

**SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL AND
OCEANIC FISHERIES IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION
(SciCOFish)**

10.ACP.RPA.01

Decision Number: 021-370

Contact Number: FED/2010/235-690

2010 WORK PLAN AND COST ESTIMATE

FINANCE: 10TH EDF EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

List of ACRONYMS

| | |
|------------|--|
| ACP | African, Caribbean and Pacific |
| CoFish | Pacific Regional Coastal Fisheries Development Project |
| DevFish2 | Development of Tuna fisheries in the Pacific ACP Countries |
| EC | European Commission |
| EDF | European Development Fund |
| EEZ | Exclusive Economic Zone |
| FFA | Forum Fisheries Agency |
| IUU | Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported |
| MCS | Monitoring, Control and Surveillance |
| NGOs | Non-Governmental Organisations |
| P-ACP | Pacific-African, Caribbean and Pacific |
| PC | Project Coordinator |
| PROCFish | Pacific Regional Oceanic and Coastal Fisheries Development Project |
| RAO | Regional Authorizing Officer |
| RIP EDF 10 | Regional Indicative Programme 10 th European Development Fund |
| SciCOFish | Scientific support for the management of coastal and oceanic fisheries in the Pacific Islands region |
| SciFish | Scientific support for the management of oceanic fisheries in the Pacific Islands region |
| SEAPODYM | Spatial Ecosystem and Population Dynamics Model |
| SPC | Secretariat of the Pacific Community |
| TA | Technical Assistance |
| UVC | Underwater Visual Census |
| WCPFC | Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission |

INTRODUCTION

The fisheries resources of the Pacific ACP countries are central in efforts to improve the lives of their people. The oceanic resources provide around a quarter of the world's tuna catch and support both small and large fishing enterprises; provide government revenue; and, in many countries, represent the main opportunity for economic development. Coastal fisheries contribute to food security and the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of people across the region. Both oceanic and coastal resources are at risk of overfishing however. In the oceanic fishery, a rapid growth in industrial fishing effort threatens two important commercial species of tuna. In coastal fisheries, food fish resources are over-exploited around major population centres, while certain invertebrate species harvested for export are severely depleted across much of the region. Well-informed management action is needed to halt and reverse these trends.

The Regional Strategy Paper and the Indicative Programme agreed between the Pacific ACP Countries and the European Community (EC) for the period 2008–2013 identifies Sustainable Management of Natural Resources as one of two focal areas for EDF10 cooperation. The Intervention Framework for this focal area targets assisting the region in developing the economic potential of its natural resources in a sustainable way through sound science on which to base management decisions, while looking at expanding the regions export sectors in natural resources and creating an enabling environment for the benefit of regional trade arrangements.

SciCOFish will complement the ongoing EDF-funded SciFish Project, while following on from the PROCFish and CoFish projects, which were focused on tuna and reef fishery assessment and monitoring, in fulfilling the vision of the Regional Strategy Paper and the RIP for Pacific ACP/EC cooperation in fisheries, and will broaden the growing pattern of cooperation between the Pacific ACP countries and the EC in fisheries generally.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the SciCOFish project is the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and oceanic fisheries resources in the P-ACP region. It addresses a key aspect of the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP), namely, the development of cost-effective solutions for the sustainable management of marine and land-based resources. It directly responds to the P-ACP leaders' Vava'u Declaration and the recent 2008 Forum meeting in Niue, which called for comprehensive fisheries conservation measures, both in EEZs and on the high seas; and the sustainable and effective management of national coastal fisheries.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The SciCOFish purpose is to provide a reliable and improved scientific basis for management and decision making in oceanic and coastal fisheries. The project will provide the P-ACP countries with the means to develop efficient management measures, the skills to monitor their effectiveness, and some important tools to combat IUU fishing on the high seas. A 'demand-driven' approach to implementation will ensure that assistance is provided to those countries which are most likely to take up management advice.

PROJECT RESULTS

Project results will be in two main areas: scientific support for oceanic fisheries management (Component 1) and monitoring and management of coastal fisheries (Component 2). These components will strengthen scientific understanding of oceanic and coastal systems, respectively, and will facilitate addressing cross-cutting issues such as ecosystem relationships and the impacts of climate change through linking results via databases. The oceanic activities will provide scientific support for new tuna management initiatives adopted by P-ACPs at a critical time for conservation of the stocks. In particular, intensive observer training and enhancement of national fishing activity databases will, in combination with the development of a monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) strategy under the proposed DevFish2 study, allow more effective identification and deterrence of IUU fishing activities. Furthermore, the proposed modelling studies respond to calls by P-ACP countries to develop tools and strategies to evaluate national impacts from management measures and mitigate the effects of climate change. The coastal activities will be focused, by means of initial stakeholder consultations, on projects combining an urgent resource management issue with a strong local capability to address the issue and maintain a long-term programme.

Component 1: Pacific ACP governments, the FFA and the WCPFC will be provided with scientific data, modelling, and advice on oceanic fisheries to underpin their management decision making and strategic positioning.

Project activities include:

- 1-1. *Observer Training and Systems*
- 1-2. *Integrated Tuna Fisheries Databases*
- 1-3. *Bioeconomic Modelling and National Advice*
- 1-4. *Ecosystem Modelling of Management and Climate Change*
- 1-5. *Validate Key Model Parameters through Tagging*

Component 2: P-ACP governments, private sector and communities will be provided with technical methods and training to monitor coastal fisheries, resulting in practical scientific advice to inform management decisions, and development of in-country capacity to evaluate their effectiveness.

Project activities include:

- 2-1. *Conduct Stakeholder Consultation.*
- 2-2. *Develop Local Capacity to Implement Field Monitoring Protocols.*
- 2-3. *Develop and Implement Secondary Data Collection Protocols.*
- 2-4. *Develop Management Advice.*

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Organisational set-up and responsibilities

The project will be implemented through Joint Management. A Financing Agreement has been signed between the Commission and the Regional Authorising Officer (RAO). A Contribution Agreement has been signed between the Commission and SPC.

The Director of the Marine Resources Division of SPC will be the project supervisor. Day to day administration will be the responsibility of the Project Administrator.

A steering committee will be set up to oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the project (or other responsibilities to be specified). The project steering committee will meet once a year.

The project steering committee will be made up of:

- representatives of the 14 P-ACP countries (normally the most senior fisheries official in each country), and a representative of Timor Leste,
- a representative of the Regional Authorising Officer
- the project supervisor (and other project staff as needed),
- the project administrator,
- a representative of the Head of Delegation of the European Commission for the Pacific with observer status,
- other SPC and FFA members and regional organisations with an interest in fisheries, may also attend as observers.

CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT COST ESTIMATE FOR PROJECT

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| A. | Total staff costs | 4,325,000 |
| B. | Travel and subsistence costs | 940,000 |
| C. | Training costs | 952,500 |
| D. | Equipment and services | 330,000 |
| E. | Consumables and other supplies | 160,000 |
| F. | Subcontracts/consultancies | 502,000 |
| G. | Fieldwork costs | 530,000 |
| H. | Dissemination of results, visibility | 350,000 |
| | Total direct costs | 8,089,500 |
| I. | Eligible indirect costs | 566,265 |
| | TOTAL | 8,655,765 |

REPORTING

SPC will compile 6 monthly reports detailing activities against project milestones and indicators as described in the Logical Framework. These reports will be sent to the RAO and the EC Delegation (Suva) within 30 days of completion of each 6 month period. A consolidated annual report will be presented at the PSC.

The reporting will be carried out pursuant to the rules and procedures set out in the special and general conditions of the Standard Contribution Agreement, i.e. Annex II of the Contribution Agreement for this project.

2010 COST ESTIMATE

The cost estimate for 2010 is Euros 1,415,610 broken down as follows:

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| A. | Total staff costs | 380,000 |
| B. | Travel and subsistence costs | 190,000 |
| C. | Training costs | 187,500 |
| D. | Equipment and services | 135,000 |
| E. | Consumables and other supplies | 40,000 |
| F. | Subcontracts/consultancies | 113,000 |
| G. | Fieldwork costs | 195,000 |
| H. | Dissemination of results, visibility | 82,500 |
| | Total direct costs | 1,323,000 |
| I. | Eligible indirect costs | 92,610 |
| | TOTAL | 1,415,610 |

DETAILED WORK PLAN

Following the recruitment of most staff for the two components of the project and the purchase of equipment for these staff, the following activities will be undertaken during the first year of the project (up to 31 December 2010).

ACTIVITIES

The main activities scheduled for Year 1 Component 1 (Oceanic) of the project are as follows:

- Observer training will be undertaken in FSM, and observer debriefer training provided to several north Pacific ACPs (e.g., FSM, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati);
- An observer coordinators workshop will be held with participation of national observer coordinators from all Pacific ACPs;
- Procedures will be developed and documented for national tuna data audits and auditing systems for national port sampling and logsheet programmes will be trialled in one Pacific ACP;
- A national tuna data officer from one ACP country will be attached to SPC HQ for training;
- Consultancy work will be carried out on the SEAPODYM model to further develop the software for the provision of national-level analyses;
- National Tuna Fishery Status Reports will be completed for two ACP countries; at least one of these will involve in-country stakeholder consultation by project staff and attachment training of national staff at SPC headquarters;
- A one-two month tuna tagging cruise focusing on bigeye tuna in the central Pacific will be carried out.

The main activities scheduled for Year 1 Component 2 (Coastal) of the project are as follows:

- A regional workshop with NGOs and others involved in the collection of coastal fisheries monitoring data covering finfish, invertebrates or habitat.
- Staff will travel to countries to do a needs-assessment of the types of monitoring assistance that is needed to address their specific management needs, with the use of consultant(s) to assist in this process if needed.
- Staff will also commence fieldwork when requests are received or identified for specific monitoring or assessment work necessary for making management decisions, with the use of consultant(s) to assist in this process if needed.

- Staff and consultants will be used for developing management advice and/or plans where there is an urgent need and countries are equipped and prepared to do this.
- Commence the development of database modules for specific monitoring approaches that are identified from the workshop or from country needs assessments.
- Manuals will be produced to cover underwater visual census (UVC) or finfish, and survey methodologies for invertebrates. Draft manuals exist from the PROCFish/C and CoFish projects, so these will be reviewed, finalized and published.
- At least one national or sub-regional workshop covering monitoring protocols or data collection and analysis.

Activities shared by both components of the project will comprise:

- A gender analysis of the project will be undertaken, either in house or through the use of consultants.
- A project steering committee meeting will be convened to provide guidance to the project team.
- A visit to East Timor will be undertaken to identify opportunities for project engagement.
- Project reports and workplans for the next year will be prepared.
- Materials will be produced to promote EU visibility.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROJECT FUND AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

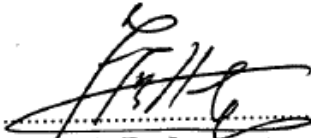
Mobilisation of the Project Fund

- a) The funds necessary to cover the expenditure approved in the Work Plan and Cost Estimate are committed on the basis of supporting documents such as requisitions, order forms, invoices etc. in the normal SPC systems of raising expenditure requests. A record of these commitments, together with original supporting documents, is to be kept up to date by the Finance Section and the component managers for the purpose of keeping an account of commitments.
- b) Expenditure is cleared (verification of invoices, statements) and authorized by the Head of Programme/Head of Section and the Project Coordinator at SPC.
- c) The payment order accompanied by the supporting documents is forwarded to the accounting officer in the Finance Section at SPC who is responsible for executing payment.
- d) Mobilisation of funds will be in accordance with the procedures of SPC as an international organisation and the Contribution Agreement.
- e) The accounts will be audited annually by an independent auditor selected through a tender process.

1 APPROVAL OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND COST ESTIMATE

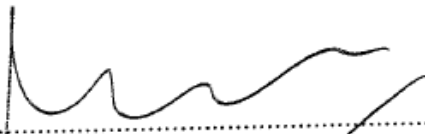

The Work Plan and Cost Estimate is signed by the Organization, approved by the Regional Authorising Officer and endorsed by the Head of Delegation for the Pacific.

Signed by the Organization:


.....
Dr Jimmie Rodgers
Director-General
Secretariat of the Pacific Community

16/4/10
.....
Date

Approved by:


.....
Mr. Wiepke van der Goot
Delegate
EU Delegation to the Pacific 

7/4/10
.....
Date

PROJECT LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

| Performance/Success Indicators | | Means of Verification | Assumptions |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Narrative Summary</p> <p>Overall Objective</p> <p>Conservation and sustainable use of coastal and oceanic fisheries resources in the Pacific Islands region.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effort on yellowfin and bigeye tuna reduced to at least the level required to reach Fmsy (the fishing mortality associate with the maximum sustainable yield) or lower, for both species. • Tuna discards by purse seiners reduced to less than 1% of catch (<12,000 t) confirmed by 100% observer coverage. • At least some management measures adopted in each of 5 coastal areas with measurable signs of recovery observed in baseline monitoring (indicators to be established under this project). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National stock assessment reports • Region-wide stock status reports • Comparisons to baselines established in this study. | |
| <p>Project Purpose</p> <p>To provide a reliable and improved scientific basis for management advice and decision making in oceanic and coastal fisheries.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of project stock assessment results for 4 main tuna species accepted by WCPFC Scientific Committee and forwarded to full Commission for decision-making. • Observer coverage rates reach regionally-agreed levels by 2012 (100% for purse seine vessels) with no decrease in data quality. • At least 5 P-ACP countries adopt coastal fisheries management measures in line with project recommendations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of WCPFC Scientific Committee • Report of WCPFC Technical and Compliance Committee • National regulations and management plans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P-ACP governments have the political will to fully consider the best scientific advice when taking decisions. • P-ACP governments can receive and deploy funds intended to support the cost of observers from fishing fleets. • Increased observer coverage is effective in improving compliance. |
| <p>Project Results</p> <p><i>Result 1:</i> P-ACP governments, the FFA and the WCPFC are provided with scientific data, modelling, and advice to underpin their management decision making and strategic positioning.</p> <p><i>Result 2:</i> P-ACP governments, private sector and communities are equipped to monitor coastal fisheries to provide scientific advice in support of sustainable management of these resources P-ACP governments, private sector and communities will be provided with technical methods and training to monitor coastal fisheries, scientific advice to inform management decisions, and development of in-country capacity to evaluate their effectiveness.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National tuna fisheries databases operational in 15 P-ACPs • Tuna data audits conducted for at least 10 P-ACPs • 300 observers trained, 10 observer trainers and 10 observer debriefers operational • 14 P-ACP's report data to WCPFC as per their obligations • 10 region-wide stock assessments for key tuna species, using the latest updated data, provided to decision-makers during 2010-2013 • 1 regional and 10 national reports providing bioeconomic modelling advice • 1 regional and 10 national reports (including Timor Leste) providing advice on tuna resource vulnerability to environmental variability including climate change • Country specific needs prioritised for all P-ACPs • Assessments and management recommendations given for at least 5 major coastal fisheries. • Standard monitoring protocols implemented and sustained in at least 5 P-ACPs • Regional data repository maintained and national data provided for backup from at least 5 countries/fisheries. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPC databases populated with these data • Data audit reports • WCPFC Science Committee and Technical and Compliance Committee reports • Regional/national bioeconomic reports • Regional/national tuna resource profiles including climate change impacts • Project reports • National databases • SPC repository database | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is sufficient political will to heed scientific advice. • Complementary actions, for example surveillance cooperation on IUU fishing, will continue. • P-ACP governments will commit the human resources for initial and sustained fishery monitoring. • P-ACP governments will implement identified management measures. |

| Project Activities | | Cost € | |
|--|--|---|--|
| 1.1 Observer Training and Systems 1.2 Integrated Tuna Fisheries Databases 1.3 Bioeconomic Modelling and National Advice 1.4 Ecosystem Modelling of Management and Climate Change 1.5 Validate Key Model Parameters through Tagging 2.1 Conduct Stakeholder Consultation 2.2 Develop and Implement Field Monitoring Protocols 2.3 Develop and Implement Secondary Data Collection Protocols 2.4 Develop Management Advice | Resources Total Staff Costs Travel and subsistence costs Training costs Equipment and services Consumables and other supplies Subcontracts/consultancies Fieldwork costs Dissemination of results Visibility Total direct costs Eligible indirect costs Monitoring and Evaluation Contingency Reserve TOTAL | 4,325,000 940,000 952,500 330,000 160,000 502,000 530,000 260,000 90,000 8,089,500 566,265 100,000 244,235 9,000,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing industries cooperate in biological and bioeconomic research. • National fisheries training institutions willing to host and maintain observer training courses. • Suitable vessel can be chartered for biological research (tagging). • P-ACP governments can commit human resources for coastal fisheries training and attachments. • Adequate local equipment and infrastructure are available for maintenance of coastal fisheries databases. |

