPFC Convention	Completed
PHL-07	WS report on the Philippines's legal, policy and institutional arrangements for tuna fisheries management	Completed
PHL-08	Third Philippines/WCPFC annual tuna fisheries catch estimates review workshop	Completed
PHL-09	Consultancy report on National Tuna Industry Council	On-going
PHL-10	WS report on National Tuna Industry Council	On-going
PHL-11	National tuna management plan of the Philippines	Completed
PHL-12	Report of the national tuna management plan workshop (recommendations)	Completed
	<b><i>VIETNAM</i></b>	
VNM-01	Report of the first Vietnam tuna fishery data collection workshop	Completed
VNM-02	Summary of data collection and management responsibilities	Completed
VNM-03	WS report for the internal training of port samplers	Completed
VNM-04	Report of the second Vietnam tuna fishery data collection workshop	Completed
VNM-05	Vietnam's Tuna Fisheries Profile	On-going
VNM-06	Guidelines for tuna fisheries sampling in Vietnam	Completed
VNM-07	Background information on tuna fishery landings in Vietnamese ports	Completed

VNM-08	Trip report on the participation of Stock Assessment Workshop and Tuna Data Management Training	Completed
VNM-09	Progress report of observer programme activities	Completed
VNM-10	Study tour in Philippines' data collection system	Completed
VNM-11	Tag recovery poster in Vietnamese	Completed
VNM-12	Terms of reference for National Tuna Coordinator	
VNM-13	Overview of research, statistics and resource status of Vietnamese tuna fisheries	Completed
VNM-14	Consultancy report on the review of Vietnam's legal, policy and institutional arrangements in light of WCPFC requirements	Completed
VNM-15	Workshop report on the review of Vietnam's legal, policy and institutional arrangements in light of WCPFC requirements	Completed
VNM-16	Vietnam's Inception WS on WPEA OFM Project	Completed
VNM-17	Results of tuna fishing observation on the longline fishing boats in Binh Dinh, Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa provinces	Completed

In the second quarter 2011, there were several workshops convened in the three countries. In Vietnam, an ad hoc workshop was held in Quy Nhon, 27-28 April, for the training of port samplers to initiate port sampling and data collection from purse seine and gillnet fisheries, in addition to their routine data collection from longline fishery. At the second Vietnam Tuna Fishery Data Collection Workshop in Quy Nhon, November 2010, the Commission's designated Data Manager Peter Williams (Secretariat of the Pacific Community, SPC), recognizing the large number of vessels and the complexity of multi-species fishing behaviors of purse seine and gillnet fisheries, recommended the collection of tuna catch data from these two important fisheries. Accordingly, Vietnam's WPEA OFM National Tuna Coordinator Pham Viet Anh requested an internal workshop for the training of port samplers in one of the port sampling provinces, Binh Dinh. The workshop included an introduction to the data collection system, an overview of gillnet and purse seine fisheries and data collection protocol in the three major tuna provinces (Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, and Khanh Hoa), species identification of small tunas (bigeye, yellowfin, skipjack, billfish, swordfish), and best practices at landing sites. There were many challenging issues to be addressed for the systematic establishment of a data collection system, however, given that the workshop was proposed and developed as a Vietnamese initiative, this is very encouraging.

In April, a Workshop for Indonesia/WCPFC Area Annual Catch Estimates, hosted by the Directorate General for Capture Fisheries (DGCF), was convened in Jakarta, where it produced provisional catch estimates for Indonesian flagged vessels fishing in the Indonesian Fisheries Management Areas 716 and 717, which was a significant step towards provision of annual catch estimates for the WCPFC Convention Area. After the workshop, Indonesia provided annual catch estimates for the non-archipelagic waters and the number of vessels active in their fishery by gear type for 2010. WCPFC data submission requirements for aggregate data include temporal/spatial stratification by month/5°x5° cells for the longline fishery, and month/1°x1° cells for the purse seine and pole-and-line fisheries and it is hoped that Indonesia will be in a position to provide aggregate data in the future as a result of their implementation of their national logbook programme in 2010. Peter Williams hoped that further collaborative work between WCPFC/SPC and DGCF can result in extending the annual catch estimates to include their archipelagic-water catches in the WCPFC Statistical Area, as per the requirements of the "Scientific Data to be provided to the Commission".

In mid-May, two annual workshops, WPEA-Philippines National Stock Assessment Project (NSAP) Tuna Data Review Workshop and Philippines/WCPFC Annual Tuna Fisheries Catch Estimates Review Workshop, were convened consecutively in Manila. While acknowledging significant

improvements in the process of data collection and annual catch estimation, several recommendations were adopted at both workshops, including investigation of options to ensure long-term funding of the NSAP sampling programme; re-developing database systems; review of methods to better estimate the annual catch estimates of the small-scale hook-and-line fisheries; and documenting all steps involved in compiling and providing data to be used in the catch estimation process. These recommendations will be implemented by various agencies in the Philippines involved in data collection assisted by WCPFC/SPC.

In June 2011, SPC hosted a Tuna Data Workshop in Noumea, New Caledonia, and data managers of the three participating countries attended the workshop to understand all data-related issues and to build their capacity for data collection and submission.

Most of the activities planned in 2010 were accomplished and on-going activities will be completed by the end of 2011. Data collected through this project have been submitted to SPC-OFP, as a data managing agency of WCPFC, improving 2011 stock assessments of the WCPO tuna stocks by reducing uncertainty of input data and information. Through several workshops on policy and legal arrangements, developing national tuna management plans, institutional strengthening in support of national level tuna associations, government staff, industries and scholars of the three countries improved their awareness of WCPFC-related issues and concerns.