



DEVELOPMENT OF TUNA FISHERIES IN THE PACIFIC-ACP STATES PROJECT (DEVFISH2)

A fairer slice for the Pacific people

NEWSLETTER

Issue # 1, March 2011

Dear Readers,

After a 12 months period of transition, the EU funded DEVFISH project is back on line in its second phase. Through this newsletter we wish to bring you up to date with the DevFish2 work and also invite your comment and feedback on its activities. We intend to provide a newsletter every two months and encourage you to share these with your colleagues or people and organizations who would be interested in the activities of the project. To subscribe or provide any comment or feedback and suggestion on this newsletter please contact Jonathan Manieva on JonathanM@spc.int or telephone +687 262000.

Project Description

The DevFish2 project overall objective is to increase the contribution from the sustainable use of highly migratory marine resources, particularly tuna, to the alleviation of poverty in Pacific states. It promotes the establishment of a more favorable policy environment for tuna industry development in Pacific countries, including the small scale component. It will provide direct assistance to small and medium enterprises in the sector as well as artisanal fishers and also build a region-wide IUU

deterrence strategy, utilising the results of initial monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) studies in building robust and cost-effective regional capabilities to combat IUU fishing

As a result of some delays in approval process of agreements between EU and the implementing agencies (FFA and SPC), it was not possible to commence year one work plan before the end of 2010.

1st Project Steering Committee Meeting

On February 28th, 2011 the first meeting of the Project's Steering Committee (PSC) was held at SPC in Noumea. The PSC is the oversight committee that oversees and validates the overall direction and policy of the project. The committee meets once a year. It is made up of;

- Representatives of the 14-pacific ACP countries and a representative of Timor Leste.
- A representative of Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) representing both industrial and artisanal fishing associations at the national level.
- Project supervisors from FFA and SPC
- Project administrators/staff

- Representative of the EU Delegation.

The PSC was made aware of the DevFish2 design and expected results. Members provided input to the direction and identified some specific regional and national priorities.

Year 1 (July 2010-June 2011) was primary planned for project organization and personnel recruitment. All project staff at both agencies will be in place by third quarter (March 2011). Then remainder of the period primarily involves undertaking country and industry level visit and consultations to ensure priority needs identified are aligned properly in the annual work program and awareness of project promoted as early as possible.

Designing the AWP Priorities

This is probably the most important task we have at this early stage of DevFish2 implementation. Utilizing the project steering committee consultation, framework of project's support areas have been noted in both regional and in-country interventions.

The DevFish2 main focused areas fall into two components:

Component 1: Tuna Industry Development

Focus Activity Area	Activity Description
1.1 Assist with Fishery Development Strategies	<i>This task will continue the work of DevFish focusing on implementation of 3 existing action plans, and the development of new plans with strong stakeholder input and a focus on environmental sustainability covering both fishing and processing.</i>
1.2 Transparency in systems and procedures (industry associations – capacity building in access negotiations).	<i>This task will involve strengthening industry associations and artisanal fishers' representation, and providing training and advice on fishing access agreements and licenses to national government staff.</i>
1.3 Provide technical assistance to Competent Authorities – (coordinated with SFP and ACP fish 2)	<i>Support will be provided for meeting requirements associated with sanitary inspection and EU catch certification (anti-IUU fishing) requirements.</i>
1.4 Provide training to industry for expansion of exports (vessels and fish handling)	<i>In parallel with support to competent authorities, this task will train fishing companies to improve vessels and fish handling practices to achieve sanitary standards.</i>
1.5 Provide technical assistance and training for fishing companies.	<i>Focusing on small and medium enterprises, work will focus on management issues and skill shortages constraining growth and profitability.</i>
1.6 Conduct pilot projects introducing new technologies	<i>Projects may include trials of palm oil as boiler fuel in processing plants the trial of other clean technologies and replacement of 2-stroke with 4-stroke engines for artisanal fisheries.</i>
1.7 Support artisanal tuna fishing operations	<i>Working with small-scale fishers associations established or supported under DevFish, provide training and services to artisanal tuna fishers and small scale processors supplying local markets.</i>

Component 2. IUU Fishing Deterrence

Focus Activity Area	Activity Description
2.1 Implement the Regional Monitoring Control and Surveillance Strategy (RMCSS)	<i>Analytical studies funded by Australia in the areas of risk assessment, compliance audit, information management, coordination and capability have been completed, as well as other initial studies undertaken under the SciFish project, and they have been integrated into the RMCSS. Plans are proceeding to implement the strategy, to include the creation of a regional MCS coordination centre, are being developed and assessed.</i>
2.2 Identify and Remedy Technical, Legal and Capacity Shortfalls.	<i>When the strategy is implemented, technical, and legal and capacity shortfalls will be identified and addressed. This may take the form of training programmes, legislative reviews, feasibility studies trialing new technologies, and/or planning for the acquisition of new enforcement assets.</i>
2.3 Integrated Assessment of Enforcement and Fisheries Databases.	<i>This task will integrate fisheries data with the FFA's EOPS system for at-sea surveillance data. Analysis of integrated data will address IUU fishing issues, such as under-reporting, which otherwise often go undetected allowing for more accurate assessment of actual catches for stock</i>

Focus Activity Area	Activity Description
	assessment and feeding back to inform at-sea surveillance strategies.
2.4 Integrated enforcement action.	<i>Promotion of regional integration of MCS operations through real-time information exchange and joint operations with US Navy, Australian Defence Force, New Zealand Defence Force, and French Navy as well as MCS agencies operating in OCTs.</i>

Project Staff Recruitment

SPC had recruited its two project officers; Jonathan Manieva -Fisheries Development Officer and Bryan Scott-IUU Liaison Officer. FFA is in the process of recruiting the Team Leader/ Fisheries Policy Specialist,

the MCS Specialist and the Project Coordinator. It is anticipated that all project staff will be recruited by end of March 2011.

Regional Tuna Industry News in Brief : Some EU debates of ‘unfair’ access rulings into EU

EU MAKES EXCEPTION TO ACCEPT PNG & FIJI TUNA EXPORTS

Canneries compete with industry in Europe..“Papua New Guinea (PNG) has become the only country in the world to be granted a "special treatment" by the European Union (EU) for its tuna export products.

This means that fishery products from whatever origin but processed in PNG have been allowed to enter the EU markets duty-free and quota-free.”

For detail article:

Source: pidp.eastwestcenter.org/pireport/2011/January/01-24-14.htm

“UNFAIR COMPETITION IS THE MAIN CHALLENGE FOR EU TROPICAL TUNA FLEETS

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The EU tuna fleet's principal competitors are the Asian purse-seining fleets operating in the Pacific Ocean, says the opinion: “These fleets mostly supply the largest tropical tuna-processing zone represented by the Thailand-Philippines-Indonesia triangle. Their products – of lower quality – are highly price-competitive on the European market, securing a 35% share despite facing a 24% tariff”.

For detail article:

Source: www.agritrade.cta.int/en/Fisheries/Market-access-tariff-and-non-tariff-aspects

For More Information

For more information on the project activities, programs, technical reports and results, visit the project webpage;

www.spc.int/fame/en/projects/devfish2/aboutdevfish2 , or simply email the project officers at FFA -anouk.ride@ffa.int , SPC- JonathanM@spc.int to seek more information on how the project can provide assistance to your specific needs.

DevFish2 is funded by EU and implemented in partnership by FFA and SPC.

