



European Union



Secretariat of the Pacific Community

EU EDF 9 B Scientific Support for Oceanic Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (SCIFISH)

9.ACP.RPA.013 & 9.PTO.REG.008

SIX-MONTHLY REPORT

1 JANUARY – 30 JUNE 2010

Implemented by: Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Funded by: 9th European Development Fund B Envelope

1. Introduction

SCIFISH comprises a programme of fishery monitoring and scientific research over a four-year period that will provide essential information for evaluating the status of stocks and the ecosystem, and for assessing the effectiveness of potential management options. In short, the outputs of this project will provide much of the scientific basis for future management decision making concerning tuna and related stocks in the WCPFC Convention Area. Given the current precarious status of two important stocks (yellowfin and bigeye tuna), long-term economic returns from the fishery may well rely on such management decisions, and the quality of scientific information underpinning them, taken over the next 5–10 years.

The overall objective is the conservation and sustainable use of oceanic fish resources of the western and central Pacific Ocean.

The expected results of the project, which will achieve the project purpose, are enhanced oceanic fishery monitoring in Pacific ACPs, and OCTs and in the Commission Convention Area generally; enhanced assessments of the status of oceanic fish stocks and the impacts of fishing upon them; and enhanced understanding of the pelagic ecosystem that supports oceanic fish stocks, including the ecosystem impacts of fishing.

This report summarizes the activities, achievements and progress towards stated objectives during the first six-month period of the third year of the project (1 January – 30 June 2010).

2. Specific Outputs/Results Achieved (as per Year 2 Work Plan):

Specific ACP and OCT outputs and results achieved under the project against the project logframe.

Result	Verifiable indicators	Activity	ACP		OCT	
			2010 Indicator	Verification	2010 Indicator	Verification
1: Enhanced Oceanic Fishery Monitoring	1.1 Improvement in the observer and port sampling coverage and quality of data to meet the required regional standards	1.1 Observer/port sampling workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 national or sub-regional observer training courses conducted resulting in 90 new observers - Certification of 150 "cadet" observers to regional standards - Observer Coordinators Workshops to strengthen national and regional observer programme coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 109 new observers trained for deployment in PIRFO through completion of 8 Observer Training Courses until July 2010 (SB (1), FSM (2), RMI (1), KI (2), PNG (2)). - Mini Observer Coordinators Workshop held 22 - 24 July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation of New Caledonia and French Polynesia in observer training as required - Participation of New Caledonia and French Polynesia observer coordinators in Observer Coordinators Workshop 	
		1.2 Training attachments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 fishery monitoring attachments to SPC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Four attachments to OFP. Two participants from Kiribati and one each from Tuvalu and Tokelau. All offered a broad, but comprehensive introduction to the WCPFC fishery, data collection procedures and the current tuna databases. 		
		1.3 Operational support for observer/port sampling programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review/development of fishery monitoring support MOUs with ACPs - Provision of operational support as per MOUs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A MOU to support the collection of artisanal tuna data in Kiribati. - A MOU to support the position of the NTDC in Tuvalu for a further six 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Port sampling & observer support NC and FP 	<u>New Caledonia</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 observers conducted 16 trips on 12 different domestic longliners (200 days at sea, 130 set and 242 437 hooks observed).

				<p>months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchase and installation of new network servers in the countries of Palau, Kiribati, Nauru and Tuvalu. - Observer and data collection forms/equipment provided 		<p>77 port sampling operations have been conducted during fish unloading. A new sampler has been recruited totaling 2 in Noumea and 2 in Koumac</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observer trips represent coverage of 10.3% (Objective was 5%). Port Sampling coverage is 42.5% (Objective was 10%). - Reports have been produced for each trip and given to fishers and ship owners. - Data has been used to estimate shark catch (sold for fins) by the Caledonian fleet and estimate of non commercial species catch and rejections at sea <u>French Polynesia</u> - 3 observers trained in May 2009, and one observer has been refreshed. One observer left in November 2009. In June 2010, the coordinator resigned. A replacement has been appointed. In July, 5 observers, 2 port sampler and 1 coordinator belong to SCIFISH Programme.
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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since commencement, 88 observer trips (24 in 2010) have been conducted on board domestic longliners (1398 days at sea and 841 sets observed). Coverage: 5% (% days at sea) - 1321 port sampling operations have been conducted during fish unloading (182 in 2010). Sampling coverage was 75%. - All observers data and port data have been sent to SPC to be entered to the observer database
		1.4 Quality control of observer/port sampling data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of underpinning knowledge tools for Pacific Island Regional Observer (PIRFO) Competency-Based Observer Training (CBT) - Observer debriefing and debriefing training for Observer Coordinators conducted - Debriefing certification workshop - Development of Observer trainers in CBT dvpt. work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Task completed in 2009 and available online http://www.spc.int/oceanfish/Html/Statistics/Observer/PIRFO/index.htm - Observer Debriefing workshop held 15-21 July - 3 trainee trainers attended each of 6 courses - 2 PNG Nationally run courses with oversight from SPC observer coordinator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of French version of CBT documentation - Observer debriefing and debriefing training conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - French version currently being translated and will be available online in late 2010
		1.5 Develop and trial new	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of spill sampling methodology for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See see ST-WP-02 at http://www.wcpfc.int/mee 		

		technologies for enhancing quality of data and timeliness of data collection	at-sea observers – target of 50 trial observer cruises by end 2010 - Trial the use of data loggers on selected observer cruises	tings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee		
	1.3 More comprehensive IUU compliance assessments undertaken	1.6 Develop harmonised fisheries monitoring / data sharing protocols (FFA)	- completed in 2009			
		1.7 Undertake compliance audits and IUU risk assessments (FFA)	- completed in 2009			
	1.2 Improved regional coordination of national databases to track and monitor fisheries data for compliance with management requirements	1.8 Develop and implement methodologies to verify fisheries data (SPC-FFA)	- Development of TUFMAN computer package to generate exception reports by comparing logsheet, VMS and unloading data - TUFMAN software documentation completed and distributed	- TUFMAN developed to include exception reports using logsheet and VMS and logsheet and unloading. - TUFMAN version 5.04 released to FSM and Niue. Four installations of TUFMAN v6.00 and v6.02 (Niue, RMI, SB and Nauru) completed.		
	1.4 Improved detection of IUU fishing through strengthening existing	1.9 Develop and trial new technologies, including satellite based	- completed in 2009	-	- Completed in 2009	-

	technologies and trial of new technologies	technologies for the detection of IUU fishing activities				
2: Enhanced Stock Assessments	2.1 Tagging of tropical tunas using conventional and electronic archival tags	2.1 Large-scale conventional and electronic tagging / biological studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational plan for regional tag-release programme in 2010 established. - Western Pacific tagging cruise #4 completed (subject to additional donor support) - 1 central Pacific cruises completed - Continued implementation of equatorial Pacific wide tag seeding program - Data processing conducted - Tag recovery procedures implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational plans for 2010 completed see GN-IP-04 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee - Western Pacific tagging cruise #4 postponed to 2010 due to insufficient funds - Central Pacific Cruise 4 completed. For results see GN-IP-04 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee - 60 tag seeding kits deployed. For results see GN-IP-04 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee - Tag recovery proceeding. see GN-IP-04 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albacore tagging cruise 2 completed (NZ) - Albacore tagging cruise 3 completed (Tonga/Fiji) - Data processing conducted - Tag recovery procedures implemented - Biological sampling training implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albacore tagging completed. See GN-IP-06 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee

				session-scientific-committee		
		2.2 Analysis of tagging, biological and fishery oceanographic data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of population dynamics of yellowfin, skipjack and bigeye from conventional and electronic tags - Analysis of PNG tagging data for estimation of FAD effects - Tagging reports prepared for PNG, Solomon Is, FSM- Palau, Kiribati-RMI- Tuvalu. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preliminary data analysis on horizontal movement and exploitation completed see GN-IP-04 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee - Preliminary data analysis on FAD effect completed see GN-IP-04 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of population reproductive & growth of albacore - Data analyses commenced, preliminary results reported to WPFC-SC6. - Tagging reports completed for NC & FP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See GN-IP-06 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee - See BI-WP-01 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee
	2.2 Improved assessment on status of tuna stocks by developing more accurate stock assessment model	2.3 Incorporate data / analytical results into stock assessment models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skipjack tagging data included in 2010 stock assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PTPP data included in 2010 skipjack stock assessment. see GN-WP-10 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albacore reproductive ogive and growth curves estimated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See BI-WP-01 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee
3: Enhanced Understanding of the Pelagic Ecosystem	3.1 Produce better management policies through further development and application of the Spatial Ecosystem	3.1 Ecosystem model development and enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mixed resolution forcing data sets compiled for SPC member countries. - Incorporation of multiple cohort tagging data into SEAPODYM - MSY extraction code 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See EB-IP-02 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report documenting South Pacific albacore SEAPODYM model - Seapodym Mixed resolution models for NC and PF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See EB-IP-02 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee

	and Population Dynamics Model (SEAPODYM)		developed for SEAPODYM - Seapodym Mixed resolution models for PNG and Kiribati completed			
	3.2 More accurate estimates and assessment of impacts of exploitation in EEZs.	3.2 Use of models for research / management applications	- Evaluation of time-area closures for tropical tuna management - Reports on EEZ-scale evaluations of tuna fisheries for selected ACPs using SEAPODYM model	- See EB-IP-02 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee	- Report documenting EEZ scale oceanographic effects evaluated in the context of current South Pacific albacore fisheries management	- See EB-IP-02 at http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2010/6th-regular-session-scientific-committee
			-	-	-	-

3. Expenditure of Funds

3.1 ACP Component

Details of expenditure to 30th June 2010 are provided in Attachment 1. For the ACP component, expenditure is Euro 473,534 or 52.04% of budget of Euros 910,000. It is forecast that there will be over-expenditure on the Year 3 budget by 31 December 2010, while the remainder of the Year 3 advance will be expended well before that time. The reason for this situation is that the Year 3 budget as given in the Financing Agreement included only Euros 50,000 for Technical Assistance- Ecosystem Modeller. The planning for the EDF9 SCIFISH ACP project included the 2 year appointment of an Ecosystem Modeller to apply the ecosystem model, SEAPODYM, in the Pacific Ocean region to assist ACPs with their fisheries management. A budget of Euro 50,000, Euro 100,000 and Euro 50,000 for 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively was allocated for this appointment. The position remained vacant in 2008 until the 2 year appointment of Dr Jesus Jurado Molina in February 2009 and consequently the 2008 budget allocation was not accessed.

To resolve over expenditure we seek:

- (1) Your approval for derogation of the 2008 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller budget of Euros 50,000 be provided. We also bring to your attention that there is no budget in the Financing Agreement for year 4 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller. As the appointment of Dr Molina did not commence until February 2009 and terminates in February 2011 we advise that a request for derogation for the remainder of the year 2 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller budget of Euros 16,023 will be required to complete SCISH-ACP commitments in 2010 for this position.
- (2) A request has been submitted for the balance of Year 3 2010 funds to ensure that cash flow is maintained in the period between the submission of the audit report for Year 3, and the submission for the advance for Year 4, 2011 funds.
- (3) We request that these funds be provided within 45 days of approval of this report. This should ensure that cash flow is maintained for the project.

The derogation is provided as Attachment 2 to this report.

3.2 OCT Component

For the OCT Component, expenditure is Euros 375,491 or 45.85% of budget of Euros 819,000. It is forecast that there will be over-expenditure on the Year 3 budget by 31 December 2010, while the remainder of the Year 3 advance will be expended well before that time. This over expenditure is due to the purchase of satellite tags to for conducting the south Pacific albacore tuna tagging component. The SCIFISH OCT project includes the tagging of south Pacific albacore to obtain movement and exploitation data for the improvement of stock assessments and fisheries management of this stock by OCTs. The budget for tagging operations included Euro 150,000 in 2009 and 2010 and Euro 30,000 for tagging equipment in 2009 and 2010. In the last 18 months tagging technology has advanced considerably and a new type of tag to measure vertical and horizontal movement, that is suited for albacore, has become available. To maximize knowledge gained for the OCTs, 20 tags were ordered for deployment in 2010. The cost of these 20 tags was Euros 59,728.37. Budget planning for this purchase is:

- (1) Year 3 - 2010 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological budget of Euros 18,320 (balance of this budget to be spent on other equipment);
- (2) Year 3 – 2010 Tagging operations vessel charter of Euros 15,000 (10% variation);
- (3) Year 2 - 2009 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological budget balance of Euros 13,271; and
- (4) Year 2 – 2009 Tagging operations – Vessel Charter budget balance of Euros 13,137

To resolve over expenditure we seek your approval for derogation to access the remaining budget in the Year 2-2009 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological and Year 2-2009 SCIFISH OCT Tagging operations – Vessel Charter budget as specified above. We request that these funds be provided within 45 days of approval of this report. This should ensure that cash flow is maintained for the project.

The derogation is provided as Attachment 3 to this report.

A request has been submitted for the balance of Year 3 2010 funds to ensure that cash flow is maintained in the period between the submission of the audit report for Year 3, and the submission for the advance for Year 4, 2011 funds.

4. Challenges/Issues Encountered

The following challenges/issues have been encountered:

- a. The budget issue identified in section 3 for the ACP component.
- b. The budget issue identified in section 3 for the OCT component.

We also advise that the SCIFISH OCT Albacore Biologist will leave this position in the second-half of 2009 (i.e., 6-9 months short of the intended 3 year appointment). It is our preference to use the budget for this position to appoint 2 or 3 lower technicians to assist with data preparation and analysis to ensure that all SCIFISH OCT commitments as identified in the Logframe are achieved. We seek your approval to a variation in the approved workplan to facilitate these appointments. The revised 2009 workplan is provided as attachment 4 to this report.

5. Solutions Applied (to address issues and challenges)

Solutions for the above challenges/issues proposed are as follows:

- a. Solutions for the ACP budget issue are outlined in section 3.1, above.
- b. Solutions for the ACP budget issue are outlined in section 3.1, above.

6. Report Prepared By:

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ATTACHMENT 1
SCIFISH YEAR 3 - FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES
For period 01 January 2010 to 30 June 2010

**ATTACHMENT 2
DEROGATION REQUEST FOR YEAR 3 SCIFISH ACP
COMPONENT**

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30/07/2010

Mr Neroni Slade
Secretary General
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Regional Authorising Officer
SUVA

Subject: 9.ACP.RPA.13 – Scientific Support for Oceanic Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean Project (SCIFISH)

Reference: Request for derogation of Year 1 - 2008 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller budget of Euros 50,000

Dear Mr Slade

Purpose

1. To seek your approval for derogation of Year 1 - 2008 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller budget of Euros 50,000 plus the balance of Year 2 – 2009 budget of Euros 16,023 for salary payment of this position for the last six months of 2010 and the first two months of 2011.

Background

1. The planning for the EDF9 SCIFISH ACP project included the 2 year appointment of an Ecosystem Modeller to apply the ecosystem model, SEAPODYM, in the Pacific Ocean region to assist ACPs with their fisheries management.
2. A budget of Euro 50,000, Euro 100,000 and Euro 50,000 for 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively was allocated for this appointment.

Comment

2. The position remained vacant in 2008 until the appointment of Dr Jesus Jurado Molina in February 2009.
3. The allocation of Euro 50,000 for 2008 remains unspent for this position.
3. The budget allocation for 2010 and 2011 is insufficient to cover the costs for the completion of the 2 year appointment without access to the 2008 budget allocation and the balance of the 2009 budget.

Recommendation

4. Approval for derogation of Year 1 - 2008 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller budget of Euros 50,000 for payment of salary for this position in Year 3. We request that these funds be provided within 45 days of approval of this request. This should ensure that cash flow is maintained for the project.
5. Approval for derogation of Year 2 – 2009 budget of Euros 16,023 for payment of salary for this position in Year 4. We request that these funds be made available for the Year 4 workplan.

SIGNATURES

Agreed by:

.....
Dr Jimmy Rodgers
Director General
Secretariat of the Pacific Community

.....
Date

Approved by:

.....
Feleti P. Teo
Deputy Secretary General and
Deputy Regional Authorising Officer
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

.....
Date

Endorsed by:

.....
Wiepke Van Der Goot
Head of Delegation
European Union, Suva

.....
Date

**ATTACHMENT 3
DEROGATION REQUEST FOR YEAR 3 SCIFISH OCT
COMPONENT**

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30/07/2010

Monsieur le Président du Gouvernement
de la Nouvelle-Calédonie
Ordonnateur du FED

Projet : Appui scientifique à la gestion des pêches océaniques dans l'océan Pacifique Central et occidental (SCIFISH).

Numéro de référence de la Convention de subvention : 9 PTO REG 008 du 13/3/2008

Reference: Request for derogation of Year 2 - 2009 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological budget balance of Euros 13,271 and Year 2 – 2009 Tagging operations – Vessel Charter budget balance of Euros 13,137

Monsieur l'Ordonnateur,

Purpose

6. To seek your approval for derogation of Year 2 - 2009 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological budget balance of Euros 13,271 and Year 2 – 2009 Tagging operations – Vessel Charter budget balance of Euros 13,137 for the purchase of tagging equipment in 2010.

Background

7. The SCIFISH OCT project includes the tagging of south Pacific albacore to obtain movement and exploitation data for the improvement of stock assessments and fisheries management of this stock by OCTs.
8. The budget for tagging operations included Euro 150,000 in 2009 and 2010 and Euro 30,000 for tagging equipment in 2009 and 2010.

Comment

9. In the last 18 months tagging technology has advanced considerably and a new type of tag to measure vertical and horizontal movement, that is suited for albacore, has become available.
10. To maximize knowledge gained for the OCTs, 20 tags were ordered for deployment in 2010.
11. The invoice for these 20 tags was Euros 59,728.37. Budget planning for this purchase is Year 3 - 2010 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological budget of Euros 18,320 (balance of this budget to be spent on other equipment) and Year 3 – 2010 Tagging operations vessel charter of Euros 15,000 (10% variation), plus the balance requested from 2009 budget.
12. The tags have now been received with payment required from the 2010 budget which is insufficient to cover this cost. Without the derogation of Year 2 budget the 2010 budget will be overspent by Euro 26,408.

Recommendation

13. Approval for derogation of Year 2 - 2009 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological budget balance of Euros 13,271 and Year 2 – 2009 Tagging operations – Vessel Charter

budget balance of Euros 13,137 is provided to avoid over expenditure of the Year 3 budget.

14. We request that these funds be provided within 45 days of approval of this request. This should ensure that cash flow is maintained for the project.

SIGNATURES

Agreed by:

.....
Dr Jimmy Rodgers
Director General
Secretariat of the Pacific Community

..... **Date**

Approved by:

.....
Feleti P. Teo
Deputy Secretary General and
Deputy Regional Authorising Officer
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

..... **Date**

Endorsed by:

.....
Wiepke Van Der Goot
Head of Delegation
European Union, Suva

..... **Date**

ATTACHEMENT 4

**ADDENDUM No. 1 to the Third Annual Work Plan (1 January
2010 – 31 December 2010)**



European Union



Secretariat of the Pacific Community

EU EDF 9 B Scientific Support for Oceanic Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (SCIFISH)

**Addendum No. 1 to the
Third Annual Work Programme (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010)**

Implemented by: Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Funded by: 9th European Development Fund B Envelope

REASON FOR THE ADDENDUM

The third Annual Work Plan and Cost Estimate (January 2010-December 2010) is adjusted in response to the expenditure forecast and staffing issues raised in the Year 3 Six Monthly Report.

For the SCIFISH OCT component this includes alteration to Result Area 2 – Enhance Stock Assessments. Activities for this task include the implementation of tagging cruises to provide information on movement and exploitation rate and the collection of biological samples to revise the reproductive ogive and growth curve estimates. The following revisions are requested:

- (a) The Equipment – Tagging/Biological budget is amended to allow the purchase of miniature pop-off satellite tags to track the vertical and horizontal movement dynamics of south Pacific albacore in the budget. This technology was not commercially available at the time the workplan was prepared. Application of this technology will require access to the balance of the Year 2 - 2009 SCIFISH OCT Equipment – Tagging Biological budget balance of Euros 13,271 and Year 2 – 2009 Tagging operations – Vessel Charter budget balance of Euros 13,137.
- (b) Dr Ashley Williams who was appointed to the three year position of Albacore Biologist (see Technical Assistance – Albacore Biologist in Financing Agreement) in May 2008 to implement these activities will resign from this position in September 2010, eight months short of fulfilling the three year tenure. To achieve all the outcomes expected in the project logframe it is the preference of the SPC to replace Dr Williams as follows:
 - One year appointment of a laboratory assistant to undertake analysis of biological samples and prepare data for analysis (Euros 37,000)
 - Six month appointment of a research assistant to prepare tagging data for analysis (Euros 23,500)
 - The laboratory assistant and research assistant will provide the necessary support for the OFP section head (Ecosystem Assessment & Monitoring Section) to complete of all expected outputs and outcomes as specified in the SCIFISH Logframe.

For the SCIFISH ACP component this includes alteration to Result Area 3 - Enhanced Understanding of the Pelagic Ecosystem. The primary activities in this result area include the application of the ecosystem model SEAPODYM to provide ACPs with scientific information on the interaction between tuna resources and the oceanic environment. This included a 2 year appointment of an Ecosystem Modeller (see Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller). A budget of Euro 50,000, Euro 100,000 and Euro 50,000 for 2008 (Year 1), 2009 (Year 2) and 2010 (Year 3) respectively was allocated for this appointment. The position remained vacant in 2008 until the appointment of Dr Jesus Jurado Molina in February 2009. His tenure will expire in February 2011. Consequently the 2008 budget allocation was not accessed and Euros 16,023 of the Year 2 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller budget was not accessed due to a February rather than January commencement in 2009. To fulfill the commitments of the project logframe the Year 1 budget allocation is required to avoid over expenditure in 2010 and the Year 4 (2011) workplan and budget will require the addition of activities under this “Result Area” to complete all tasks and access to the balance of the Year 2 budget for this position (Euros 16,023).

These changes have no implications on the overall SCIFISH OCT or ACP budget and do not alter the Project Logframe. The amended workplan of Year 3 and is provided below.

Amended Year 3 Work plan

1. PURPOSE

This is a provisional Work Plan for 12 months and covers the period 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010. It is provisional as further amendments in terms of targets and performance indicators may be made following review by the Project Steering Committee. The provisional Work Plan sets out the main activities to be undertaken by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community to implement the both the ACP and OCT Components of the project.

2. BACKGROUND

The project purpose is to provide a scientific basis for regional and national oceanic fisheries management decision-making by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and by Pacific ACP and OCT Governments..

The overall objective is the conservation and sustainable use of oceanic fish resources of the western and central Pacific Ocean.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY RESULT AREAS

The expected results of the project, which will achieve the project purpose, are enhanced oceanic fishery monitoring in Pacific ACPs, OCTs and in the Commission Convention Area generally; enhanced assessments of the status of oceanic fish stocks and the impacts of fishing upon them; and enhanced understanding of the pelagic ecosystem that supports oceanic fish stocks, including the ecosystem impacts of fishing.

4. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND INDICATORS

Over the course of 2010 this Work Plan the focus will be on the following:

PROJECT ACTIVITY	INDICATORS ACP COMPONENT	INDICATORS OCT COMPONENT
Project Administration		
Recruitment	- All recruitment undertaken in 2008, ##Replacement of Albacore Biologist required in 2010	
Finance	- Year 3 audit and financial reports completed	
Monitoring & Evaluation	- Develop measurable and time-bound criteria for project purpose and results OVI - Present project and WP to PSC - Prepare six-monthly and annual progress reports - Include achievements towards achieving the project purpose, and on impacts, in half yearly reports	
Result 1: Enhanced Oceanic Fishery Monitoring		
1.1 Observer/port sampling workshops	- 6 national or sub-regional observer training courses conducted resulting in 90 new observers - Certification of 150 "cadet" observers to regional standards - Observer Coordinators Workshops to strengthen national and regional observer programme coordination	- Participation of New Caledonia and French Polynesia in observer training as required - Participation of New Caledonia and French Polynesia observer coordinators in Observer Coordinators Workshop
1.2 Training attachments	- 3 fishery monitoring attachments to SPC	
1.3 Operational support for observer/port sampling programmes	- Review/development of fishery monitoring support MOUs with ACPs - Provision of operational support as per MOUs	- Port sampling & observer support NC and FP
1.4 Quality control of observer/port sampling data	- Development of under-pinning knowledge tools for Pacific Island Regional Observer (PIRFO) Competency-Based Observer Training (CBT) - Observer debriefing and debriefing training conducted - Debriefing certification workshop - Assessment training for CBT dvpt. work	- Development of French version of CBT documentation - Observer debriefing and debriefing training conducted
1.5 Develop and trial new technologies for enhancing quality of data and timeliness of data collection	- Assessment of spill sampling methodology for at-sea observers – target of 50 trial observer cruises by end 2010 - Trial the use of data loggers on selected observer cruises	
1.6 Develop harmonised fisheries monitoring / data sharing protocols (FFA)	- Assume completed in 2009, awaiting confirmation from FFA	
1.7 Undertake compliance audits and IUU risk assessments (FFA)	- Assume completed in 2009, awaiting confirmation from FFA	

1.8 Develop and implement methodologies to verify fisheries data (SPC-FFA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of TUFMAN computer package to generate exception reports by comparing logsheet, VMS and unloading data - TUFMAN software documentation completed and distributed 	
1.9 Develop and trial new technologies, including satellite based technologies for the detection of IUU fishing activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awaiting information from FFA regarding this activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed in 2009
Result 2: Enhanced Stock Assessments		
2.1 Large-scale conventional and electronic tagging / biological studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational plan for regional tag-release programme in 2010 established. - Western Pacific tagging cruise #4 completed (subject to additional donor support) - 1 central Pacific cruises completed - Continued implementation of equatorial Pacific wide tag seeding program - Data processing conducted - Tag recovery procedures implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albacore tagging cruise 2 completed (NZ) - Albacore tagging cruise 3 completed (Tonga/Fiji) - Data processing conducted - Tag recovery procedures implemented - Biological sampling training implemented
2.2 Analysis of tagging, biological and fishery oceanographic data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of population dynamics of yellowfin, skipjack and bigeye from conventional and electronic tags - Analysis of PNG tagging data for estimation of FAD effects - Tagging reports prepared for PNG, Solomon Is, FSM-Palau, Kiribati-RMI- Tuvalu. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of population reproductive & growth of albacore - Data analyses commenced, preliminary results reported to WPFC-SC6. - Tagging reports completed for NC & FP
2.3 Incorporate data / analytical results into stock assessment models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skipjack tagging data included in 2010 stock assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albacore reproductive ogive and growth curves estimated
Result 3: Enhanced Understanding of the Pelagic Ecosystem		
3.1 Ecosystem model development and enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mixed resolution forcing data sets compiled for SPC member countries. - Incorporation of multiple cohort tagging data into SEAPODYM - MSY extraction code developed for SEAPODYM - Seapodym Mixed resolution models for PNG and Kiribati completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report documenting South Pacific albacore SEAPODYM model - Seapodym Mixed resolution models for NC and PF
3.2 Use of models for research / management applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of time-area closures for tropical tuna management - Reports on EEZ-scale evaluations of tuna fisheries for selected ACPs using SEAPODYM model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report documenting EEZ scale oceanographic effects evaluated in the context of current South Pacific albacore fisheries management

Revision to previous workplan

5. 2010 RESULTS

The results projected for 2010 are:

1. All financial and reporting requirements of the project satisfied within timelines.
2. Progress as detailed above in enhancing oceanic fishery monitoring through the delivery of observer & port sampling training, operational support and data quality control procedures.
3. Progress as detailed above in enhancing stock assessments through the collection of new data through tagging and other biological studies.
4. Progress as detailed above in enhancing understanding of the pelagic ecosystem and the impacts of fishing thereon, through the development and enhancement of large-scale ecosystem models.

6. BUDGET

The budget for this Work Plan from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010 is estimated at **€966,000** for the ACP component and **€845,408** for the OCT component (Total **€1,811,408**).

A breakdown of this overall cost in terms of is set out below.

2010 Project Activities (as per Contribution Agreement)		Cost (€) ACP		Cost (€) OCT
1. Technical Assistance				
Port Sampling & observer Coordinator	100,000			
Port Sampling & observer Trainer	85,000			
Tagging Technician	75,000			
#Ecosystem Modeller	#100,000			
National Coordinator FP			38,000	
National Coordinator NC			38,000	
Fisheries Oceanographer			90,000	
^Albacore Biologist			^56,000	
^Laboratory Assistant			^11,000	
^Research Assistant			^11,000	
		360,000		244,000
2. MCS Activities		0		0
3. Travel		46,000		24,000
4. Equipment				
Port sampling & Observer	10,000			
Fishery monitoring FP			3,000	
Fishery monitoring NC			3,000	
Fishery monitoring WF			1,000	
*Tagging/biological	25,000		*56,408	
Computer	9,000			
		44,000		63,408
5. Tagging Operations		238,000		175,000
6. Training		30,000		8,000
7. Observer and Port Sampling Operations		30,000		238,000
8. Data Processing and IT Support		110,000		20,000
9. Administrative Support		42,000		13,000
10. SPC Overhead		60,000		50,000
11. Contingencies		6,000		10,000
12. Evaluation		0		0
Total		916,000		826,000
		966,000		845,408

addition of €50,000 from balance of ACP Year 1 Technical Assistance – Ecosystem Modeller

^creation of Laboratory Assistant, Research Assistant and Statistical Modelling Services after the resignation of the Albacore Biologist

* addition of €26,408 from balance of OCT Year 2 Equipment – Tagging Biological and Tagging Operations – Vessel Charter.

1. *Technical Assistance*

A sum of **€528,000** is provided to support positions recruited by the project at SPC – Port Sampling and Observer Coordinator, Port Sampling and Observer Training Officer, Ecosystem Modeller (including the derogation of €50,000 from the Year 1 budget), Fisheries Technician (Tuna Tagging) (**ACP Component**), Fisheries Scientist (Albacore Biology) and Fisheries Oceanographer (**OCT Component**). With the resignation of the Fisheries Scientist in the second half of 2010 this will also include Laboratory Assistant and Research Assistant.

2. *MCS Activities*

All **ACP Component** and **OCT Component** tasks completed in 2009.

3. *Travel*

A sum of **€70,000** is budgeted to facilitate travel related to project activities.

4. *Equipment*

A total of **€107,408** is allocated for the purchase of necessary items of equipment required by the project, primarily for the conduct of tuna tagging and biological sampling activities. This includes the derogation of €26,408 from balance of OCT Year 2 Equipment – Tagging Biological and Tagging Operations – Vessel Charter for the purchase of satellite tracking tags.

5. *Tagging Operations*

A total of **€413,000** is allocated for tagging operations, including vessel charter and operations, tag rewards, publicity, etc.

6. *Training*

A total of **€38,000** is allocated towards miscellaneous costs associated with the delivery of port sampling and observer training.

7. *Observer and Port Sampling Operations*

A total of **€268,000** is allocated to the operational support of port sampling and observer programmes in the region. Such funding is spent in-country to support primarily local personnel costs associated with these activities.

8. *Data Processing and IT Support*

A total of **€130,000** is allocated to data processing and IT support, primarily for the costs related to data entry, scientific computer programming support and website development and maintenance.

9. *Administrative Support*

A total of **€55,000** is allocated for project administrative support, primarily office consumables, part-costs of employment of a Project Administrator and the costs of independent audit.

10. SPC Overhead

A total of **€110,000** is budgeted for SPC project management fees, calculated at 7% of total direct costs.

11. Contingencies

An amount of **€16,000** has been allocated for contingency costs.

12. Evaluation

No evaluation of the project by the European Commission is planned for 2010.

7. COST ESTIMATE

This project duration is approximately four years (2008-2011) to be implemented with a total budget of **€6,610,000** broken down as follows:

	DIRECT COSTS	€ - ACP	€ - OCT
1	Technical Assistance	1,080,000	853,000
2	MCS activities	480,000	100,000
3	Travel	150,000	112,000
4	Equipment	134,000	151,137
5	Tagging Operations	1,200,000	336,863
6	Training	90,000	24,000
7	Observer and Port Sampling Operations	90,000	714,000
8	Data Processing and IT Support	330,000	60,000
9	Administrative Support/Audit	129,000	42,000
	TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	3,683,000	2,393,000
	INDIRECT COSTS		
10	Indirect Costs (7% of Direct costs)	258,000	167,000
11	CONTINGENCIES	26,000	30,000
12	EVALUATION	33,000	20,000
	TOTAL COST ESTIMATE	4,000,000	2,610,000

8. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the Project will be undertaken by the Oceanic Fisheries Programme (OFP) of the SPC. The OFP will provide overall project support through the OFP Manager and the respective OFP section heads (Statistics & Monitoring, Stock Assessment & Modelling and Ecosystem Assessment & Monitoring Sections). Project activities will be integrated into annual OFP work plans.

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) has been set up to decide and approve the orientation and the course of the Project. The Directors of Fisheries (or equivalent) from each of the participating

countries and territories (or their delegated representatives) form the PSC and meet at least once per year, or on an ad hoc basis whenever necessary. The European Commission and the RAOs are invited to attend as observers. SPC acts as Secretariat for the PSC. The PSC is tentatively scheduled to be held in the margins of the annual Forum Fisheries Committee meeting in Honiara, Solomon Islands in May 2010.

Over the course of Project implementation, SPC has responsibility for maintaining accurate records of all administrative and financial transactions (with the support of SPC Corporate Services) and incorporates this data/information into an appropriate reporting format consistent with the requirements of the Contribution Agreement.

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

9.1 Performance Monitoring

SPC will undertake regular monitoring of the project indicators and will report to the Project Steering Committee in accordance with the requirements of the Contribution Agreement. Monitoring will include the financial and technical aspects of the project. An annual audit of the project will be undertaken by independent auditors. Project staff contracted by SPC will also be subject to performance appraisals as part of SPC's Performance Management System.

SCIFISH was the subject of a Results Oriented Monitoring mission that took place in Noumea from 31 August to 14 September 2009 (MR-124442.01). The project received an overall A rating (3.7). Three main recommendations were made to SPC: (1) Determine measurable and time-bound criteria for Project Purpose and Results OVIs; (2) Include achievements towards achieving the PP, and on impacts, in half yearly reports; and (3) Investigate the usefulness of data loggers for observer and port sampling activities. These three recommendations have been actioned in the 2010 work plan (see work plan activities indicator table in Section 4, Monitoring and Evaluation (recommendations 1 and 2) and activity 1.5 (recommendation 3).

9.2 Monitoring Indicators and Milestones

The table contained in Section 4 of this Work Plan identifies indicators against which progress will be monitored.

9.3 Audit and Evaluation

Audit and evaluation will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Contribution Agreement.

10. SIGNATURES

Agreed by:

.....
Dr Jimmy Rodgers
Director General
Secretariat of the Pacific Community

..... **Date**

Approved by:

.....
Feleti P. Teo
Deputy Secretary General and
Deputy Regional Authorising Officer
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

..... **Date**

Endorsed by:

.....
Wiepke Van Der Goot
Head of Delegation
European Union, Suva

..... **Date**