



Monitoring Report

Monitoring reference MR-143586.02
Report date 19/11/2012
Project title Development of sustainable tuna fisheries in Pacific ACP countries phase 2 (DevFish II)

I. Intervention data

Status	FINAL
Report final date	20/11/2012
Report finalised by user	CABALLERO ELENA
Monitoring Report Type	Ongoing
Aid Modality	Project approach
Project	Multi Country / Regional Project - Consolidated/Horizontal Report
Project Management	Project managed by the Delegatio
Financed via a thematic budget line	No
CRIS Number	D-021392
Project Title according to Financing Agreement/Financing Decision	Development of sustainable tuna fisheries in Pacific ACP countries phase 2 (DevFish II)
Domain	European Development Fund
DAC - CRS Sector	-
Additional DAC - CRS code	31310 - Fishing policy and administrative management
Geographical zone	Pacific Region
Keyword (for innovative interventions)	
Date Financing Agreement/Financing Decision/Contract signed	03/03/2010
Person responsible at HQ	
Person responsible at Delegation	GOTSCHI ELISABETH
Monitor	Wilco LIEBREGTS
Project Authority	Forum Fisheries Agency and Secretariat of the Pacific Community
Type of implementing partner	Regional bodies (MERCOSUR, SADEC, ASEAN, etc)
Start date - planned	06/11/2010
End date - planned	02/09/2014
Start date - actual	06/11/2010
End date - likely	02/09/2014
Monitoring visit date	from 15/10/2012 to 26/10/2012

II. Financial data

Primary commitment (EC funding)	8,200,000
Budget allocated for TA	2,000,000
Secondary commitment (funds contracted of EC contribution)	7,704,000
Other funding (government and/or other donors)	0
Total budget of operation	8,200,000
Total EC funds disbursed	2,816,777
Financial data on	15/10/2012

III. Grading

Relevance and quality of design	A
Efficiency of Implementation to date	A
Effectiveness to date	A
Impact prospects	A
Potential sustainability	A

IV. Summary of conclusions

Relevance and quality of design

The project remains highly consistent with partner government policies, and regional policies and strategic frameworks including the Regional Tuna Management and Development Strategy 2009-2014. The project responds strongly to the EDF10 Regional Indicative Programme and the national Indicative Programs (NIPs) of the Pacific island member countries. The project is well designed and provides flexibility to address a wide range of issues that relate to long-term, short term as well as ad hoc issues, which makes it highly suitable and relevant to the region. The logframe (LF) is brief and provides a good overview of the major components of the project, but OVI's are not SMART and lack baseline as well as target data: This was already stated in the 2011 ROM MR but has not been addressed. Clearly identifiable and verifiable targets must be incorporated in the LF before the Mid Term Review in early 2013. The risks and assumptions stated in the AF remain realistic; however by working closely with governments and the private sector good risk aversion procedures have been put in place.

Efficiency of Implementation to date

Project implementation efficiency is excellent. Initial constraints stated in 2011 ROM have been overcome, and funds are made available quite efficiently by the EU to both FFA and SPC; should this be required, any temporary shortfalls would be covered by each organisation's financial resources, to avoid implementation delays. Both FFA and SPC fulfil the EU's three pillar criteria for monitoring, procurement and financial management procedures, ensuring transparent and accountable management. Inputs are provided at planned costs, often lower as meetings are often piggy-backed on other activities. Planning of activities is done during bi-annual project coordination meetings, and is adequately flexible to enable addressing urgent ad hoc issues. The Project Steering Committee (PSC) usually meets during the annual Forum Fisheries meeting to consider progress and approve work plans for the next year. Requests for support from countries are discussed with relevant specialists and efficiently responded to. In line with its procurement regulations, FFA has contracted several specialists on a long term 'as needed' basis to carry out specific tasks (incl. Competent Authority [CA] audit support, IUU compliance assessments); both organisations' 'in house' specialists provide support where this is appropriate. Activities are broadly implemented as scheduled, at times ahead of schedule. The project has supported the development of purse seine crew training curriculum for the National Fisheries College in PNG and the Kiribati Fisheries Training Centre to help address the 10% nationality requirement by member nations of the Parties of the Nauru Agreement (PNA) on purse seine vessels. A patrol boat maintenance facility will be established in Timor Leste to help provide training in engine maintenance to small fishers. Training in fishery operations, postharvest handling of fish has also been provided to private sector organisations in several countries. The project currently is addressing issues raised by the EU (DG MARE and DG SANCO) on IUU and HACCP fishery standards to ensure compliance of the industry, and is further supporting the development of stronger MCS systems to help reduce IUU. As per 15.10.2012 (at approx. 50% of the project's implementation period), FFA has received EUR2.154M (43%); whilst SPC has received EUR662,871 (24.3%); a few issues raised by the EU on its progress report are being addressed by SPC and will likely enable transfer of the 3rd instalment of funds. The quality of activity monitoring is excellent, and allows quick responses and taking of corrective measures to adapt to changing needs. Coordination with similar interventions is good: there are regular consultations with colleagues who oversee the organisations' core country support activities, and with other donor-projects (incl. EDF10 SciCoFish). In regards to reducing IUU, SPC is in the process of combining fishing vessel registries of WCPFC, FFA, SPC and FFA member countries with VMS tracking data, vessel log sheets, and observer data, and, in the future, port unloading data. Analysis of these data sets will enable the development of recommendations for further strengthening MCS in the FFA region. Several times a year, collaborative MCS activities are scheduled with a wide range of agencies. Output delivery is well on track, and quality is excellent. The overall implementation phase was planned for 54 months (4.5 years), but signing of the CAs took place some 6 months late. Hence, SPC and

FFA intend to seek a 6-month extension. A regular newsletter and frequent communication between implementing organisations, national government stakeholders and the private sector (through PITIA and the national private sector tuna industry bodies) help dissemination of up-to-date information to stakeholders. Communication with the EUD is good, however it would be useful for the TM to attend the biannual planning and the annual PSC meeting.

Effectiveness to date

Progress towards the outcomes is excellent, and all project outputs are strongly contributing to the improvement of the tuna fishery sector and strengthen Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) to help reduce IUU in the region. At the halfway point of its term the project is well underway to achieve the PP. Two countries (SI and PNG) recently passed the audit by the EU's DG MARE with Fiji and Vanuatu likely to pass in 2013 after undergoing prior pre-audits by the project to identify shortcomings; these pre-audits have already taken place in 4 other countries that are now implementing the recommendations. The project has also achieved the adoption by most countries of a standardised fishing licence format, facilitating analysis. The project also provides support to the regional private sector tuna industry body PITIA, and has supported the establishment of national tuna industry bodies. Also, the project has helped develop a training programme at 2 institutions in the region (Kiribati and PNG) that will enable purse seine owners to meet the demand from the Parties of the Nauru Agreement (PNA) countries to employ at least 10% of PNA nationals. The project is the most significant instrument to help reduce constraints to domestic tuna industry development that have been identified by the industry itself, by the national governments, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and by the EU and other importing countries. Policy and economic conditions are improving through project support, as fishing efficiency improves and value of catch increases, and the effects of IUU fishing will continue to be further reduced through the improvement of MCS in the WCPFC region, but in particular in the FFA member countries. Pacific ACP member states of FFA and SPC, and sub-regional tuna fishery bodies are all using the project results that have been generated so far. Project-generated results are increasingly strongly considered by the WCPFC to determine annual catch levels and management measures.

Impact prospects

The project is making excellent progress in all activities and in the 2 major focal areas of sustainable development of the tuna industry and reducing IUU through improving MCS. It will certainly help in making a major step towards achieving sustainability, and ensuring a greater share of the economic benefits of the Tuna industry for the Pacific island countries, thereby contributing to the OO. With some 250 purse seine vessels operating in the region, the PNA requirement to employ at least 10% of PNA nationals will provide employment to over 750 people, and generate over 7.5M US\$ annually. This is a major step towards increasing PIC employment levels in the industry from the 1,170 baseline (2008) to some 3000 by 2014. Donor coherence in supporting the Pacific tuna fishery is exemplary, and remains very strong. Sustainable development and exploitation of the Pacific tuna stocks will widely impact on the countries' economies and livelihoods. It will help increase foreign exchange, and retaining a greater share of the profits of the industry in the countries (through increased on-shore processing; and increased employment on tuna boats), it will increase and sustain local employment, and help enhance food security through the processing and local sale of non-export grade tuna and bycatch. The increasingly negative public opinion on the overexploitation elsewhere that has pushed bluefin tuna stocks over the brink could by association impact the Pacific's fishery. Raising public awareness on the sustainable management of Pacific tuna stocks may help mitigate any such impact.

Potential sustainability

The sustainability of project outcomes is high. The project is highly appreciated and commended by FFA member countries which have shown a strong commitment to implement recommendations. Improving the efficiency and cost-effectiveness will help enhance the resilience of the Pacific tuna fishery, further supported by the increasing value of Pacific tuna over the last few years. Although catches have maintained relatively stable, the sustainability of the Pacific tuna fishery however would be much stronger enhanced if the non-FFA member countries of the WCPFC - which include several EU member states - are more supportive of the project's recommendations, and prevent it from declining to the levels of overexploitation seen in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. With such a range of excellent project outcomes, achievements should be disseminated to the wider public in the Pacific and in developed countries. FFA and SPC acknowledged the need for improving public outreach during the 2011 ROM mission, but failed to take any substantial action; it appears that adequate capacity for this is lacking. Assistance from major NGOs should be considered for this. FFA now confirms that it will significantly increase its media outreach early in 2013. This would also help promote

the EU's visibility. In view of the continuing need for tuna research and proactive as well as responsive management it is already apparent that sustained support will be needed after this project concludes in 2 years. With some 90% of tuna exported - also to the EU - strong consideration should be given to the development of an EDF11 DevFish III proposal in early 2013.

Key observations and recommendations

The EU support to tuna fisheries management and development in the Pacific PACPs, the excellent collaboration between FFA and SPC, and the strong support from FFA countries and WCPFC members is an outstanding example of collaboration aimed at the sustainable management of a migratory stock. This project fulfils all the criteria for a flagship project for the EU, and FFA and SPC, and should be promoted as an excellent example to the EU public as consumers and aid providers, and to organisations in other regions (Indian and Atlantic Oceans, Mediterranean) on how long term - over 20 years - EU support is culminating in the sustainable management of the world's largest tuna stocks.

FFA/SPC: (1) Ensure that adequate baseline data as well as targets are included in the LF before the MTR in early 2013; (2): Commence procedures to request a 6-month extension of their respective CAs, and FA (3): Promote the project and its achievements (and that of related earlier projects) on a much wider and more intensive scale to the public; (4) Commence preparations for a DevFish III proposal to enable continuity of tuna fishery development activities. EU (1): Continue support to regional tuna management initiatives to ensure achievement of, and sustaining sustainable management of these critically important stocks for PICs and WCPFC countries; (2) Seek to attend the biannual project planning meetings and the annual PSC meeting.