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**REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON ARTICLE 30 OF THE CONVENTION AND
RESOLUTION 2008-01 OF WCPFC**

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Report of the European Union on Article 30 of the Convention and Resolution 2008-01 of WCPFC

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Introduction

The main European Union source of support to the Pacific region is the European Development Fund (EDF). The European Union (EU) and its member states are committed to promote sustainable, responsible and transparent management of the marine resources in the Pacific Ocean.

The **Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme (PEUMP)** is the flagship initiative under the EU cooperation and development regional programme to promote a healthy Pacific Ocean and a strong governance of marine and coastal resources which will improve Pacific Ocean contribution to sustainable and inclusive growth within the region.

The Programme is jointly financed by the EU and Sweden for a total amount of EUR 45 million and is a clear sign that the EU and its member states considers oceans governance as a priority in the partnership with Pacific Countries.

PEUMP - being a complex multi-sectoral programme - involves partners with different mandates in the Region to deliver on an integrated approach: the Pacific Community (SPC), the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and The University of the South Pacific (USP). In addition, other partners were identified to partner with the regional organisations during the implementation such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Locally Managed Marine Area Network (LMMA), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA). It is expected that new partnerships would be developed during its implementation.

PEUMP was launched in October 2017 with a special event organised during the *Our Ocean Conference* hosted by the EU in Malta. The agreements with the implementing partners – a Delegation agreement with SPC/FFA/SPREP and a Grant agreement with the USP - were signed in September 2018 in Nauru during the Pacific Island Forum Leaders. The Programme will last around 4.5 years: 57 months of implementation period.

The Programme is fully aligned with some Regional strategies –the Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape and Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Pacific Fisheries– and with European agenda, mainly the Communication on International Ocean Governance: an Agenda for the Future of our Oceans. It will also contributes to achieving SDG 14 - Life below water, in addition to SDG 1 - No poverty, SDG 2 – Zero hunger, SDG 5 - Gender equality, SDG 8 - decent work and economic growth, SDG 12 - Responsible consumption and production and SDG 13 – Climate action.

PEUMP Main Developments during 2018

PEUMP started officially its implementation on 5 September 2018. With an implementation period of 57 months, the programme will run until the end of March 2023.

The Programme Management Unit (PMU) will be based at the SPC Headquarters in Suva (Fiji) and it is expected to be in place by the end of March 2019. Unfortunately 2 key positions – the Programme Coordinator and the Gender / HRBA specialist – need to be re-advertised because of an unsuccessful recruitment process. The 4 regional organisations have almost finalised the recruitment for the technical staff that will be operational from January 2019. The Programme will attain full speed of implementation during mid-2019.

Before PEUMP's official start of implementation, the EU has been working together with implementing partners to ensure that the Programme will be able to start its core activities as soon as the PMU is in place. In this regard, a PEUMP Planning Meeting for the oceanic fisheries component took place on 5 May 2018 in Rarotonga (Cook Islands), back to back with 2018 FFA's Annual Officials Forum Fisheries Committee (FFC 106).

The Meeting reviewed and discussed in detail the overall project design and the three components of the project dealing with oceanic fisheries, namely: Key Result Area 1 - High quality scientific and management advice for oceanic fisheries provided and utilised at regional and national level; Key Result Area 2 - Inclusive economic benefits from sustainable tuna fishing increased through supporting competent authorities and strengthening private sector capacities to create decent employment; Key Result Area 3 - IUU fishing reduced through enhanced monitoring control and surveillance of both oceanic and coastal fisheries, improved legislation, access to information, and effective marine area management.

Decisions taken during the Planning Meeting served to streamline and finalised the work plan for the first year of implementation. FFA Countries expressed satisfaction with the proposed programme of work under these Key Result Areas.

A Planning Meeting for the coastal fisheries component took place in Noumea (New Caledonia) in November 2018. The Meeting reviewed and discussed the overall project design and the component of the project dealing with coastal fisheries, namely: *KRA 3 – Sustainable management of coastal fisheries resources and ecosystems improved through better quality scientific information, legal advice, support, mentoring and empowerment at community level.* The Meeting was held back to back with the Third Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries organised by SPC with the aim of involving countries representatives in defining the priorities for the first year of implementation. Our partners from Sweden participated, confirming their high interest in closely following-up the Programme.

The First Programme Coordination Group (PCG) meeting was also organised in Noumea at the presence of all implementing partners (Regional organisations, Private sector representative and civil society Organisations). This was a precious opportunity to take-stock of the initial activities, discuss main challenges and way forward to ensure country ownership and complete staff recruitment.

The inception phase will end the 31 of December and all deliverables – mainly the revised workplan, logframe and overview of activities - will be endorsed by the PCG in March 2019 back to back to the Head of Fisheries meeting.

The ambition to have the first **Policy dialogue** between the EU and FFA in 2019 is confirmed. FFA will be keen to discuss EU positions on WCPFC, yellow card and trade issues during this meeting.

FFA suggestion is to have the policy dialogue during the FFC Ministerial Meeting in July 2019 where ministers plan to meet on Coastal Fisheries in a separate one-day session.

Background Information

The PEUMP programme follow a comprehensive approach, integrating issues related oceanic fisheries, coastal fisheries, community development, marine conservation and further capacity building under one single regional action. Concrete project deliverables will be made not only at regional, but also at national and sub-national level, accompanied by sector policy dialogues involving civil society organisations and non-state actors, including the private sector, at all levels.

The **overall objective** is to improve the economic, social and environmental benefits for 15 Pacific ACP states (PACPs) arising from stronger regional economic integration and the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment.

The **programme purpose** is to support improved sustainable management and development of fisheries for food security and economic growth, while addressing climate change resilience and conservation of marine biodiversity.

PEUMP will provide a platform to build common understanding and partnership to address issues of governance and transparency. A regular policy dialogue between PACPs and the EU (including other relevant stakeholders) on International Ocean Governance and Sustainable Fisheries will take place to promote transparency in the management of oceanic fisheries resources, and strengthening the voice of stakeholders such as local tuna industry bodies.

Six key result areas have been identified:

Oceanic Fisheries

KRA 1 - High quality scientific and management advice for oceanic fisheries provided and utilised at regional and national level. To achieve the result, specific activities will target regional organisations, governments and national organisations. A close collaboration with national and local civil society organisations would be fostered as appropriate.

KRA 2 – Inclusive economic benefits from sustainable tuna fishing increased through supporting competent authorities and strengthening private sector capacities to create decent employment. To achieve the result, specific activities will target national governments, the private sector and local communities where feasible (involving women, minority, youth and vulnerable groups) to promote sustainable and inclusive economic development.

Coastal Fisheries

KRA 3 – Sustainable management of coastal fisheries resources and ecosystems improved through better quality scientific information, legal advice, support, mentoring and empowerment at community level. To achieve the result, specific activities will target the

coastal communities, with focus on women and youth, national government agencies and local authorities. For the work with the local communities, a rights-based and gender inclusive approach will be at the outset of project planning in order to directly address specific community needs and establish better opportunities for a sustainable development.

Coastal and Oceanic fisheries

KRA 4 – IUU fishing reduced through enhanced monitoring control and surveillance of both oceanic and coastal fisheries, improved legislation, access to information, and effective marine area management. To achieve the result, specific activities will be implemented at regional level and national level targeting regional organisation, governments, and national competent authorities.

KRA 5 - Sustainable utilisation of the coastal and marine biodiversity promoted through improving marine special planning, increasing climate change resilience, enhancing conservation/mitigation and rehabilitation measures. To achieve the result, specific activities will target regional organisations, national governments and local communities under-pinned by gender and human rights based approaches to promote a sustainable utilisation of coastal and marine biodiversity;

Capacity development

KRA 6 - Capacity built through education, training and research and development for key stakeholder groups in fisheries and marine resources management. Gender issues and a rights-based approach will be mainstreamed throughout the programme. With the approach to move from ad-hoc training to a more strategic and formal education, schemes will be implemented at regional and national and local level involving the regional university network and TVET institutions.

Table 1 - Lead Agencies and Partnerships for each Key Result Area

KRA	Summary Description	Lead Agency
PMU (0)	Project management, mainstreaming of gender and human rights and maritime boundaries, communication and visibility of the programme	SPC – Project Management Unit
1	High quality scientific and management advice for oceanic fisheries provided and utilised	SPC – Oceanic Fisheries Programme
2	Inclusive economic benefits from sustainable tuna fishing increased	FFA – Fisheries Development Division
3	Sustainable management of coastal fisheries resources and ecosystems improved to improve livelihoods.	SPC – Coastal Fisheries Programme
4	IUU fishing reduced through enhanced monitoring control and surveillance of both oceanic and coastal fisheries	FFA – Operations Division
5	Sustainable utilisation of the coastal and marine biodiversity promoted	SPREP
6	<i>Capacity developed through education, training and research and development</i>	<i>USP</i>

Table 2: Indicative Overview of Activities to be tailored during the inception phase

<p>Key Result Area PMU (KRA 0): High quality programme management and reporting with mainstreaming crosscutting issues in the programme, and the delimitation of maritime boundaries</p> <p>Activities with SPC as the lead agency</p>
<p>0.1 Overall reporting and financial management of the PEUMP programme: The PMU will do the overall reporting for KRAs 1 to 5 including all financial summaries, requests for funding from the EUD and disbursement of the funds to the co-delegatees. The PMU will also work closely with the USP component with regular meetings and arrange the annual steering committee meetings and coordination group meetings, with USP being a part of these meeting for coordination and the development of annual work plans.</p>
<p>0.2 Integrating gender and human-rights'-based approaches across the programme: The gender and human rights specialist will work closely with staff from each of the 5 KRAs to ensure inclusion of gender and human rights-based approaches into oceanic, coastal and community-based fisheries management and conservation. Studies will be undertaken to better understand these issues and how to address them through existing processes at the country level, realizing that each P-ACP may have a different approaches and requite different assistance. Collaborations formed with the USP under KRA 6 in regards to capacity development opportunities in these areas.</p>
<p>0.3 Assisting with the delimitation and negotiation of maritime boundaries: The Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division of SPC will continue to implement its long-running programme to assist members delimit their maritime boundaries. Despite many recent successes, 12 boundaries still remain to be negotiated. FFA will also provide support with negotiations and legal drafting.</p>
<p>0.4 Communication and visibility of the PEUMP programme: The communications officer will expand and finalise the communications strategy for the PEUMP programme in collaboration with staff from all KRAs, including the USP. The strategy will then be implemented to increase the visibility of the programme and the activities being undertaken, the results, and the impact of the work. Positive success stories and lessons learned will be promoted in the region as well as more widely including Europe. A log of all communication activities will be maintained for the PEUMP programme.</p>

Key Result Area 1: High quality scientific and management advice for oceanic fisheries provided and utilised at regional and national level

Activities with SPC as the lead agency

1.1 Analysis of tuna by-catch at regional and national levels: Methodology will be developed and applied to the large observer data sets available to SPC to estimate catches and relative abundance time series of key bycatch species.

1.2 Ecosystem modelling and development of indicators: The project will enhance SPC's capacity to provide advice on ecosystem issues. By-catch and other data will be utilized in ecosystem modelling/indicator work and to provide data products and analyses to P-ACP for use in domestic management. The work will also have linkages to biodiversity and climate change, as the methodologies developed will have long-term applicability for monitoring components of the ecosystem that typically receive little attention in target-species management systems.

1.3 Evaluation of electronic monitoring for purse seine vessels: The monitoring of catch by species and size on board purse seiners is complicated by the high volume of catches that are typically taken in individual sets and the speed with which catches are loaded into vessel wells. Some fishing companies are beginning to develop video-based approaches to estimating size and species composition of catches, but there is uncertainty as to how widely applicable these methods would be to the purse seine fleets operating in the western and central Pacific. This work would trial and evaluate a number of methods of high-volume, image-based estimation of purse seine catch composition.

1.4 Research to address biological uncertainties in tuna stock assessment models: Tuna stock assessments are reliant on good quality data on dynamics and life history of the target species. While these assessments for skipjack, yellowfin, bigeye and albacore tuna are well developed, there are a number of areas in which further data are required to address key uncertainties, such as: (i) the dynamics of tunas associated with drifting fish aggregation devices (dFADs), (ii) the depth distribution of tunas in different behavioural modes and its relationship with a range of environmental variables, (iii) age and growth of tunas, and variability by sex and area, (iv) genetic stock structure of tunas and spatial mixing of stocks.

Electronic archival tags for deployment on tuna tagging cruises will be required for this work.

1.5 Improved modelling of relative abundance using catch per unit effort: Tuna stock assessments require indices of relative abundance to constrain model estimates. This work will focus on detailed analysis of purse seine log-sheet, observer and vessel characteristics data to develop abundance

indices for skipjack, yellowfin and, if possible, bigeye tuna. The work will necessarily consider the impact of 'effort creep' within this fishery on indices. A component of the work will also be devoted to developing new methods for deriving relative abundance indices from longline data using geostatistical techniques, to take advantage of the new availability of operational-level longline catch and effort data.

1.6 Capacity development through long-term attachments with the SPC: The project will build capacity among P-ACP fisheries personnel through a series of three 'Junior Professional' 12 month attachments at SPC. The participation of women in this initiative will be particularly encouraged

Key Result Area 2: Inclusive economic benefits from sustainable tuna fishing increased through supporting competent authorities, strengthening private sector capacities to create decent employment

Activities with FFA as the lead agency

2.1 Establishment of a regional competent authority support unit to assist P-ACP government agencies meet sanitary market access requirements:

The most important part of the component, which will rely entirely on EDF funding. Only 4 of 15 PACP countries can meet the sanitary certification requirements for the EU market. Other P-ACP countries are missing out on an important opportunity to access a premium market, which also discourages investment in domestic industry. This facility will provide technical assistance through long-term attachments of two experts to support the efforts of other PACP agencies.

2.2 Support for sanitary and IUU competent authorities to comply with applicable legislation allowing for market access:

Fiji, PNG and Solomon Islands have well established national sanitary competent authorities and Kiribati has recently established one and gained approval to export to the EU. The project will provide continuous technical assistance to sanitary and IUU competent authorities in a mentoring role to ensure access to EU market is maintained (this component is supported by complementary funding and staff).

2.3 Assistance with fisheries development and national policies:

Mainly assisting countries prepare national tuna development plans (normally in conjunction with tuna management plans) through an open consultative process involving all stakeholders (this component is supported by complementary funding and staff).

2.4 Annual policy dialogue with the EU: Annual dialogue between P-ACP Fisheries Officials and relevant EU Directorates on fisheries issues of common interest (complementary funding for officials' travel)

2.5 Assistance to P-ACP to comply with WCPFC Conservation Management Measures (CMMs) and to implement checklist identified priorities: Each year, within the WCPFC Compliance Monitoring Scheme exercise, some P-ACPs declared that they cannot meet a particular obligation being assessed, due to a lack of capacity. Subsequently, the P-ACP needs to provide a Capacity Development Plan to WCPFC Secretariat. The project will provide technical support to formulate those development plans for which capacity assistance is requested and will support its implementation until the P-ACP is able to meet the obligation. As well, activities related to priorities identified by FFA Members in its annual checklist will be implemented (supported by complementary FFA funding and staff).

2.6 Building the capacity and engagement of the regional tuna industry association: Support for the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) to engage in, and inform local fishing companies about, regional processes and improve representation at the national level.

2.7 Pilot projects and technical assistance for small and medium enterprises in the sector: Technical studies in support of new investment in the tuna industry (cost/benefit analysis of projects, infrastructure needs assessment, environmental impact assessments). Pilot projects with local fishing companies and processors to improve sustainability and standards, including work standards for persons/women in the tuna processing industry (e.g. Marine Stewardship Council certification, social accountability audits, energy conservation measures) and technical advice and mentoring of small and medium enterprises to improve performance and create jobs.

Key Result Area 3: Sustainable management of coastal fisheries resources and ecosystems improved through better quality scientific information, legal advice, support, mentoring and empowerment at community level

Activities with SPC as the lead agency

3.1 Surveys of commercially important invertebrates: In-country trainings in survey methodologies will be delivered to fisheries environment and NGO staff, which in turn will gather the data needed for science based management of these mainly commercial or export focused fisheries. Data collected will be analysed and management advice produced for the consideration of managers in the country concerned, and training would be provided in this area, including the write-up of results in a form that can be presented to managers and policy makers, possibly through policy briefs or

other mechanisms.

3.2 Socio-economic surveys of coastal communities: Market and creel surveys as well as collecting data on community and family demographics and seafood use (eating, bartering, selling, purchasing etc) patterns will be carried out to project better estimates of per-capita seafood consumption statistics. This is an area that needs more attention and is vital for assessing gender and human rights issues, roles, responsibilities in different areas both for subsistence and commercial fishing. The results of this work would feed into the CEAFM work and also refine the approaches to be undertaken so that all groups have access to the information. Training would be a major part of the work to build local capacity with these skills.

3.3 Coastal fisheries data collection and national database development including trials of new technology: Development of new national databases, ensuring these are compatible with the regional database. Training will be an important part within this activity, focusing on the use of databases, storage and maintenance and even the analysis of the data. This is an essential part of the scientific support that will underpin the CEAFM and national management of coastal resources and will include the assessment of new data collection approaches and technologies.

3.4 Support and mentoring for the CEAFM at national and local levels: The main focus of this work will be on using the above scientific results on which to base management and liaising with LMMA counterparts and national CEAFM staff at fisheries, relevant government field officers, conservation and NGOs, to assist in getting appropriate management advice out to communities, through the LMMA and other networks.

3.5 CEAFM management and coordination with NGOs: National and sub-national management will also be covered, so that objectives are met under different regional policies, such as the New Song and MSG Roadmap. There will be a training component with this work, although most of this will be implemented by LMMA through network partners. Within the CEAFM, national and sub-national management measures will take account of social structures and issues, focusing on removing any barriers that restrict equal employment or access to information, resources and assistance to all. The results from socio-economic work will be vital to this, along with the inputs from the LMMA component and other components of the PEUMP project where communities are involved.

3.6 CEAFM activities at sub-national and community level: This will be mainly undertaken by LMMA through in-country coordinators and network partners in the Melanesian countries with the largest populations to start, with other countries added as the project progresses, to direct activities and link with communication activities. There is scope to fund specific activities identified at the community or sub-national level as well as undertake planning sessions and south-south activities. SPC and other NGOs will be involved with specific activities to capitalise on expertise. The national coordinators will also assist with logistical arrangements for other activities for the overall programme and dissemination of communication products

to different target groups etc.

3.7 Communication activities and production and dissemination of information and materials for communities: The aim will be to develop a range of communication strategies using talk-back shows, short and long video, video animation social media and smartphone apps as well as print media and materials, to get the message on sustainable management of coastal resources out to as many communities as possible, so they have the information needed to take action themselves. The aim here is foremost sustainability, by providing information rather than financial assistance which many communities become reliant on, and secondly, to create robust high-level national dialogue to highlight the decline in inshore fisheries, to motivate the prioritisation of appropriate actions at all levels. The range of topics will also be large, and there will be awareness raising on national fisheries rules and regulations (part of the fisheries governance project), as well as the specific management advice for community members on what they can do at their level and within their means. This is jointly implemented by SPC and LMMA, with other NGO involvement where appropriate. Communication material will be adapted to the local context and language, using a participatory methodology, and where possible, tailor made to different audiences.

3.8 Capacity development through long-term attachments for national fisheries and NGO staff: The aim is to build local capacity wherever possible so that future surveys and data analysis can be undertaken in-country by the trained staff. In-country training, mentoring of officers, communications and awareness strategies and implementation, MCS plans and implementation, survey methods, attachment trainings back in SPC on data analysis, interpreting results and writing these up, and possible south-south exchanges to build experiences at the national and sub-national levels. There is also funding Pacific Islander Junior Professional positions in SPC to train up these junior professionals in both the science and survey methodologies, as well as CEAFM.

3.9 Outreach activities including adaptation with communities: Some targeted outreach activities will be undertaken in the Melanesian countries to start, and this will be linked to the communications work and assist with the dissemination of information through a targeted approach in specific areas that are considered “high risk” where coastal resources are dwindling. This approach with them be expanded to other countries and locations as the project progresses and will include messages and materials from other components of the PEUMP project. This is also linked to the fisheries governance project and other activities undertaken by SPC and LMMA, with other NGOs used where appropriate.

3.10 Gender-based and rights-based trainings, national gender stocktakes: The aim is to undertake gender audits also including human rights issues in some project locations in partnership with other projects, such as the fisheries governance project and gender mainstreaming project, so that any issues or concerns identified can be addressed through the actions taken by the project, including training activities as identified. Specific trainings on

local communities' rights (ex. right to transparent decision-making about resources/projects, right to participate equally in decision-making) and on how to claim these rights (empowering the skills to participate in decision-making and resource management) will be delivered. Most of the funding for this work is under the PEUMP Programme Management Unit (PMU), so this is seed funding for some specific activities, and may be implemented by specialist staff or by consultants or partners.

Key Result Area 4: IUU fishing reduced through enhanced monitoring control and surveillance of both, oceanic and coastal fisheries, improved legislation, access to information, and effective marine area management.

Activities with FFA as the lead agency

4.1 Support for the review of national legislation in line with international principles as well as the implementation of IUU national plans of action:

FFA will support national authorities to revise and amend national existing fisheries legislation to ensure P-ACP fulfil their obligation as coastal states, port states and flag states and efficient MCS schemes are in place. Under EDF10, FFA has assisted some P-ACP to revise and update their former NPOA-IUU. National plans of action for IUU fishing (NPOA-IUU) serve as a comprehensive toolbox of measures to address IUU fishing in a range of contexts. Some of the IPOA-IUU provisions reflect obligations that many countries have accepted as binding, either through global instruments, RFMOs or through national legislative instruments. The objective of the NPOA is to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing by providing countries with comprehensive, effective and transparent measures by which to act. Under EDF11 FFA will support relevant countries to conduct a review of their outdated NPOA-IUU. As well, FFA will provide advice, training and support needed to build national capacity for the implementation of adopted NPOA-IUU (supported by complementary funding for legislative reviews).

4.2 National follow-up of suspected IUU incidents and assistance with prosecutions and sanctions: FFA will provide training of national agencies on the preparation and execution of a fisheries prosecution to ensure fisheries offenses and IUU activities do not result in acquittal in the courts due to lack of proper preparation and training by all relevant involved in the prosecution (supported by complementary funding).

4.3 Trials of new technology to assist national and regional Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) efforts: FFA continues to explore the use of new technology to improve detection of IUU fishing and monitoring of fleets. Current projects include trials of high resolution synthetic aperture radar satellite imagery; incorporating algorithms developed to detect fishing behaviour from the VMS data into the regional surveillance picture; and the use

of AIS class B transponders for tracking small local fishing vessels

4.4 Technical assistance with catch documentation systems, electronic monitoring and electronic reporting: EDF 11 will support the roll-out of electronic reporting and electronic monitoring. The region has made a strong commitment to increase electronic reporting (real time catch and effort reporting through satellite communication), electronic monitoring (video cameras as well as, or instead of, human observers) as well as to improve the traceability of fish products. SPC has been providing coordination to assist fishing operators and ensure data standards are met; FFA will need to assist in revising national legislation.(supported by complementary funding)

4.5 International outreach and advocacy on IUU and control of high seas fisheries: FFA has a long history of collaboration with WWF, which has the most effective and best managed tuna programme of any NSA. This component will use the organisation's global outreach to: 1) support advocacy on IUU at WCPFC; li) Enhance awareness of IUU issues; III) Enhancing Electronic Monitoring Readiness; IV) Support conditions for eco-labelling..

4.6 Capacity building and training of MCS officers with emphasis on the enforcement of port state controls and coastal fisheries regulations: A large share of tuna caught in the WCPO is transhipped in P-ACP ports and transshipment has become an important economic source for certain countries. During the transfer of fish from fishing to transport vessels there are high risks of IUU fish being laundered if port States do not ensure appropriate control. Monitoring and control of transshipment activities pose a challenge and under EDF11 effective standard operation procedures will be developed and deployed to relevant countries. Enforcement of coastal fisheries regulations has been relatively neglected in most countries. SPC and FFA will work together to develop training material to cover enforcement of coastal fisheries regulations – as in many small administrations the same officers are responsible for both. Much of the funding in this component will sponsor about 80 MCS officers to participate in a certificate level training programme.

4.7 Development of tools and systems to combat IUU fishing activities into coastal waters: In many small administrations the officers responsible for control of IUU fishing in coastal areas are the same as for offshore but training and support is entirely focused on monitoring control and surveillance (MCS) of offshore fisheries. This component will support the development of coastal MCS capacity building as well as developing systems to address emerging threats to coastal resources.

Key result Area 5 - Sustainable utilisation of the coastal and marine biodiversity promoted through improving marine special planning, increasing climate change resilience, enhancing conservation, mitigation and rehabilitation measures

Activities with SPREP as the lead agency

5.0.1 KRA 5 management, coordination and integration: Coordination and integration functions managed by the BIEM Project Coordinator and aimed at ensuring optimum benefits and outcomes are achieved from programme investments.

5.0.2 Communications and visibility for KRA 5: Ensure that outcomes and successes of KRA5 are well communicated and highly visible and feed into and support the overall PEUMP communications effort, including development of an overall KRA5 communications strategy.

5.1 Support for marine spatial planning in at least two countries: In selected countries, marine spatial planning, implemented by governments supported by IUCN, its partners, private sector and communities will enable both integrated coastal ecosystem-based management and wider marine planning and governance. Marine spatial planning will be a key tool for ocean governance as it will help to distribute human activities in marine areas within spatially and/or temporally defined zones to achieve ecological, economic, cultural and social objectives. Communities and other stakeholders will be involved in the marine planning process; this will include particular attention to women, youth and vulnerable groups. This participatory approach will require empowerment with knowledge on issues and processes for marine planning and governance, as well as spaces for participation in the planning process. This will also take into account the role of women in coastal fisheries, and build on the traditional and other knowledge and practices of local communities.

5.2 Integrated ecosystem strategies and coastal zone management planning: Identify, assess and, where relevant, map key coastal and linked terrestrial ecosystems that are essential for maintaining species and other essential ecosystem services that support livelihoods in the coastal zone and national economies (e.g., fish and invertebrate populations for food and commercial sale, tourism, marine and fresh water quality, etc.) and develop ecosystem-based and coastal zone management plans to support coastal ecosystems and communities, including through application of the marine spatial planning component above. Coastal zone management plans would be developed using a community consultative/participatory planning process. Depending on the geographical area, this could be through community-level consultations. These plans, including coastal community-level plans, will comply with national gender and human rights commitments – gender/youth policies, international conventions ratified by the national

government.

Selected rapid biodiversity assessments will be undertaken to identify high value food security and other species requiring conservation management, and their ecosystems. Linked resource economic assessments will be carried out to confirm the value of critical species and ecosystems to establish priority ecosystem management action. Finally, recommendations made will be implemented through integrated education and awareness, policy and planning at local, sub-national and national levels.

5.3 Climate change adaptation strategies integrated into coastal community plans: An ecosystem and socio-economic resilience analysis and mapping (ESRAM) will be implemented to integrate climate change and non-climate change threats into environmental and socio-economic vulnerability and opportunity assessments (ESVOA) as a basis for identifying and implementing adaptation planning options for coastal fisheries. This analysis would have social and gender analysis integrated to unpack the understandings and practices of women and men, youth and elders toward resilience, and dissemination of the results of this analysis and mapping exercise back to communities; also ensuring community participation in adaptation planning. The predicted impacts of ocean acidification will be addressed by incorporating ocean acidification into ecosystem-based and coastal zone management plans to increase the resilience of coastal ecosystems and communities; policies and plans that maintain the natural adaptive capacity of coral reefs will be developed and implemented for as long as possible by protecting seagrass and mangroves, land-based pollution and anthropogenic impacts on reefs will be reduced, including overfishing of herbivorous fish species.

Nationals will be trained in ecosystem and climate change adaptation assessment and mapping, ensuring women and youth, even persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups be enabled to be part of these trainings. Local communities will be trained on local coastal resource use action and decision making to improve resilience to climate change, building on their existing traditional knowledge and practices, to ensure better ownership and understanding.

5.4 Endangered species by-catch assessed and extinction risk evaluated: In recent years, the WCPFC has reported annually on by-catch of non-target and/or threatened species from observed purse-seine vessels, which have full (100%) observer coverage. WCPFC and SPC have also occasionally analysed the very limited observer data from the longline fleet, which has low observer coverage (2-5%), to provide some estimate of the by-catch of turtles, sharks, seabirds and marine mammals. In 2016, WCPFC conducted an in-depth analysis of turtle by-catch by selected longline vessels, which will be a good model on which to base further analyses. Additionally, there is no information available on the by-catch of non-target species in Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs). Work with other stakeholders, including the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) it will be provided the first estimates of unintended by-catch of threatened and endangered species in FADs in the Pacific islands region.

Under this component, together with biologists from the University of the South Pacific and using data collected from a variety of sources, the

extinction risk of turtles in the Pacific islands will be assessed, and the contribution to conservation that can be made through mitigation measures introduced into commercial fisheries will be measured.

5.5 By-catch mitigation strategies developed and rolled-out: Research and experimental fishing carried out in other parts of the world have identified ways in which the by-catch of threatened and endangered species can be to some degree mitigated. A few companies operating in the Pacific islands region have already voluntarily introduced such mitigation measures to minimise the by-catch of non-target species, and their crews have received training by qualified trainers. Collaborations will be further developed with fishing fleets to identify the mitigation measures that are shown to be most effective, and to train a much greater number of crews in their effective implementation, through a series of port workshops. The WCPFC will be encouraged to adopt these measures as standard operating procedure for all vessels operating in the Pacific islands region.

5.6 Capacity development through research grant: There is only limited funding to support young Pacific island biology students to continue their studies at postgraduate level. Few of the PhD or MSc students in Biological Sciences in the region are Pacific islanders, and many of the overseas students who study for higher degrees in Universities and other institutions in the Pacific islands will leave the region once their studies are completed. There is an urgent need to encourage promising young Pacific islanders to continue their studies, either directly after their undergraduate courses, or some years later, once their career path is established. The concept of the research grant is to provide funding for a young (under 40 years old) Pacific islander to return to University to study in some aspect of marine sciences that will improve their skill and knowledge base and build the capacity of the region to sustainably manage marine resources, focusing on threatened and endangered species.

5.7 Support for community monitoring and protection of endangered species: Many communities in the Pacific islands play a direct and valuable role by monitoring and protecting breeding sites – e.g. by controlling invasive species such as rats and pigs on islands that harbour nesting seabirds, by protecting turtle nesting sites from feral animals and removal of eggs by humans or by putting in place measures to protect other endangered species from fishing or habitat destruction. Monitoring important sites for threatened species that are taken as by-catch can help to offset the unintended consequences of fishing and can also provide a means of alleviating poverty and generating revenue through possible employment opportunities in ecotourism.

5.8 Capacity building on non-detrimental findings process for CITES parties. Trade in CITES-listed marine species in the Pacific islands has provided a livelihood for coastal communities over many years. The most frequently-traded species in the region are corals. However, the threat of coral bleaching due to thermal stress driven by warming oceans is now raising major concerns about the sustainability of this trade, particularly at historical levels. Trade in CITES-listed species is subject to a Non-Detriment Finding (NDF) and it would be highly beneficial to conduct an inclusive NDF process

amongst CITES Parties in the region, to establish whether or not countries that have traditionally exported coral specimens can continue to do so at current levels.

Key Result Area 6: Capacity built through education, training and research and development for key stakeholder groups in fisheries and marine resources management

Activities with USP as the lead agency

6.1 Comprehensive needs and gap analysis undertaken: There are already a number of fisheries and marine programmes and courses that are relevant e.g. undergraduate courses offered by USP in marine science and marine affairs, National Certificate IV in fisheries compliance and enforcement, women's empowerment training programmes including for women in fisheries, and climate change adaptation offered by government ministries/departments, NGOs, and CROPS). This is one of the first activities and will frame the topic/content of other capacity development activities. The needs and gap analysis will collate information on all existing courses and programmes in all PACPs, interview key stakeholders to identify education and training needs, consider human rights and gender aspects of training and education needs, identify amendments to existing and new courses/programmes, and identify delivery mechanisms and institutions.

6.2 Accreditation and delivery of existing Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) courses: Accreditation of existing courses in Basic Observer Training and other FFA TVET courses to be transferred to USP. Delivery of TVET courses previously offered by FFA – e.g. Certificate (Level IV) in Fisheries Enforcement & Compliance. This includes financial support to PACP nationals to undertake existing TVET courses offered by USP relevant to PEUMP.

6.3 Design of CPD and career pathways including business skills: Development of "Lifelong Learning Pathways" for marine professionals taking into account gender and human rights. Mapping of career pathways within the marine sector (including TVET and higher education) that includes CPD opportunities, and identification of model(s) for delivery and/or accreditation of on-going professional development e.g. through IMarEST. This includes financial support for PACP nationals already employed in the fisheries/marine sector to take Workplace Development Training Units already offered by USP and identified in the needs and gap analysis. Financial support for PACP nationals already employed in the fisheries/marine sector for

annual membership of IMarEST is also included.

6.4 Development and delivery of additional training courses identified through needs and gap analysis related to coastal fisheries management, sustainable marine development, gender and human rights based approach: New courses/programmes to be developed based on needs & gap analysis, both formal (TVET, Undergraduate & Postgraduate) and informal (professionals in public & private sectors). Indications of likely priorities from initial stakeholder consultation include: small business management, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, business writing, investment appraisal and international commerce, market development, fisheries negotiations, policy development and strategic planning, data collection, management and analysis, and technology development as well as fisheries science and marine management. This includes financial support to PACP nationals to undertake existing TVET courses offered by USP relevant to PEUMP.

6.5 Applied research and postgraduate scholarships: Applied research in coastal fisheries management and marine sustainable development will target postgraduate students (Masters & PhD) supported by research fellows and assistants. The objective is to build a regional pool of skilled researchers through their active participation in applied research in relevant fields including coastal fisheries management and sustainable marine development. Applied research may draw from and support the capacity development and research components of the other PEUMP Programme partners. Some examples of research that would be complementary include: the potential role of climate financing in MPAs and community-based ecosystem management; changing roles of women in fisheries (including government, private sector, regional agencies/organisations); options for renewable energy use in transport and storage aspects of fisheries; the impact of natural disasters and ocean warming and acidification on coastal and oceanic fisheries. Scholarships will be awarded to nationals from the PACPs. Scholarships will target priority areas identified by the needs & gap analysis and the PEUMP Programme Steering Committee and could include aspects such as gender and fisheries, decarbonisation of the sector, endangered species by-catch, ocean acidification and warming, and climate financing. Pilot trials of technologies and approaches that tackle challenges faced at community level are anticipated as part of the applied research.

6.6 Outreach, including on-line delivery of education and training, publications and talanoa: Materials for on-line e-learning will be developed. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) will be developed and delivered in collaboration with all the PEUMP partners and will focus on the themes of PEUMP – for example: community-based coastal fisheries, taking human rights and gender into account in terms of analysis participation in planning, implementation, monitoring, etc., and sustainable fisheries, promotion of Blue Economy. Building on existing projects such as PacTVET and EU-GCCA, MOOCs would be of 6-week duration with pre-recorded lectures, online resources, live forums for discussions (e.g. Facebook and twitter), online assessments and optional field exercises. Options for participants without internet will be provided (e.g. Freephone number for audios). Blended (face-to-face & online) and Face-to-face training will be delivered. Live-streamed and face-to-face initial trainings and seminars will be

recorded for use in subsequent online courses targeting wider audiences. Information will also be shared through a USP PEUMP Project website/page, publications, toolkits, a public lecture series and conference/talanoa. Development of educational materials for use by other providers (e.g. for primary & secondary schools, other tertiary institutions in the region) will focus on the priorities identified. Rollout of successful pilot community-level technologies and approaches is also anticipated in the latter part of the Project.

6.7 Rights-based and gender trainings: Based on findings of the initial needs and gap analysis, specific training materials and opportunities will target identified needs based on gender, human rights, social mobilization and advocacy, as well as disadvantaged groups. This would complement the integration of a human rights-based approach in other trainings, MOOCs, etc. that also focus on processes of engagement of communities and vulnerable social groups in all stages of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. For empowered communities to sustainably manage natural resources, they need the technical skills, but also skills in holding duty-bearers accountable and advocating their rights. USP's Gender Policy and USP staff¹ with expertise in gender and development studies will work with a consultant to be engaged by USP in the Inception Phase to develop an action plan to inform development of training materials and approaches with support of PEUMP Programme Gender and Human Rights Specialist (SPC) and Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT) – additional funding for Programme activities in this area is provided to the PEUMP PMU (SPC).

¹ USP already offers Postgraduate Certificate courses GN400 and GN401 in Gender Studies through Faculty of Arts, Law and Education. [USP Gender Policy](#)