

SPC DIVISION OF FISHERIES, AQUACULTURE AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS (FAME)



STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2016



SPC Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME)

Strategic Plan 2013–2016

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1. Introduction

This is the first revision of the strategic plan for the Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME). The original plan was launched in 2010. The Division has grown over the years out of several separate fisheries projects. While preserving the distinct role of each of the two programmes – the Oceanic Fisheries Programme (OFP) and the Coastal Fisheries Programme (CFP) – the plan draws out some common themes and goals; and provides for more coordination and the sharing of support services.

The original plan implemented many of the recommendations of an independent review of both programmes carried out in 2009. The goals, objectives and results were developed in a consultative process during the 6th SPC Heads of Fisheries Meeting in February 2009. In 2012, FAME staff conducted an internal review of the plan and proposed some changes to objectives and results. These were approved by an informal consultation with Heads of Fisheries in June, and endorsed by the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA) later in the year. A review of performance indicators was also completed, and the revised indicators presented to CRGA.

The plan relates to broad global and regional goals, but also incorporates many of the priorities identified by individual member countries and territories in the SPC Joint Country Strategy process over recent years. It has also responded to changes in the work programme requested by Heads of Fisheries and regional organisations. Through a process of review and revision every two years or so, the plan is maintained as a living document.

This revised strategic plan focuses on the higher level outcomes expected from the Division's work: the goals, objectives and results for the four year period 2013–2016; as well as providing new indicators that can be used to measure progress. An independent evaluation of progress will be made in 2014. As in past years, annual work plans and reports will identify the detailed activities for each year, and report against their implementation. These will draw on the SPC Joint Country Strategies to identify the activities for individual Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs).

SPC's vision for the region is a secure and prosperous Pacific Community whose people are educated, healthy and manage their resources in an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable way. While the Division's goal relates mainly to the sustainable management of fisheries resources, the opportunities that these resources provide to support economic development and social development of men and women are not neglected.



2. Context

2.1 Economic and social overview

The twenty-two Pacific Island members of SPC are a diverse group in terms of economic and social conditions. Five are least developed countries, with annual per capita GDP as low as USD 700; while in some of the territories, average incomes are at 'first world' levels. Population densities and growth rates, land areas and the level of urbanisation all display similarly wide ranges. There is a great diversity of cultures and languages.

What they have in common is that all are islands surrounded by the tropical Pacific Ocean. All have jurisdiction over areas of this ocean that are many times (in some cases thousands of times) their land area. All derive significant economic and social benefits from their marine resources, with many coastal communities depending on these resources for their livelihoods. Several have large and important freshwater fisheries. All identify their living aquatic resources (for fisheries, aquaculture and non-extractive uses mainly related to tourism) as a major opportunity for economic growth and development. In some cases, it represents almost the only opportunity.

Nearly all tourism destinations in the region are on the sea, and the coral reefs and their fish populations provide a powerful tourist attraction. Specialised diving and fishing holidays bring in large numbers of tourists, and provide a regular stream of visitors to locations which may lack more sophisticated attractions and infrastructure.

A 2010 study estimated the contribution of fishing (not including processing and support industries) to the economies of the PICTs at over USD 550 million in 2007 – since then the value of the tuna catch has increased substantially due to a rise in prices globally. At that time coastal fishing (subsistence and commercial) accounted for about half of this economic contribution, with locally based offshore fisheries making the next largest contribution. Fisheries access fees are a source of government finance in all Pacific Island countries, providing more than 10% of revenue in four of them.

Reviews of the importance of fish as a source of food for Pacific Island populations have found that annual per capita consumption of fishery products in all cases exceeds the global average of 18.6 kgs (2010). In several small island countries, where opportunities to produce other food are very limited, fish consumption is among the highest in the world. Fishing also plays an important cultural role for men and women in many of the region's coastal communities, and is part of the daily lives of hundreds of thousands of Pacific Islanders.

2.2 International and regional context

From a global perspective, there has been little good news about fisheries resources over the last three decades. Official estimates of the percentage of fish stocks that are not fully exploited or over-exploited fell from 40% to 15% in 2008, and a number of major fisheries have collapsed. Total world fisheries production stopped growing in the mid 1980s, and shows a substantial decline when unreliable data are excluded. Global fishing capacity (the power of the fishing fleets to catch fish) is estimated to be at two to three times the level required to yield a sustainable catch, and continues to grow in some major fishing nations.

On a more positive note, the world's aquaculture production has continued to grow and was estimated to be providing 50% of the world's supply of fish for food in 2012. This has not been without environmental cost. Loss of coastal habitat, degradation of fish farm sites, dependence on capture fisheries for feed, and the introduction of exotic species and diseases have provided some lessons to guide future development. Trade in fisheries products – particularly from developing countries to the developed world – has also grown dramatically.

The SPC region reflects these trends to some extent. The value of fisheries exports from the region almost doubled in the period 1999–2007. In about half of the PICTs, fishery exports represented over 50% of the value of all exports; and where they represent less than this proportion, they are mostly quite large in nominal terms.

In contrast, aquaculture remains a small contributor to the economy of most Pacific Island countries. Pearl and prawn culture account for most of the production value, and have been developed mainly in French Polynesia and New Caledonia respectively. The value of pearl production has crashed in recent years with both prices and volumes falling since the global financial crisis in 2009.

Production from the western and central Pacific tuna fishery has grown rapidly since the 1950s, and reached a record catch of over 2.5 million tonnes in 2009. Catches in the following two years have been lower. About half of the total comes from the waters of the PICTs. The increase has been driven by expansion of the distant water purse-seine fishery, with some growth in the catches by national fleets and onshore processing in the region. In contrast, domestic tuna longline fisheries, which developed in many PICTs during the 1990s, have faced difficult economic conditions in recent years and production has fallen.

Production from coastal fisheries, particularly subsistence fisheries, has never been well quantified across the region. It seems clear, however, that the value of some export fisheries such as beche-de-mer has fallen, as high-value species have been widely overfished and several national fisheries have been closed.

The region's living marine resources have global significance. A quarter of the world catch of tuna now comes from the waters of the PICTs. Half of the world's hard coral reefs lie within the region, including some of the most extensive systems. The west of the SPC region forms part of the coral triangle, the centre of tropical marine biodiversity. There are thus important reasons for the wider global community to share the concerns that Pacific Islanders have for their marine resources.

3. Challenges

3.1 Overfishing

Fishery induced impacts are an important and immediate threat to the sustainability of the region's living aquatic resources. In the oceanic fishery, while stocks of the most prolific species – skipjack tuna – remain in a healthy condition, current stock assessments show that bigeye tuna stocks are overfished, and yellowfin is considered to be fully exploited in the main fishing area. Increases in the number, size and efficiency of purse seiners operating in the region, ever-improving technology, and the widespread use of fish aggregating devices (FADs) in the industrial fishery mean that fishing capacity cannot continue to increase and still yield catches at a sustainable level. Economic assessments indicate that reductions would improve the efficiency and profitability of the region's tuna fisheries. The management of this fishery is not simple, involving multiple distant-water and locally-based fleets, which fish over an extensive area under different national jurisdictions and on the high seas.

Coastal fisheries have avoided the scale of industrial fishing effort that has been applied to tuna, but also face management challenges. Traditionally these resources have been harvested mainly for subsistence, and they remain essential for food security in many rural coastal areas and small islands. Little has been recorded about the region's freshwater fisheries resources, but there are important fisheries in several areas. Growing urban populations and development of a cash economy have seen an increase in small-scale commercial fishing, with depletion of resources around areas that have access to markets. A special case is provided by bechedemer, the sea cucumbers found in shallow lagoons, which are harvested, dried and exported. The high value of this product, the ease with which it can be collected, and the fact that the dried product can be stored and transported without refrigeration, means that it has been widely overfished, even in some of the most remote areas. The situation for some valuable mother-of-pearl shell species, also harvested for export, is similar. Species of giant clam have also been fished to near-extinction. It is estimated that the region's population will increase by 50% over the next 25 years, which will greatly increase pressure on these resources.

3.2 Ecosystem impacts

While fishery-induced impacts on the target species are a major concern, awareness has been growing for some time that fisheries have major impacts on other aspects of the marine environment, particularly bycatch species, and that other activities affect fisheries resources. This has led many countries to commit themselves to an 'ecosystem approach' to fisheries management. FAME favours a pragmatic approach to ecosystem issues, and focuses particularly on bycatch in the industrial fishery. Initial assessments have shown that populations of some oceanic shark species have been severely depleted. For coastal fisheries, an approach that involves considering ecosystem impacts has been developed for community based fisheries management. The maintenance of ecosystem benefits for future generations is a principle of sustainable management and development.

3.3 Climate change

Climate change is expected to have widespread effects in the region, with the existence of entire atoll nations eventually at risk from sea-level rise. However, it is now apparent that the effects of climate change on natural resources (including fish habitats and fish) are likely to take place well before sea-level rise dislocates communities. Increased emissions of carbon dioxide are already making the Pacific Ocean warmer and more acidic. This warming is changing the strength of currents and restricting the supply of nutrients from the deep ocean to surface waters, where they are needed to fertilise the phytoplankton at the base of marine food webs. In combination, such changes are expected to alter fish habitats, including coral reefs, and reduce their capacity to support fish. As a result, redistribution of tuna further east, and significant

decreases in coastal fisheries production, are expected to occur by mid-century. The warmer atmosphere, which will increase rainfall across much of the region, is likely to improve the productivity of freshwater aquaculture and fisheries.

In 2011, SPC released a major publication, *Vulnerability of tropical Pacific fisheries and aquaculture to climate change*, which uses the best available data to assess the effects of climate change on the plans SPC's members have to maximise the benefits from fisheries and aquaculture. FAME is now building on the results of this assessment to: raise awareness of the expected impacts; help PICTs identify and implement adaptations to reduce the risks and capitalise on the opportunities; launch pilot projects to develop and test adaptations at the community level; and guide SPC's members in how best to adopt a cautious approach to the exploitation of marine resources to build the natural resilience of these resources to climate change. The Division is also developing the systems and skills to monitor the effects of climate change on coastal fisheries, and to improve the models used to project the effects of climate change on tuna stocks.

3.4 Development challenges

The sections above have highlighted the threats of overexploitation of the region's marine resources; but there are also many opportunities to derive greater economic benefits from them. When fisheries are closed, or fishing is restricted to conserve resources, there is a need to provide alternatives. The development of domestic tuna industries and increased production from aquaculture hold perhaps the greatest potential; but there are other opportunities such as the sustainable collection of aquarium fish, development of previously unexplored or underexploited stocks, and the expansion of non-extractive tourism benefits. These opportunities are not new, but realising them has proved elusive in most PICTs. In recent years the role of the private sector has been increasingly recognised, and the failed model of government involvement in commercial activities has been abandoned in most cases.

Constraints are numerous, and have been well documented elsewhere. Some may never be resolved – the isolation, high transport costs and limited resources of land and freshwater mean that certain types of development may never be practical in some locations. For others the solutions, such as an improved economic and policy environment, lie beyond the control of fisheries programmes (although they may exert some influence). A key constraint is the lack of capacity and institutional weakness of many of the fisheries administrations in the region. Small government departments will always be challenged by the many and complex responsibilities that they face with small staff numbers, limited skills and scarce financial resources. Developing and supplementing this capacity is a key function of the regional organisations.

4. SPC response

The response to these challenges reflects the overall mission of SPC to help Pacific Island people position themselves to respond effectively to the challenges they face and make informed decisions about their future and the future they wish to leave for the generations that follow. Much of the work will involve providing the information needed to make informed decisions on aquatic resource management and development, and helping to provide the tools and strengthen the capacity needed to implement those decisions.

SPC's corporate plan responds to the aspirations of its members to see key development outcomes in three areas:

- sustainable economic development;
- sustainable human and social development; and
- sustainable natural resources and environmental management and development.

A fourth outcome calls for 'An efficient and effective organisation with the capability and partnerships required to provide optimum services to members'.

The contribution of FAME relates mainly to the third key development outcome – sustainable natural resource management – but work by the Division addresses all four outcomes. Part 9 of the report shows the alignment of FAME results with these key development outcomes and the Division's monitoring and evaluation systems provide for reporting against each of them.

4.1 Oceanic fisheries

In the oceanic fishery, SPC will continue to provide the services that are valued by PICTs, while responding to some new challenges. Providing scientific support for the management of fisheries for tuna and associated species, with a strong focus on stock assessment and modelling, remains at the core of the programme. Essential in supporting this work, but also valuable in their own right, are three other main priorities:

- providing and improving data and data management for the tuna fishery;
- supporting and developing fisheries monitoring services, particularly the large and growing observer programme; and
- improving understanding of the oceanic ecosystem that supports the region's tuna fisheries.

Concerns about overfishing of targeted stocks of tuna require continued emphasis on the scientific evaluation and monitoring of management measures aimed at addressing the problem. SPC members are increasingly interested in maximising the economic benefits from their tuna resources (or minimising the impacts of reducing fishing effort on their national economies), which is requiring more work with the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) to develop bio-economic models. Improved spatial resolution, to at least the detail of individual exclusive economic zones (EEZs), is also being demanded and is being addressed through the completion and use of a new type of model.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) has been operating for nearly a decade, and there is now a wider appreciation of its strengths and weaknesses. On the one hand, it provides an opportunity for improved management of tuna resources throughout the region, including the high seas; on the other, it poses challenges for PICTs in terms of reporting and effective participation in decision-making. Recent years have seen a growing frustration at the difficulty of reaching agreement to conserve tuna resources. Moving towards a system of reference points and harvest control rules may help reduce the difficulty of negotiating each new management measure.

OFP will continue to provide scientific services to WCPFC, so as to ensure the best possible basis for decisions; as well as assisting PICT members – both in meeting their obligations as Commission members, and providing them with the scientific basis to analyse their own national interests. OFP will work closely with FFA, the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) and subregional groups of its member countries in their efforts to develop a coordinated position on WCPFC issues, based again on providing the best possible scientific advice. A peer review process, organised through WCPFC, is proving valuable in maintaining quality control.

While there is much emphasis on the regional nature of fisheries management due to the shared nature of the tuna resource, many responsibilities lie at the national level. The development and review of national tuna management plans based on ecosystem principles, the improvement of national databases for tuna statistics, and the training and support for national programmes for observers and port sampling are all crucial areas for OFP involvement, often working with FFA. Unprecedented efforts by OFP staff have helped to build up the numbers and skills of observers to meet required levels of coverage, but observer debriefing, developing capacity for observer training and the timely transfer of observer data are challenges that still need to be tackled.

SPC is playing an increasing role in analysing and helping to mitigate the effects of tuna fisheries on non-target species, again working with other regional agencies where applicable. This is important not only for conservation of some threatened and endangered species; but also to address public opinion and retain overseas markets for tuna from the region. In the struggle against illegal, unregistered and unreported (IUU) fishing, OFP activities in developing national databases and building observer programmes provide members with important tools they can use against this threat to their resources.

4.2 Coastal fisheries

While OFP has always had a clear focus on the science of tuna fisheries, CFP has a much wider remit. The programme provides support to PICTs in management of coastal fisheries, sustainable development of nearshore resources, and all aspects of aquaculture. Occasionally advice on freshwater fisheries is also requested.

During the period since 2010, CFP has focused on simple and robust management tools, as well as the development of national capacity to monitor the status of key coastal fisheries resources. While retaining consideration of ecosystem principles, the approach puts people at the centre of fisheries management, and aims to address the risks that threaten their sustainable use of fisheries resources. The programme encourages community based fisheries management initiatives, supported with clear and accurate information. At the national level, and particularly for export commodities, the emphasis is on the development of straightforward management regulations or management plans that can be enforced.

In the area of fisheries development, it is recognised that economic development based on fisheries resources remains a priority for many PICTs, although the opportunities for increased catches from existing lagoon and reef fisheries are limited. Emphasis will continue to be placed on developing alternative fisheries, based on robust resources such as skipjack tuna, and adding to the value of existing catches through better handling, processing and export markets. Recreational fishing, particularly associated with tourism, also provides economic opportunities that do not threaten the resource in some PICTs. The government-led development model, with national fishing companies, has finally been abandoned and the programme works to foster private enterprise. Support will be provided for fishing industry bodies and fishers associations that can promote the interests of the private sector.

Aquaculture has considerable potential, but in many PICTs this has yet to be realised. SPC has undertaken a critical review of the opportunities and constraints to development across the region. This study stresses the need for aquaculture development to be market driven and profitable. It is recognised that the programme's efforts will need to focus more on creating the conditions for economically viable activities. Again, involvement of the private sector will be important. A key role for governments, however, will be to manage the biosecurity risks, and avoid some of the damaging impacts caused by badly managed aquaculture practices elsewhere in the world. SPC will continue to assist and coordinate this work. Since the Aquaculture section already deals with some cultured freshwater species, it will also take the lead in freshwater fisheries work.

4.3 Capacity building and supplementation

SPC identifies the development of human resources in member countries and territories (capacity building) and the direct provision of access to specialised expertise (capacity supplementation) as core business of the organisation. In oceanic fisheries, training will continue to focus on the development of skills to analyse and interpret the results of stock assessments, to assist countries in developing appropriate management measures. Scholarships for training to MSc level with relevant practical research projects have been introduced and may be expanded if successful. Increasing capacity to handle and manage tuna fishery data will also be important; while the need to increase and maintain the pool of trained observers will see increased emphasis on the delivery of observer training by national institutions. In both of these areas, OFP will aim to move away from the direct delivery of services, to a role more of support and quality control. The use of new technology for the collection and transfer of data will also be investigated. In coastal fisheries and aquaculture, training needs are more diverse and cover a range of technical issues. The emphasis will be on enhancing skills and management expertise in the private sector; while supporting the regulatory role of government departments in areas such as resource assessment and monitoring, or export certification.

The Division will also investigate ways of addressing the widely perceived need for institutional strengthening of national fisheries authorities. A 'young professionals' scheme providing one year of paid work experience with SPC has been introduced and will be expanded if funding permits. Other options may include training for senior staff in management, using SPC-funded staff to work with PICT fisheries authorities for more extended periods, and strengthening the mentoring and support that Division staff already provide to counterparts incountry. SPC is committed to de-centralisation, and placing staff nearer to where their services are required. The Division will also work with partner agencies to improve the relevance and quality of undergraduate training for recruits to PICT fisheries authorities and, over time, establish a small cadre of Pacific Islanders with the training and experience in fisheries stock assessment needed by fisheries managers.

4.4 Information and communication

The programmes produce a range of information materials. Publications include scientific papers, technical manuals, newsletters, special interest bulletins, and posters; as well as various reports and policy documents for members' fisheries administrations. The Division also uses dedicated websites, email groups, a digital library and videos (some of which were designed for broadcast on TV). During the plan period, more attention will be paid to ensuring that information reaches its target audience. Emphasis will also be placed on communicating key fisheries issues to decision-makers, and targeting regional media to raise public awareness. A communications company is currently engaged by the Division and this arrangement will be reviewed and, if appropriate, continued.

4.5 Crosscutting issues

The work of the Division will contribute to broader efforts by the regional organisations to address a number of crosscutting issues.

Governance

The main contribution in this area will be an enhanced institutional capacity for planning and implementing resource use. By communicating the results of stock assessments and management measures, the programmes will promote greater transparency. The promotion of consultative management processes and support for producer associations will increase public participation in decisions on resource issues.

Development efforts in fisheries and aquaculture will seek to provide a framework that identifies economic opportunities and encourages private enterprise and investment.

Gender

The contribution of women in Pacific fisheries is often under-valued and misinterpreted due to gender stereotypes. The Division will continue to work with other sections of SPC to address gender issues, and will promote the involvement of all sectors of the community in decision-making on resource issues. Efforts will be made to promote careers in fisheries for women; and the Division will endeavour to improve the gender balance of its professional staff as an example to the region.

Environment

The Division's core function is to contribute to the sustainability of fisheries resources. Development activities will include efforts to improve fuel efficiency in fishing and processing. The Division will also assist in evaluating and mitigating the impact of major developments in the fishing industry and aquaculture. Training of national fisheries staff in understanding the reports of environmental impact assessments will also be introduced. Efforts to raise awareness of the importance of key marine habitats – coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass flats – will be strengthened.

Food security

Population growth and urbanisation already threaten the traditional view of the Pacific Islands as a region where nobody starves; and there are problems of poor nutrition in many PICTs. Fisheries and aquaculture have an important role in the solution of these problems, but it would be a mistake to focus only on small-scale production in the name of food security without careful evaluation of economic and social viability. Better utilisation of the bycatch of commercial fisheries, or promotion of agricultural production systems may prove more efficient and sustainable. Food security initiatives will be based on a realistic assessment of what actually works.

Non-communicable diseases

Much of the region is suffering from a rapid growth in the incidence of non-communicable diseases associated with changes in diet and lifestyle. Fisheries products are recognised as a healthy dietary option, providing protein and essential nutrients without animal fats. Fishing itself normally requires physical activity and has benefits for both fitness and mental health. The promotion of sustainable fishing and fish consumption therefore has a role to play in addressing this issue. At the same time, the risks of accident and loss of life associated with offshore fishing will be addressed in the various coastal fisheries training programmes.

Urbanisation

Urbanisation has negative impacts but also provides opportunities for fisheries. On the one hand much of the worst overfishing and local depletion of resources occurs around areas of dense human population, often made worse by pollution from inadequate sewage and waste disposal systems. On the other hand, large populations provide a market and associated opportunities for the sale of bycatch from industrial fisheries, from medium- to large-scale aquaculture operations and, if transport services are adequate, from small-scale fisheries in rural areas. The Division will aim to build on these opportunities and work with partners to address the risks.



5. Goals, objectives and results

5.1 Overall goal of the Division

The goal of the FAME Division, in line with the priorities of member countries and territories is that: the fisheries resources of the Pacific Islands region are sustainably managed for economic growth, food security and environmental conservation. The Division focuses on fishery-induced threats to resources, while taking account of broader ecosystem management principles.

Each programme has its own goal and objectives as set out below.

5.2 Oceanic Fisheries Programme goal and objectives

The goal of OFP is that: fisheries exploiting the region's resources of tuna, billfish and related species are managed for economic and ecological sustainability using the best available scientific information.

To help SPC members achieve this goal, OFP will focus on four objectives for the period from January 2013 to December 2016. Each objective will be the responsibility of one section and will be supported by results in 3 to 6 areas.

Objective 1: To provide high-quality scientific information and advice for regional, subregional and national fisheries management authorities on the status of, and fishery impacts on, stocks targeted or otherwise impacted by regional oceanic fisheries

Result 1.1: Regional oceanic fisheries management policy and decision-making by WCPFC are informed by the best science-based stock assessments and advice

Result 1.2: FFA's oceanic fisheries management initiatives are supported by the best science-based stock assessments and advice

Result 1.3: National tuna oceanic fisheries policy and decision-making by SPC members are informed by the best science-based stock assessments and advice

Result 1.4: Enhanced capacity of SPC members to interpret stock assessment information and advice

Objective 2: To provide high-quality fishery monitoring services, analysis services and capacity development to support the management of oceanic fisheries by regional, subregional and national fisheries management authorities

Result 2.1: WCPFC is provided with efficient and cost-effective fishery monitoring and analytical services to support regional oceanic fisheries management

Result 2.2: Enhanced national oceanic fishery monitoring by SPC members to meet national and international obligations

Result 2.3: Enhanced capacity of SPC members in oceanic fisheries monitoring

Objective 3: To provide high-quality data management services and capacity development to support the management of oceanic fisheries by regional, subregional and national fisheries management authorities.

- **Result 3.1:** WCPFC is provided with efficient and cost-effective data management services to support regional oceanic fisheries management
- Result 3.2: FFA's oceanic fisheries management initiatives are supported by efficient and cost-effective data management services
- Result 3.3: Enhanced national oceanic data management by SPC members to meet national and international obligations
- Result 3.4: Enhanced capacity of SPC members in data management and data use

Objective 4: To improve understanding of pelagic ecosystems in the western and central Pacific Ocean

- **Result 4.1:** Enhanced data on the biological characteristics of oceanic species and their environment are available to support stock assessment and ecosystem-based fisheries management
- Result 4.2: Appropriate ecosystem models and analyses are available to inform ecosystem-based fisheries management
- Result 4.3: Knowledge of the impacts of climate change on oceanic ecosystems is improved to inform adaptation
- **Result 4.4:** Regional oceanic fisheries policy and decision-making by WCPFC is informed by science-based information and advice on ecosystem issues
- Result 4.5: FFA's ecosystem-based fisheries management initiatives are supported by the best scientific information and advice
- **Result 4.6**: Ecosystem-based management of oceanic fisheries by SPC members is supported by the best scientific information and advice

5.3 Coastal Fisheries Programme goal and objectives

The goal of CFP is that: **coastal fisheries, nearshore fisheries and aquaculture in PICTs are managed and developed sustainably.** This will be achieved through promoting a participatory and consultative approach, involving relevant stakeholders, with a strong focus on building capacity.

To help SPC members achieve this goal, CFP will focus on three objectives for the four-year period with three result areas under each objective.

Objective 1: To assist governments and administrations in the development of scientifically informed and socially achievable coastal fisheries management policies and systems in line with the guiding principles of the 'Apia Policy' 1

- **Result 1.1:** Assessment of the status of national coastal living marine resource user groups, impact on resources, existing impact management systems, and the current status of resources themselves, in order to inform management
- **Result 1.2:** Assistance to members, in partnership with other stakeholders, in developing an appropriate mix of community-based approaches and national management arrangements, incorporation of ecosystem-based principles, and the review of coastal fisheries legislation
- **Result 1.3:** Assistance to members in assessing impacts of climate change on marine environments and assisting coastal communities to respond effectively to climate change

¹ The Pacific Islands Regional Coastal Fisheries Management Policy 2008–2013 ('the Apia Policy') was endorsed by the 4th Ministerial FFC in 2008.

Objective 2: To provide a regional framework for sustainable aquaculture, in the areas of planning, research, development and trade, for Pacific Island governments, private enterprises and other stakeholders

- **Result 2.1:** Improved regional and national capacity for strategic policy, planning and administration to establish clear priorities and enable the aquaculture sector to meet current and future needs, with the guidance of the Regional Aquaculture Strategy 2013
- **Result 2.2:** Increased skills and knowledge base in the SPC region and its member countries and territories, so as to maximise the return on investments in aquaculture through innovative, profitable and sustainable approaches
- **Result 2.3:** Systems established and/or supported, using science based approaches to manage aquatic biosecurity risks and to facilitate trade

Objective 3: To develop sustainable nearshore fisheries in PICTs to provide food security, livelihoods, economic growth and climate change adaptation

- **Result 3.1:** Subsistence, artisanal, sport and industrial fishing activities within the sustainable production level of the fisheries resources available
- Result 3.2: Improved economic viability of fisheries investments through analysis, evaluation and capacity building in financial skills
- Result 3.3: Optimum benefits from the resource through improved seafood quality standards and value-adding

5.4 Divisional objectives

The Director of the FAME Division has the role of coordinating the work of the Coastal and Oceanic Fisheries programmes in support of this goal. The Director has two objectives, with two result areas under each objective:

Objective 1: To develop and sustain effective relationships between the Division and its stakeholders

- Result 1.1: Programme plans and activities that respond to the needs and priorities of members
- Result 1.2: Effective working relationships maintained with other regional agencies and donors

Objective 2: To promote informed policy decisions and public awareness of marine resource issues and climate change in Pacific Island countries and territories

- **Result 2.1:** Policy-makers and the general public are better informed of fisheries resource issues, climate change impacts, the importance of fisheries and the need for management action
- **Result 2.2:** Stakeholders in PICTs are fully informed of the results of SPC activities, and shared experience and knowledge across the region



6. Risks and risk management

Risks that threaten the ability of the Division to deliver on these objectives and results can be divided into those which are internal, to the extent that they may reduce the capacity of programmes to perform (funding, staffing levels, management); and external – those that may prevent the uptake and effective use of programme services and advice in member countries and territories (political will, capacity of national institutions, regional solidarity). In the past, the impact of some SPC activities has been limited by:

- attempting to provide equal services to all PICTs, rather than tailoring activities to their capacity and needs;
- working mainly with government bodies to the exclusion of the private sector and non-government organisations that are active in the field; and
- responding slavishly to country requests, when it is clear that some of these are ill-considered and that other activities (not requested) may be more necessary.

Improved effectiveness of the joint country strategy (JCS) process, to identify effective and achievable activities in each PICT through wide consultation, will play an important role in resolving these problems. A more proactive approach in some project activities will also contribute.

Some major risks and the strategies to address them are listed in the following table.

RISK	STRATEGY TO ADDRESS AND/OR MITIGATE RISK
Inadequate resources Inadequate funding to implement work programmes, particularly with donor partners and their currencies affected by the global economic crisis.	Funding proposals with the EC for several projects in support of member country's needs will be pursued. New funding sources need to be identified and proposals developed. More efficient means of service delivery will be explored and developed, particularly to reduce the high costs of basing all staff in Noumea.
Uptake of scientific advice A key risk to achieving improved management of fishery resources is that the scientific advice will not be translated into management action.	OFP work at three levels (WCPFC, regional and national) provides multiple options to develop management measures. For coastal fisheries, more attention will be paid to demand and local capacity, as well as working with non-government partners. More effective communication will raise awareness of decision-makers and the public.
Acceptance of scientific assessments A risk to providing scientific data, modelling, and advice to underpin management decision-making and strategic positioning would come through a loss of credibility of the stock assessments of OFP.	Continued research into the biology of tuna species, continuous improvements in data collection, and the development of improved stock assessment models will ensure that the technical quality of the work is recognised as the best available basis for management.
Ecosystem approach problems Putting into operation the ecosystem approach to resource management has proved difficult in the Pacific Islands. The procedures for consultation and risk assessment can be complex and very time consuming.	To address this risk, CFP will incorporate ecosystem principles into a simpler process of consultation with stakeholders. OFP provides scientific support for this process through FFA, which is expected to adopt a similar approach.

Capacity issues Lack of capacity in government administrations of PICTs to effectively use SPC services, implement advice and put training into action in-country.	More targeted capacity building and institutional strengthening; working with non-government partners where appropriate. The young professional scheme and scholarships will be continued as long as funding permits.
Enforcement of management rules Management arrangements and plans at all levels may be undermined by public disregard for management measures and regulations in coastal fisheries, and by IUU fishing on oceanic resources.	CFP will address this through capacity building for enforcement officers (a gap at present), awareness-raising, and by using a participatory or community-based approach. OFP will provide PICTs with tools to monitor compliance with management measures and reporting in the tuna fishery.
Uptake of new activities Acceptance of alternative activities for income generation and food security (fisheries and aquaculture) may be mixed as fishers may not be used to, or interested in, these activities and may prefer to continue with what they know.	Alternative income generating activities will be thoroughly assessed for their economic, environmental and social viability before being promoted.
Biosecurity risks in aquaculture Exotic marine species are relocated for aquaculture, spreading invasive species and diseases.	A regional approach will be taken to put in place adequate biosecurity controls that can be implemented at the national level.

By their nature, risks are not always predictable, and the risk matrix will be kept under review and modified as necessary.

7. Reporting, monitoring and evaluation

The work of the FAME Division is coordinated by the Director, who interacts on a daily basis with both the CFP and OFP Managers. Key staff meet monthly with their Programme Manager, while the SPC Executive Committee reviews the expenditure of the budget on a regular basis. Annual work plans and progress reports are provided to the Divisional Director and to donors. In addition specific project reports and audited financial statements are prepared to meet donor requirements. Individual sections publish reports of current work in the SPC Fisheries Newsletter, now produced in colour three times per year, and the results of completed projects and activities are published in technical reports. All of these are normally made available on the Division's website at www.spc.int/coastfish and www.spc.int/OceanFish.

The Heads of Fisheries Meeting monitors the work programme of the Division and provides a regional consensus on changing priorities within the sector. Occasional regional meetings focus on specific issues and may develop regional policies. An overview of the programmes' performance against the Strategic Plan is included in the annual report of the Division to SPC's governing body, CRGA, which is responsible for formally approving the Strategic Plan and annual budget. In keeping with improved collaboration between regional agencies, the Division also submits important plans and policy proposals to the Forum Fisheries Committee Officials' and Ministers' meetings for their comment and endorsement. A presentation of the status of the region's tuna stocks has long been a feature of these meetings.

Independent reviewers will review the Division's performance in 2014 – following the completion of the first 4-year cycle of the current plan – as part of the SPC review process. Major donor funded projects are also subject to regular external evaluations and review. Technical assessments of the regional stock assessments of OFP have been initiated under the peer review process organised by WCPFC. The first of these – the bigeye stock assessment – was tabled at the WCPFC Scientific Committee meeting of 2012.

Unfortunately, despite these many reports and reviews there has been a problem in assessing the progress made in achieving the objectives and results of the Division. Reviewers have called for better objective-oriented planning, and reports that describe the real outcomes of activities, rather than the activities themselves. This section of the plan therefore provides a number of quantifiable performance indicators that can be used to measure progress at these higher levels.

These indicators are in two categories:

- 1. Indicators for the fisheries which measure progress towards achieving the broad aspirations of the region for sustainable fisheries development. FAME aims to contribute to these achievements but does not claim credit for them. They require action by many other stakeholders and are affected by factors outside our control.
- 2. Indicators for the programme which measure achievement of FAME objectives. Again, these often require complementary action at the national or regional level, and their achievement is subject to the risks described above, but FAME has more influence in delivery of these results. In both cases the indicators only provide one measure of performance, and their selection has been very much influenced by the availability of timely data, but each indicator should measure something that is relevant to achievement of objectives.

Regional goals and indicators for fisheries and aquaculture

Goal	Key development outcome	Indicator and source of information	Trend to 2012 (data often relates to earlier years)	Possible targets for 2016
Increased employment in the fisheries sector	Human and social development	Formal employment in tuna fisheries in 15 PICs monitored quarterly by FFA.	December 2010: 12,000 jobs. December 2011: 13,500 jobs. December 2012: 14,000 jobs.	18,000 jobs.
Per capita fish consumption maintained or increased	Human and social development	Average national per capita fish consumption estimated from household income and expenditure surveys in 5 or more countries every 5–6 years.	C.I. 57.4 kg; FSM 43.7 kg; KR 72.8 kg; NA 55.8 kg; S.I. 31.9 kg.	Per capita consumption maintained or increased to 35 kg where lower.
National fisheries institutions strengthened	Human and social development	Number of national fisheries institutions that are benefiting from major bilateral institutional strengthening programmes	2 programmes operational in 2012 (SI & TV)	These programmes continue or are successfully concluded plus at least one more.
Growth in the value of the region's fish catches	Economic development	Value of tuna caught in WCPO measured in USD at the point of landing or transhipment reported annually to WCPFC.	2009: \$3.9 billion. 2010: \$4.3 billion. 2011: \$5.5 billion.	Value maintained above \$5 billion increasing to \$6 bn.
Increased value of aquaculture production in the region	Economic development	Estimated value of aquaculture production at farm gate prices in USD (including) or excluding French Polynesia and New Caledonia based on FAO statistics.	2008: (\$ 155m) \$7.6m. 2009: (\$ 122m) \$7.9 m. 2010: (\$109m) \$10.4 m.	Decline in pearl production value halted. Value of production in PICs increases 25%.
Growth in the proportion of the tuna catch by domestic fleets	Economic development	Percent of the tuna catch by volume in PICT EEZs that is taken by flag vessels and locally-based charter vessels derived from catch data analysed by SPC.	2009: 27%. 2010: 26%. 2011: 30%.	At least 35%.
Increased export opportunities for fisheries products	Economic development	Number of PICs with competent authorities approved by European Union (EU); number of onshore processing plants approved for EU shown on DG SANCO website.	2009–2010: 1 PIC, 4 plants. 2010–2011: 2 PICs, 7 plants. 2011–2012: 3 PICs, 10 plants.	Maintain EU access for 3 PICs; increase number of approved plants to 12.
Increased number of fish stocks harvested within safe biological limits	Natural resource management	Number of the four main tuna stocks in WCPO that are harvested such that fishing mortality is less than the fishing mortality at maximum sustainable yield based on stock assessments accepted by WCPFC.	3 out of 4: For bigeye (BE) – reduce fishing mortality. 2009: 34–50% reduction on 2004–2007. 2011: 32% reduction on 2006–2009.	Little change expected in the next 4 years, but the next BE assessment in 2014 may show different results for technical reasons.
Reduction in the discards of edible fish by commercial vessels	Natural resource management	Percent of catch of 4 main tuna species discarded by purse-seine vessels as verified by observer reports analysed by SPC.	Av. 1998–2007 = 3.4%. 2009: 2.3%. 2010: 1.4%. 2011: 1.3%.	Target of <1% achieved.
Increase in locally managed marine areas.	Natural resource management	Area in square kilometres of locally- managed marine areas in Pacific Island countries and territories reported on UN WDPA website.	2009: for 14 PICTs – 30,000 km ² .	25% increase.

Objectives and indicators for FAME

Work area and objective (see Section 5)	Performance indicator	Key development outcome	Trend to 2012	Targets for 2014
Stock assessment OFP objective 1	Tuna stock assessment results are accepted by the annual Scientific Committee of WCPFC as shown in the meeting record. Peer reviews favourable.	Natural resource management	2009–2012: all accepted; first peer review generally favourable.	Maintain acceptance. 1–2 additional peer reviews anticipated.
Fishery monitoring OFP objective 2	100% regional observer programme coverage on purse seiners from 2010; 5% coverage on longliners from mid-2012; PICT observer programmes pass WCPFC audit.	Natural resource management	100% purse-seine (P/S) coverage maintained to June 2012; 13 PICT programmes authorised.	Maintain P/S coverage, develop monitoring for longline coverage, improved data transmission.
Data management OFP objective 3	Number of PICTs submitting estimates of annual catches (ACE) and operational catch effort data (C/E) to WCPFC by 30 April.	Natural resource management	2009: ACE 11/13; C/E 4/14 2010: ACE 14/15; C/E 13/14 2011: ACE 16/17; C/E 14/16	Maintain above 90% for timely submission of both data sets for 2013–2014.
Ecosystem monitoring OFP objective 4	SEAPODYM model is fully functional for all 4 major tuna species and incorporates tagging data; Ecopath model functional and capable of reporting upon ecosystem status and fishery impacts on non-target species.	Natural resource management	2009: SEAPODYM under development 2011: SEAPODYM functional for 3 out of 4 species; Ecopath model functional.	Improved functionality, incorporation of tagging data, complete Y/F model.
Science & management CFP objective 1	New management plans based on resource assessments for significant fisheries that are subject to national control (typically export commodities).	Natural resource management	By end 2011 assistance had been provided with 10 management plans in 6 countries.	At least 8 management plans in place by end 2014.
Aquaculture CFP objective 2	Number of new production systems becoming operational and enterprises established or expanded with support from FAME.	Economic development	3 new enterprises and one cluster supported in 2012. 4 SMEs identified for support.	3–4 viable new enterprises per year.
Nearshore development CFP objective 3	Number of PICTs with sustainable FAD programmes – i.e. maintaining an agreed number of FADs over several years with data collected.	Economic development	2009 baseline - 4 PICTs 10 PICTs assisted with programmes; evaluation due in 2013.	7 PICTs have sustainable programmes with data collection by 2014.
Director's office Objective 1	Percent of respondents at Heads of Fisheries meeting expressing satisfaction with Programme Services in a confidential questionnaire.	Efficient and effective organisation	2009: 62% satisfaction with CFP, 75% satisfaction with OFP.	Level of satisfaction is increased to 80% overall as reported in 2014.
	Funding for the Division maintained or increased as measured by the revised annual budget for each year.	Efficient and effective organisation	2011 rev budget 13,016,300 CFP units 2102 rev budget 13,362,500 CFP units	Annual budget of 14,000,000 CFP units.
Director's office Objective 2	Number of major stories per year and average uptake by media outlet and number of countries.	Efficient and effective organisation	11 major stories in 2012 with average uptake of 14 different print or web-based articles, covering an average of 4 PICTs and 4 other countries.	Approximately 1 story per month with similar or greater rates of uptake in 2013–2014.



8. Partnerships and resources

Both programmes have well established relationships with regional and international organisations working in the fisheries and aquaculture fields. In most cases these are formalised through memoranda of understanding, often with more detailed subsidiary agreements covering the scope and nature of collaboration in specific areas. There are also donor funded projects which are jointly implemented by SPC and other agencies.

Both programmes work closely with FFA: CFP on technical issues relating to the development of domestic tuna industries and support for producer organisations; OFP in providing scientific advice for regional, subregional and national tuna management arrangements as well as data management and observer training. Both also work with the other CROP agencies, notably Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) on bycatch issues and coastal management, and the University of the South Pacific (USP) on formal fisheries training initiatives. Outside the CROP agencies, important partnerships include those with the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) and the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council.

OFP is the science provider for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, and also maintains close links with other regional and national fisheries management bodies, including the Parties to the Nauru Agreement, Te Vaka Moana, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the US National Marine Fisheries Service, the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, the New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries and National Institute of Water and Atmosphere, and the Japan National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries.

Partners specific to CFP include WorldFish and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), with collaboration on inshore fisheries management and aquaculture. CFP also works with the Locally Managed Marine Areas network, the Nature Conservancy and other non-government organisations on coastal fisheries management issues.

Over the 2009–2012 period, the annual budget of what now forms the Division averaged 1.25 billion CFP per year (slightly over USD 14 million at current rates) with OFP accounting for rather more than half of the total. Major contributions came from the SPC core budget (all membership fees), voluntary contributions to the SPC budget (Australia, France and New Caledonia), the European Union (EU), AusAID, WCPFC, New Zealand and many other donors. Of these, Australia and the European Union have consistently provided the largest contributions.

For the next four years it is estimated that annual funding of around 1.4 billion CFP will be required, on average to maintain and improve services and to meet the objectives of this strategic plan. Efforts will be made to improve efficiency, diversify sources of revenue and develop cost recovery in some appropriate areas.



9. Logical frameworks

9 (a). Logical framework for the FAME Division – Oceanic Programme component

Description	Indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
Goal Fisheries resources of the Pacific Islands region are sustainably managed for economic growth, food security and environmental conservation.	Value of WCPO tuna catch is maintained or increased. Per capita fish consumption stable or increasing.	Annual report to WCPFC. Household income and expenditure surveys.	
Objective Fisheries exploiting the region's resources of tuna, billfish and related species are managed for economic and ecological sustainability using the best available scientific information.	Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits.	WCPFC annual meeting record.	National policies promote use of tuna resources for economic development and food security.
 Results High-quality scientific information and advice for regional and national fisheries management authorities on the status of, and fishery impacts on, stocks targeted or otherwise impacted by regional oceanic fisheries. High-quality fishery monitoring services, analysis and capacity development to support the management of oceanic fisheries by regional, subregional and national fisheries management authorities. Accurate and comprehensive scientific data for regional and national fisheries management authorities on fisheries targeting the region's resources of tuna, billfish and other oceanic species. Improved understanding of pelagic ecosystems in the western and central Pacific Ocean. 	All recommendations accepted by WCPFC scientific committee. Observer coverage meets agreed regional level and PICT programmes are authorised for regional observer programme. Data standards are met and PICTs provide comprehensive data to WCPFC. Functional ecosystem model validated, used and progressively improved.	WCPFC scientific committee record. WCPFC technical and compliance committee report. on regional observer programme WCPFC annual report on data.	Programme retains scientific credibility. Requirements to provide data enforced by states. Countries devote adequate resources to observer placement. Adequate resources for biological research. Tuna management measures agreed and implemented.
 Activities (summary) 1(a) Provide the best possible science-based stock assessments and advice to WCPFC, FFA and individual PICTs. 1(b) Enhance the capacity of SPC members to interpret stock assessment information and advice. 2 Enhance the capacity of PICTs in fisheries monitoring. 3(a) Provide efficient and cost-effective data management services for WCPFC, FFA and PICTs. 3(b) Enhance the capacity of PICTs in data management and data use. 4(a) Collect enhanced data on the biological characteristics of oceanic species and their environment. 4(b) Develop appropriate ecosystem models and analyses. 4(c) Provide science-based information and advice on ecosystem issues to WCPFC, FFA and PICTs. 	Means Category Personnel Operational Capital equipment Duty travel Training Fieldwork and surveys Total	Estimated requirement per year CFP millions 450 75 15 80 50 150 820	Assessments understood by decision-makers. Appropriate staff sent for training. PICTs devote adequate resources to data management. Practical and logistical problems overcome. Ecosystem models work. FFA continues to promote TMP development and countries support process.

9 (b). Logical framework for the FAME Division – Coastal Programme component

Description	Indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
Goal Fisheries resources of the Pacific Islands region are sustainably managed for economic growth, food security and environmental conservation.	Value of WCPO tuna catch is maintained or increased Per capita fish consumption stable or increasing	Annual report to WCPFC. Household income and expenditure surveys.	
Objective Coastal fisheries, nearshore fisheries and aquaculture in PICTs are managed and developed sustainably.	Increase in area of inshore marine managed areas. Increased domestic share of tuna catch. Increased aquaculture production.	UN WDPA website. SPC analysis of catch data. FAO aquaculture statistics.	Management measures accepted/enforced. Adequate investment in alternative activities.
Results Scientifically informed and socially achievable coastal fisheries management policies and systems in line with the guiding principles of the 'Apia Policy'. A regional framework for planning, research, development and trade in sustainable aquaculture by Pacific Island governments, private enterprises and other stakeholders. Sustainable nearshore fisheries in PICTs to provide food security, livelihoods and economic growth and climate change adaptation.	New legislation and management systems functioning for major fisheries. New private enterprises and farmer clusters for aquaculture. New fishing, sport fishing and valueadded businesses established and sustained.	Project reports. Project reports. Project reports, FFA employment surveys.	Political will and popular support for management systems. Favourable investment climate for aquaculture and nearshore fisheries projects.
 Activities (summary) 1(a) Assessment of the status of national coastal living marine resources and use. 1(b) Promote an appropriate mix of community-based approaches and national management arrangements. 1(c) Assist in assessing climate change impacts on marine environments. 2(a) Improve regional and national capacity for strategic policy, planning and administration. 2(b) Increase skills and knowledge base in the SPC region. 2(c) Support and/or establish aquatic biosecurity authorities. 3(a) Support subsistence, artisanal, sport and industrial fishing activities. 3(b) Improve economic appraisal and viability of fisheries investments. 3(c) Promote improved seafood quality standards and value-adding. 	Means Category Personnel Operational Capital equipment Duty travel Training Fieldwork Total	Estimated requirement per year CFP millions 250 30 15 70 75 80 520	Adequate national capacity for resource assessment and monitoring. Adequate uptake of planning and technical skills training Biosecurity given adequate attention by government authorities. National policies and procedures do not unduly impede establishment of new enterprises.

9 (c). Logical framework for the FAME Division – Coordination component (Director and support unit)

Description	Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Goal Fisheries resources of the Pacific Islands region are sustainably managed for economic growth, food security and environmental conservation.	Contribution of fisheries to GDP of PICTs increases. Per capita fish consumption stable or increasing.	National accounts. Household income and expenditure surveys.	
Objective Effective coordination and resourcing of the work of the Oceanic and Coastal Fisheries Programmes.	80% of stakeholders in PICTs satisfied with services provided.	Independent programme review reports.	Programme services remain relevant to the achievement of goals.
Results Effective relationships between the Division and its stakeholders Raised public awareness of marine resources issues and informed policy decisions.	Programme funding maintained at or above 2009 levels. Level of reporting of issues in regional media.	Budgets presented to CRGA. SPC press reviews.	Funding is used efficiently to achieve objectives. Information and media releases have impact on policy and public opinion.
 Activities (summary) 1(a) Develop programme plans and activities that respond to the needs and priorities of members. 1(b) Maintain effective working relationships with other regional agencies and donors. 2(a) Inform policy-makers and the general public of marine resource issues, climate change impacts, the importance of fisheries and the need for management action. 	Means Category Personnel Operational Capital equipment Duty travel Training (coordination) Fieldwork Publications/media	CFP millions 50 4 1 10 5 5 15	Programmes able to respond to changing needs. Funding secured in spite of global financial crisis. Information is distributed effectively and taken up by the target audience.
2(b) Inform stakeholders in PICTs of the results of SPC activities, and share experience and knowledge across the region.	Total	90	

9 (d). The Pacific Plan: Nested logical framework showing linkages between the Division's objectives and the regional policy of the Forum Countries

Pacific Plan	FAME Division/Programmes
Policy goal Enhance and stimulate economic growth, sustainable development, good governance and security for Pacific countries through regionalism.	
Relevant policy objectives Develop and implement national and regional conservation and management measures for the sustainable utilisation of fisheries resources. Encourage effective fisheries development, including value-adding activities.	Division's goal Marine resources of the Pacific Islands region are sustainably managed for economic growth, food security and environmental conservation.
Relevant policy results Developed domestic fisheries, in particular national tuna industries. A long-term strategic approach to Pacific fisheries, and to tuna species in particular, to ensure that these resources are effectively managed. Conservation and sustainable management of highly migratory tuna resources. Coastal and inshore fisheries and aquaculture to support food security, sustainable livelihoods and economic growth. Policies and plans for biosecurity. Effectively managed and sustainable national tuna industries. Comprehensive fisheries conservation measures to protect stock levels. Improved regional monitoring, control and surveillance. Sustainable and effective management of national coastal fisheries and stock assessments. Expansion of aquaculture for future food security.	Division/Programme objectives Fisheries exploiting the region's resources of tuna, billfish and related species are managed for economic and ecological sustainability using the best available scientific information. Coastal fisheries, nearshore fisheries and aquaculture in PICTs are managed and developed sustainably.
	Programme results High-quality scientific information and advice for regional and national fisheries management authorities on the status of, and fishery impacts on, stocks targeted or otherwise impacted by regional oceanic fisheries. Accurate and comprehensive scientific data for regional and national fisheries management authorities on fisheries targeting the region's resources of tuna, billfish and other oceanic species. Improved understanding of pelagic ecosystems in the western and central Pacific Ocean. Scientifically informed and socially achievable coastal fisheries management policies and systems in line with the guiding principles of the 'Apia Policy'. A regional framework for planning, research, development and trade in sustainable aquaculture by Pacific Island governments, private enterprises and other stakeholders. Sustainable nearshore fisheries in PICTs to provide food security, livelihoods and economic growth.

