



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**Busan, Republic of Korea
8 – 16 August 2018**

Japan Trust Fund Status Report (2018)

WCPFC-SC14-2018/ 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)

3 August 2018

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 of around USD 2 million in total, for the second 5-year phase. The second phase objectives and terms of reference are similar to the previous phase, with an emphasis on enforcement and compliance.

In 2016 the Japanese government granted an extension of one year to the second phase, supporting projects in 2017, which was further extended to include another year, 2018.

2018 Projects

In 2018, the second extension year of the second phase, JTF donated \$139,297, and following a deduction of \$10,447.27 for administration costs, USD \$128,849.73 was available to fund projects. Eight proposals were received, of which three were deemed to be outside the scope of the current JTF, the remaining 5 projects are fully funded.

The 5 projects approved for funding support were for Tonga (x3), Tuvalu and WPEA. The details for the 2018 projects and projects carried over from earlier years are conveniently outlined in the tables in Attachment A.

Projects carried over from previous years, details tabled in Attachment B.

2017

Project #1: Cook Islands. Development of a national MCS strategy for Cook Islands Offshore Fisheries

The project didn't start until the end of October 2017 due to competing operational commitments within the Offshore Division, which is a small division of only 10 staff. The project has now been advertised for consultancy. Applications were received and analyzed by a Tender Evaluation Team in January 2018. It is expected that the project will be completed in 2018. **A 1-year extension into 2018 has been requested and approved.**

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.**

Following internal ministerial reforms Fiji has proposed changes to their project and will be seeking an extension into 2018-2019. This request submitted just prior to SC14, will be discussed during the JTF Steering Committee Meeting in the margins of the Scientific Committee Meeting.

2015

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.**

To date the project funds have not been utilized; Nauru has taken delivery of the trailers but has been hit by another setback due to the unseaworthiness of their boats. **JTF recognising the importance of safety at sea has granted a further extension into 2018 to allow the boats to be overhauled and project conducted.**

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*

2018 Projects

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

Table 1: Summary of 2018 JTF Projects and associated funding

| # | Beneficiary Member(s) | Contacts | Title | Summary | US\$ |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|---|-----------|
| 1 | Tonga | Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi CEO for Fisheries supi64t@gmail.com thalafihi@tongafish.gov.to ceo@tongafish.gov.to Dr. Siola'a Malimali, Head of Fisheries Science Division s.malimali@tongafish.gov.to siolaamalimali@gmail.com Mrs. Lavinia Vaipuna, Acting Head of Offshore Section laviniaiv@tongafish.gov.to | Port sampling and data collection. | This project builds on JTF funded support since 2010, The objective is to fund port sampling in Tonga for the year 2018. | 42,185.00 |
| 2 | Tonga | Dr Tuikolongahau Halafihi CEO for Fisheries ceo@tongafish.gov.to Poasi Ngaluafe Deputy CEO, Compliance Division poasi66@hotmail.com Ms. Kalolaine Manuopangi Observer Coordinator kmanuopangai@tongafish.gov.to | PIFRO observer training | This project supports Tonga Observer operations. It will conduct a national basic longline observer training for new observers, fund and train one Certified Debriefier Assessor as PIRFO trainer and provision of safety equipment for active observers | 46,050.00 |
| 3 | Tonga | Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi CEO for Fisheries supi64t@gmail.com thalafihi@tongafish.gov.to ceo@tongafish.gov.to | Capacity building and strengthening of Tonga's Fisheries Legal Section | A capacity building program intended to facilitate the experiential training of Tonga's Fisheries Legal Section, especially their Legal Officer, to better enable them to support the implementation of WCPFC CMMs, work on FFA initiatives to regulate access to FFA members country waters and observer related activities. | 16,784.00 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------|--|--|---|--|
| 4 | Tuvalu | Mr. Samasoni Finikaso, Director, Fisheries Department, samfinikaso70@gmail.com Mr. Solomua Ionatana, Principal Fisheries Officer Fisheries Department, tualen@gmail.com | Capacity Building training for Tuvalu Fisheries and Maritime Police officers to conduct High Seas Boarding Inspections (HSBI). | This project will enhance the capacity of fisheries and Police Maritime personnel to conduct boarding Inspections in the High Seas in accordance with WCPFC Boarding and Inspection Procedures (CMM 2006-08); by the end of the project the officers will fully understand HSBI procedures and the application of the CMM 2006-08 in the WCPF Convention area | 15,000.00 |
| 5 | WPEA | Dr Sungkwon Soh WCPFC Science Manager Sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int Dr Pham Viet Anh Department of Capture Fisheries Vietnam phvietanh2003@gmail.com | Review of Vietnamese National Legislation in relation to WCPFC Regulations with a view to alignment. | Review of legal, policy and institutional arrangements for Vietnamese tuna fisheries in light of WCPFC's requirements | 8,830.73 |
| | Sub-total | | | Sum of project budget requested | \$128,849.73 |
| | WCPFC | Aaron Nighswander aaron.nighswander@wcpfc.int | 7.5% admin fee | Overhead | \$139,297 x 0.075 = \$10,447.27 |
| | Grand Total | | | Total JTF for 2018 | \$139,297 |

Table 2: JTF Projects carried over from 2017

| # | 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 |

Table 3: 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 |

Table 4: JTF Projects carried over from 2015

| # | Beneficiary Member(s) | Contacts | Title | Summary | US\$ |
|---|-----------------------|---|---|---|-------------|
| 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 |