



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
THIRTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Rarotonga, Cook Islands
9-17 August 2017

Japan Trust Fund Status Report (2017)

WCPFC-SC13-2017/ RP-JTF-01

SECRETARIAT

Japan Trust Fund (First Year Extension of the 2nd Phase) Status Report (2017)
**(WCPFC Project on Capacity Building in Fisheries Statistics, Regulation and Enforcement for
Developing States: Second Phase)**

2 August, 2017

WCPFC Secretariat

Introduction

The majority of the WCPFC Members are developing states including Small Island Developing States (SIDS), whose implementation of conservation and management measures would benefit from strengthened capacity. The WCPFC Project on Capacity Building in Fisheries Statistics, Regulations and Enforcement for SIDS originates from a Japanese funding proposal to the WCPFC made in December 2005, the Japan Trust Fund (JTF). The primary objective of this project is to support capacity building of the developing countries of the WCPFC members, especially SIDS. Project implementation was planned to take place over 5 years starting from 2006 to 2011 with a total available funding of approximately USD 2 million.

Given the success of and general support for the project in its first 5-year phase, the Fisheries Agency of Japan sought and successfully secured a budget, anticipated to be around USD 2 million in total, for the second 5-year phase. The second phase is similar to the first with a slightly greater emphasis on enforcement and compliance related projects.

In 2016 the Japanese government granted an extension of one year to the second phase, supporting projects in 2017.

2017 Projects

In 2017, the first extension year of the second phase, JTF donated \$139,290, and following a deduction of \$10,446.75 for administration costs, USD \$128,843.25 was available to fund projects. Following an invitation for project proposals, 6 were received, one was withdrawn for technical/funding issues, and SPC-OFP (for a project on behalf of the SIDS) withdrew their application to enable the remaining 4 to be fully-funded.

The 4 projects approved for funding support were for Cook Islands, Kiribati and Tonga (x2). The details for the 2017 projects and projects carried over from earlier years are conveniently outlined in the tables in attachment A.

Projects carried over from previous years.

2016

Project #1: Fiji. The Fiji Port Monitoring Exercise

A destructive cyclone in the first part of the year led the government of Fiji to reassign all fisheries budgets to support relief measures; subsequently a new accounting system has been established and the JTF project has not yet commenced. Detailing some technical/logistical difficulties in conducting the project as currently proposed it was requested that a revised proposal be submitted with the same overall objectives, but with an extension to allow sufficient time to prepare staff for the project.

The Japan Trust Fund Coordinator expressed sympathy to Fiji, and recognizing the delivery challenges requested the project manager to submit by email formal requests with revised proposals, and a decision would be made following consultation with JTF in Japan.

A revised proposal was subsequently accepted by JTF Japan.

The Fiji Government has been operating an 'Open Merit Recruitment System' process; which is repositioning staff positions. Once the recruitment process is complete project staff can be appointed. To date the funds have not been used and Fiji has requested an extension to complete the project in 2017. **Japan supported this request with the caveat that there is no substantial change in the project itself.**

Project #2: Niue. Developing NPOAs for [i] Sharks and [ii] IUU fishing.

A progress report has been submitted which details one outstanding item, i.e. a stakeholder meeting to review the draft NPOA before submission to Cabinet for adoption. **Niue's request for an extension to conduct this workshop in 2017 was granted by Japan.**

2015

Project #1: FSM. Port sampling data collection review & training; plus a draft IPOA for sharks.

FSM reported to the August 2015 JTF Steering Committee, and again in February 2016 on the status of this project. A workshop was completed and improved quality data reporting is ongoing. A project extension was granted until the end of 2016, to enable FSM to exchange ideas with FFA regarding how to draft an IPOA on sharks. **A further extension was granted into 2017.**

Project #2: Nauru. Capacity building and transfer of technology on at sea boarding and inspection procedures for Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA) vessel operators in Nauru's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

An extension was granted to conduct the work in 2016.

Nauru expected the arrival in April 2017 of trailers for their multi-purpose boats, and thereafter they would be able to launch/retrieve the boats to and from the sea safely; then the projects at-sea boarding and inspection training would proceed. **An extension of the project into 2017 has been granted by Japan.**

Japan Trust Fund – Objectives and Expected Activities

The objectives and expected activities are well described in the Consolidated Project Document (2012), which provides guidelines for the Steering Committee to select project proposals:

3. Objectives and expected activities

The basic objectives of this project are, within the purview of WCPFC, to assist SIDS Members, and other developing States Members as appropriate, in improving their capacities in:

(a) Data collection and reporting of their fisheries and associated activities, in particular, those required by WCPFC, and

(b) Establishment of fisheries regulation and its effective enforcement, in particular, the conservation and management measures adopted by WCPFC

In order to pursue these objectives, following activities may be implemented under the Project:

(a) Data collection and reporting of their fisheries and associated activities, in particular, those required by WCPFC:

- identify and examine the source of uncertainty in data collection and reporting*
- develop and implement capacity-building programs to improve fisheries data collection and reporting*
- assist if necessary WCPFC to facilitate appropriate opportunities (e.g., meetings, workshops) to consider improved data collection and reporting of their fisheries by developing States and their participation in the Commission.*

(b) Establishment of fisheries regulation and its effective monitoring, control and enforcement, in particular, the requirements by WCPFC

- review enforcement and monitoring mechanisms in developing states Members in terms of legal, institutional and technical aspects and identify opportunities for strengthening these areas*
- develop and implement capacity-building programs to improve fisheries monitoring regulation and enforcement by developing states members*
- assist if necessary WCPFC to hold appropriate opportunities to consider improved enforcement by developing States under their jurisdiction and through their participation in the Commission*

2017 Projects

Active projects funded under the second phase JTF are tabulated below. Funding has been disbursed to all projects.

Table 1: Summary of 2017 JTF Projects and associated funding

#	Beneficiary Member(s)	Contacts	Title	Summary	US\$
1	Cook Islands	Mr. Tim Costelloe Director, Offshore Fisheries Division t.costello@mmr.gov.ck	Development of a national MCS strategy for Cook Islands Offshore Fisheries	A consultancy and associated workshop with MMR staff will review all relevant legislation and policies, documenting MCS needs and gaps, and may include a review of legislative and policy frameworks, HR and fiscal resources, and technical capacity within MMR.	57,090.00
2	Kiribati	Akeda Andy aketatanga@gmail.com	Meeting the WCPFC Reporting Requirements	To rectify compliance issues Kiribati will hold a one week capacity building workshop for relevant stakeholders, who may then better understands their reporting obligations to the WCPFC	10,427.25
3	Tonga	Lavinia Vaipuna lavinia@tongafish.gov.to P.I. is the Director of the Licensing and Compliance Division	Port sampling and data entry	This project builds on JTF funded support since 2010, The objective is to fund port sampling in Tonga for the year 2016.	32,726.00
4	Tonga	Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi Title: Chief Executive Officer ceo@tongafish.gov.to Ms. Losilini Loto'ahea Head of Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) losalinelotoahea@gmail.com Ms. KalolaineManuopangi Observer Coordinator kmanuopangai@gmail.com	PIRFO Training. Observer Refresher Course for Tonga National Observer Programme.	This project supports the Tonga Observer operations. The 13 currently active observers will attend a 2 weeks observer refresher training course.	28,600.00
	Sub-total			Sum of project budget requested	\$128,843.25
	WCPFC	Aaron Nighswander aaron.nighswander@wcpfc.int	7.5% admin fee	Overhead	\$139,290 x 0.075 = \$10,446.75
	Grand Total			Total JTF for 2017	\$139,290

Table 2: JTF Projects carried over from 2016

#	Beneficiary Member(s)	Contacts	Title	Summary	US\$
1	Fiji	Mrs Alitia Bainivalu Bainivalu.alitia@gmail.com	The Fiji Port Monitoring Exercise	The Fiji Port Monitoring Exercise aims to track the movement of fish from the vessels, to onshore facilities and onward to the final destination. The project will provide useful information related to chain of custody, provide checks against other fisheries data and reporting and help to close loopholes in the current landing levy system.	43,037.66
2	Niue	James Tafatu jtafatu@gmail.com	Developing NPOAs i. sharks and ii. IUU fishing	This project will draft a Shark Assessment Report, which in turn will inform the development of a Shark NPOA.	6,800.00

Table 2: JTF Projects carried over from 2015

#	Beneficiary Member(s)	Contacts	Title	Summary	US\$
1	FSM	Naiten Bradley Phillip, Jr., Chief of Research and National Observer Coordinator bradley.Phillip@norma.fm	Port sampling data collection review and training with a draft International Plan of Action for Sharks	Port sampling training Objectives: • To conduct a one-week port sampling training workshop to identify new unloading technique operations and data gaps; • Improve data quality reporting of Part 1 and Part 2; • Conduct WCPFC key shark species I.D. and data collection from purse seine and long line port sampling (Pohnpei) • Explore implementation of a draft IPOA on Sharks and status of NPOA for the Conservation of Sharks in FSM.	\$19,256.00
2	Nauru	Charleston Deiye Chief Executive Officer cdeiye@gmail.com	Capacity building and transfer of technology on at sea boarding and inspection procedures for Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA) vessel operators in Nauru's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).	The project objectives are to: - conduct training for NFMRA officers on best practice of at-sea boarding and inspection procedures; -develop SOPs for NFMRA on at-sea boarding and inspection. -advise NFMRA on gears and equipment necessary for NFMRA officers in conducting at-sea boarding and inspection.	\$12,519.50