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REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON ARTICLE 30 OF THE CONVENTION AND RESOLUTION 2008-01 OF WCPFC

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Submission by European Union

Report of the European Union on Article 30 of the Convention and Resolution 2008-01 of WCPFC

November 2020

1. Introduction

The main European Union source of support to the Pacific region is the European Development Fund (EDF).

The Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme (PEUMP) is the flagship initiative under the EU cooperation and development regional programme to promote a healthy Pacific Ocean and a strong governance of marine and coastal resources which will improve Pacific Ocean's contribution to sustainable and inclusive growth within the region.

The Programme - jointly financed by the EU and Sweden for a total amount of EUR 45 M - is a clear sign of EU's and its Member States' commitment to promote sustainable, responsible and transparent management of the marine resources in the Pacific Ocean. The EU and its Member States consider oceans governance as a priority in the partnership with Pacific Countries.

2. Programme Overview

The PEUMP Programme overall objective is to "improve the economic, social and environmental benefits for 15 P-ACP¹ states arising from stronger regional economic integration and the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment". The specific objective is to "support sustainable management and development of fisheries for food security and economic growth, while addressing climate change resilience and conservation of marine biodiversity".

The Programme adopts an integrated and multi-sectoral approach, with inter-related components implemented by several Agencies at the regional, national and local levels, revolving around six components and a Programme Management Unit. The six components are aligned with the two focal sectors of the regional roadmap – oceanic and coastal fisheries and are as follows:

Oceanic Fisheries

- High quality scientific and management advice for oceanic fisheries provided and utilised at regional and national levels.
- Inclusive economic benefits from sustainable tuna fishing increased through supporting competent authorities and strengthening private sector capacities to create decent employment.

Coastal Fisheries

• Sustainable management of coastal fisheries resources and ecosystems improved through better quality scientific information, legal advice, support, mentoring and empowerment at community level.

¹ Cook Islands; Fiji; Federated States of Micronesia; Kiribati; Nauru; Niue; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Republic of the Marshall Islands; Samoa; Timor Leste; Tonga; Tuvalu; Solomon Islands; Vanuatu.

Coastal and Oceanic fisheries

- IUU fishing reduced through enhanced monitoring control and surveillance of both oceanic and coastal fisheries, improved legislation, access to information, and effective marine area management.
- Sustainable utilisation of the coastal and marine biodiversity promoted through improving marine special planning, increasing climate change resilience, enhancing conservation, mitigation and rehabilitation measures.

Capacity development

• Capacity built through education, training and research and development for key stakeholder groups in fisheries and marine resources management.



The first five components are implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC), the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The last one is implemented by the University of the South Pacific (USP).

Given the scope and breadth of the PEUMP Programme, agencies have been working with and through partners in some areas of implementation: The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), The Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) Network, the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) are amongst other implementing partners of the PEUMP Programme. A **Programme Management Unit** (PMU) was established within the leading agency (SPC) to ensure effective overall coordination and to foster coordination amongst the different implementing agencies.

3. PEUMP Main Developments during 2019-2020

This chapter showcases the main accomplishments by each Key Results Area (KRA) during Year 2 of implementation (2019-2020).

KRA 0: Maritime Boundary Delimitation

The focus of this sub-component led by SPC-GEM under KRA 0 is to provide technical assistance with delimitation and negotiation of maritime boundaries of some Programme countries. The following were the highlights of activities in Year 2.

- The SPC Maritime Boundaries team conducted the legal and technical workshop and capacity building in Nauru from the 10th 12th July 2019, where 20 people were trained. The workshop raised awareness on the crosscutting issue of maritime boundaries and the urgent need to insert the schedule of coordinates and charts for territorial sea baseline, outer limit of the Territorial Seas, Contiguous Zone and Exclusive Economic Zone.
- A Graticule Cutting Tool training was held in Kiribati from the 9th 13th September 2019 where 6 staff from the Ministry of Fisheries compliance division and the Maritime Resources Development Department were trained. The training allowed the participants to plot gazetted coordinates and import them on mapping software. It also allowed them to understand the process of using QGIS (open source software) to create the Kiribati Mineral Blocks for Line, Phoenix and Gilbert Islands.
- The Pacific Island Countries' Maritime Boundaries working session in Sydney from 25th November 06th December 2019, enabled 33 people to be trained. The programme supported the Maritime Boundaries team to facilitate the 18th Pacific Island Countries' Maritime Boundaries working session. In the working session partners emphasised the need to complete entry into force and deposit requirements after signing treaties. They also emphasised the deposit requirements to UN DOALOS under UNCLOS and also to the UN Treaty Section for registration on the UN Treaty Series. The updated SPC regional maritime boundaries map depicting treaties which have not yet entered into force also assists by visually showing treaty work that needs to be completed. Kiribati, Tuvalu and Vanuatu will follow up within their national systems as to the status of signed treaties and what is now needed to bring certain treaties into force.
- The PEUMP programme supported two technical work attachments to work at SPC.
- The Maritime Boundaries team was able to deliver the first phase of three dataset phases as stipulated under the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with FFA. This is the first time that such an authoritative maritime boundaries dataset has been applied to Pacific regional fisheries Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) activities. It is

a major milestone in establishing the rights and responsibilities for our member countries and a key contribution to good ocean governance by our organisations.

• Following successful discussions since 2017, the Tonga-Samoa, Tonga-Niue and Tonga-US (American Samoa) treaties have been agreed between officers, and are awaiting individual government approvals for signature (Niue and Samoa have completed this). Tonga still needs to complete domestic processes ahead of signing its respective treaties. Fiji and Solomon Islands have agreed a draft treaty. It has been endorsed by the executive branch (Cabinet) of the Solomon Islands Government and is currently tabled before Fiji's Parliament.

KRA 1: Scientific and Management Advice for Oceanic Fisheries

This component, led by SPC Oceanic Fisheries Programme, focuses on providing high quality scientific and management advice for oceanic fisheries that has utility at the regional and/or national level. All four tuna stocks (Bigeye, skipjack, yellowfin and South Pacific albacore) are classed as not overfished and not subject to overfishing. The Tuna fisheries assessment report provides the current information on the tuna fisheries of the western and central Pacific and the fish stocks (mainly tuna) that are impacted by them. The South Pacific albacore is below the adopted target reference point (TRP), and discussions on approach to recover the stock to that level is ongoing. The 2019 skipjack assessment indicates that the stock is below the TRP, but the result is influenced by new biological information, and discussions on the TRP level are ongoing.

The following highlights were achieved in Year 2.

- Skipjack assessment accepted by 15th regular session of the WCPFC Scientific Committee in 2019. Evaluations of effort creep and catch per unit effort (CPUE) inputs into assessments under PEUMP therefore adopted.
- An analysis of indicators of effort creep within the WCPO purse seine fishery was
 presented to the Parties to the Nauru Agreement at their annual meeting in 2020, and
 will also be provided to SC16 (programme year 3). A former analysis was presented to
 SC15 (https://www.wcpfc.int/node/42964). A paper on candidate ecosystem indicators
 has been prepared for the virtual 16th WCPFC Scientific Committee in August 2020.
- Standardised indices for yellowfin and skipjack tuna caught on drifting FADs have been developed.
- The Western Pacific tuna tagging cruise, to which the PEUMP programme contributed, was completed in 2019.
- Analysis of available micronekton samples, a key part of the WCPO ecosystem important for tuna, has been completed. The DNA barcoding of specimens of lanternfish and deep-sea hatchet fish has been initiated, which will allow much better identification of key species within these groups, improving data and hence future ecosystem modelling.

- Ecosystem modelling has been initiated with a workshop on key modelling frameworks (Ecopath and SEAPODYM) undertaken and a revised Ecopath model structure developed.
- Key sampling designs have been developed to underpin work on tuna stock structure. A pilot study examining yellowfin otolith (fish ear bone) shape as a signal for stock structure has also been undertaken.
- Two Pacific Island Fisheries Professional joined the Oceanic Fisheries Programme team at the SPC Noumea office in January 2020. They will be on work attachment for 1 year and are supported by the PEUMP programme to assist in implementing the KRA 1 activities.
- Work through a consultancy supported by the programme has developed bycatch estimates for longline and purse seine fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO). These results were provided to the virtual 16th WCPFC Scientific Committee in August 2020.

KRA 2: Economic Benefits from Sustainable Tuna Fishing

Led by FFA, this component focuses on supporting national Sanitary and Phytosanitary Competent Authorities and strengthening private sector engagement relating to employment in the offshore fisheries sector, thereby increasing economic benefits from sustainable tuna fishing. At the end of the second year of the programme, 4 countries (Fiji, PNG, Kiribati and Solomon Islands), still have access to the EU markets for fish and fisheries product exports.

The following highlights were achieved in Year 2:

- The National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) requested further assistance as there is increasing interest from the FSM fishing industry to access EU markets. In response, the FFA team (Trade Development Advisor and the PEUMP Market Access Advisor) conducted the following: (i) an in-country evaluation on the current status of the FSM competent authority (CA) and identified areas for improvements; (ii) a review of the CA schedule activities on accessing EU markets with the easiest route possible; (iii) progressed tasks from the post-Phase 1 checklist with the FSM CA team. Based on the team's findings, recommendations were made and put on record aimed at strengthening the functionality and independence of seafood exports CA in FSM and also ensure that desired outcomes are achieved in due time.
- A capacity building exercise was conducted in Vanuatu from the 30 July 2 August 2019 to gauge status of the national CA development. Four local staff from the CA Unit were involved in the exercise.
- A Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Refresher and HACCP Desk Top Audit Training for the Fiji CA took place from 5-19 August 2019. The training included 11 participants from both the Fiji CA as well as the fishing industry. The training took the participants through the 12 steps in the development of any HACCP plan, carried out sessions on desktop audits and a review of the CA official control

documents. Support provided to fishing industry companies namely Hangton Pacific, Solander, Golden Ocean, Tri Pacific, Viti Foods and Sealand Fish Procession with discussions centred on understanding the US market requirements. The FFA technical advisors worked with the Fiji CA staff to review the HACCP plan of the fishing industry companies, providing feedback and advice on how to strengthen these.

- A Traceability training was conducted in Noro, Solomon Islands from 16 20 September 2019 that developed the key competencies in traceability of 19 representatives from the Solomon Islands CA, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources and the fishing industry. The training strengthened understanding in benefits and regulatory requirements associated with traceability.
- Support was provided to 3 FFA Member representatives (2 from Cook Islands and 1 from PNG to facilitate participation at the Regional Fisheries Negotiations Training Course, held in Honiara from 9-13 September. The capacity building activity aimed to prepare representatives from Pacific Island Countries to participate effectively in international fisheries negotiations, and to negotiate in support of their national and regional interests.
- Support by the programme enabled a consultant from Lloyd's Register to complete the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Certification Pre-assessment of Caroline Fishing Company in FSM. The pre-assessment determines its readiness for undergoing a full assessment for MSC Certification. Feedback was given on areas that need attention in order for the fishery to meet the requirements for certification.
- The programme supported a representative from the PNG Fishing Industry Association to participate in a consultation on the Implementation of interim Economic Partnership Agreement (iEPA) at the 7th Meeting of iEPA Trade Committee, 29th September - 4th October 2019 in Suva, Fiji.
- In November 2019, part of PEUMP support for the Fishers of Funafuti Association (FOFA), enabled the procurement of a refrigeration unit (ice machine) that will be installed at the new Funafuti fish market. Fabrication of the unit began in January 2020 and delivery and installation will take place in the latter half of 2020.
- In January 2020, the Fiji Fishing Industry Association (FFIA) submitted a proposal for support seeking extension of the MSC certification process to include an additional tuna species. The programme collaborated with FFIA to procure the services of a Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) to carry out the assessment.
- A Tuna Industry consultation comprising of Pacific Island Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) members took place in Nadi, Fiji on the 5 July 2019. The consultation focused on the objective, utility and purpose of PITIA and whether the organization is of benefit to national industry associations. The industry representatives (Fiji, Niue, PNG, and Solomon Islands) agreed that PITIA continue to coordinate industry priorities at the regional level, while also tasking PITIA with improving its engagement with the fishing industry across the region.

• A range of key topics along with a wide pool of resources and media tools were used to illustrate gender equity and social inclusion (GSI) and human rights-based approaches (HRBA). Some of the topics were gender perspective into the industrial tuna employment, social impacts of offshore operations affecting Pacific communities, and the diverse career pathways for women and men in oceanic fisheries. The HRBA sessions strengthened the participant's knowledge on human rights definitions and frameworks, challenges and solutions of human rights abuses in the offshore sector along with the application of HRBA.

KRA 3: Sustainable Management of Coastal Fisheries

The coastal fisheries component, led by the SPC Coastal Fisheries Programme and supported by the Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) Network implementation partner, focuses on improving the sustainable management of coastal fisheries resources and ecosystems through better scientific information, the provision of technical support and the empowerment of communities. In Year 2, KRA 3 has focused on building on scientific data, information, awareness and training activities initiated in Year 1; progressing the community engagement component with the LMMA Network; and adapting to the significant impacts resulting from the coronavirus travel restrictions imposed across the PACP region.

The following were the highlights achieved in Year 2:

- The Coastal Fisheries Programme science team completed the data analysis and reporting on the "Status of sea cucumber resources in Tonga", and submitted it to Tonga's Ministry of Fisheries in early June 2020.
- Sea cucumber fisheries management advice was provided to the Ministry of Fisheries to brief cabinet ministers on the status of sea cucumber populations in Samoa. The advice was based on the surveys of commercially important invertebrates that were conducted in August 2019.
- A report on the sea cucumber aquaculture sea-ranch viability assessment in Tonga was delivered in January 2020 to the Ministry of Fisheries. This activity provided training in survey design and development of a survey protocol for monitoring the effectiveness of the grow-out in an open sea-ranch setting and closed sea-pens.
- A survey of the aquarium fishery (fish and invertebrates) at Kiritimati Atoll, Kiribati (September-October 2019) involved four fisheries staff in how to organise and perform surveys using in-water visual census and transect survey methodologies. A habitat survey was conducted in Abemama Atoll from November to December 2019, to track climate change impacts.
- The "Assessment of the Coconut Crab (Birgus latro) at Palmerston Atoll" is the third coconut crab assessment conducted in the Cook Islands, and findings from this assessment will be compared with past assessments on Mauke and Mangaia islands. The objective is to collect information on coconut crab population status, size structure and distribution to provide an index of relative abundance and population estimates of coconut crabs for each islet and the atoll as a whole.

- An information sheet on Giant Clams of the Cooks Islands was developed and provided to the Cook Island's Ministry of Marine Resources for local distribution. The sheet contains the information on biology, ecology, and management of giant clam based on scientific surveys that was conducted previously.
- A benthic invertebrate and fish community monitoring protocol was developed and tailored to meet Niue Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries' needs.
- Within the region, the use of mobile apps to record survey, field data and other information, and to enable the upload of that data and information to databases, has dramatically increased. The Ikasavea mobile app has been developed under the PEUMP Programme to ease market survey data entry. It has been trialled in Fiji, FSM, RMI, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Niue and is already been used by the Fiji Fisheries staff to collect data. Improvements have also been made to the fish landing data collection tablet and web applications, TAILS/TUFMAN, for creel surveys and an application for the analysis of catch pictures.
- Two staff from Tonga Ministry of Fisheries completed a two week attachment at SPC in December 2019, to work with FAME information and outreach officer and CBFM Officer to review/design and produce awareness materials on Special Management Areas (SMAs) and coastal fisheries management.
- A series of 5 animated videos (Fisher's Tales) with information related to resource species and sustainable fishing practices were produced and published on the SPC YouTube channel. The script and the story board of the 5 videos were produced in collaboration with the EU funded PROTEGE project. The first two videos were adapted in three local languages (Tongan, Tuvaluan and Gilbertese) and in French. Altogether, there are 14 animated videos in either English, French, Gilbertese, Tongan or Tuvaluan. A short instructional video was produced focused on informing and explaining the survey method used to conduct fishery independent sea cucumber stock assessments. Five scripts for new animated videos (with information related to five management rules) were produced (June 2020) in collaboration with the PROTEGE project. The objective is to improve the public support and compliance with rules and regulations for the sustainable use of marine resources. The videos will be finalised during Year 3.
- In February 2020, SPC, in partnership with Tonga Ministry of Fisheries, conducted a two week training on Small-Scale Fishing Operations (SSFO) in Tonga. The participants included Special Management Areas (SMA) community representatives (local fishers) and extension fisheries officers from the islands of Tongatapu, 'Eua, Ha'apai and Vava'u. A key objective for the training was to train SMA fishers and fisheries extension officers on alternative fishing practices that target non-reef fish and to assist/support SMA fishers in implementing management rules.
- Contribution to the design and drafting of the four additional modules of the 'Pacific Handbook for Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture'. These additional modules are focused on Community engagement, Coastal fisheries management, Livelihoods, and Oceanic fisheries. More detail on the

modules is found within this report under the Gender and Human Rights Based Approach section.

KRA 4: Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

Led by FFA, this component focuses on enhancing monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) efforts of both oceanic and coastal fisheries, improving legislation, access to information and effective marine management.

In Year 2, the following impacts were achieved:

- Consultations have been held with a number of FFA member country representatives to identify those countries who see updating of their IUU-NPOA as a priority activity.
- A trial of four different models of digitised crane scales for monitoring of transhipment activities was undertaken in Majuro port with the assistance of a consultant and logistical support from Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA). The results of the trial and implications going forward in terms of support to CDS and port states measures will be provided at upcoming FFA MCS working group meetings.
- Trials took place in Niue from 2-16 September 2019 on the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV; drones) and hydrophones in detecting IUU fishing. PEUMP support included funding that enabled FFA staff to provide technical support in Niue for the duration of the trials. Continuation of support for these trials will be contingent on Niue Ocean Wide (NOW) Project reviewing the results of the trials. The Niue drone technology will also be used to carry out coastal monitoring, control and surveillance for Niue waters.
- A Training Workshop for Observer Debriefers from non-PNA Countries was held in Nadi, Fiji from 12-19 August 2019. The workshop was aimed at familiarising participants with the Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS) software programme, including use of the e-Reporting application. A total of 11 participants participated in the Train-the-Trainers training aimed at upskilling participants to enable non-PNA country representatives to train Fisheries Observers on the PNA Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS), and understanding different applications of the system.

KRA 5: Sustainable Utilisation of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity

Led by SPREP, this component focuses on promoting sustainable utilisation of coastal and marine biodiversity through improving marine spatial planning, increasing climate change resilience, and enhancing conservation and management.

In Year 2, the following were achieved:

• The By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative Inception meeting and By-catch and Endangered Species Planning Workshop was held in Nadi, Fiji, between 16 – 19 July, 2019.

- Regional turtle extinction risk assessment work activities were progressed through the appointment of international expert in April 2020. Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions the work has been phased to enable desk-based collation of data to inform an expert technical meeting to determine the assessment methodology scheduled for September 2020. In partnership with WWF-Pacific and other international and national NGOs, community-focused turtle use surveys will be conducted in Fiji, PNG, Tonga and Vanuatu during the nesting season in year 3 to provide data to inform the final extinction risk analysis which will be delivered early in year 4.
- In May 2020 a concept note was drafted for the regional port-based extension programme focused on all Threatened, Endangered and Protected species (Species of Special Interest) to provide education, awareness and capacity building for bycatch mitigation for longline vessels. The project will commence first in Vanuatu and Fiji at the request of those Governments. There is potential for the initiative to be expanded to Solomon Islands in 2021.
- The first round of consultations to progress work towards adopting a marine spatial plan in the Solomon Islands was completed in 9 Provinces (including Honiara consultations) and engaged community members and stakeholders regarding Ocean Planning between June-September 2019. In June 2020 the first draft (zero draft MSP maps and includes no take zones in the offshore areas and priority areas for management in the inshore) were developed and delivered to the MSP core team in Solomon Islands for national expert review.
- IUCN completed a draft "MPA Maps and MPA Briefing Packages" for Fiji. The maps show priority inshore areas, along with proposed candidate offshore MPAs.
- IUCN through the PEUMP programme contributed and supported the development of the Solomon Islands National Ocean Policy (SINOP) that was officially launched on the 25th November 2019 by His Royal Highness Prince Charles of Wales. The SINOP is the overarching policy and a key document that guides ocean-wide management in the Solomon Islands and the marine spatial planning (MSP) is a key component of the policy.
- IUCN through the PEUMP programme participated with other partners in the development of Fiji's draft National Oceans Policy in November 2019 and its review in April and May 2020. This ocean policy will be a key document to guide the implementation of Fiji's 30% commitment to MPAs and 100% sustainable management within Fiji's EEZ.

KRA6: Capacity built through education, training and research and development

The University of the South Pacific (USP) is responsible for KRA 6 of the overall PEUMP Programme.

In Year 2, the following were achieved:

• Scholarships were provided to 105 Pacific island professionals from 14 P-ACP countries as part of the professional development initiatives of the programme. The

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) training programmes included Certificate IV in Training & Assessment (October 14 – December 6, 2019); Certificate IV in Resilience (February 11 – August 14, 2020); and Certificate IV in Coastal Fisheries & Aquaculture Compliance (commenced May 11, 2020).

- Small-scale seafood business is fundamental to the livelihoods and helps alleviate Pacific Islanders from poverty. To support the Pacific communities in this regard, the USP PEUMP programme introduced for the first time in the region, a micro qualification Establishing and Operating a Small Seafood Business through the USP Pacific TAFE from June 15 – 26 2019. The first cohort was held in Suva, Fiji, and included 15 participants from Kiribati, Solomon Islands Vanuatu and Fiji who successfully graduated at the end of the programme. A micro-qualification on Seafood safety and handling was completed and ready for delivery in year 3.
- The USP team is also working with Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) to develop a level 5 Diploma programme on Fisheries Investigation and Prosecution, a continuing pathway for the Certificate IV in Oceanic Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance programme.; The Diploma in Fisheries Investigation & Prosecution programme as a whole and its course components could provide an important contribution to fisheries sustainable management and address criminal activity occurring in the high seas under the current governance structures in the region. This programme would be advancement on, the current Cert 4 in Fisheries Compliance and Enforcement delivered through Pacific Technical and Further Education (TAFE). It addresses the need for advanced fisheries Monitoring Compliance and Surveillance (MCS) skills and competence through the enforcement process in order to protect sovereignty.
- As part of KRA6 stakeholder engagements, 4 in-country consultations were undertaken for: Timor Leste, Palau, PNG and Vanuatu. The main purpose of the visits were to meet in-country counterparts to introduce KRA6, share findings of the Training needs and gap analysis report, identify country specific challenges, and identify the next activities of the project in respective countries. As a result of the face to face engagements, the programme is sponsoring 2 Timor Leste, 2 PNG and 1 Palau participants who are currently registered in the regional cohort of the Certificate IV in Resilience.
- Out of the total of 8 applied research scholarships envisaged under KRA6, the final 2 research scholarships were awarded for Masters study at USP representing Tuvalu and Fiji. Research topics of these candidates include, the impact of climate change on the inshore fishery in Tuvalu, and macroplastic impact on photosynthetic activity of the symbiotic zooxanthellae in corals.
- An agreement was signed with Uto ni Yalo Trust Limited based in Fiji for the development and delivery of a pilot short-course training to promote sustainable means of sea transport. The main objective of the training will be to reintroduce traditional canoes into everyday village life which will have multiple economic and social benefits including food security, fisheries livelihood and marine resource protection. The plan is to run the pilot training in a community setting in year 3

Cross-cutting issues: Gender, Human Rights, and Poverty Reduction

The Year 2 focus for the advancement of integrating gender, social inclusion, poverty reduction and human rights-based approaches across the programme was on training, capacity building and progressing with research and analysis.

- On-going assistance provided to the Maritime Boundaries team in uplifting the human rights at sea debate through awareness. An information paper on the importance of strong human rights frameworks within maritime boundaries jurisdictions and beyond was developed. The information paper provides a brief introduction into the evolving human rights at sea debate, explores gaps and challenges of existing maritime frameworks to address human rights issues, and lastly presents the benefits for PICs of having strong human rights considerations mainstreamed into regional and national maritime governance instruments.
- A two-day training on GSI/HRBA was planned, designed and delivered to FFA and partners. The training programme was designed taking into consideration pre-existing knowledge on GSI/HRBA by FFA and partners. The GSI day focused on three key areas: (i) a gender perspective into industrial tuna employment (processing); (ii) social impacts of offshore operations affecting Pacific communities; (iii) diverse career pathways for women and men in oceanic fisheries. The HRBA day focused on: (i) human rights definitions, concepts, frameworks; (ii) enablers of human rights abuses in the offshore sector challenges and solutions; (iii) concept of social responsibility; (iii) applying a HRBA.
- A three-day training for FAME coastal fisheries staff was held. The training was designed to provide a better overview of PEUMP's cross-cutting areas, to establish a learning base and a general understanding of abstract concepts and ideas and to provide some guidance and practical analysis tools to build gender analysis skills as well as an eye for potential entry points to include GSI and human rights aspects.
- The FSM gender and fisheries assessment (2019) was finalized, published and shared with key stakeholders in September. An official launch was organized by the PMU and EU during the joint International Women's Day (IWD) event with focus on women's contributions to fisheries (March 2020). The Cook Islands gender and fisheries assessment has been drafted after a consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including outer island communities. The assessment will be finalized next year.
- The existing SPC Handbook on GSI is the first Pacific specific guide to GSI mainstreaming in coastal fisheries/aquaculture and has been actively used and promoted in all PEUMP training and awareness sessions on GSI. The initial Handbook focusses on basic understandings of concepts, backgrounds, GSI analysis and tools, GSI-integrative Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) and government processes at policy level. A need for additional modules on practical field work areas and providing more practical tools was identified. Four key areas were selected as additional module content: (i) Coastal Fisheries Management, (ii) Livelihoods, (iii) Community Engagement, and (iv) Oceanic Fisheries. Modules have been finalized and are currently with FAME for layout expected to be completed by August/September 2020.

Project Name	Description	Amount EU Contribution	Status
Biodiversity and Protected Area Management – BIOPAMA II	To overall objective is to contribute to improving the long-term conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources in ACP regions in protected areas and surrounding communities through better use and monitoring of information and capacity development on management and governance.	EUR 1.3 M Pacific component	On-going though SPREP and IUCN
Support Programme for ACP SIDS and Coastal Countries	The overall objective is to contribute to the sustainable development of ACP SIDS and coastal countries while contributing to the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway by supporting and improving the management and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources.	EUR 12 M Pacific component	Contract under negotiation with SPREP
Projet Régional Océanien des Territoires pour la Gestion durable des Ecosystèmes - PROTEGE	The overall objective is to build sustainable development and climate- resilient economies in the OCTs by emphasising biodiversity and renewable resources in the Pacific OCTs.	EUR 36 M for the OCTs	On-going through SPC and SPREP
FISH4ACP: Sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture value chains in ACP countries	The overall objective is that sustainable fisheries and aquaculture value chains contribute to economic growth, decent jobs creation, food and nutrition security in ACP countries.	EUR 3 M RMI value chain selected for support in the Pacific	Ongoing through FAO
"Kiwa initiative" Pacific Initiative on Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Resilience	The overall objective is to make pacific island ecosystems, economies and communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change.	EUR 13.9 M (top up of EUR 4 M approved)	Ongoing through the AFD
Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA+) initiative for climate adaptation and resilience building in Samoa	The overall objective is to promote the sustainable use of Samoa's marine resources while increasing climate resilience of local communities through ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) and the development of a Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)	EUR 1.144 M	On-going through IUCN
Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications	The overall goal of this Action is to support the climate information services value chain with technical and financial assistance, infrastructure and capacity building in ACP countries	EUR 9 M	Contract under negotiation with SPREP
EU Contribution in the area of Ocean Governance (excluding PEUMP)		EUR 76.344 M	
Total EU Contribution in the area of Ocean Governance		EUR 121.344 M	