



SciCOFish – Oceanic Component

2013 Activities and 2014 Work Plan

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SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL
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Outline

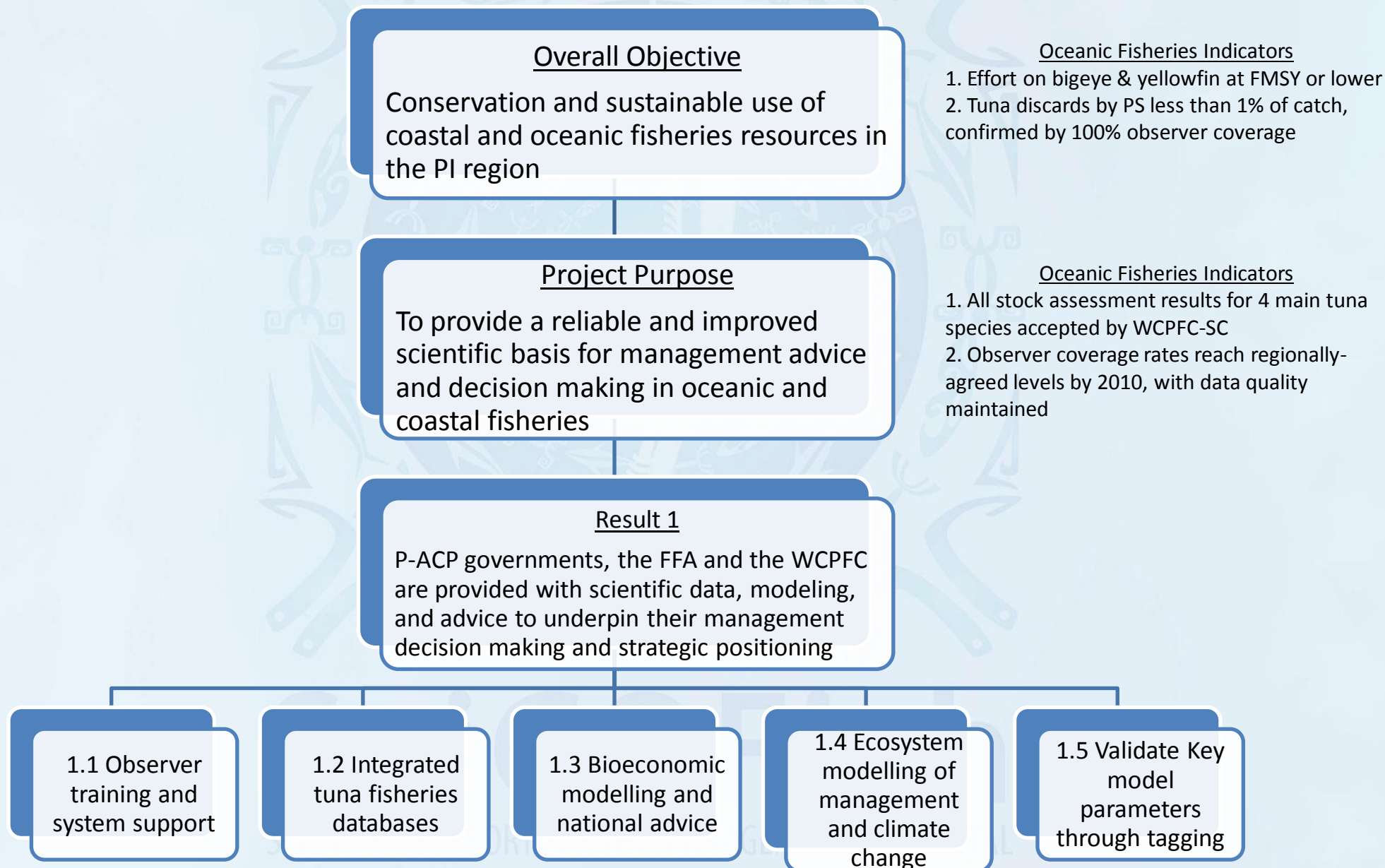
- Project Structure & logical framework
- Progress against performance indicators
- 2013 achievements
- 2014 work plans

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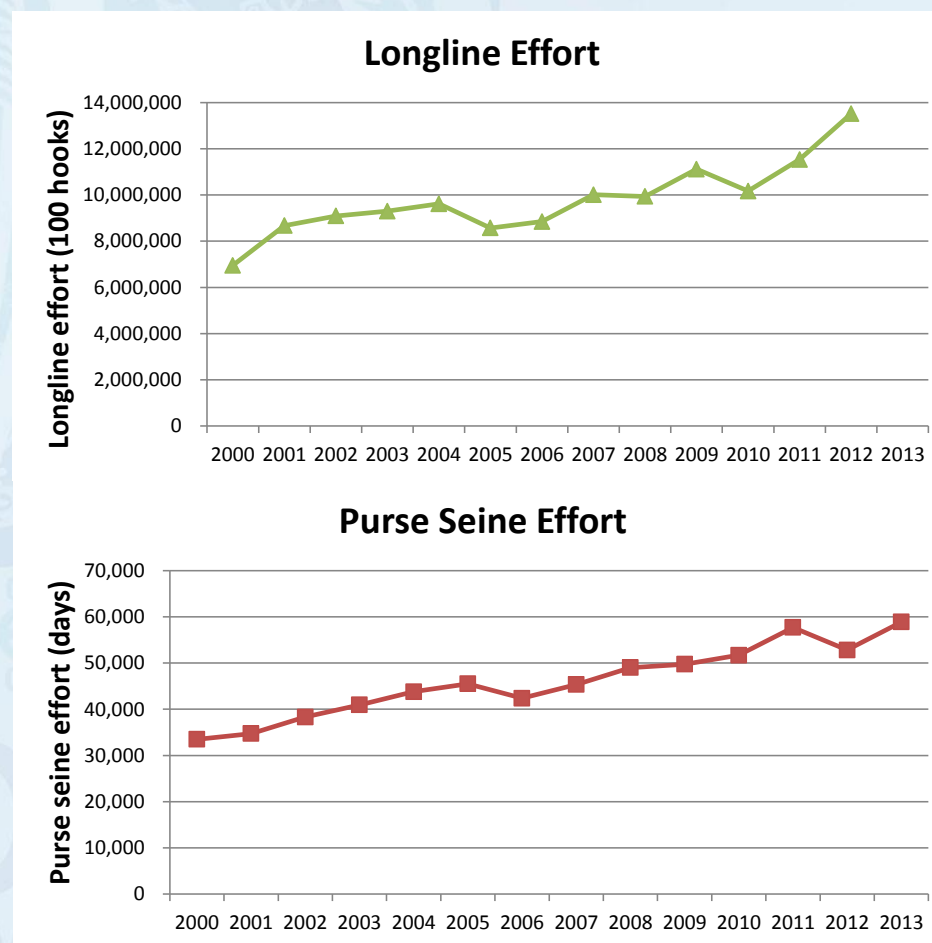
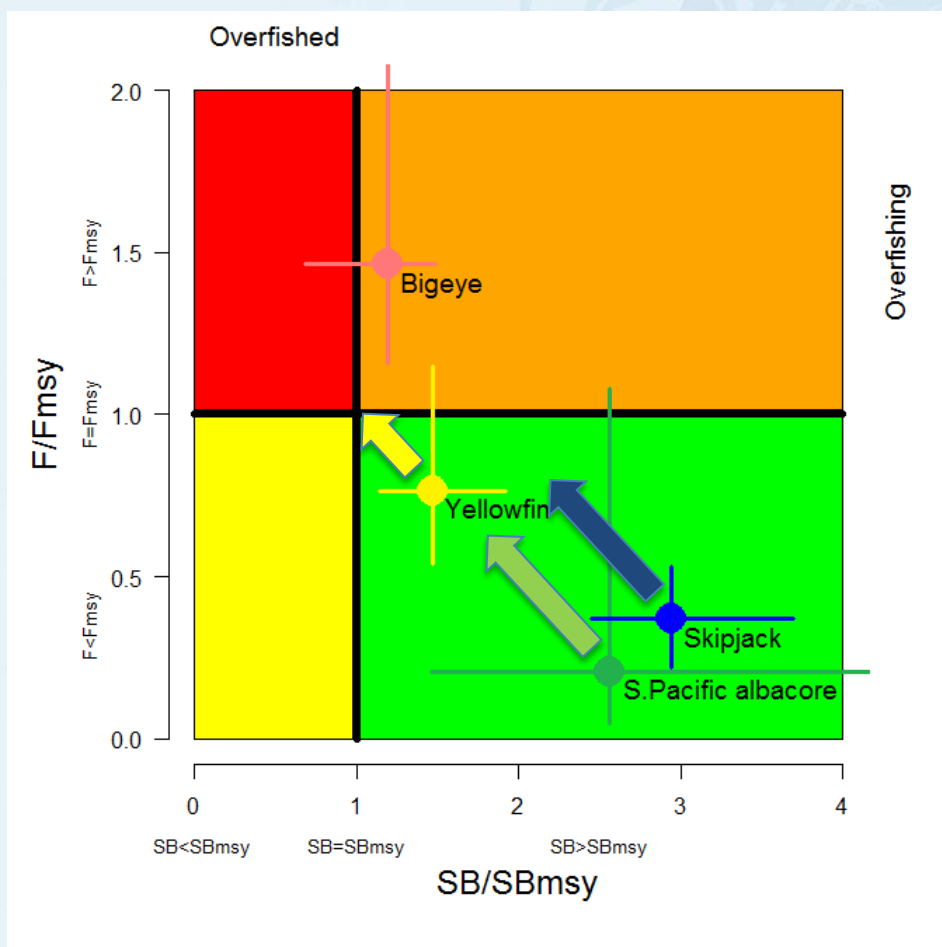
Logframe Structure





Progress on Indicators

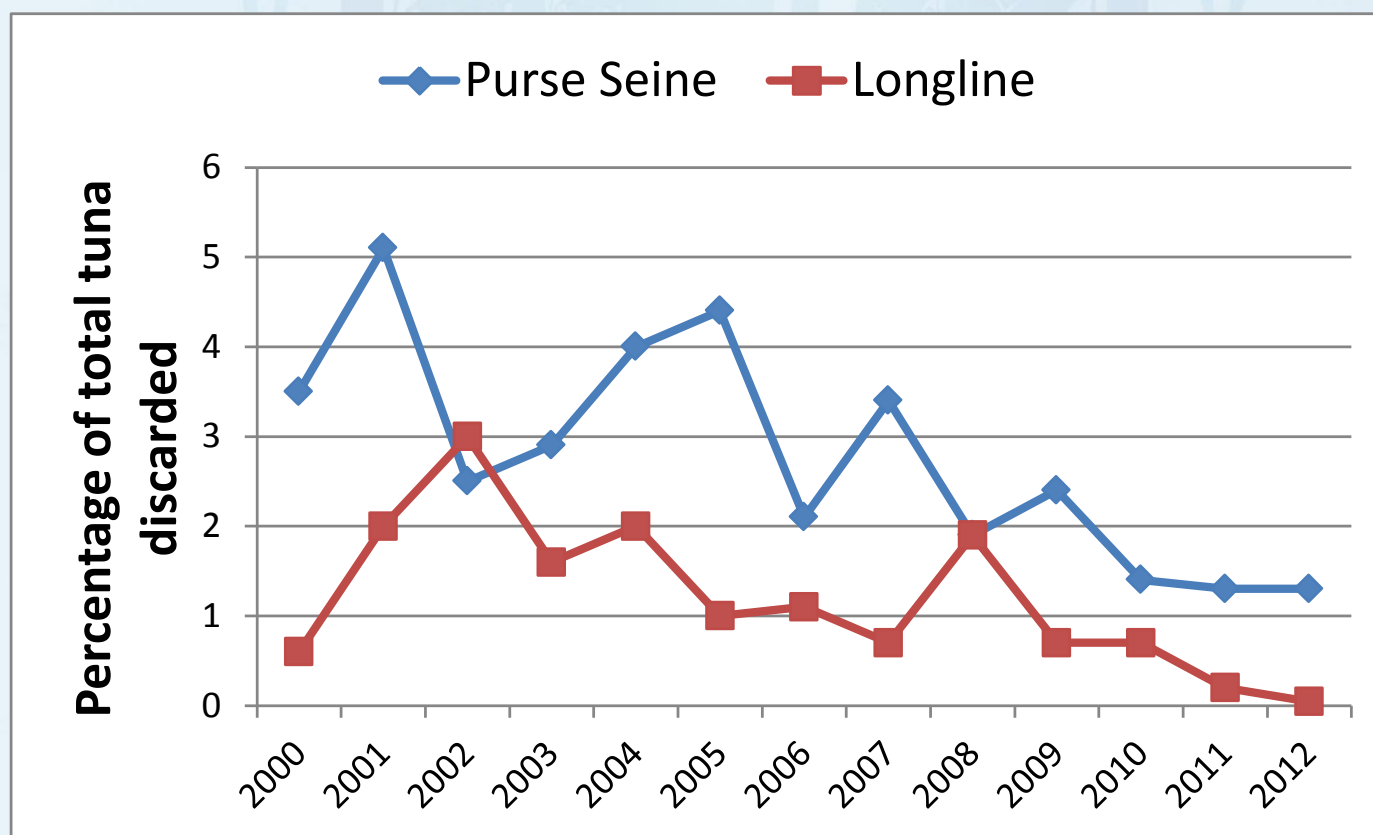
- Overall objective – conservation and sustainable use
 - Indicator: YFT and BET at $< F_{MSY}$





Progress on Indicators

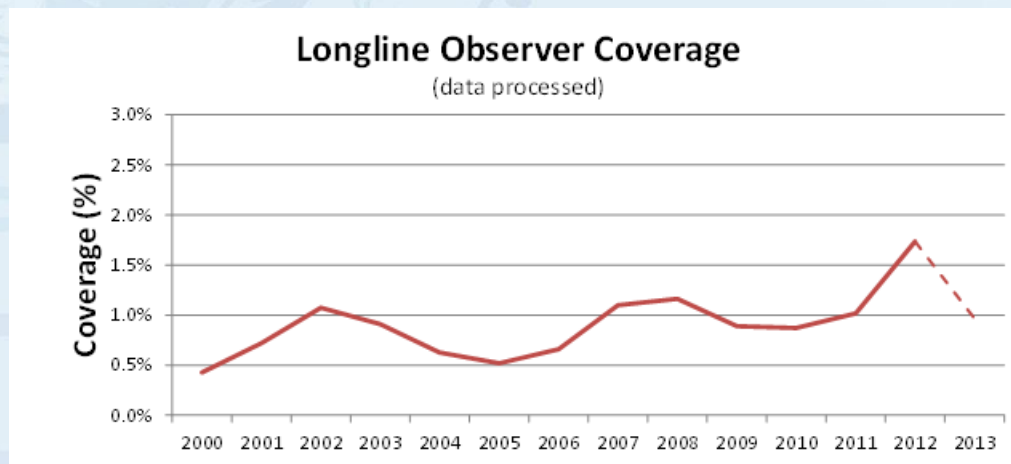
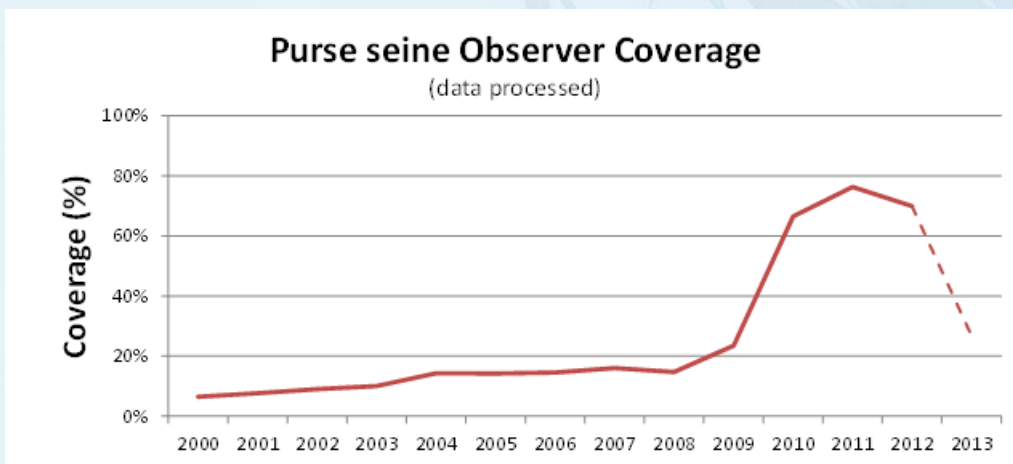
- Overall objective – conservation and sustainable use
 - Tuna discards by purse seiners in recent years approaching 1% of total catch





Progress on Indicators

- Project purpose – scientific basis for management
 - All stock assessments of target tuna stocks accepted by WCPFC (South Pacific swordfish, North Pacific blue shark in 2013)
 - Observer coverage rates reach regionally agreed levels





2013 Achievements

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1.1 Observers

- SciCOFish continues the investment in observer training and programme support
 - 2 Noumea-based positions (coordination, training and support)
 - 1 Pohnpei-based training & support position now finished
- NZAID-funded project has complementary support
 - 1 Suva-based training & support position
 - 4 Noumea-based positions (debriefing & training support, data collection, data management, data quality)
- These projects end over the next year, limiting SPC's ability to continue services in this area



1.1 Observers

- 2013 Observer training
 - 12 national observer training workshops (Fiji x 2, FSM x 2, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands x 2, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)
 - Greater emphasis on training observers likely to be deployed on longliners in 2013
 - 156 observers trained from 13 countries

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Country	2013	
	Trained	Accredited
Cook Islands	1	1
FSM	25	22
Fiji	18	18
Kiribati	19	18
Marshall Islands	15	14
Nauru	3	3
Niue	0	0
Palau	5	5
Papua New Guinea	15	15
Samoa	0	0
Solomon Islands	10	10
Tokelau	1	1
Tonga	19	19
Tuvalu	25	25
Vanuatu	0	0
Total	156	151



1.1 Observers

- 2013 Debriefing training
 - 5 debriefing training workshops (FSM, PNG x 2, Solomons x 2)
 - 62 debriefers trained from 10 countries

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Country	Number Debriefers Trained
FSM	7
Fiji	2
Kiribati	2
Marshall Islands	4
Nauru	1
PNG	29
Solomon Islands	10
Tonga	3
Tuvalu	3
Vanuatu	1
TOTAL	62



1.1 Observers

- **Trainer training**
 - 10 trainee observer trainers from 7 countries (FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Is, Nauru, PNG and Solomon Is) worked towards certification
 - MSC training course for observer trainers from 6 countries
- **Other support**
 - Regional Observer Coordinators' Workshop held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands
 - Final draft of purse seine observer guide completed



1.2 Integrated Tuna Databases

- Builds on OFP's national database development programme, particularly related to TUFMAN software
- 1 fisheries database analyst SciCOFish-funded
- 1 fisheries database developer/analyst (Australia-funded)
- 2 observer database positions (NZ-funded, to transition to WCPFC funding from 1 June 2014)



1.2 Integrated Tuna Databases

- Web-based VMS-logsheet reconciliation tool completed and in wide use
- 5 country visits for data audits (FSM, Palau, Fiji, Tuvalu, Kiribati)
- 5 SPC attachments for data management training
 - (Marshall Islands [2], Nauru, Tonga and Kiribati)
- 7th Regional Tuna Data Workshop conducted
- All P-ACPs submitted 2012 data to WCPFC on time



1.3 Bioeconomic Modelling & National Advice

- Strengthened national support services
 - 1 national scientist position at SPC
- Bioeconomic modelling to analyse management outcomes at both sub-regional and national levels
 - 1 bioeconomic modeller position at SPC
 - 1 economist position at FFA

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1.3 Bioeconomic Modelling & National Advice

- Continued technical support for FFA's economic analyses, summarised in Tuna Fisheries Assessment Report
- Issue-Specific National Reports
 - Interactions between artisanal and industrial fishing
 - Potential for edible bycatch retention by purse seiners
 - Impacts of FAD closures on EEZ and national purse seine fleets
- Regional bioeconomic model for South Pacific albacore fishery developed
- Collaboration with PNAO on regional bioeconomic model for tropical tuna fisheries
- Country visits to Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu to collect economic data
- Bioeconomic modelling workshop (Honiara)
- 2013 Stock Assessment Workshop, including bioeconomic aspects
- Training attachments (Tuvalu, PNG)



1.4 Ecosystem Modelling of Management & Climate Change

- Continued development and application of SEAPODYM model for policy advice
- 1 modelling position (finished end 2012)
- Contracted modelling services (CLS, France)

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1.4 Ecosystem Modelling of Management & Climate Change

- SKJ, ALB and BET model validation completed
- Regional and national reports drafted
 - WCPFC-2013-SC9-EB-WP-03
 - PNG, FSM, PALAU, RMI, Tonga, Nauru, Vanuatu, Samoa drafted
- Information from SKJ and ALB models provided to FFA and sub-regional arrangements to assist allocation discussions



1.5 Validate Key Model Parameters Through Tagging

- Continued tagging of tropical tuna, with emphasis on bigeye, to enhance assessments (but no further SciCOFish support)
- Previous support for large-scale tagging of tropical tuna and albacore (along with other donors)

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1.5 Validate Key Model Parameters Through Tagging

- 1 central Pacific cruise completed – 4,460 mainly bigeye tuna tagged between 180° - 170°W
- 1 PNG tagging cruise completed (PNG funded) – 29,920 tags released
- PTTTP totals now 398,024 releases; 70,064 recoveries (17%)
- Skipjack and bigeye SEAPODYM models incorporating PTTTP tagging data
- 2009 albacore tagging in NZ (SciCOFish funded) – tag returns beginning to appear in longline fisheries



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2014 Work Plans

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1.1 Observers

- 9 observer training courses, 108 observers trained from all P-ACPs plus Tokelau
- 8 observer trainers undergoing training
- 2 debriefer training workshops
- On-the-job training of debriefers in-country
- 2014 Regional Observer Coordinators' Workshop
- Purse seine observer guide printed

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1.2 Integrated Tuna Databases

- TUFMAN Reports are “web-based”
- Integrate TUFMAN into National IMS Systems
- 4 national visits to provide TUFMAN training in-country
- “Web-based” data audit reports available through the internet
- 4 national data audits conducted
- 8th Tuna Data Workshop conducted (April 2014)
- Assistance to 14 P-ACPs in preparation of --
 - WCPFC scientific data provision (before 30 April 2014)
 - WCPFC Annual Report Part 1 (before 1st July 2014)



1.3 Bioeconomic Modelling & National Advice

- New assessments for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye completed; final revision of N. Pac. Blue shark completed
- Issue-Specific National Reports
 - FAD closure impacts update
 - Determinants of purse seine fishing distribution
 - EEZ-level fishery impacts on major tuna stocks
- Refinement of southern longline bioeconomic model
- Finalisation of regional bioeconomic model for the tropical tuna fishery
- Two bioeconomic modelling workshops (SP albacore focus)
- Two attachments at SPC HQ



1.4 Ecosystem Modelling of Management & Climate Change

- 10 national reports on EEZ-scale tuna dynamics, fishery impacts, impacts of environmental variability
 - Web-query system and reporting (www.spc.int/ofp/seapodym)
- 1 updated regional report on vulnerability of tuna to environmental variability including climate change
- Use of SEAPODYM models to provide management advice to P-ACPs and sub-regional groups as requested



1.5 Validate Key Model Parameters Through Tagging

- Continued tag recovery (PNG funded)
- Central Pacific tagging cruise (NZ funded)
- Continued incorporation of tagging data into stock assessment and SEAPODYM models
- Standalone analyses of tagging data (NZ funded)

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