

**Fisheries Improvement Project for the Solomon Islands Longline fishery,
Action Plan, Budget and Guidance parameters**

FINAL REPORT

By

Richard Banks

MRAG Americas.

November 2014

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	5
2. THE ACTION PLAN.....	9
GOAL 1. STOCK STATUS AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT: TO ENSURE THAT THE TUNA CATCHES DO NOT EXCEED SUSTAINABLE LEVELS	9
Outcome 1.1 Sustainable stock status achieved that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened for Albacore	9
Outcome 1.2 Sustainable stock status achieved for yellowfin that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this.....	11
Outcome 1.3: Bigeye stock status achieved to the point where recruitment would not be impaired and management systems strengthened.....	12
Activity 1.3.1: Bigeye rebuilding strategy strengthening	12
Outcome 1.4: Information systems strengthened	15
GOAL 2. ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT: TO PROMOTE THE ECOSYSTEM BASED APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT	16
Outcome 2.1 ETP and retained species subject to a management strategy.....	16
GOAL 3. GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS: TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS IN THE WCPFC AND SOLOMON ISLAND LONGLINE FISHERY	17
Outcome 3.1: Decision making process strengthened.....	17
Outcome 3.2: Effective application of compliance systems.....	19
Outcome 3.9: Performance evaluation implemented	19
3. BUDGET	20
4. GUIDANCE	20
4.1 Introduction	20
4.1.1 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission	21
4.1.2 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT – Forum Fisheries Agency	25
4.2.1 FISHERIES AND ECOSYSTEM SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT, CONSULTATION & DECISION MAKING – Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources.....	28
4.2.2 FISHERIES AND ECOSYSTEM SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT, CONSULTATION & DECISION MAKING – WWF.....	33
4.3 PROJECT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES – Solomon Islands longline sector	35
APPENDIX 1: Outline Logframe	37

Acronyms

CCM	Member, Cooperating non-Member and Participating Territory	NFD	National Fisheries Developments Ltd
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	NPOA	National Plan of Action
CMM	Conservation and Management Measure	NPOA-IUU	National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
CNM	Cooperating Non Members	NTFSR	National Tuna Fishery Status Report
CPUE	Catch Per Unit of Effort	NTMDP	National Tuna Management and Development Plan
		OFP	Oceanic Fisheries Programme
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa	OWT	Oceanic Whitetip Shark
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid	PAE	Party Allowable Effort
EAFM	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management	PICT	Pacific Island Countries and Territories
EB SWG	Ecosystems and Bycatch Specialist Working Group	PNA	Parties to the Nauru Agreement
ECPO	Eastern and Central Pacific Ocean	PNG	Papua New Guinea
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone	PSA	Productivity Sensitivity Analysis
ETP	Endangered, Threatened and Protected	RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organizations
FAD	Fish Aggregation Devise	RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
FAM	Fisheries Assessment Methodology	SB	Spawning Stock Biomass
FAME	Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems	SI	Solomon Islands
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation	SIG	Solomon Islands Government

FFA	Forum Fisheries Agency	SC	Science Committee (WCPFC)
FFC	Forum Fisheries Committee	SCTB	Southern Committee for Tuna and Billfish
FIP	Fisheries Improvement Plan	SIDS	Small Island Developing State
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia	SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
GEF	Global Environmental Fund	TAC	Total Allowable Catch
IATTC	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission	TCC	Technical Science Committee (WCPFC)
IPI	Inseparable/Practically Inseparable	TIASI	Tuna Industry Association Solomon Islands
IPOA	International Plan of Action	TMI	Tri Marine International
ISC	International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna like Species in the North Pacific Ocean	TRP	Target Reference Point
LL VDS	Longline Vessel Days Scheme	TUFMAN	SPC Tuna Fisheries Database Management System
LRP	Limit Reference Point	ULT	Ultra Low Temperature
MOC	Management Options Committee (FFA)	UoA	Unit of Assessment
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance	UNFSA	United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
MFMR	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources	USA	United States of America
MGA	Marine Group Archipelago	VDS	Vessel Day Scheme
MRAG	Marine Resource Assessment Group	VMS	Vessel Monitoring Scheme
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council	VOGS	Vessels of Good Standing (FFA)
MSE	Management Strategy Evaluation	VPA	Virtual Population Analysis
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield	WARM	West Pacific Warm Pool Province
MTC	Minimum Terms and Conditions	WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

MTU	Mobile Transceiver Units	WCPO	Western and Central Pacific Ocean
MSSIF	Mekem Strong Solomon Islands Fisheries	WPEA	West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management Project
		WWF	World Wildlife Fund

1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide background information on the number of activities and outcomes required to support the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) for the tuna longline fishery in the Solomon Islands. This follows on from a pre-assessment for these fisheries conducted in December 2013, and a subsequent FIP stakeholder workshop held in Honiara, October 2014. The document is divided into a number of sections and includes a summary **Action Plan** containing information on expected outcomes, activities and milestones, which when completed will meet the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) scoring guideposts Version 2 for each of the three Principles, the assigned stakeholders responsible for implementing the plan, the current status (ongoing or new) and the expected timeframe to complete the initial tasks. This document is supported by two annexes:

- A logframe, which summarizes the activities, with assigned milestones, sets of Objectively Verifiable Indicators and Means of Verification, and for reference purposes, links these to the relevant scoring guidepost; and
- The MSC Benchmark Tracking Tool (BMT) which tracks the achievement of the performance indicators, based on the milestones set.

The second section of the document covers Guidelines for each of the participating stakeholders assigned to complete specific activities; and the required budget. Decisions on the co-funders will be proposed for each of the activities.

The Units of Assessment identified from the pre-assessment were:

- Albacore tuna caught by longline in the Solomon Islands EEZ, WCPFC;
- Yellowfin tuna caught by longline in the Solomon Islands EEZ, WCPFC
- Bigeye tuna caught by longline in the Solomon Islands EEZ, WCPFC

A small range of shark and tuna-like species are also taken in the longline fishery, so actions and activities defined will also relate to these species. This document identifies the activities and range of tasks required in the Action Plan for the fisheries to reach the new Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard (FCRv2.0), which is due to become operation from 1 April 2015. The most important feature to this is that all target species plans (Principle 1) must focus on the stock status and management activities throughout the range of the stock, whilst for ecosystem interactions (for Principle 2 including primary, secondary and ETP species), MSC has introduced requirements for cumulative impact assessments. The cumulative impacts of MSC fisheries will be assessed as an outcome requirement for all species groups, but impacts of two or more fisheries will be assessed at different levels depending on which PI is evaluated, i.e. whether the species is primary, secondary or ETP. During assessments, CABs should note all MSC fisheries that impact the same Principle 2 species stock or population. For primary species the assessment will need to evaluate whether the cumulative or collective impact of overlapping MSC fisheries are hindering the recovery of 'main' primary species that are below a point of recruitment impairment (PRI) i.e. ensuring that the combined impact of MSC fisheries are not harming the recovery of the stock. For secondary species, the same intent applies when a species is below a

biologically based limit, but only in cases where two or more MSC fisheries have ‘main’ catches that are ‘considerable’, defined as a species being 10 percent or more of the total catch. For ETP species, the combined impacts of MSC fisheries on all ETP species needs to be evaluated, but only in cases where either national and/or international requirements set catch limits for ETP species and only for those fisheries subject to the same national legislation or within the area of the same binding agreement.

It is anticipated that the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) be responsible for the management actions required in the FIP Action Plan, supported by the NFD, the Forum Fisheries Agency and WWF Coral Triangle Initiative. Many of the management actions will require implementation through Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) including monitoring of the success of the milestones. The Research functions will require the support of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) with the support of information provided by NFD through catch logbook returns and the MFMR coordinated observer programme. The Plan is further developed to include a FIP tracking document with activities linked to the MSC scoring guideposts and more specific milestones. The results generated from the Action Plan should have periodic internal and external reviews to ensure they will meet the MSC standard.

An assessment of current status of the fisheries against the principle guideposts is summarized below.

Table 1: Summary of pre-assessment scoring

Component	PI number	Performance Indicator	Score		
			ALB	YFT	BET
Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	Pass	Pass	Fail
	1.1.2	Reference points	Conditional pass	Conditional pass	Conditional pass
	1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	n/a	n/a	Fail
Management	1.2.1	Harvest Strategy	Fail	Conditional pass	Fail
	1.2.2	Harvest control rules and tools	Fail	Conditional pass	Fail
	1.2.3	Information and monitoring	Conditional pass	Conditional pass	Conditional pass
	1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	Pass	Pass	Pass
Principle 2. Ecosystem Background					
Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	Fail		
	2.1.2	Management	Fail		
	2.1.3	Information	Conditional pass		
Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	Pass		
	2.2.2	Management	Pass		
	2.2.3	Information	Pass		
ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	Fail		
	2.3.2	Management	Fail		
	2.3.3	Information	Conditional pass		
Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	Pass		

	2.4.2	Management	Pass
	2.4.3	Information	Pass
Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	Pass
	2.5.2	Management	Pass
	2.5.3	Information	Pass
Principle 3. Management System Background			
Governance and Policy	3.1.1	Legal and customary framework	Pass
	3.1.2	Consultation, roles and responsibilities	Pass
	3.1.3	Long term objectives	Pass
Fishery-specific Management System	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	Pass
	3.2.2	Decision making processes	Fail
	3.2.3	Compliance and enforcement	Fail
	3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	Pass

A summary of the current status (FIP-BMT¹ index sheet) is shown in Figures.

Table 2: BMT Summary Table of the NFD longline fishery, Solomon Islands

Albacore	Overall	Principle 1	Principle 2	Principle 3
Scoring Level	Number of PIs	Number of PIs	Number of PIs	Number of PIs
≥80	17	2	10	5
60-79	3	2	1	0
<60	8	2	4	2
BMT Index	0.66	0.50	0.70	0.71
Yellowfin	Overall	Principle 1	Principle 2	Principle 3
Scoring Level	Number of PIs	Number of PIs	Number of PIs	Number of PIs
≥80	19	4	10	5
60-79	3	2	1	0
<60	6	0	4	2
BMT Index	0.73	0.83	0.70	0.71
Bigeye	Overall	Principle 1	Principle 2	Principle 3
Scoring Level	Number of PIs	Number of PIs	Number of PIs	Number of PIs
≥80	16	1	10	5
60-79	3	2	1	0
<60	10	4	4	2
BMT Index	0.60	0.29	0.70	0.71

¹ The MSC FIP Benchmarking and Monitoring Tool (BMT) is used to assess the performance of each FIP over its project period. It may also be used by MSC to compare the progress of one FIP against the other.

Figure 1: Scoring category overview of the NFD longline fishery, Solomon Islands Albacore

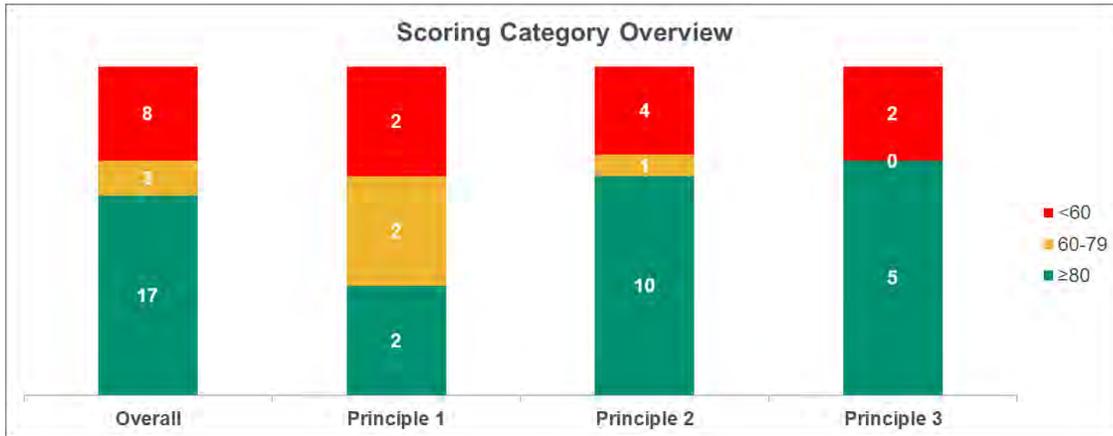


Figure 2: Scoring category overview of the NFD longline fishery, Solomon Islands Yellowfin

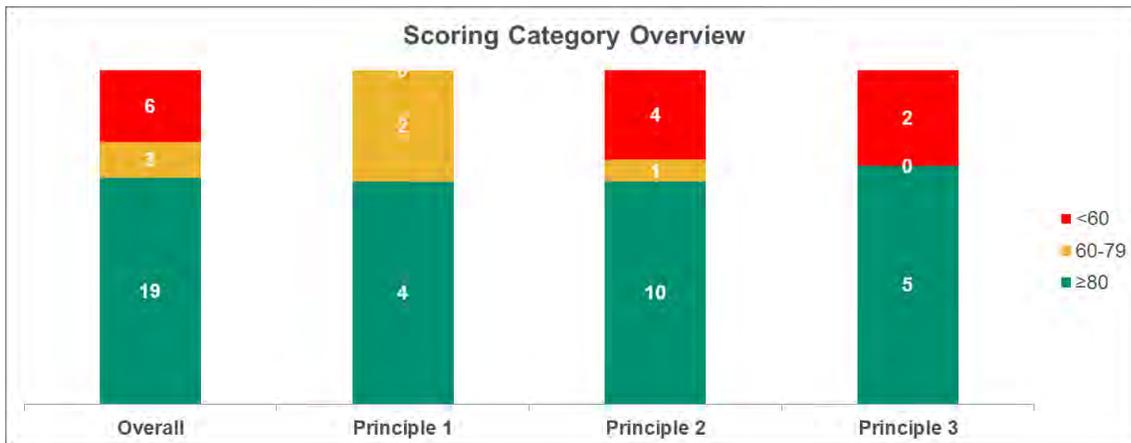
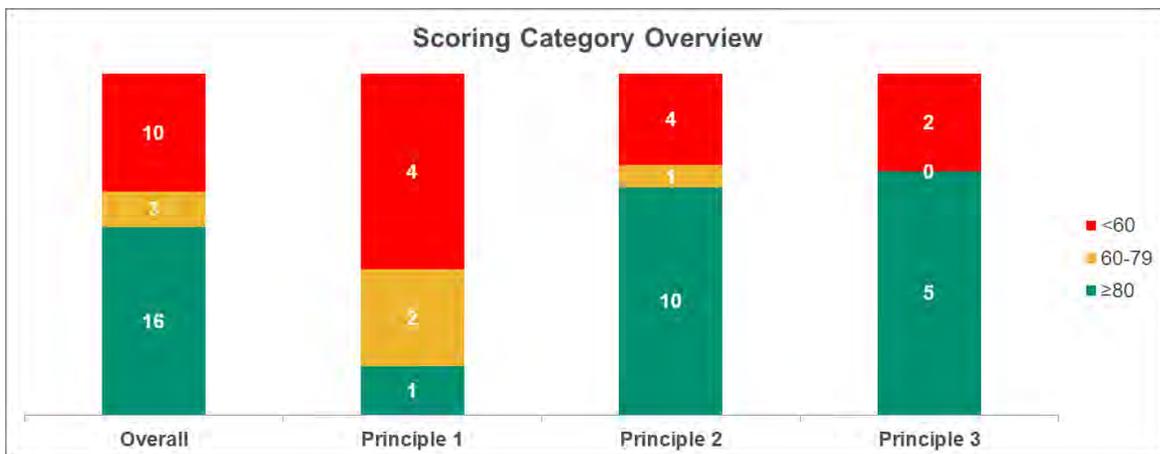


Figure 3: Scoring category overview of the NFD longline fishery, Solomon Islands Bigeye



2. THE ACTION PLAN

A summary logframe is provided in Appendix 1. It contains three basic goals, 8 outcomes, 12 activities and 33 milestones.

The project goals are as follows:

- Stock status and fisheries management: *To ensure that the tuna catches do not exceed sustainable levels*
- Ecosystem management: *To promote the ecosystem based approach to fisheries management*
- Governance systems: *To strengthen governance systems in the WCPFC and Solomon Island Tuna fishery*

The eight outcomes are as follows:

1. Sustainable stock status achieved for albacore that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this;
2. Sustainable stock status achieved for yellowfin that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this;
3. Bigeye stock status reaches the point where recruitment would not be impaired and management systems strengthened;
4. Information systems strengthened;
5. ETP and retained species subject to a management strategy;
6. Consultation and decision making process strengthened;
7. Effective application of compliance systems;
8. Performance evaluation implemented.

The specific activities will be addressed in the section below.

It should be noted that in the construction of the FIP activities, there is a need to average at or above 80 for each Principle. Any condition on the certification needs a corresponding score high enough to offset the score <80. Shooting for 100 at each PI is a good strategy, but often not practical.

GOAL 1. STOCK STATUS AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT: TO ENSURE THAT THE TUNA CATCHES DO NOT EXCEED SUSTAINABLE LEVELS

Outcome 1.1 Sustainable stock status achieved that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened for Albacore

Activity 1.1.1: Adopt an ALB Harvest Strategy that is consistent with MSY and to ensure that there is a high degree of certainty that the stock would be above the point where recruitment would be impaired

Activity 1.1.2: Set zone based and High Seas catch limits for ALB

The harvest strategy falls to the explicit direction of FFA and the Southern Tuna and Billfish Committee or meetings covered under the Tokelau Arrangement. Working with SPC and Committee members, it is anticipated that an MSY limit will be set which is sufficiently precautionary (taking account of uncertainties). It is noted that specific problems have been encountered in establishing acceptable zone based limits based on the aspirations of particular countries. There would also appear to be a range of MSY options which need to be evaluated further. That said, the current stock status appears to remain robust, and with a high degree of certainty that the stock is well above the point where recruitment would be impaired.

It is noteworthy that WCPFC has adopted a Limit Reference Point (LRP) for albacore at $20\%SB_{recent}, F=0$. TRPs have yet to be set for the ALB stock, but are unlikely to be adopted at the WCPFC General session in December 2014. The TRP may be bound to follow the precedent set by WCPFC for skipjack (SB/SBF 0.5), which is sufficiently conservative and arguably takes account of uncertainties.

FFA is advancing an amendment to WCPFC CMM 2010-05, which has not achieved the objective of limiting effort. The draft CMM will be finalized at the FFA management options workshop in October 2014 and submitted to WCPFC for adoption at the General Session, Samoa, December 2014.

The Tokelau Arrangement is hoped to be ratified at the meeting to be held in October 2014. Five countries are required to be signatories to the system of ALB TACCs. This will create binding in zone based Total Allowable Catch limits for all countries. In addition, High Seas (HS) limits are also advocated based on historic reference periods (2006-2012). Adoption of these limits is likely to face opposition from China.

MFMR has an acute problem of not setting advised limits to the number of longline vessels. In addition MFMR has two binding international limits that are likely to come into place over the next two years, the Tokelau Arrangement and the PNA Longline Vessel Day scheme. MFMR will need to make an assessment of which limit it needs to adhere to, but may reserve the option of following the two systems simultaneously. MFMR will need to define its longline control systems as part of its Tuna Management and Development Plan. These limits will need to illustrate that they are binding.

The final milestone is to ensure that the CMM, once adopted, is working effectively.

The associated milestones are:

- Milestone 1: Albacore TRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and consistent with BMSY (SG 80).
- Milestone 2: Incorporate Albacore TRP (which takes into account the main uncertainties) into Tokelau Arrangement.

- Milestone 3: Revise Albacore CMM objectives to regulate further expansion of the fishery to not exceed Maximum Sustainable Yield and the implementation of economic based reference points and management strategies to implement them (SG 100)
- Milestone 4: Evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy on an annual basis to ensure that the albacore stock is maintained at target levels (SG 100)
- Milestone 5: Albacore TACCs which are within BMSY agreed by FFA countries
- Milestone 6: MFMR to reconcile to differences between zone based LLVDS and TACC limits
- Milestone 7: MFMR to clarify options and set limits that are consistent with scientific recommendations
- Milestone 8: Albacore HS limits implemented and monitored in the High Seas
- Milestone 9: ALB measures effective for in zone and HS limits

Assigned stakeholders	WCPFC, FFA, SPC and MFMR participation
Priority	High
Status	Strengthening existing actions
Timeframe	5 years to evaluation, Most actions implemented in the next 2 years
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	Albacore - 1.1.1, 1.2.1 and 1.2.2

Outcome 1.2 Sustainable stock status achieved for yellowfin that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this.

Activity 1.2.1: Sustainable stock status achieved for yellowfin that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this.

Activity 1.2.2: Yellowfin management measures in place across the range of the stock

Working with SPC and Committee members, it is anticipated that an MSY limit will be set for yellowfin tuna which is sufficiently precautionary (taking account of uncertainties). The current stock status appears to show that yellowfin is fluctuating around BMSY. It is noteworthy that WCPFC has adopted a Limit Reference Point (LRP) for yellowfin at $20\%SB_{recent, F=0}$. TRPs have yet to be set for the YFT stock, but are unlikely to be adopted at the WCPFC General session in December 2014. The TRP may be bound to follow the precedent set by WCPFC for skipjack (SB/SBF 0.5), which is sufficiently conservative and arguably takes account of uncertainties.

There are currently no fishery specific limits in place for yellowfin tuna, either as part of the Tropical Tuna CMM (Currently CMM 2013-01), or any other proposed system (e.g., under the Tokelau Arrangement or PNA VDS). CMM 2013-01 specifies (Para 28 purse seine and 43 longline) that CCMs agreed to take measures not to increase catches by their vessels of yellowfin tuna. However, the most recent WCPFC SC indicated that problems in this fishery stemmed from catch of the younger yellowfin, principally the small-fish fisheries in the west equatorial region, and that the most effective management measures would be spatial, thereby reducing fishing mortality for yellowfin in small fish fisheries, e.g., ring net and small mesh purse seine. This predicates against any specific CCM limits required for other fisheries, e.g., Solomon Islands, and across other longline fisheries. If this changes, new milestones will need to be set.

Milestone 10: Yellowfin LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with BMSY (SG 80)

Milestone 11: Management measures set for yellowfin across the range of the stock (CMM 2013-01)

Milestone 12: WCPFC monitoring the effect of explicit management measures applied for yellowfin

Assigned stakeholders	WCPFC, FFA, SPC.
Priority	High
Status	Strengthening existing actions
Timeframe	5 years to evaluation, Most actions implemented in the next 2 years
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	Yellowfin - 1.1.1, 1.2.1 and 1.2.2

Outcome 1.3: Bigeye stock status achieved to the point where recruitment would not be impaired and management systems strengthened

Activity 1.3.1: Bigeye rebuilding strategy strengthening

Activity 1.3.2: Bigeye TACC and PNA LL VDS limits in place

At present, WCPO bigeye is undergoing overfishing and in an overfished state (below the LRP). Therefore if consideration were to be given to supporting P1 status for bigeye (i.e. enabling bigeye to carry the MSC label) then a rebuilding strategy would be required, as has been implemented through CMM 2013-01. In order to comply with the MSC standard, MSC V2 requires that the abundance exceed the LRP and a rebuilding timeframe is specified for the stock that is the shorter of 20 years or 2 times its generation time. SC10 noted that the spawning biomass of WCPO bigeye tuna breached the biomass LRP in 2012 and that the stock was overfished. Rebuilding spawning biomass to be above the biomass LRP will require a reduction in fishing mortality. Future status quo projections (assuming 2012 conditions) depend upon assumptions

on future recruitment. When spawner-recruitment relationship conditions are assumed, spawning biomass continues to decline and the stock is very likely (94%) to remain below the LRP based on projections through 2032 ($SB_{2032} < 0.2SB_{F=0}$). SC10 recommended that the Commission consider the results of updated projections at WCPFC11, including evaluation of the potential impacts of CMM 2013-01, to determine whether the CMM will achieve its objectives and allow the bigeye stock to rebuild above the LRP. These conclusions mean that bigeye can never recover to above the point where recruitment would be impaired under current management.

The Current CMM 2013-01 relied on a 4 month FAD closure and a reduction in bigeye longline catch (Attachment F) for the distant water fleets of Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China and the USA.

If the clients wish to achieve a recovery for the bigeye stock, they will need to press CCMs into pressing for stronger management measures that exist at present including increased limits on FAD fisheries to protect juvenile BET; and a reduction in longline mortalities of adult tuna.

As is demonstrated, bigeye tuna cannot be assessed as a P1 species as rebuilding is unlikely to work within the specified time period. Scoring under P2 requires fishery specific outcomes to demonstrate:

PI 2.1.1 (80 a) If the species is below the point where recruitment would be impaired, the UoA has measures in place that are expected to ensure that the UoA does not hinder recovery and rebuilding; OR if the species is below the point where recruitment would be impaired, there is either evidence of recovery or a demonstrably effective strategy in place between all MSC UoAs which categorise this species as main, to ensure that they collectively do not hinder recovery and rebuilding. This means that in order to achieve SG80, the strategy for the whole of WCPFC would need to be effective, which, based on the evidence above, it is not. The best outcome that would be expected under these circumstances would be a conditional pass, but one that is unlikely to be attained.

PI 2.1.2 (80a) also expects that there would need to be a partial strategy in place for the **UoA**, if necessary, that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of the main primary species at/to levels which are highly likely to be above the point where recruitment would be impaired.

Bigeye is therefore assessed under PI 2.1.1 as a main 'primary' species, i.e. the percentage of the BET catch by weight is greater than 5 % or more of the total catch of all species within the Unit of Assessment (UoA) (SA 3.4.2). If BET is primary and main and is not likely to be above the point of recruitment impairment, in order to achieve a 60 score, the assessment team would examine the UoA to show that the fishery is not hindering BET's recovery or rebuilding. To achieve a score of 80, however, the assessment team would need to consider the impact of all MSC UoAs (not all fisheries – just MSC) in assessment and certified fisheries that also have BET as a main species. This could be through consideration of 'evidence of recovery' (e.g. direct evidence from a time series estimate of stock status) or whether there is a 'demonstrably effective strategy' in place (e.g. direct evidence that the proportion of combined catch by all MSC UoAs relative to the total catch of the stock does not hinder recovery). Other criteria that could be considered are given in

SA3.4.6. The proportional impact threshold applied by MSC for likely not hindering recovery is less than 30% of the total catch on that stock.

Nevertheless, in their annual analysis on the impact of the CMM, SPC frequently refer to the SIDS exemption as being an issue, but without quantifying its significance to stock recovery. SIDS collectively catch around 14% of the total BET (WCPFC Yearbook), and Solomon Islands around 3%. Solomon Islands, along with Vanuatu, is the only PIC whose BET catch exceeds 2,000 mt, which is the minimum trigger for non SIDS management action. These percentages may not be seen to be significant, but as Solomon Islands vessels are largely made up of Taiwanese and Chinese vessels, which by virtue of CMM 2012-06 (the Charter Measures) means that these vessels are exempt from CMM 2013-1 Attachment F which specifies limits for a number of countries, including Taiwan and China. This may raise the possibility of a challenge to the assessment scoring. The safest course of action for a FIP would be to introduce a specific Solomon Island ‘partial’ strategy, which was equivalent to the measures required on the flag states. This would suggest that the FFA Sub Committee for Southern Tuna and Billfish would need to consider a partial strategy. Other precedents exist in the Australian Eastern Tuna and Billfish fishery (currently under assessment), which has set a precautionary TAC of 1,056 tonnes, well below 2000 mt, and reported limits are due to be implemented in the Cook Islands (also currently under assessment). However, there are no bigeye limits set for the Fiji longline fishery, which was certified in 2011.

Milestone 13: CMM 2013-01 (or its replacement) strengthened to facilitate rapid recovery (Restrictions in the number of FADs) and reductions in longline effort (SG 80)

Milestone 14: Provide risk-based simulation outcomes to assess the effectiveness of the rebuilding strategy (SG 80)

Milestone 16: A partial strategy in place for the SI EEZ that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding bigeye.

Milestone 17: Demonstrably effective strategy in place between all MSC fisheries which categorize this species

Assigned stakeholders	WCPFC, FFA, SPC.
Priority	High
Status	Strengthening existing actions
Timeframe	5 years to evaluation, Most actions implemented in the next 2 years
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	Bigeye - 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.1 and 1.2.2

Outcome 1.4: Information systems strengthened

Activity 1.2.1: WCPFC, flag states and coastal states strengthening a commitment to logbook reporting and provision of catch information, operational data and number of vessels

Activity 1.2.2: Strengthen information and data collection on main managed, unmanaged and ETP species (sharks and sea turtles) *Added as an information outcome though relates to non-target species*

Weaknesses in information have been identified and are documented at both the WCPFC Science Committee and more recently in a paper prepared for the Technical and Compliance Committee² (Williams, 2014). The paper draws attention to the following:

- The non-submission of Annual Catch Estimates by EEZ/high seas for two key fleets (China and Korea);
- The non-submission of operational data for several key fleets (Belize, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea and Chinese Taipei);
- The non-submission of number of vessels in the aggregate data for two key fleets (China and Korea).

These weaknesses may contest the finding that there is good information on all other fishery removals from the stock³. A condition would likely be raised on this Principle 1 Indicator addressing these issues, which are now perceived to impact on stock assessment outcomes.

The 2014 SC⁴ makes the following observations:

The current lack of operational data for some fleets, and in particular the lack of operational longline data on the high seas hampered the 2014 assessment in a number of ways (e.g. the construction of abundance indices) and consequently hindered the SC from achieving “best practice” in the 2014 stock assessment.

The Solomon Islands WCPFC Part 1 report also draws attention to non-submission of logbooks by some longline vessels in the fleet.

² http://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/WCPFC-TCC10-2014-IP04%20Scientific%20data%20available%20to%20the%20Western%20and%20Central%20Pacific%20Fisheries%20Commission_updated%20SC10%20paper.pdf

³ Good information was an issue challenged in the MSC PNA purse seine adjudication and the challenge was rejected. Given the highlighting of this information, the Cook Islands longline assessment may also be challenged. This milestone could be removed if the challenge is not upheld.

⁴ http://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/0_SC10%20Summary%20Report%20-%20Adopted%20Version%20-%2021Aug2014%20%28Rev.3%2C%20cleaned%29.pdf

MFMR proposes to move to e-logbooks for the longline fishery by 1 January 2016. PNAO is in the process of developing a longline ctch logbook.

Observer reporting is required to be at a rate of 5%. This has not been attained by MFMR, and is a target for 2015.

Progress on e-monitoring is expected to continue with cooperation between SPC, MFMR and NFD in 2015.

Milestone 18: Demonstrable progress on Solomon Islands implementing and facilitating transition to e-logbooks (SG 80)

Milestone 19: Flag State and coastal state data reporting compliance strengthened through CMM (re)enforcement (SG 80)

Milestone 20: Education program on using SPC expanded logbook for retained and non-retained species

Milestone 21: Observer coverage and/or EM strengthened to meet CMM obligation of 5% (SG 80)

Assigned stakeholders	WCPFC, MFMR, NFP
Priority	High
Status	Strengthening existing actions
Timeframe	Dec 2015
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	All target, managed and ETP species - 1.2.3, 2.1.3 and 2.3.3

GOAL 2. ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT: TO PROMOTE THE ECOSYSTEM BASED APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Outcome 2.1 ETP and retained species subject to a management strategy

Activity 2.1.1: ETP and main retained species management measures applied to longline vessels fishing in Solomon Island EEZ (including in bilateral agreements)

Solomon Islands has set management measures as part of its licensing system, including the banning of trace wires, 5% retention with shark fins attached and an assurance that shark finning is not taking place. MFMR has also adjusted its licensing rules to include the provision to prevent the landing of oceanic whitetip, silky sharks, hammerhead, great white sharks, porbeagles and manta rays. Evidence needs to be available that these rules are being applied.

FFA will further advance a revised CMM which will include a measure to ban trace wires in all longline fisheries.

Solomon Islands will also underline its commitment to shark conservation by adopting a Shark NPOA. This work needs to be undertaken in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment.

CMM 2008-03 (sea turtles) has not been applied in the licensing laws. Whilst accepted that interaction with sea turtles and deep set longlines is minimal, MFMR will apply sea turtle awareness and mitigation. This will be supported by the MSSIF programme, and specific actions will seek to establish the cooperation of WWF.

Increased observer coverage, and a commitment by MFMR to strengthen enforcement, will provide the basis for improved monitoring of the shark and turtles measures.

Milestone 22: Shark measures implemented (CMM 2010-07) including ban on wire traces and no shark finning taking place.

Milestone 23: Licensing rules requiring CMM compliance (e.g. non retention of silky, whitetips, CITES listed sharks and sea turtles) applied throughout Solomon Islands waters (SG 80)

Milestone 24: Solomon Island shark NPOA completed

Milestone 25: Implement training awareness programme to ensure the application of CMM 2008-03 (Sea turtles) and sharks CMM 2010-07, 2013-08 and 2011-07 (SG 80)

Milestone 26: Monitoring and reporting procedures on shark and turtle interactions in place

Assigned stakeholders	MFMR, MSSIF, WWF and NFD
Priority	High
Status	Strengthening existing actions
Timeframe	Q4 2016
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	2.1.2; 2.3.2 ETP and main retained species

3. GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS: TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS IN THE WCPFC AND SOLOMON ISLAND LONGLINE FISHERY

Outcome 3.1: Decision making process strengthened

Activity 3.1.1: Strengthen consultation and decision making processes to take account of research and evaluation results

There are three core consultation processes which MFMR currently adopts: The Fishery Advisory Council (including industry, Government and NGO representatives), and formal meetings with TIASI, or informal meetings with industry members. Through these processes it can be argued

that the management system includes consultation processes that **regularly seek and accept** relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information obtained; and the consultation process provides **opportunity and encouragement** for all interested and affected parties to be involved, and **facilitates** their effective engagement. It is likely that these Scoring outcomes have been met, but it is important to maintain formal minutes of meetings which explicitly show consideration of information obtained.

The decision making process is currently under revision within the Act, but once endorsed by Parliament, it will demonstrate commitment to a process that results in measures and strategies to achieve the fishery-specific and enhancement objectives. These objectives are also defined in the Tuna Management and Development Plan.

The main reason why the Performance indicator failed was that in as far as the longline fishery was concerned the decision-making processes had not responded to **serious and other important issues** identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a transparent, timely and adaptive manner and had not taken account of the wider implications of decisions. Most specifically the Solomon Islands longline fishery had seen a progressive increase in effort from 2009-2013 despite advice to reduce the effort consistent with proposed effort limits (the PNA LL VDS). This approach had also not been demonstrated to reflect precautionary management actions.

The TMDP provides for fishery specific (longline) indicators which will evaluate any actions or lack of action associated with findings and relevant recommendations emerging from research, monitoring evaluation and review activity. However, explanations on decisions will have to be provided.

Milestone 27: MFMR to strengthen consultative procedures including providing scientific information to stakeholders at regular intervals (SG 100)

Milestone 28: MFMR to demonstrate full transparency in decision making and describing how the management system responded to findings and relevant recommendations (SG 100)

Assigned stakeholders	MFMR, FAC, TIASI
Priority	High
Status	Strengthening existing actions
Timeframe	Q4 2015
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	3.1.2 and 3.2.2

Outcome 3.2: Effective application of compliance systems

Activity 3.2.1: Strengthen the application of control measures and sanctions.

Longline is identified as high risk within the MFMR risk assessment programme because of alleged interactions with ETP and other shark species, non-submission of catch logbooks and high seas transshipments. MFMR is seeking to address these by implementing control programmes, but these are subject to budgetary constraints. MSSIF is also providing capacity building support to implement MCS tasks.

MFMR will also seek to undertake industry awareness programs through its annual pre licensing checks and discussions with vessel agents. This is intended to engender a philosophy of systematic compliance.

Milestone 29: Continually evaluate the risks of longline non-compliance and program effective MCS actions (SG 80)

Milestone 30: Undertake industry awareness programs to ensure systematic compliance (SG 80)

Assigned stakeholders	MFMR
Priority	High
Status	Strengthening existing actions
Timeframe	Q4 2015
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	3.2.3

Outcome 3.9: Performance evaluation implemented

Activity 3.3: Undertake an internal and external review of the management system

A project management and performance review system needs to be implemented to support the achievement of the FIP outcomes. These will include monitoring the activities and achievement of the milestones and revising actions and milestones if required.

Milestone 31: Appoint a FIP program manager

Milestone 32: Undertake an annual FIP review of the management system

Milestone 33: Annual stakeholder review

Assigned stakeholders	BFAR/FARMC
Priority	High
Status	Building on existing actions
Timeframe	Q4 2013
MSC Performance Indicator(s)	3.2.5 Performance Review

3. BUDGET

Most of Milestones identified represent ongoing activities which are already in the process of implementation by WCPFC, FFA, SPC and MFMR. Support funding for some MFMR activities, that are consistent with meeting international obligations may be funded under the MSSIF programme, e.g. Milestone 25 (*Implement training awareness programme to ensure the application of CMM 2008-03 (Sea turtles) and sharks CMM 2010-07, 2013-08 and 2011-07 (SG 80)*). This will be built into the 2015 MSSIF workplan, but cooperation and partnership may be sought from WWF.

The other cost item will relate to Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). Subject to MFMR approval, the ongoing M&E component may be shared with the Policy nit of MFMR. The annual year end evaluation will require the engagement of a FIP consultant, supported by a stakeholder workshop.

4. GUIDANCE

4.1 Introduction

FIP scoping document identifies what actions are needed to increase the scores to a pass (SG 80) or greater (85-100). Achieving MSC Certification relies heavily on a number of key stakeholders implementing these actions including WCPFC/SPC (4.1.1), FFA (4.1.2) MFMR (4.2.1), the industry managed by NFD, and other stakeholders (WWF).

Target species status and management

The major issues relate to the setting of target reference points for albacore and yellowfin tuna (<80), an effective harvest strategy for albacore tuna, the implementation of management measures (Limits set in the Tokelau Arrangement and the LL VDS) and accessing good information.

Critical to the scoring of the P1 performance indicators is that it is not only the Solomon Islands longline fishery that falls within the scope of the MSC assessment, but also the stock status and application of management measures for albacore and yellowfin relate to the range of the stock

(WCPO). This includes all nations and fisheries, including some countries that are not advancing rapidly towards achieving good management outcomes (Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam). The issue of timelines is also addressed below, but realistically, some outcomes, most specifically testing the effectiveness of strategies, may not be in place until the end of 2019. Overall, a failure to set a management strategy and supporting measures represents **a very serious risk** to the attainment of MSC. This issue must be addressed by the project, in cooperation with FFA members and members of the WCPFC.

Ecosystems and other species interactions

Passes are unlikely to be attained for main commercial species (bigeye), which might at best reach a score of 60 (pass with a condition), demonstrating that a partial strategy will be in place which maintains or does not hinder rebuilding of the main primary species, from this fishery, and others within the scope of MSC Certification. This will require cooperation with other fisheries that have achieved certification, or aim to achieve certification.

Sharks and ETP species management may be able to advance to SG 80 if the Solomon Islands Shark management strategy is implemented appropriately.

Baitfish was identified in the pre assessment as likely to achieve a pass through applying the PSA.

Bycatch and habitats are likely to achieve a default pass.

Ecosystem management is also likely to achieve a pass.

Governance and fisheries specific management

The areas of Governance (3.1) are quite strong, and should attain passes. The pre-assessment identified decision making as a potential problem. However, in the drafting of the New Fisheries Bill, the MSC decision making criteria have been directly inserted into the Draft Bill. It is also noteworthy that the decision making process, i.e. responding to research, monitoring and evaluation, is in the process of implementation. The consultative processes would also appear to have advanced since the pre-assessment with the re-emergence of the Fishery Advisory Committee.

Compliance systems still require strengthening. This is consistent with current project activities.

All the above issues are certainly within reach, and once completed should attain a score over 80.

4.1.1 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources in partnership with National Fisheries Developments Ltd, supported by the International Finance Corporation, FFA Devfish II and WWF, is promoting a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP), to be completed out over a period of five years

up until December 2019. The FIP will support the goal of Marine Stewardship Council certification the Solomon Island longline fishery. To this end, all stakeholders have endorsed a Fishery Improvement Plan (Section 2 above) and outputs from the FIP are expected to support the strengthening of fisheries management in the WCPO and Solomon Islands tuna longline sector. As part of this process, the FIP requires that certain changes are implemented by WCPFC which, when applied, will strengthen the application of good governance at regional level (that are consistent with the MSC principles) but also endorse the application the WCPFC management measures (CMMs) across all longline tuna fisheries in the Solomon Islands. Many of these actions will be supported by stock assessment research and evaluations provided by SPC, and therefore related milestones are included in this TOR.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Global objective:

The expected position by the end of 2019 is that:

- The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives
- The harvest control rules are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY;
- The harvest control rules are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
- Available evidence indicates that the tools in use for albacore and yellowfin are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
- A rebuilding timeframe is specified for bigeye that is the shorter of 20 years or 2 times its generation time. For cases where 2 generations is less than 5 years, the rebuilding timeframe is up to 5 years
- There is some evidence that the bigeye management strategy is being implemented successfully
- Stock abundance and bigeye removals are regularly monitored at a level of accuracy and coverage consistent with the harvest control rule, and one or more indicators are available and monitored with sufficient frequency to support the harvest control rule.
- There is good information on all other fishery removals from the albacore, yellowfin and bigeye stocks
- There is evidence that the strategy for ETP species is being implemented successfully.

Specific objectives

These inputs are specific to implementation by WCPFC, but are required to facilitate the achievement of MSC outcomes. They require all WCPFC CCMs to endorse these actions and to participate in the implementation of actions. All actions, with the exception of the bigeye time limits, currently form CMM requirements, and are also consistent with regional and national obligations.

Requested Services

As part of the requirement to strengthen management actions there are some core activities that WCPFC and the CCMs need to address which are also consistent with MSC requirements.

Specific supporting activities have been identified as follows:

- Adopt an ALB Harvest Strategy to ensure that there is a high degree of certainty that the stock would be above the point where recruitment would be impaired;
- Set in zone based and High Seas catch limits for albacore;
- Maintain harvest levels for Yellowfin tuna that are consistent with maintaining YFT above the point where recruitment would be impaired and consistent with achieving BMSY;
- Yellowfin management measures in place across the range of the stock;
- Bigeye rebuilding strategy strengthened and demonstratively effective
- CMM monitoring and reporting procedures in place

EXPECTED MILESTONES AND REPORTING

The required outputs are set out in the table below:

MILESTONES	Timeline	REPORTING MEANS OF VERIFICATION
Milestone 1: Albacore LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with B_{MSY} (SG 80)	Dec-17	SC meeting reports
Milestone 3: Revise Albacore CMM objectives to regulate further expansion of the fishery to not exceed Maximum Sustainable Yield and the implementation of economic based reference points and management strategies to implement them (SG 100)	Dec-17	Revised CMM
Milestone 4: Evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy on an annual basis to ensure that the albacore stock are maintained at target levels	Dec-18	SPC evaluation report submitted to WCPFC SC

Milestone 8: Albacore HS limits implemented and monitored in the High Seas;	Dec-17	WCPFC TCC reports
Milestone 9: Albacore management measure effectiveness of zone and HS limits	Dec-19	SPC evaluation submitted to WCPFC on the effectiveness of the measures
Milestone 10: Yellowfin LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with BMSY (SG 80)	Dec 15	WCPFC general session
Milestone 11: Management measures set for yellowfin across the range of the stock (CMM 20xx-01)	Dec-19	WCPFC CMM
Milestone 12: WCPFC monitoring the effect of explicit management measures applied for yellowfin tuna.	Dec 15	WCPFC TCC reports
Milestone 13: CMM 2013-01 (or its replacement) strengthened to facilitate rapid recovery (Restrictions in the number of FADs) and reductions in longline effort (SG 80)	Dec 15	WCPFC CMM
Milestone 14: Provide risk-based simulation outcomes to assess the effectiveness of the rebuilding strategy (SG 80)	Dec 16	SPC evaluation report submitted to WCPFC SC
Milestone 17: Demonstrably effective bigeye rebuilding strategy in place between all MSC fisheries which categorize this species	Dec-19	SPC evaluation submitted to WCPFC on the effectiveness of the measures
Milestone 19: Flag State and coastal state data reporting compliance strengthened through CMM (re)enforcement (SG 80)	Dec 15	WCPFC SC report
Milestone 26: Monitoring and reporting procedures on shark and turtle interactions in place	Dec 16	WCPFC report
<i>Timeline priority</i>		
Immediate: Year 1 and 2 (2015-2016)	Medium: Year 3 and 4 (2017-2018)	Before FIP completion: Year 5 (2019)

DURATION

This guidance is expected to conform to the MSC outcomes, and will be completed by the end of 2019.

PLANNING

The work is expected to be orchestrated through WCPFC. NFD will facilitate funding attendances of its staff to the relevant WCPFC meetings. NFD input will be made available to inform on MSC outcomes and to assess the implications of the activities and goals against the milestones set.

Proposed budget outlines are provided in the supporting excel sheet (*Section 3*). This included supporting provision for input from NFD, with FFA and MFMR expected to ensure that supporting these outcomes are met from their own resources.

PERSONNEL

It is recommended that NFD seeks to ensure that there is good representation at WCPFC meetings to ensure that the changes required are implemented. The NFD representative will be responsible for lobbying MFMR and other CCM representatives to support and implement the prescribed actions, and will liaise with key personnel at FFA, SPC and WCPFC. Most of the required actions and milestones are already core measures required from WCPFC management measures and evaluations.

4.1.2 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT – Forum Fisheries Agency

BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources in partnership with National Fisheries Developments Ltd, supported by the International Finance Corporation, FFA Devfish II and WWF, is promoting a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP), to be completed out over a period of five years up until December 2019. The FIP will support the goal of Marine Stewardship Council certification the Solomon Islands Longline fishery. To this end, all stakeholders have endorsed a Fishery Improvement Plan (Section 2 above) and outputs from the FIP are expected to support the strengthening of fisheries management in the WCPO and Solomon Islands tuna longline sector. As part of this process, the FIP requires that certain changes are facilitated by FFA which, when applied, will strengthen the application of good governance at regional level (that are consistent with the MSC principles) but also endorse the application the WCPFC management measures (CMMs) across all longline tuna fisheries in the Solomon Islands.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Global objective:

The expected position by year 2019 is that:

- The harvest strategy for albacore and yellowfin is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives
- The harvest control rules for albacore and yellowfin are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
- Harvest control rules are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY.
- The harvest control rules are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.

- Available evidence indicates that the tools in use for bigeye are appropriate in the Small Island Development States and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
- Demonstrably effective strategy in place between all MSC UoAs which categorise this species.

Specific objectives

The purpose of this guidance is to set out the requirements for FFA, and its members, to provide strong leadership through the Sub Committee on tuna and southern billfish in formulating stock specific management measures for submission to WCPFC, and in establishing an effective management system through the Tokelau Arrangement.

Specific supporting activities have been identified as follows:

- Adopt a ALB Harvest Strategy to ensure that there is a high degree of certainty that the stock would be above the point where recruitment would be impaired
- Set in zone based and High Seas catch limits for albacore
- Maintain harvest levels for Yellowfin tuna that are consistent with maintaining YFT above the point where recruitment would be impaired and consistent with achieving BMSY
- Yellowfin management measures in place across the range of the stock
- An effective bigeye harvest strategy in place (including SIDS)

EXPECTED MILESTONES AND REPORTING

The required outputs are set out in the table below:

MILESTONES	Timeline	REPORTING MEANS OF VERIFICATION
Milestone 1: Albacore TRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and consistent with BMSY (SG 80)	Dec 2017	FFA Management Options Committee (MOC)
Milestone 2: Incorporate Albacore TRP into Tokelau Arrangement (Which takes into account the main uncertainties).	Dec 2017	FFA Sub Committee on Southern Tuna and Billfish
Milestone 3: Revise Albacore CMM objectives to regulate further expansion of the fishery to not exceed Maximum Sustainable Yield and the implementation of economic based reference points and management strategies to implement them (SG 100)	Dec 2017	FFA Management Options Committee (MOC)

Milestone 5: Albacore TACCs which are within BMSY agreed by FFA countries	Dec 2015	FFA Sub Committee on Southern Tuna and Billfish
Milestone 8: Albacore HS limits implemented and monitored in the High Seas	Dec 2017	Tokelau Arrangement
Milestone 10: Yellowfin LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with BMSY (SG 80)	Dec 2015	FFA Management Options Committee (MOC)
Milestone 11: Management measures set for yellowfin across the range of the stock (CMM 2013-01)	Dec 2016	FFA Sub Committee on Southern Tuna and Billfish
Milestone 17: Demonstrably effective bigeye rebuilding strategy in place between all MSC fisheries which categorize this species	Dec-2019	FFA Sub Committee on Southern Tuna and Billfish
<i>Timeline priority</i>		
Immediate: Year 1 and 2 (2015-2016)	Medium: Year 3 and 4 (2017-2018)	Before FIP completion: Year 5 (2019)

DURATION

This guidance is expected to conform to the MSC outcomes, and will be completed by the end of 2019, with the expectation that the MSC assessment will commence in 2020.

PLANNING

The work is expected to be orchestrated through the Sub Committee for Southern Tuna and Billfish, the FFA Management Options Committee and the Tokelau Arrangement in cooperation with all the members of FFA and supporting French territories. FFA will fund the meetings attendances of members at the relevant workshops. NFD input will be made available to inform on MSC outcomes and to assess the implications of the activities and goals against the milestones set.

Proposed budget outlines are provided in the supporting excel sheet (*Section 3*). This included supporting provision for input from NFD. FFA and MFMR are expected to ensure that supporting these outcomes are met from their own resources.

PERSONNEL

It is recommended that NFD seeks to ensure that there is good representation at FFA meetings to ensure that the changes required are implemented. The NFD representative will be responsible for lobbying country members and representatives of other fisheries to support and implement the prescribed actions, and will liaise with key personnel at FFA and representatives of the other fisheries. Most of the required actions and milestones are already core actions in process at FFA meetings.

4.2.1 FISHERIES AND ECOSYSTEM SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT, CONSULTATION & DECISION MAKING – Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources in partnership with National Fisheries Developments Ltd, supported by the International Finance Corporation, FFA Devfish II and WWF, is promoting a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP), to be completed out over a period of five years up until December 2019. The FIP will support the goal of Marine Stewardship Council certification the Solomon Island Longline fishery. To this end, all stakeholders have endorsed a Fishery Improvement Plan (Section 2 above) and outputs from the FIP are expected to support the strengthening of fisheries management in the WCPO and Solomon Islands tuna longline sector. As part of this process, the FIP requires that certain changes are implemented by MFMR which, when applied, will strengthen the application of good governance at national level (that are consistent with the MSC principles) but also endorse the application of PNA and WCPFC management measures (CMMs) and the National Tuna Management & Development Plan across all longline tuna fisheries in the Solomon Islands. As part of this process, MFMR will work with PNA as well as under the ambit of the Tokelau Arrangement managed by FFA.

DESCRIPTION OF the ASSIGNMENT

Global objective

The expected position by the end of 2019 is that the Solomon Island longline fishery has a strong management system in place which supports the conservation of key tuna stocks and associated bycatch species.

The expected position by year 2019 is that:

- The harvest strategy for albacore and yellowfin is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives
- The harvest control rules for albacore and yellowfin are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
- Harvest control rules are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY.
- The harvest control rules are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
- Available evidence indicates that the tools in use for bigeye are appropriate in the Small Island Development States and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
- Demonstrably effective strategy in place between all MSC UoAs that does not hinder rebuilding of the bigeye stock at/to levels which are highly likely to be above the point of stock depletion expected to maintain the stock above the point where recruitment would be impaired.

- Available evidence indicates that the tools in use for bigeye management are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
- There is a strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimize mortality, which is designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.
- There is a strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimize mortality, which are designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.
- There is some evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.
- Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the impact of fishing to be quantitatively estimated for ETP species.
- Information is sufficient to determine whether the fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species.
- Information is sufficient to measure trends and support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species.
- Some evidence exists to demonstrate fishers comply with the management system under assessment, including, when required, providing information of importance to the effective management of the fishery.
- There is no evidence of systematic non-compliance.

Specific objectives

The purpose of this guidance is to set out the requirements for FFA, and its members, to provide strong leadership through the Sub Committee on tuna and southern billfish in formulating stock specific management measures for submission to WCPFC, and in establishing an effective management system through the Tokelau Arrangement.

Specific supporting activities have been identified as follows:

- Adopt an ALB Harvest Strategy to ensure that there is a high degree of certainty that the stock would be above the point where recruitment would be impaired
- Set in zone based and High Seas catch limits for albacore.
- Maintain harvest levels for yellowfin tuna that are consistent with maintaining YFT above the point where recruitment would be impaired and consistent with achieving BMSY.
- Yellowfin management measures in place across the range of the stock.
- Bigeye rebuilding strategy strengthened.
- Effective bigeye harvest strategy in place (including SIDS)

- WCPFC, flag states and coastal states strengthening a commitment to logbook reporting and provision of catch information, operational data and number of vessels
- Strengthen information and data collection on main retained, bycatch and ETP species (sharks and sea turtles)
- ETP and main retained species management measures applied to longline vessels fishing in Solomon Island EEZ (including in Bilateral agreements)
- Effective application of compliance systems
- Strengthen consultation and decision making processes to take account of research and evaluation results

Requested Services

EXPECTED MILESTONES AND REPORTING

The required outputs are set out in the table below:

MILESTONES	Timeline	REPORTING MEANS OF VERIFICATION
Tuna management		
Milestone 1: Albacore LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with B_{MSY} (SG 80)	Dec-17	WCPFC CMM
Milestone 2: Incorporate Albacore TRP (which takes into account the main uncertainties) into Tokelau Arrangement.	Dec-17	FFA STBFC / Tokelau Arrangement
Milestone 3: Revise Albacore CMM objectives to regulate further expansion of the fishery to not exceed Maximum Sustainable Yield and the implementation of economic based reference points and management strategies to implement them (SG 100)	Dec-17	WCPC Albacore CMM
Milestone 5: Albacore TACCs agreed by FFA countries which are within BMSY	Dec-15	Tokelau Arrangement
Milestone 6: MFMR to reconcile to differences between zone based LLVDS and TACC limits	Dec-15	TMDP/ PNA LL VDS
Milestone 7: MFMR to clarify options and set limits that are consistent with scientific recommendations	Dec-15	NTSFR & TMDP

MILESTONES	Timeline	REPORTING MEANS OF VERIFICATION
Milestone 10: Yellowfin LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with BMSY (SG 80)	Dec-15	WCPFC CMM
Milestone 15: A partial strategy in place for the SI EEZ that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding bigeye	Dec-17	TMDP
Milestone 16: Cooperating with other Certified MSC fisheries and FIPs on effective BET rebuilding strategies	Dec-17	The WCPO Tuna MSC Principle 1 Alignment Group meeting minutes
Milestone 17: Demonstrably effective bigeye rebuilding strategy in place between all MSC fisheries which categorize this species	Dec-19	National management measures, and evidence of measures taken by other countries.
Milestone 18: Demonstrable progress on Solomon Islands implementing and facilitating transition to e-logbooks (SG 80)	Dec-15	Solomon Island FIMS
Ecosystem management		
Milestone 20: Education program on using SPC expanded logbook for retained and non-retained species	Dec-15	SPC training
Milestone 21: Observer coverage and/or EM strengthened to meet CMM obligation of 5% (SG 80)	Dec-15	WCPFC Part 1 report
Milestone 22: Shark measures implemented (CMM 2010-07) including ban on wire traces, 5% and fins attached to carcass	Dec-15	National licensing rules
Milestone 23: Licensing rules requiring CMM compliance (e.g. non retention of silky, whitetips, CITES listed sharks and sea turtles) applied throughout Solomon Islands waters	Dec-15	National licensing rules
Milestone 24: Solomon Island shark NPOA completed	Dec-16	SI Shark NPOA
Milestone 25: Implement training awareness programme to ensure the application of CMM 2008-03 (Sea turtles) and sharks CMM 2010-07, 2013-08 and 2011-07 (SG 80)	Dec-15	Awareness program (MFMR/MSSIF, WWF and NFD)
Milestone 26: Monitoring and reporting procedures on shark and turtle interactions in place	Dec-16	WCPFC Part 1 report

MILESTONES	Timeline	REPORTING MEANS OF VERIFICATION
Compliance		
Milestone 29: Continually evaluate the risks of longline non-compliance and program effective MCS actions (SG 80)	Dec-15	MFMR Risk assessment
Milestone 30: Undertake industry awareness programmes to ensure systematic compliance	Dec-15	MFMR compliance awareness programme
Consultation & decision making		
Milestone 27: MFMR to strengthen consultative procedures including providing scientific information to stakeholders at regular intervals (SG 100)	Dec-15	TIASI and FAC Meeting minutes
Milestone 28: MFMR to demonstrate full transparency in decision making and describing how the management system responded to findings and relevant recommendations (SG 100)	Dec-16	TMDP and NTSFR
<i>Timeline priority</i>		
Immediate: Year 1 and 2 (2015-2016)	Medium: Year 3 and 4 (2017-2018)	Before FIP completion: Year 5 (2019)

DURATION

This guidance is expected to conform to the MSC outcomes, and will be completed by the end of 2019.

PLANNING

The work is expected to be orchestrated by MFMR as part of its support functions in implementing the Tuna Management & Development Plan, and in support of regional agencies and management groups (PNA and the Tokelau Arrangement). MFMR will work with WCPFC, PNA, FFA, SPC and WWF in achieving these outcomes. Funding for such actions will be made available through the Solomon Island Government budget, and in part supported by the *Mekem Strong in Solomon Islands Fisheries* Programme funded by NZ Aid. WWF will also provide some support funding on turtle and shark and mitigation and awareness

PERSONNEL

Key personnel expected to undertake responsibility for the activity are the MFMR staff. It is also expected that these activities will be self-sustaining from 2018 or earlier, without prejudice to having to implement specific conditions set in a full assessment. To implement some actions, MFMR will seek the support of MSSIF, especially in the context of shark and turtle NPOAs and awareness workshops.

4.2.2 FISHERIES AND ECOSYSTEM SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT, CONSULTATION & DECISION MAKING – WWF

BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources in partnership with National Fisheries Developments Ltd, supported by the International Finance Corporation, FFA Devfish II and WWF, is promoting a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP), to be completed out over a period of five years up until December 2019. The FIP will support the goal of Marine Stewardship Council certification the Solomon Island Longline fishery. To this end, all stakeholders have endorsed a Fishery Improvement Plan (Section 2 above) and outputs from the FIP are expected to support the strengthening of fisheries management in the WCPO and Solomon Islands tuna longline sector. As part of this process, WWF will support the attainment of FIP ecosystem outcomes working with MFMR and NFD Ltd.

DESCRIPTION OF the ASSIGNMENT

Global objective

The expected position by the end of 2019 is that the Solomon Island Longline fishery has participated in the development of a national shark and turtle NPOA – IUU, has supported mitigation actions and implemented a turtle and shark awareness programme to support these actions.

The expected position by year 2019 is that:

- There is a strategy in place for managing the fishery’s impact on ETP species, including measures to minimize mortality, which is designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.
- There is a strategy in place for managing the fishery’s impact on ETP species, including measures to minimize mortality, which is designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.
- There is some evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.
- Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the impact of fishing to be quantitatively estimated for ETP species.
- Information is sufficient to determine whether the fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species.
- Information is sufficient to measure trends and support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species.

Specific objectives

The purpose of this guidance is to set out the requirements for FFA, and its members, to provide strong leadership through the Sub Committee on tuna and southern billfish in formulating stock specific management measures for submission to WCPFC, and in establishing an effective management system through the Tokelau Arrangement.

Specific supporting activities have been identified as follows:

- Strengthen information and data collection on main retained, bycatch and ETP species (sharks and sea turtles)
- ETP and main retained species management measures applied to longline vessels fishing in Solomon Island EEZ (including in Bilateral agreements)

Requested Services

EXPECTED MILESTONES AND REPORTING

The required outputs are set out in the table below:

MILESTONES	Timeline	REPORTING MEANS OF VERIFICATION
Milestone 24: Solomon Island shark NPOA completed	Dec-16	SI Shark NPOA
Milestone 25: Implement training awareness programme to ensure the application of CMM 2008-03 (Sea turtles)	Dec-15	Awareness program (MFMR/MSSIF, WWF and NFD)
<i>Timeline priority</i>		
Immediate: Year 1 and 2 (2015-2016)	Medium: Year 3 and 4 (2017-2018)	Before FIP completion: Year 5 (2019)

DURATION

This guidance is expected to conform to the MSC outcomes, and will be completed by the end of 2019.

PLANNING

The work is expected to be orchestrated by the MSSIF programme in partnership with WWF and the Solomon Islands longline sector. The Shark NPOA will be developed in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, WWF and other stakeholders. Funding for such actions will be made available through the Solomon Island Government budget, and in part supported by the *Mekem Strong in Solomon Islands Fisheries* Programme funded by NZ Aid. WWF will also provide some support funding on turtle and shark and mitigation and awareness

PERSONNEL

Key personnel expected to undertake responsibility for the activity are the WWF staff, supported by the Coral Triangle Programme.

4.3 PROJECT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES – Solomon Islands longline sector

BACKGROUND

The Solomon Islands longline sector in partnership with MFMR, supported by the International Finance Corporation, FFA Devfish II and WWF, is promoting a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP), to be completed out over a period of five years up until December 2019. The FIP will support the goal of Marine Stewardship Council certification the Solomon Island Longline fishery. To this end, all stakeholders have endorsed a Fishery Improvement Plan (Section 2 above) and outputs from the FIP are expected to support the strengthening of fisheries management in the WCPO and Solomon Islands tuna longline sector. As part of this process, The Solomon Islands longline sector will support the attainment of FIP ecosystem outcomes working with MFMR, FFA, WWF and other stakeholders.

DESCRIPTION OF the ASSIGNMENT

Global objective

The expected position by January 2015 is that:

- The Solomon Islands longline sector has the appropriate resources in place to engage with other stakeholders on the required actions.
- The Solomon Islands longline sector has appropriate resources in place to implement specific actions, as and when required.
- The fishery has in place mechanisms to evaluate all parts of the management system and is subject to regular internal and external review.

The expected outcome by December 2019

- The fishery is suitable for advancement to MSC Full assessment and has met with all the Assessment criteria that link to the outcomes and activities described in the FIP;

Specific objectives

The purpose of the TOR is to set out the requirements for Solomon Islands longline sector, supported by an International MSC/FIP specialist to monitor activities and outcomes for the Solomon Islands Tuna FIP, and recommend changes based on outcomes, as well as changes to the MSC guidance (expected in January 2020).

Requested Services

A nominated coordinator from the Solomon Islands longline sector will be responsible for engagement with the main stakeholders, MFMR, FFA, SPC and WWF, and will participate as observers in the required management meetings including the WCPFC SC, WCPFC TCC, WCPFC General Session, FFA MOW, the Tokelau Arrangement and PNA meetings. The coordinator will also work with the WCPO Tuna MSC Principle 1 Alignment Group to advance actions which are needed to support the attainment of MSC outcomes.

The following duties are required of the coordinator:

- Review the progress of FIP activities and milestones at the end of 2014 and 2015;
- Participate in workshops to recommend changes to FIP actions;
- Assist in redrafting Terms of Reference (TORs) for FIP activities, as required;
- Rescore the fishery against the MSC standard and update the FIP action plan accordingly.

An international FIP consultant will be engaged to evaluate the progress of the FIP at the end of each year and to prepare the following:

1. Review all FIP milestones
2. Assist with the formulation of revised FIP deliverables
3. Revise FIP budget in coordination with the Solomon Islands longline sector and partners on an ongoing basis
4. Rescore the fishery against the MSC standard and update the FIP action plan accordingly
5. Update the MSC Benchmark Tracking Tool.

Expert's profile

International consultant

1. Qualifications and skills

- Post-doctoral degree in fisheries sciences, economics or community and social studies
- At least 10 years' experience in Programme Planning
- An extensive knowledge of the Marine Stewardship Council Fisheries Assessment methodology
- Experience in Institutional Strengthening and Training Needs analysis in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

2. General professional experiences

- Knowledge of fisheries in Pacific fisheries;
- Knowledge of WCPO tuna fisheries management

DURATION

The international consultant will be available 10 working days in each year to provide input into project design and formulation. The exact date shall be agreed with the Solomon Islands longline sector and its funding partners.

The assignment will be for 2 working weeks in each year, with a view to establishing long term linkages thereafter based on performance.

APPENDIX 1: Outline Logframe

Project Objective	<i>To ensure the long term livelihood of fishers by establishing sustainable resource management for the nation's tuna longline fishery, and supporting preservation of allied ecosystems from which these resources depend'</i>	Primary Agency / recommended coordinator	Expected outcome achieved by			
				Means of verification	assessment scoring	MSC Scoring guidepost
Goal 1	To ensure that the tuna catches do not exceed sustainable levels					
OUTCOME 1.1	Sustainable stock status achieved for albacore that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this					
Activity 1.1.1	Adopt a ALB Harvest Strategy to ensure that there is a high degree of certainty that the stock would be above the point where recruitment would be impaired					
Milestone 1	Albacore TRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and consistent with B_{MSY} (SG 80)	WCPFC, FFA, MFMR	Dec-17	FFA STBF minutes, WCPFC SC and WCPFC General Session		1.2.1 (100a)The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in PI 1.1.1 SG80
Milestone 2	Incorporate Albacore TRP into Tokelau Arrangement (Which takes into account the main uncertainties).	FFA members	Dec-17			1.2.1 (100a)The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in PI 1.1.1 SG80; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
Milestone 3	Revise Albacore CMM objectives to regulate further expansion of the fishery to not exceed Maximum Sustainable Yield and the implementation of economic based reference points and management strategies to implement them (SG 100)	WCPFC, FFA, MFMR	Dec-17	WCPFC General Session minutes and CMM		1.2.1 (100a)The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in PI 1.1.1 SG82
Milestone 4	Evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy on an annual basis to ensure that the albacore stock is maintained at target levels (SG 100)	SPC, WCPFC	Dec-18	WCPFC TCC		1.2.1 (80b)Theharvest strategy may not have been fully tested and evidence exists that it is achieving its objectives
Activity 1.1.2	Set in zone based and High Seas catch limits for albacore					
Milestone 5	Albacore TACCs which are within BMSY agreed by FFA countries	FFA, MFMR	Dec-15	FFA STBF minutes		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
Milestone 6	MFMR to reconcile to differences between zone based LLVDS and TACC limits	MFMR, TIASI	Dec-15	MFMR TMDP		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
Milestone 7	MFMR to clarify options and set limits that are consistent with scientific recommendations	MFMR, TIASI	Dec-15	MFMR TMDP		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
Milestone 8	Albacore HS limits implemented and monitored in the High Seas	FFA, WCPFC	Dec-17	WCPFC CMM & TCC		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties.
Milestone 9	Albacore measure effective for in zone and HS limits	SPC, WCPFC	Dec-19	WCPFC TCC		effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.

OUTCOME 1.2	Sustainable stock status achieved for yellowfin that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this					
Activity 1.2.1	Maintain harvest levels for Yellowfin tuna that are consistent with maintaining YFT above the point where point where recruitment would be impaired and consistent with achieving BMSY					
Milestone 10	Yellowfin LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with BMSY	FFA, MFMR, WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC CMM & TCC		1.2.1 (100a)The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in PI 1.1.1 SG80
Activity 1.2.2	Yellowfin management measures in place across the range of the stock					
Milestone 11	Management measures set for yellowfin across the range of the stock (CMM 2013-01)	WCPFC, FFA	Dec-16	PNA minutes, FIMS & FFATBSC minutes		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties; 1.2.2 (80b)The selection of the harvest control rules takes into account the main uncertainties.
Milestone 12	WCPFC monitoring the effect of explicit management measures applied for yellowfin	WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC TCC		1.2.2 (80c)Available evidence indicates that the tools in use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
OUTCOME 1.3	Bigeye stock status reaches the point where point where recruitment would not be impaired and management systems strengthened					
Activity 1.3.1	Bigeye rebuilding strategy strengthening	WCPFC				
Milestone 13	CMM 2013-01 (or its replacement) strengthened to facilitate rapid recovery (Restrictions in the number of FADs) and reductions in longline effort (SG 80)	WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC GS and CMM		1.1.2 (60a) A rebuilding timeframe is specified for the stock that is the shorter of 20 years or 2 times its generation time. For cases where 2 generations is less than 5 years, the rebuilding timeframe is up to 5 years
Milestone 14	Provide risk-based simulation outcomes to assess the effectiveness of the rebuilding strategy (SG 80)	SPC	Dec-16	SPC paper to WCPFC SC		1.1.2 (80b)There is evidence that the rebuilding strategies are rebuilding stocks, or it is likely based on simulation modelling, exploitation rates or previous performance that they will be able to rebuild the stock within the specified timeframe.
Activity 1.3.2	Effective bigeye harvest strategy in place (including SIDS)					
Milestone 15	A partial strategy in place for the SIEEZ that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding bigeye	MFMR	Dec-17	PNA minutes, FIMS & FFATBSC minutes		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties; 2.1.2 (80a) PI 2.1.2 (80a) Expects that there would need to be a partial strategy in place for the UoA, if necessary, that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of the main primary species at/to levels which are highly likely to be above the point of stock depletion
Milestone 16	Cooperating with other Certified MSC fisheries and FIPs on effective BET rebuilding strategies	NFD/.MFMR, Other FIP coordinators and Certified MSC Fisheries	Dec-17	Minutes of meetings		2.2.2 (a) There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, for the UoA that is expected to maintain or not hinder rebuilding of main secondary species at/to levels which ensure that the UoA does not hinder their recovery.
Milestone 17	Demonstrably effective bigeye rebuilding strategy in place between all MSC fisheries which categorise this species	MFMR, FFA WCPFC	Dec-19	SPC paper to WCPFC SC		1.2.2 (80c)Available evidence indicates that the tools in use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules; 2.1.1 (80a) demonstrably effective strategy in place between all MSC UoAs which categorise this species

OUTCOME 1.2	Sustainable stock status achieved for yellowfin that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this					
Activity 1.2.1	Maintain harvest levels for Yellowfin tuna that are consistent with maintaining YFT above the point where point where recruitment would be impaired and consistent with achieving BMSY					
Milestone 10	Yellowfin LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with BMSY	FFA, MFMR, WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC CMM & TCC		1.2.1 (100a)The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in PI 1.1.1 SG80
Activity 1.2.2	Yellowfin management measures in place across the range of the stock					
Milestone 11	Management measures set for yellowfin across the range of the stock (CMM 2013-01)	WCPFC, FFA	Dec-16	PNA minutes, FIMS & FFATBSC minutes		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties; 1.2.2 (80b)The selection of the harvest control rules takes into account the main uncertainties.
Milestone 12	WCPFC monitoring the effect of explicit management measures applied for yellowfin	WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC TCC		1.2.2 (80c)Available evidence indicates that the tools in use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
OUTCOME 1.3	Bigeye stock status reaches the point where point where recruitment would not be impaired and management systems strengthened					
Activity 1.3.1	Bigeye rebuilding strategy strengthening	WCPFC				
Milestone 13	CMM 2013-01 (or its replacement) strengthened to facilitate rapid recovery (Restrictions in the number of FADs) and reductions in longline effort (SG 80)	WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC GS and CMM		1.1.2 (60a) A rebuilding timeframe is specified for the stock that is the shorter of 20 years or 2 times its generation time. For cases where 2 generations is less than 5 years, the rebuilding timeframe is up to 5 years
Milestone 14	Provide risk-based simulation outcomes to assess the effectiveness of the rebuilding strategy (SG 80)	SPC	Dec-16	SPC paper to WCPFC SC		1.1.2 (80b)There is evidence that the rebuilding strategies are rebuilding stocks, or it is likely based on simulation modelling, exploitation rates or previous performance that they will be able to rebuild the stock within the specified timeframe.
Activity 1.3.2	Effective bigeye harvest strategy in place (including SIDS)					
Milestone 15	A partial strategy in place for the SIEEZ that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding bigeye	MFMR	Dec-17	PNA minutes, FIMS & FFATBSC minutes		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties; 2.1.2 (80a) PI 2.1.2 (80a) Expects that there would need to be a partial strategy in place for the UoA, if necessary, that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of the main primary species at/to levels which are highly likely to be above the point of stock depletion
Milestone 16	Cooperating with other Certified MSC fisheries and FIPs on effective BET rebuilding strategies	NFD/.MFMR, Other FIP coordinators and Certified MSC Fisheries	Dec-17	Minutes of meetings		2.2.2 (a) There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, for the UoA that is expected to maintain or not hinder rebuilding of main secondary species at/to levels which ensure that the UoA does not hinder their recovery.
Milestone 17	Demonstrably effective bigeye rebuilding strategy in place between all MSC fisheries which categorise this species	MFMR, FFA WCPFC	Dec-19	SPC paper to WCPFC SC		1.2.2 (80c)Available evidence indicates that the tools in use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules; 2.1.1 (80a) demonstrably effective strategy in place between all MSC UoAs which categorise this species

OUTCOME 1.2	Sustainable stock status achieved for yellowfin that is consistent with MSY and management systems strengthened to achieve this					
Activity 1.2.1	Maintain harvest levels for Yellowfin tuna that are consistent with maintaining YFT above the point where point where recruitment would be impaired and consistent with achieving BMSY					
Milestone 10	Yellowfin LRP set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity and TRP consistent with BMSY	FFA, MFMR, WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC CMM & TCC		1.2.1 (100a)The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in PI 1.1.1 SG80
Activity 1.2.2	Yellowfin management measures in place across the range of the stock					
Milestone 11	Management measures set for yellowfin across the range of the stock (CMM 2013-01)	WCPFC, FFA	Dec-16	PNA minutes, FIMS & FFATBSC minutes		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties; 1.2.2 (80b)The selection of the harvest control rules takes into account the main uncertainties.
Milestone 12	WCPFC monitoring the effect of explicit management measures applied for yellowfin	WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC TCC		1.2.2 (80c)Available evidence indicates that the tools in use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules.
OUTCOME 1.3	Bigeye stock status reaches the point where point where recruitment would not be impaired and management systems strengthened					
Activity 1.3.1	Bigeye rebuilding strategy strengthening	WCPFC				
Milestone 13	CMM 2013-01 (or its replacement) strengthened to facilitate rapid recovery (Restrictions in the number of FADs) and reductions in longline effort (SG 80)	WCPFC	Dec-15	WCPFC GS and CMM		1.1.2 (60a) A rebuilding timeframe is specified for the stock that is the shorter of 20 years or 2 times its generation time. For cases where 2 generations is less than 5 years, the rebuilding timeframe is up to 5 years
Milestone 14	Provide risk-based simulation outcomes to assess the effectiveness of the rebuilding strategy (SG 80)	SPC	Dec-16	SPC paper to WCPFC SC		1.1.2 (80b)There is evidence that the rebuilding strategies are rebuilding stocks, or it is likely based on simulation modelling, exploitation rates or previous performance that they will be able to rebuild the stock within the specified timeframe.
Activity 1.3.2	Effective bigeye harvest strategy in place (including SIDS)					
Milestone 15	A partial strategy in place for the SIEEZ that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding bigeye	MFMR	Dec-17	PNA minutes, FIMS & FFATBSC minutes		1.2.2 (100a)The HCRs are expected to keep the stock fluctuating at or above a target level consistent with MSY; 1.2.2 (80b) The HCRs are likely to be robust to the main uncertainties; 2.1.2 (80a) PI 2.1.2 (80a) Expects that there would need to be a partial strategy in place for the UoA, if necessary, that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of the main primary species at/to levels which are highly likely to be above the point of stock depletion
Milestone 16	Cooperating with other Certified MSC fisheries and FIPs on effective BET rebuilding strategies	NFD/.MFMR, Other FIP coordinators and Certified MSC Fisheries	Dec-17	Minutes of meetings		2.2.2 (a) There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, for the UoA that is expected to maintain or not hinder rebuilding of main secondary species at/to levels which ensure that the UoA does not hinder their recovery.
Milestone 17	Demonstrably effective bigeye rebuilding strategy in place between all MSC fisheries which categorise this species	MFMR, FFA WCPFC	Dec-19	SPC paper to WCPFC SC		1.2.2 (80c)Available evidence indicates that the tools in use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the harvest control rules; 2.1.1 (80a) demonstrably effective strategy in place between all MSC UoAs which categorise this species

Goal 3:	To strengthen governance systems in the WCPFC and Solomon Island longline fishery				
OUTCOME 3.1	Decision making process strengthened				
Activity 3.1	Strengthen consultation and decision making processes to take account of research and evaluation results				
Milestone 27	MFMR to strengthen consultative procedures including providing scientific information to stakeholders at regular intervals (SG 100)	TIASI, MFMR	Dec-15		3.1.2 (80b) The management system includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information obtained.
Milestone 28	MFMR to demonstrate full transparency in decision making and describing how the management system responded to findings and relevant recommendations (SG 100)	MFMR	Dec-16		3.2.2 (80b) There are established decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the fishery-specific and enhancement objectives; Decision-making processes respond to serious and other important issues identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a transparent, timely and adaptive manner and take account of the wider implications of decisions; 3.2.2 (80c) Decision-making processes use the precautionary approach and are based on best available information; 3.2.2 (80c) Explanations are provided for any actions or lack of action associated with findings and relevant recommendations emerging from research, monitoring evaluation and review activity.
OUTCOME 3.2	Effective application of compliance systems				
Activity 3.2	Strengthen the application of control measures and sanctions				
Milestone 29	Continually evaluate the risks of longline non-compliance and programme effective MCS actions (SG 80)	MFMR	Dec-15		3.2.3 (80b) Some evidence exists to demonstrate fishers comply with the management system under assessment, including, when required, providing information of importance to the effective management of the fishery.
Milestone 30	Undertake industry awareness programmes to ensure systematic compliance (SG 80)	MFMR	Dec-15		3.2.3 (80c) There is no evidence of systematic non-compliance
OUTCOME 3.3	Performance evaluation implemented				
Activity 3.3	Undertake an internal and external review of the management system				
Milestone 31	Appoint a FIP programme manager	TIASI/MFMR	Annual		
Milestone 32	Undertake an annual FIP review of the management system	Consultant	Annual		3.2.4 (80a) The fishery has in place mechanisms to evaluate key parts of the management system; 3.2.4 (80c) The fishery-specific management system is subject to regular internal and occasional external review.
Milestone 33	Annual stakeholder review	All stakeholders	Annual		