## FFA Annual Report for fiscal year 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

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- (a) Operating Environment
- (b) Highlights



## Message from the Director - Genera.



James Movick

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

The Annual Report on the performance of the FFA Secretariat is an essential component of our accountability framework. It primarily informs members on performance results and impact of services achieved by the Secretariat during the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

2014/15 was a year of transition for the Secretariat and members as it commenced implementation of the revised Strategic Plan 2014-2020, but it was also a year of consolidation of work progressed thus far especially at the regional, sub-regional, national and international levels.

## Operating Environment

The following commentary on the Secretariat's operating environment will provide clarity of context and understanding of developments within the region and more broadly on an international scale.

## Status of the Stock

South Pacific Albacore; The stock as a whole is not in an overfished state. There is currently no overfishing, but there are significant concerns over the ongoing economic viability of the fishery due to the concentration of fishing effort on particular components of the stock.

- Bigeye: The stock is now in an overfished state, and overfishing is continuing. Serious conservation efforts to manage overfishing on this stock are required from all fishing parties.
- Skipjack: The stock is not in an overfished state. There is currently
  no overfishing, but limiting further growth in the fishery is important to
  maintain financial viability.
- Yellowfin: The stock is not in an overfished state. There is currently no overfishing
- Bycatch: Overfishing is occurring for Oceanic Whitetip and Silky Sharks.
   The stock status of many other bycatch species is unknown.

## Market Trends and outlook

Economic conditions for the fleets in the WCPO in recent years have been mixed, characterised by highly variable prices for canning material (skipjack and albacore). Changes in the purse seine fishery in 2014 and early 2015 have been driven by large reductions in the price of skipjack tuna for canning. Skipjack dominates the overall value of the catch from Pacific Island waters, which has dropped as a result; and it is estimated that, despite lower fuel costs, profits in the fishery have been severely dissipated.

In contrast albacore prices have recovered and fuel prices have also fallen substantially, providing some improvement of the outlook for vessels in the southern longline fishery – although fishing effort remains high and catch rates low.

In the tropical longline fishery, catches from the WCPO (and globally) continue to decline; and the number of vessels has fallen. The total WCPO longline

fleet has contracted. Exports of fresh bigeye from Pacific Island countries have declined. On a more positive note, there are opportunities in new markets; and again the viability of the fishery has been improved by lower fuel costs.

On a more positive note, there are opportunities in new markets; and again the viability of the fishery has been improved by lower fuel costs.

Nonetheless, member countries have challenges that will continue to intensify. Controlling fishing effort in both the purse seine and longline fisheries in order to sustain catch rates, fish prices and the value of access to the fishery is critical.

Lower cost and more efficient producing centres in Asia are continually challenging the comparative advantages and competitiveness at the processing and international trade levels. The granting of tariff free access for processed tuna into the EU from Philippines (a major competitor) represents a challenge. In addition, increasingly stringent market access measures are being introduced for the EU market.

The following are key parameters of economic conditions of the Western Central Pacific Ocean fishery and its impact on FFA members.

## (i) Global Tuna Production

Global tuna catch of the four major tuna species rose to 4.61 million tonnes in 2013, one per cent higher than the previous peak in 2012 of 4.58 million tonnes (Fig. 1). The rise from the previous year was driven by a 9% rise in the Indian Ocean and 2.5% increase in the Eastern Pacific catches that more than offset the 1% decline in the WCPO and steady catches in the Atlantic Ocean. Preliminary catch data Indicates a further increase in the purse seine catch for 2014. The total annual global catch has been at more than million tonnes since 1999.

## (ii) Prices

The market for cannery material has been very volatile, with skipjack prices declining to less than US\$1,000 per tonne in early 2015 (back to levels last seen in 2010/11). This reduced the total catch value for 2014.

## (iii) Exports

The estimates of exports from FFA member countries is based on import data in the three major export destinations - EU, US and Japan. The annual trends show constant growth over the years between 2005 and 2011 followed by substantial growth in 2012 and some decline (6%) in 2013. (Fig. 3).

Imports by these countries registered a

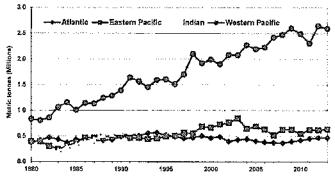


Figure 1. Production trends by ocean area

Sources: WCPO and EPO from SPC (2011), Atlantic Ocean from ICCAT www.iccat.int/atl.asp; Indian Ocean from www.iotc.org/ English/data.php

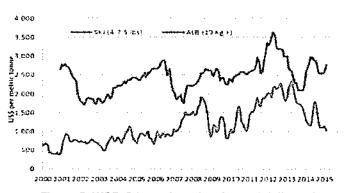


Figure 2. WCP-CA catch and estimated delivered values, all gears, 1997-2012

mixture of performances in 2013 with EU imports growing by 18% following a dramatic increase of 61% the previous year; US imports were stable in 2013 following a substantial 68% increase in 2012; Japan imports declined significantly by 52% in 2013 that follows from an 18% increase in 2012.

## (iv) Employment

Tuna related employment increased steadily between 2008 and 2013 rising from around 12,000 to 18,000, underpinned by growth in the onshore processing sector employment, which accounts for between 60% and 70% of total tuna related employment. The onshore processing sector is currently employing around 11,000 as compared to less than 9,000 in 2008, with further job creation expected as new processing plants in PNG come into full operation.

## (v) Contribution to GDP

in 2013, the contribution of the harvest sector to GDP was estimated to be \$300 million, a fall of 15% from the previous year. This decrease was driven by the decline in value of catch

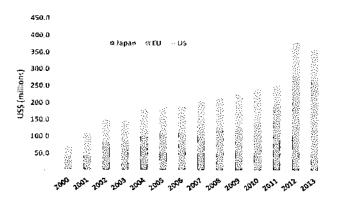


Figure 3. EU, US and Japan tuna imports from FFA member countries, 2000-2013

Sources: Eurostat; Personal communication, NMFS; http://www.customs.go.jp/toukei/download/index\_d011\_e.htm

underplaned by decreases in both catch volume and fish prices. In real terms, considerable growth occurred in the years between 1997 and 2003 but has since slowed to moderate and even declining trends in some years, including a 12% decline in 2013, driven by declines in the purse seine; but even more so, longline production data. This can be expected to decrease further in 2014 with the decline in skipjack prices. However, this is somewhat balanced by the continued strong growth in the value of access fees that some members are receiving from the fishery. At present this is almost solely attributable to growth in purse seine access value under the PNA vessel days scheme.



## Highlightis

The FFA Secretariat delivered on an extensive and ambitious work programme during 2014/15. This required maintaining a sharp focus on priorities and identifying efficiencies in order to balance competing pressures and to effectively sequence delivery of our core services on fisheries management and development policy and Monitoring Control and Surveillance technical and policy advice. Some highlights were:

## For Executive Output, High Level Advice

- Revision of the New FFA Strategic Plan 2014-2020, to update re-align and refocus to take account of changes and growing complexity in the Pacific and international tuna fisheries
- Securing additional multiyear funding and additional project funding from the Australian and New Zealand governments
- Progressive implementation of the Strategic Budget Review FFC Min 10 approved a series of recommendations
  around reducing costs and increasing General Fund revenue. These revenue increases, coupled with a generous
  additional donation by New Zealand have been instrumental in allowing the Secretariat to rectify many of the
  trade-offs that had been made in the past to deliver balanced budgets.
- Implementation of the FFC endorsed Regional Fisheries Training Framework and discussions with Pacific educational institutes to accredit FFA fisheries training
- FFA has been selected as implementing agency for the US\$39.87 million World Bank Pacific islands Regional Oceanscape Programme (PROP).
- Continued facilitation and advice to members during the US Treaty renegotiation session which successfully resulted in the 2015 US Treaty Statement of Intent and increased funding from the US (from USD63m to USD90m).
- Entry Into force of the Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement and work towards operationalising this important regional initiative endorsed by the Forum Leaders
- Successful conclusion of the delivery of "Fisheries Negotiations" courses to assist in building the capacity of nationals in negotiation skills
- Strengthened regional information partnerships under the DEVFISH II 'Tunanomics' media initiative, and support to members at national level under the FFA Communications strategy.
- · Establishment of the Internal Audit function with the successful recruitment of the Internal Auditor.

## For Fisheries Management

- The Tokelau Arrangement for the Management of the South Pacific Albacore Fishery came into effect on 14th December 2014.
- Most FFA members continue to score better than most other CCMs under the WCPFC Compliance Monitoring Scheme;
- WCPFC adopted FFA member proposals for a strengthened shark conservation measure and a formal process for developing Harvest Strategies
- Two major special projects kicked off just before the end of the year: the GEF-funded Second Phase of the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFMP-II) and the GEF and World Bank-funded Pacific Regional Oceanscape (Fisheries) Programme (PROP).
- A number of national initiatives to improve national tuna fisheries management and the implementation of agreed regional and international obligations were progressed and supported, including National Plans of Action on different bycatch organisms, Tuna Fisheries Management Plan scoping exercises and plan developments, and Institutional Strengthening reviews. Of particular note is the development by the Cook Islands of its Quota Management System. All of these initiatives were driven by FFA members with secretariat support as necessary.

## For Fisheries Development

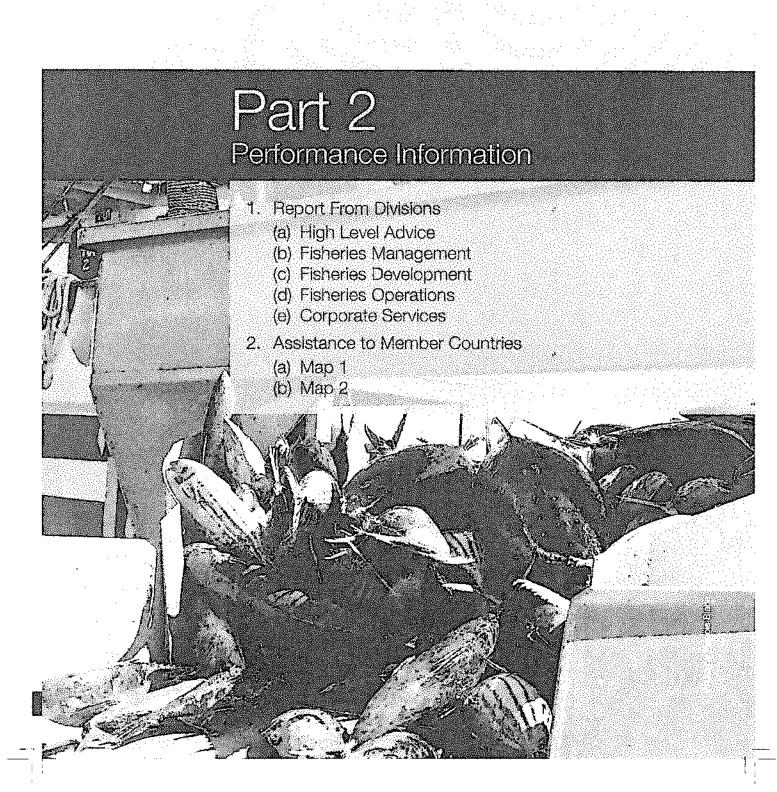
- Leading the submission of a joint-CROP COMPFISH proposal for EDF11 funding.
- Member countries achieved good results in addressing the EU IUU regulation with FFA assistance;
  - The yellow cards for Fiji and Vanuatu were lifted in October 2014;
  - · Papua New Guinea is well on track to see the yellow card lifted in mid-2015;
  - Assistance with export documentation has been provided to Solomon Islands, while a more comprehensive programme of assistance is being developed for Tuvalu;
  - Other countries in the region that have been inspected by DG Mare have so far been able to avoid yellow-carding, partly as a result of assistance from FFA.
- Two major strategic initiatives were completed during the year: the independent review of the Purse Seine Vessel Day Scheme (VDS review) for PNA members; and a forward looking study of development opportunities in FFA member countries in the tuna industry (Emerging opportunities study)
- In progress is a review of the Future of Fisheries study, which aims to develop clear goals and pathways for the
  development of a best case future for Pacific tuna fisheries. (Parallel work on coastal fisheries management is
  being led by SPC);
- Also under the DevFish2 project, moves to establish a regional unit to assist members to meet EU sanitary requirements through a 'regional competent authority' RECAS concept was given a favourable reception by the EU's DG Santé.

## For Fisheries Operations

- Developed a national Observer Programme cost-recovery model which has been promoted through workshops to six countries to ensure long term sustainability of national programmes. Now fully implemented by one member country while others are working to incorporate within their financial systems.
- Adopted a Pacific Islands Regional Fisheries Observer (PIRFO) Certification Management Committee to oversee audit accreditation standards of all PIRFO training for Observers, Debriefers, Trainers and Managers
- First MCS Foundation Course has been successfully developed and delivered, resulting in the first cohort of 22 competent MCS Officers as the first step to strengthening regional training courses and opportunities, including so that they can attract tertiary qualifications.
- A much anticipated Observer IUU analysis and reporting capability is now in place. In the last fiscal year, a total
  of 45 cases of observer infringements were identified and referred to members for follow up.
- Information Management System (IMS) portals have been developed and utilized in 7 member countries with four countries having access to national datasets (TUFMAN) in the IMS portal whilst five countries have access to 2 regional datasets (VMS, RFV) in the IMS portal

## For Corporate Services

- · Streamlined Monitoring and Evaluation and medium term planning process implemented
- An unqualified Audit Opinion for FFA accounts.
- Upgrade of the Financial Management System, accompanied by in-house review of financial regulations and processes
- Upgrade of the Payroll system. Upgrade, testing and implementation of the Orange Human Resources Information system.
- Successful reviews/fiduciary assessments by EU, FAO and World Bank
- · Review of the Administration Manual and Corporate policies.
- · Creation of the Gender Working Group which will review and update the Gender Policy and Action Plan.



# A. High Level Advice Output, Results and Outcomes Flow

## Strategic Outcome: Regional solidarity is enhanced



## Regional and Sovereign rights secured and protected



Continued political support for fisheries at the regional level

between FFA Secretariat, members and Strong and sustainable relationships the donor community

FFA members play a leadership role with a range of Strategic Partners

Sound legal basis to enable tools to be legally banding and secure to protect

Secure and protect rights

Promoting strong

collective

advocacy

Regional legal frameworkds

Key Outputs

Participating in Pacific Regional FFC and Leaders (influencing) priorities and Framework processes coffective regional Lake op identified opportunities for Development of frameworks to legal and Institutional action

support to members under effectiveness of Moniter of Implemented decisions

advice at national technical and legal and sub-regional

co-exclination and mutual assistance with Shategic Partners

Capacity building

delimitation **Boundary** 

## Capacity Building guided by the Regional Fisheries Framework



Provide high level visibility to the importance of fisherles and the activities of the Secretariat and members to ensure sustainable development and appropriate management, responsible

communication with leaders on strategic fisheries issues Lead the two way

Ensure the efficient roll-out of policy advice and services from

relationships in the region and Enhance and maintain Internationally

Deliver best practice

provision of technical services Secretariat in order to lead and enhance member and donor confidence in FFA management of the administration and



## A. High Level Advice

## Enhancing regional solidarity

The High Level Advice output comprising the Executive, Directors, Legal Unit, Training, Media and executive support staff are tasked with this strategic goal.

Regional solidarity is a key priority for the Agency and FFA's individual members, not only in ensuring carriage of their internationally promoted views but more importantly security of their rights collectively and as sovereign nations.

Bridging the divide between the very different members with so much disparity in levels of economic development, population makeup, resource base, different sizes of landmasses, exclusive economic zone and historic tuna catch levels is a real challenge. Importantly, maintaining regional solidarity is much more than different countries putting up a united front; as owners of a limited resource it is crucial that they work together.

The growth of sub-regionalism is a process that the Secretariat has supported; on the basis that smaller groups of members with distinct shared interests and capabilities have a greater ability to move issues forward more flexibly. The Secretariat has been mindful though of the need to re-develop the regional framework so that it is capable of forging regional positions and proposals based around the outputs of these sub-regional groupings. The prominent role accorded to the Management Options Committee to seek to coordinate and resolve any conflicts between the different specific fisheries (sub-regional) management arrangements, is a case in point. Furthermore, the Agency devotes a significant proportion of its resources and activities to strengthening of national capacity, in all aspects, recognizing that members need enhanced technical expertise to deal with the growing and more complex body of work required in national, sub-regional and regional fisheries issues and arrangements. This has been successful to date but is a growing challenge, particularly with the growth of substantial support structures for the sub-regional bodies. In particular members and the Secretariat have identified a need for better communication, cooperation and role delineation between the Secretariat and the PNA Office.

FY14/15 was a year of transition to the new FFA Strategic Plan 2014-2020. The results diagram for Divisions, including the one below which depicts the work undertaken by the High Level Advice Output over the year, was developed to reflect the new FFA Strategic Plan and to replace the previous intentions under the Strategic Plan 2005-2020.

## Summary of Progress

The HLA section consists of two sub-Outputs; being Executive (which includes the Communications and Training units) and Legal Services.

In 2014-15 Executive continued its leadership in providing strategic advice and oversight of the FFA Secretariat.

The FFCMIN10 Outcomes were conveyed to the Forum Leaders meeting, but the FFA Executive did not have the opportunity to brief Leaders collectively at the Forum. This issue was taken up at subsequent CROP Heads meeting and CROP CEOs agreed that greater access to leaders will be facilitated through the implementation of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism that was approved by the 2014 Forum.

The Secretariat also attended the SIDS Conference with the FFCMIN Chair (Tokelau), Incoming Chair (Tuvalu) and previous Chair (Solomon Islands) and presented an FFA statement that laid the foundation for the international recognition of the importance of fisheries to Pacific SIDS, further adding weight to the stand-alone post-2015 Sustainable Development Goal on Oceans.

FFA has partnered with tertlary education providers to deliver accredited qualifications that contribute to new career pathways in fisheries in order to build human skills and strengthen member institutions in fisheries and related disciplines. The Training Unit has commenced implementation and monitoring of key success metrics of the Regional Fisheries Training Framework that include qualifying FFA trainers and entering into agreements with educational institutions for recognition of prior learning and accreditation of fisheries training courses and programmes of study.

Other achievements during FY14-15 include:

- Securing the continuance of enhanced multiyear programme funding from Australia and New Zealand
- Securing XB funding from NZ
- Signing off on support arrangements for World Bank PROP funding in support of FFA members fisheries institutional capacity building
- Securing GEF-OFMP2 funding (expected to commence in FY15-16)
- Leading the submission of a joint-CROP COMPFISH proposal for EDF11 funding.
- Facilitating small informal ministerial consultations in Honiara to discuss issues of import to the FFA and to members
- Continued provision of policy advice to members at the WCPFC and subregional meetings (PNA, TVM and MSG).

Legal Services also continue to provide high level and technical legal advice to members and the secretariat. They also continue to lead advice on the legislative reviews, maritime boundaries, and Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement which entered into force on July 30th 2014. Ratifications have been received from Palau, Cook Islands, Nauru, Tuvalu, Samoa and Vanuatu.

## Achievements include:

- NTSA Tabletop workshop, in collaboration with FOD
- First Meeting of the NTSA Parties, in collaboration with FOD
- · Fisheries negotiations training
- Inaugural Regional Prosecutors Course
- Lead on the comprehensive review of the Regional Minimum Terms and Conditions for Fishing Access (MTCs) adopted by FFC90
- Lead on drafting texts for the US Treaty Renegotiation Sessions.



## Relationship Management

Ensuring regional solidarity requires strong and sustainable relationships between members themselves and with the FFA Secretariat. FY14/15 saw a high number of high level visitors to the Secretariat. Three small informal ministerial meetings were successful in enhancing relationships between ministers (as they were more freely able to interact informally) and between FFA executive and ministers. Following the meetings there was a greater understanding of prevailing issues facing the FFA and of the need for Ministers to play a more active role in briefing national leaders. The following are the Division's achievements against its four Key Result Areas:

II	y Result Areas & Key Outputs	<b>Budgeted activities</b>	Actual Progress
1.	Continued political support for fisheries at the regional level:	FFA Governance; Reporting to FFC and Leaders Annual Report published at the end of each fiscal year Approved AWPB includes funding of supplementary requirements and new Leaders priorities	<ul> <li>FFC Reports, including the Annual Report, submitted to Annual sessions FFC93, 94 and FFC Min held in Tuvalu.</li> <li>Audit Committee report well received by ministers at the Annual FFCMIN10 where institutional matters discussed.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Member support;</li> <li>At least 5 national visits by executive</li> <li>Raising fisheries profile</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>National visit budget used for informal ministerial consultations held in Honiara which Fisheries Ministers from 16 countries attended.</li> </ul>
		Strategic management;  Review of FFA Strategic Plan 2005-2020  Assessing regional strategies	<ul> <li>Strategic Plan approved by FFCMIN10 and implementation in progress as of July 2014.</li> </ul>
3.	Strong and sustainable relationships between the FFA secretariat, members and the denor community.  FFA members play a leadership role with a range of Strategic Partners.	<ul> <li>Regional Relations;</li> <li>WCPFC Committees</li> <li>WCPFC Annual Session</li> <li>CROP meetings</li> <li>Other regional meetings including sub-regional meetings including Leaders Forum, FEMM, PNA, TVM, MSG</li> <li>Donor Relations</li> <li>High level meetings with ANZAID</li> <li>Annual Consultations with JPF</li> <li>Prospective donor consultations</li> <li>Member support:</li> <li>Assessing national level activities</li> <li>Assistance to member donor consultations</li> <li>Members attending international meetings</li> <li>Raising fisheries profile</li> <li>Capacity building — scholarships in Japan</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Executive attendance of WCPFC Annual Session and CROP Heads meeting. FFA representation at other regional CROP meetings and sub-regional meetings.</li> <li>Donor confidence remains high with further multi-year funding and project funding from the Australia and New Zealand governments.</li> <li>Project proposals for regional funding submitted to the EU (EDF11), Japan (JPF), Taiwan and Korea.</li> <li>New funding attracted from World Bank</li> <li>SLA process picking up momentum in discussions at informal ministerial consultations</li> <li>Support to members attending international meetings including SIOS Conference and CITES.</li> <li>Training Framework approved and implemented accordingly.</li> </ul>

Pacific Fisheries Training Training framework development

Key Result Areas & Key Outputs	Budgeted activities	Actual Progress
Sound legal basis to enable tools to be legally binding and secure to protect rights.	In-country work – provision of legal advice and assistance on national priority needs	<ul> <li>Successful conclusion of Fisheries         Negotiations course</li> <li>Successful conclusion of inaugural Regional Prosecutors course</li> <li>7 legislative reviews</li> <li>2 countries provided in-country legislative advice</li> <li>5 countries assisted with NTSA briefings</li> <li>Maritime boundary assistance for 2 countries</li> <li>Legal and operations briefings for 3 members</li> <li>3 legal graduates on attachment</li> </ul>
	General Legal Advice  Niue Treaty  Harmonised Minimum Terms and Conditions of Access by Fishing Vessels (MTCs)  US Treaty  WCPFC  Boundary Delimitation  Building Legal Capacity and Prosecution Support	<ul> <li>NTSA came into force in August 2014. 6         Parties and 7 signatories</li> <li>Side session on Annexes for NTSA Parties,         March 15</li> <li>NTSA table top workshop, April 15</li> <li>First Meeting of the NTSA Parties, May 15</li> <li>Working towards operationalization of NTSA</li> <li>Led a comprehensive review of the MTCs         adopted by FFC, July 14</li> <li>Lead on drafting of texts US Treaty related         texts and national laws issue</li> <li>Leading on collective SIDS issues, including         push for a fair approach to dealing with         SIDS in the Compliance Monitoring scheme         process</li> <li>Paving the path for mapping updated         legislated lines onto the FFA VMS, including         necessary steps to FFC</li> <li>Regional Prosecutors Course, December 15</li> <li>Prosecution Manual, June 15</li> <li>Fisheries Negotiations Course (2 a year)</li> </ul>
5. Capacity building guided by the Regional Fisheries Training Framework	<ul> <li>Development of competency standards</li> <li>Evaluation of delivery performance standards</li> <li>FFA training records management</li> <li>Key success metrics monitored and evaluated</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Competency standards have been developed for the basic MCS Officers' course</li> <li>Training performance metrics have been standardised for analysis and comparison</li> <li>Training records centralised on RIMF</li> <li>Tracer studies commenced for accredited courses that were competency assessed</li> </ul>

## Impact of services

Enhanced relationships and understanding between members and between members and the Secretarlat.

Increased awareness, understanding and confidence in the FFA governance and administration leading to enhanced donor confidence and support to the FFA.

Enhanced legal capacity and capabilities of members

### Issues

Sustainable funding is always a challenge, and externalities such as the substantial strengthening of the USD against the AUD, NZD, JPY and EUR, which represent most donor income to FFA, jeopardise the Secretariat's ability to maintain consistent high level service. This has impacted in 2014/15, and had a follow-on effect to the FY2015-16 budget with reduced anticipated revenue.

FFCMIN10's approval of the Strategic Plan led to heightened optimism especially with the recognition that there was a need for the profile of fisheries to be elevated to leaders. The challenge of ensuring that fisheries issues are appropriately placed in front of Forum Leaders each was underscored by difficulties in securing direct access to Leaders at the Palau Forum, although that was a problem shared by most of the CROP agencies. However, active steps were taken late 2014 and early 2015 to ensure improved access to Leaders in the future. The informal Ministerial consultations were used to draw fisheries ministers' attention to the importance of their own role in raising the profile of fisheries to their respective Leaders accordingly.

Regional solidarity is complicated at both ends of the spectrum. On the one hand, members have an increased sense of national interest, leading to greater willingness for unilateral and sub-regional action. On the other hand, the growing influence of global agendas threatens solidarity as key players are not necessarily aware of the regional fisheries construct. For example, there is a growing reliance on New York missions, acting on advice from a range of parties to engage in global oceans issues. There is a risk that this level of engagement could overlook important gains by FFA members, including through the WCPFC. Neither focus need reduce solidarity, as long as members (at all levels of government) remain committed to finding ways to cooperate in a meaningful way that embraces differences.

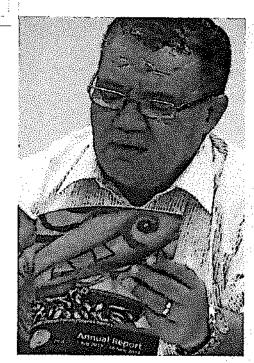
## Opportunities

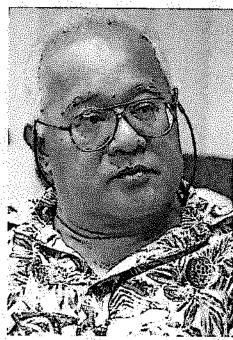
Sustained member support from Australia and New Zealand has been reflected in the provision of increased funding. In addition to FFA being the first CROP agency receiving 3 years of funding, Australia recently extended this to 5 years with a further addition in annual instalments. Similarly New Zealand, which increased its multiyear funding to 3 years two years ago, also provided much-needed funding for the Secretariat to address its infrastructural issues identified in the Strategic Budget Review,

An enhanced and renewed relationship with PIFS and FFC ministers (resulting especially from the informal ministerial meetings) provides an opportunity for positive gains towards solidarity and enhancing profile of fisheries at leaders' level.

Executive participation in various high level regional events, the UN SIDS3 Conference in Samoa and the Leaders' engagement with France in Noumea, provided the opportunity for FFA to provide fisheries advice and to engage directly with Leaders and ministers in attendance.

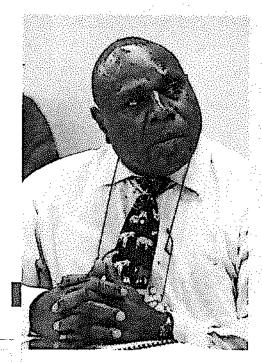
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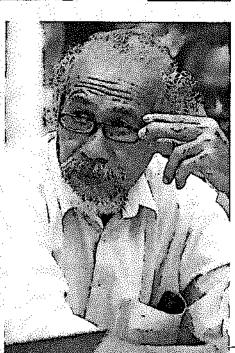












# B. Fisheries Management Output, Results and Outcomes Flow

Strategic outcome: Effective management regimes in place, developed and supported by member governments, taking account of the view of industry and other stakeholders

National plans and procedures reflect national priorities and implement acreed rectonaland International oblications FFA members rights promoted, secured and protected at rejonal and international level Shared national interests advanced through zone-based management Shared fisheries resources maintained at economic and biolocical sustainable fevels.



suti-regional organisations Efficient linkages with involved in fisheries other regional, and

WCPEC and other fisheries promote their interests in Members effectively

negotiations

priorities and international administrative decisions consultative planning National policy and implement national guided by robust, frameworks that

colligations

Zone based regional and sub-regional management optimum economic and conservation benefit for arrangements secure

Effective control of bycatch management measures ecosystem effects taken promoted and wider Into account in

Important to FFA members Sustainable biological Harvest Control Roles reference points and

puticy papers on priority fisheries Analyses and



Assistmembers In SPC/FFA collegium merabecs taking takes part in the metlings, and and other part in other GROP MISHIG, consultations

Assist members to address identified performance and reporting agains monitoring standards Sdeb

Administerand Arrangement Tokelau effectively

mantagendent

fisheries

plans and operational

Administer the

Assist members in designing pational manage the US ireaty effectively

> developing legal procedures and

assistin

frameworks

Assist members to develop promosals conservation and regional fishery Prepare expert workshops to briefingson management neetingsand discuss them contrene

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measures

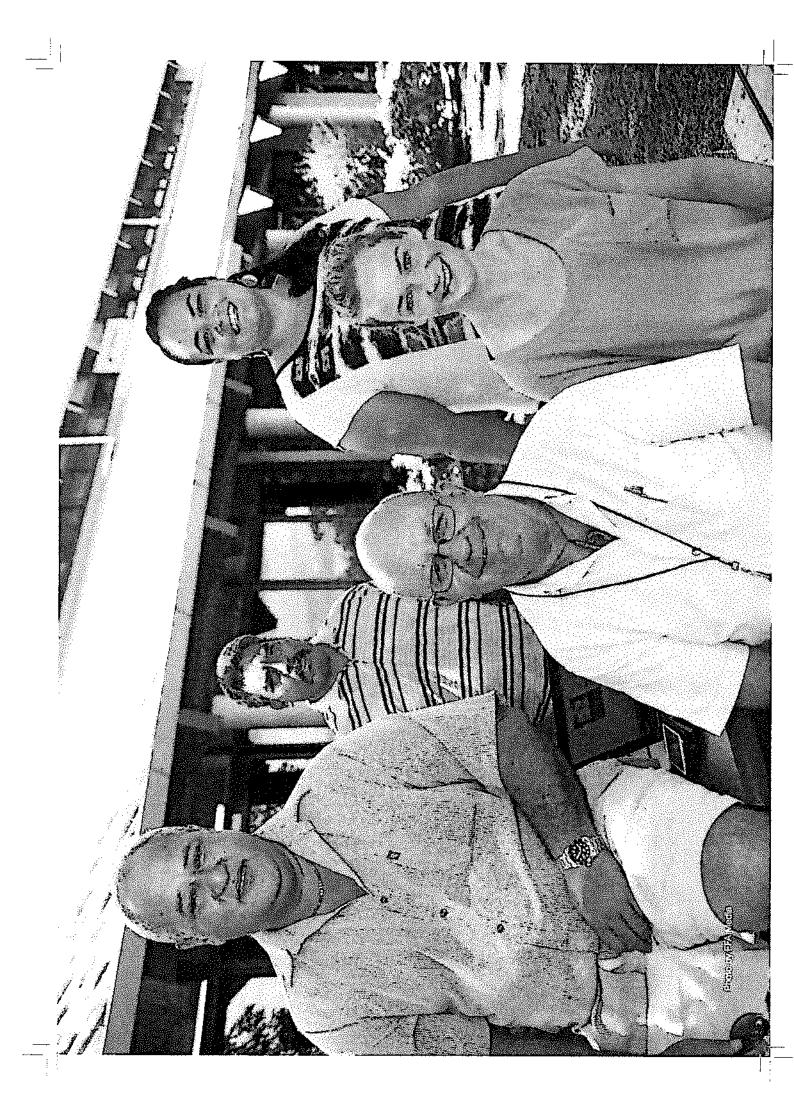
management

for regional



Establish and maintain mutually effective and beneficial relationships with sub-regional, regional and international bodies, with a clear focus on FFA member performance in

ffeir tuna resources are being harvested sustainably; Maximum economic returns from (Further) Develop motel management and legal frameworks and assist members to develop and implement arrangements that allow members to assure themselves that the fishery can be realised and international obligations are met.



## B. Fisheries Management

FFA seeks to ensure effective fisheries management frameworks are in place, developed and supported by member governments, taking into account the view of industry and other stakeholders. The secretariat works with members to strengthen their institutions, governance processes and frameworks to better manage their tuna fisheries resources.

The Fisheries Management Division, headed by Director Dr. Tim Adams, is made up of two sub-outputs, Integrated Fisheries Management and Treaty Administration. The Integrated Fisheries Management is made up of five internationally recruited Fisheries Management Advisors, and the Treaty Administration is headed by an internationally recruited Manager with two locally recruited staff.

FY15/16 was a year of transition to the new FFA Strategic Plan 2014-2020. The results diagram for Divisions including the one below, which depicts the work undertaken by the Fisheries Management over the year, was developed to reflect the new FFA Strategic Plan and to replace the previous intentions under the Strategic Plan 2005-2020.

## Summary of Progress

At the regional level, the Division again assisted FFA members to play a full and effective part in the work of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, including coordinating the development and presentation of 9 formal proposals or position papers to the 11th WCPFC meeting in Apia, and the development of briefings, regional positions and key talking points on each topic of importance to members. Gains included the agreement of a strengthened shark conservation measure and a formal process for developing Harvest Strategies. Failures included the lack of agreement by other Commission members on a region-wide measure to limit the catch of South Pacific albacore tuna. Incremental progress seems to be slowing as WCPFC ends its first decade and enters a more consolidative stage, with CCMs struggling to assimilate and implement all its requirements. There are a number of high seas fisheries not yet under effective control.

At the sub-regional level, divisional support to meetings of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) has been reduced as PNAO becomes more self-sufficient in zone-based management of purse-seine fisheries within PNA EEZs, and support will now concentrate on assisting Parties in the implementation of the PNA longline vessel days management scheme (VDS). One major sub-regional development was the development and agreement of a head Arrangement – the Tokelau Arrangement (TKA) – under which to implement a zone-based management scheme for the south Pacific albacore tuna longline fishery. Participants to the Tokelau Arrangement have now adopted a provisional Target Reference Point for albacore. Although WCPFC11 was unable to agree to an overall regional catch limit, TKA Participants will now be able to use the provisional TRP and the agreed zone based limits to drive compatible arrangements for other areas, particularly the high seas.

At the national level, the Division continued to work with member countries on plans and procedures not only to achieve their own tuna fishery management goals but to adapt their national frameworks to the ever-expanding set of regional and international obligations and "voluntary" instruments. National capacity is severely overstretched in many small-island fisheries administrations, whose regional and international fisheries obligations are much the same as large developed countries, particularly when international instruments do not take realistic account of the special requirements of developing States. Despite this, the only WCPFC members to emerge from the Commission's 2014 compliance monitoring process as "compliant" were 4 FFA members and Canada. The Division continued to assist members with reviews of their capacity to assist in identifying areas for institutional strengthening.

The US Treaty continues to go forward under a series of annual Statements of Intent, and no longer-term renewal had been agreed, despite three meetings between Pacific Island Parties and the USA throughout 2014/15. However the value of the treaty has increased, and agreement in principle has been reached on a flexible allocation of fishing days to the fleet, and a process for de-linking the government development assistance and industry components of the payment - in a way that promises to reduce the divisive effect that the current Treaty has on the FFA membership, due to the fact that some members have major purse-seine fisheries in their zones and others do not. Importantly, the outstanding matter of how and when US vessels comply with Pacific national laws has been resolved to the satisfaction of FFA members.