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**REGIONAL MONITORING, CONTROL
AND SURVEILLANCE STRATEGY
(RMCSS) 2018 – 2023**



REGIONAL MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE STRATEGY (RMCSS) 2018 – 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Background	5
Purpose, Vision, Goal, Scope & Target Group	6
Format	7
Priority Objectives	9
Monitoring & Evaluation	12
National MCS Plans	13
Attachment A: Implementation Table – Priority Objectives	14
Attachment B: Implementation Table – National MCS Plans	26
Attachment C: Overarching Performance Indicators	28
Attachment D: RMCSS Linkages to FFA Policy Documents & Reporting	31



BACKGROUND

Forum Leaders adopted the RMCSS (2010 – 2015) in 2010 to guide regional and national MCS activities. Since 2010, FFA Members have undertaken considerable national and regional work to implement the RMCSS (2010-2015) resulting in the 2016 Forum Leaders' Communiqué which noted that the FFA regional MCS Framework is world class and has achieved positive results for FFA Members. The significant strengths of the current MCS framework include its contribution to the continued restriction of unauthorised fishing by tuna vessels and the strong influence FFA Members have on the WCPFC MCS Framework. FFA Members must maintain and consolidate the broad suite of MCS tools and processes in place within the region to ensure the sustainable management of Pacific tuna resources.

Despite significant progress, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing still exists in Pacific tuna fisheries. The 2016 IUU Quantification Report¹ estimated the value of total product either harvested or transhipped involving IUU activity in Pacific tuna fisheries at USD \$616.11m, with a potential economic loss to FFA Members of \$152.67m per year. This IUU fishing is mostly driven by licensed vessels (over 95% of the total estimated volume and value of IUU activity) and predominantly relates to under-reporting, misreporting and non-reporting. Therefore, an important focus of this Strategy is on improving levels of compliance amongst licensed fleets.

In addition to IUU fishing, Pacific Island countries also face threats to maritime security resulting from transnational crime. This necessitates increased maritime awareness across the region and further strengthens FFA Members' resolve to facilitate national and regional cooperation.

Between 2015 and 2017, FFA Members have led and completed substantial national and regional work, evaluations and consultations regarding the regional MCS framework. This Strategy targets key regional risk areas and supports the development and consolidation of similarly targeted MCS initiatives. Through this refined and targeted approach, FFA Members can focus on addressing the most relevant IUU risks. The design and implementation of an ambitious, yet achievable, strategy will both maintain and enhance national and regional MCS capabilities and further reduce IUU fishing.

The success of this Strategy, and achievement of its priority objectives, is reliant upon targeted and effective national implementation, coupled with streamlined regional collaboration and cooperation. Through implementing the components of this Strategy, FFA Members will make significant progress to achieving the vision of the FFA Strategic Plan (2020) by implementing an MCS framework that contributes to the FFA Vision that "our people will enjoy the highest levels of social and economic benefits through the sustainable use of our offshore fisheries resources".

¹ MRAG Asia Pacific (2016), *Towards the Quantification of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in the Pacific Islands Region*.



PURPOSE

The main purpose of this Strategy is to guide compliance and enforcement with fisheries management frameworks and associated measures at national, sub-regional, regional levels to ensure FFA Members enjoy the highest level of social and economic benefit from the sustainable use of shared offshore fishery resources.



VISION

Social and economic development through the sustainable management and use of FFA Members' offshore fishery resources will be supported by continued elimination of IUU fishing.



GOAL

The reduction of IUU fishing in Pacific tuna fisheries through enhanced MCS programmes and strengthening compliance and enforcement throughout the regional MCS framework.



SCOPE

This Strategy applies to all 17 FFA Members as the implementation of many of its components requires full regional cooperation. However, effective national implementation is fundamental to the success of the Strategy. At the national level, MCS risks, priorities, and capabilities differ between Members and therefore national MCS programmes will need to be tailored to specific national needs and priorities, cooperating regionally and sub-regionally where appropriate.

The primary focus of this Strategy is on commercial fisheries targeting tuna and associated pelagic species, within Members' exclusive economic zones (EEZs) as well as in the high seas. The secondary focus is on incursions into FFA Members' EEZs and territorial waters by illegal foreign fishing vessels.

While the Strategy is limited to fisheries MCS activities, it recognises that these activities are an integral part of broader maritime security, awareness and management. A flowchart of FFA regional policy documents and reporting relevant to the Strategy is contained as **Attachment D**.



TARGET GROUP

This Strategy is targeted to assist national officers responsible for implementing MCS activities and programs, such as senior MCS Managers. At the regional level, FFA Secretariat's Fisheries Operations Division will oversee the implementation of this Strategy, along with promoting and monitoring relevant linkages to other regional activities.

This Strategy is also an important document for other relevant stakeholders (States, donors, regional agencies, NGOs) and the facilitation of streamlined regional MCS efforts and action.



FORMAT

This Strategy focuses on four overarching priority objectives for the regional MCS framework. These objectives are not intended to be all-encompassing, but instead address critical areas of the regional MCS framework that require strengthening.

The objectives have been determined by recent regional studies and evaluations, and extensive consultation with Members and other relevant stakeholders. Underneath each objective, sits a number of action items as outlined below.

1. Regional standards are in place for effective and efficient MCS systems

- 1.1 Licensing
- 1.2 Port State measures (PSM)
- 1.3 E-reporting & E-monitoring
- 1.4 Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)
- 1.5 Harmonised Minimum Terms and Conditions (HMTCs)
- 1.6 Legislation

2. Quality information is available and accessible to national and regional officials to assess IUU risks and plan MCS activities

- 2.1 Development of e-licensing systems for national administrations that are compatible with regional systems and regional developments (CDS, e-reporting).
- 2.2 Finalise and/or implement regional strategies relating to the availability, quality and/or accessibility of information.
 - 2.2(a) Regional Monitoring Strategy
 - 2.2(b) Regional Information Management Strategy
 - 2.2(c) Persons of Interest Strategy
 - 2.2(d) Illegal Small-Scale Fishing Vessels Strategy
- 2.3 Facilitate information exchange and cooperation between national and regional agencies involved in MCS activities through efficient and effective processes underpinned by legally sound mechanisms

3. Procedures established and operationalised to conduct effective MCS activities

- 3.1 Develop MCS data analysis procedures to guide national MCS officers to identify, analyse and verify IUU fishing
- 3.2 Enhance the capacity and capability of national MCS officers through strengthened and continued practical and theoretical MCS training.
 - 3.2(a) Certificate IV in Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance
 - 3.2(b) Attachments
 - 3.2(c) Deployment
 - 3.2(d) National requests
 - 3.2(e) Regional MCS workshops
- 3.3 Continue to optimise the use of surveillance and response assets at the national, sub-regional and regional level.
- 3.4 Enhanced implementation of port State measures by FFA Members.
- 3.5 Develop and implement Catch Documentation Schemes to verify and validate product from point of harvest through the market chain.

4. Effective compliance and enforcement through efficient use of available information, analyses and intelligence, achieved through whole of government engagement

- 4.1 Ensure timely and effective responses to all potential non-compliance identified by national or regional agencies or by other Members.
- 4.2 Strengthen voluntary compliance tools and initiatives relating to awareness, enforcement, detection and penalty



Aerial Surveillance in action (PHOTO CREDIT: FFA RCSC).

An implementation table for the above priorities and activities is included as **Attachment A**.

The full suite of national MCS tools and programs for each FFA Member should be identified in Members' respective national MCS plans. See Section 10 for an overview of the objective relating to national MCS plans: *Comprehensive National MCS Plan developed encompassing entire MCS framework required for effective national MCS, and consistent with established regional fisheries objectives and policies*. Four action items sit underneath this objective and the corresponding implementation plan is included as **Attachment B**.



PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

An overview of the rationale and background behind each priority objective, and key action items, is outlined below.

1. Regional standards are in place for effective and efficient MCS systems

This objective seeks to develop regional standards for key MCS activities to ensure those activities are conducted effectively and efficiently (nationally and regionally). It will also ensure the harmonisation of MCS activities throughout the region to harness national and regional information management system (IMS), and other system, efficiency. FFA Members' development of regional MCS standards will continue to strengthen in-zone MCS arrangements. This will provide leverage to applying similar (or at least compatible) standards in areas beyond national jurisdiction through the principle of compatibility under the WCPFC Convention and other international agreements.

The development of regional standards was identified by FFA Members as a key priority in national MCS risk-assessment workshops held in 2017. Additional comments on some of the action items are included below:

Licensing: The development of regional e-licensing standards is an essential starting point from which to develop effective and efficient national licensing systems. Standards create the conditions for simplicity by adding certainty, repeatability and predictability to system development and maintenance.

Port State Measures (PSM): PSM are a key control and enforcement mechanism for fishing vessels and their activities. It is one useful MCS tool in the larger MCS toolbox available to Members in the fight against IUU fishing. A key objective of the Pacific Islands Port State Measures Project (2017-2022) is to establish an integrated and harmonised regional PSM framework. The establishment of regional PSM standards will be a critical element to ensuring compatibility and consistency across the region regarding port State controls. The need for these standards has been strengthened in recent years due to new and evolving market state requirements and the advocacy for the development of WCPFC CDS standards by FFA Members. National PSM developments will require a whole of government approach to facilitate necessary cooperation between national agencies consistent with their mandates.

E-reporting & E-monitoring: Regional standards for e-reporting and e-monitoring must be developed, both for 'data standards' (what data are collected) and 'process standards' (how data are collected). This will facilitate compatibility of data generated from e-reporting and e-monitoring with regional data standards and data confidentiality rules. It will also facilitate the implementation of e-reporting and e-monitoring in such a way as to be integrated with existing SPC, PNA and WCPFC databases, FFA surveillance activities and national level data systems that support analysis by Members (RIMF and FIMS).

Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS): Regional CDS standards must be developed to ensure the rollout of CDS is: integrated with existing information management systems (national, subregional and regional); integrated with relevant at-sea monitoring, port and shore-based activities including trade related processes; and consistent throughout the FFA Membership. This is proposed as one of the key work areas under the planned Pacific Islands CDS Project (2018-2022).

Harmonised, Minimum Terms and Conditions for Access by Fishing Vessels (HMTCs): The HMTCs are a key strategic tool for FFA Members to regulate access to their waters. They are a fundamental mechanism for setting leading standards for FFA Members to protect, as well as maximise benefits from, their fisheries resources. As such, it is critical that Members continue to develop and refine the content of the HMTCs, implementing it into national legislation as appropriate.

2. Quality information is available and accessible to national and regional officials to assess IUU risks and plan MCS activities

This objective seeks to ensure that MCS officers have all necessary information to conduct MCS activities in an efficient and effective manner. This requires availability (required MCS data timely fed into information management systems), quality (reliable, accurate) and accessibility (simple and quick to access) of information. This information is useful as a management decision support system, facilitating fisheries managers to make informed decisions regarding the management of fleets based on operational and compliance trends. This same information is also useful for broader purposes other than compliance and enforcement decision-making.

A key action item for achieving this objective is the facilitation of national and regional information exchange and cooperation to support MCS activities. The FFA Strategic Plan specifies that multilateral Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement (NTSA) is the key mechanism for enhancing regional cooperation through facilitating information and intelligence sharing, cross-authorisations of assets and personnel.

Associated strategies: The Strategy incorporates four MCS-related strategic documents relevant to improving the availability, quality and accessibility of MCS information. Rather than duplicating the objectives and action items within each document, this Strategy will be used to monitor the development and finalisation of each. The listed regional strategies relate to Monitoring, Information Management, Persons of Interest, and illegal Small-Scale Foreign Fishing Vessels.

Standardise national licensing systems: National registry and licensing systems require streamlining to ensure that such systems are structured efficiently to manage the cost and complexity involved in their development and maintenance. This is particularly the case with the development and implementation of newer MCS processes, such as CDS and e-reporting. It is therefore an opportune time for national administrations to develop, standardise and streamline e-licensing systems. This is consistent with one of the main opportunities for the regional MCS regime identified in the 2016 Regional MCS Evaluation: harnessing technology for e-business transformation of licensing procedures.

3. Procedures established and operationalised to conduct effective MCS activities

This objective relates to what actually needs to be done with MCS information and data that is collected and managed. FFA Members need coordinated regional and subregional MCS responses to IUU threats, facilitated by information sharing, cooperation and collaboration. To ensure that there are effective national and regional responses (tactical, strategic) to IUU threats, clear procedures must be established, operationalised and maintained to effectively carry out MCS activities.

This MCS focus area is consistent with an objective of the previous RMCSS (2010-2015): “Capacity and capability to respond to risk/information/intelligence, including human resources/institutional set-up and enforcement assets” (Goal 1, Strategic Objective 5).

MCS data analysis: The 2016 Regional MCS Evaluation recommended the disaggregation of I, U and U to “understand the sources, nature and impact” of each IUU component so that the appropriate controls can be applied. Participants of the FFA MCS Risk Assessment & Compliance Review Workshop (March 2017) supported this approach. Effective and streamlined MCS data analysis would also assist in generating vessel and people histories and compliance profiling.

Optimisation of MCS Resources is outlined in two key action areas:

- a) Continue to optimise the use of surveillance and response assets; and
- b) Enhanced implementation of port State measures.

The FFA region is characterised by large EEZs with, in many cases, limited available MCS resources. The use of risk-based approaches to target MCS responses and resources is critical to optimising available MCS resources in the region. Surveillance and response assets play a pivotal role in detecting and deterring IUU activity in the region. Further, PSM are a critical MCS tool for addressing IUU fishing and ensuring no IUU product enters the supply chain.

4. Effective compliance and enforcement through efficient use of available information, analyses and intelligence, achieved through whole of government engagement

This objective relates to the need for MCS information, analyses and intelligence to be effectively used by compliance, inspection, legal and enforcement officers. This requires national MCS officers to effectively and efficiently respond to any potential non-compliance e.g. through investigation, prosecution or otherwise. Potential non-compliances include those identified by FFA Secretariat (e.g. RFSC), other Member notifications, as well as at the national level.

Action Item 3.1 (*Develop MCS data analysis procedures to guide national MCS officers to identify, analyse and verify IUU fishing*) is critical to establishing appropriate administrative and compliance processes. The application of these administrative processes can lead to improved industry compliance and, ultimately, a reduction in IUU fishing.



Busy port in action (PHOTO CREDIT: David Power).



MONITORING & EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluating performance is a critical component of the Strategy. Ongoing performance monitoring of national implementation of MCS activities and programs will be required. Aggregate analysis of regional performance including the identification of common issues and challenges is also important in allocating resources to key needs. Monitoring and evaluation of the four priority objectives, and underlying action items, will be completed through assessing and reviewing regional performance of the performance indicators contained in **Attachment A**. Likewise, monitoring and evaluation of the national MCS plans component will be completed through reference to the implementation table, and performance indicators, contained in **Attachment B**.

At the strategic level, regional performance of the Strategy's goal ('reduction of IUU fishing in Pacific tuna fisheries') must be progressively assessed and reviewed. Separate to the performance indicators contained in the two implementation tables, the Strategy establishes indicators to measure progress against this goal (**Attachment C**). These indicators will be reviewed, and amended as necessary, annually at the MCS Working Group.

Regarding implementation, no specific timeframes have been prescribed for each action item in Attachment A (Priority Objectives) or Attachment B (National MCS Plans). However, particular focus will be placed on Priority Objectives 1,2 and 3 during the first three years of the Strategy's implementation (2018 to 2020). For implementation at all levels, stakeholders are to comply with the FFA Gender Equity Framework and must actively work to identify and remove barriers to women's full participation in regional tuna fisheries.

The MCS Working Group will provide a succinct annual report to FFC officials regarding the implementation of the Strategy, including the identification of key decision-points and priorities. This report will outline the implementation status of the priority objectives, national MCS plans, and overarching indicators in achieving the Strategy's goal. FFC review of the Strategy's implementation will take into account progress against the actionable components of the Strategy. FFC will also consider the Strategy's contribution to the achievement of identified regional objectives embodied within regional policy documents including the FFA Strategic Plan and the Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Pacific Fisheries.



FFA RFSC operational team (PHOTO CREDIT: RFSC file).



NATIONAL MCS PLANS

National implementation is critical to the successful implementation of the Strategy. Therefore, it is recommended that all FFA Members develop, or update existing, national MCS plans². These national MCS plans must:

- a. be consistent with, and facilitate implementation of, the regional priorities contained in this Strategy (this should be easily achieved since this RMCSS is built upwards using identified national priorities); and
- b. incorporate and address all MCS components and programs required for efficient and effective national MCS programs. This extends beyond the priority objectives outlined in this Strategy and must ensure that existing MCS tools and capabilities are maintained appropriately.

The implementation of national MCS programmes requires action and involvement from multiple government departments including, but not limited to, fisheries, police, foreign affairs, customs, immigration, ports and health. Interagency cooperation is therefore critical to the successful implementation of national MCS programmes.

An implementation table regarding national MCS plans is included as **Attachment B**.



Fisheries Inspectors ready to go (PHOTO CREDIT: Philip Lens).

² National MCS plans refers to both: a) stand-alone national MCS plans, strategies or policy documents (e.g. NPOA-IUU); and b) any MCS strategies incorporated into broader national fisheries management plans or policies.



ATTACHMENT A IMPLEMENTATION TABLE: PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

1. Regional standards are in place for effective and efficient MCS systems

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
1.1 Licensing			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop regional standards for e-licensing systems to address growing complexity in current national licensing systems. (See also 2.1) 	Regional e-licensing system standards developed.	FFA Members / FFA Sec / SPC / PNAO	FLOW outcomes / records, RIMS outcomes / records, MCSWG outcome / records
	Regional e-licensing system standards approved by FFC.	FFA Members / FFA Sec	FFC outcomes
	No. of Members that have implemented regional e-licensing system standards into national licensing systems.	FFA Members/ FFA Sec / SPC / PNAO	National status reports
1.2 Port State measures			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop regional standards for PSM to ensure regional compatibility and consistency in FFA Members' port State measures. The development of these standards may be impacted by jurisdictional issues regarding port controls. 	Regional PSM standards developed.	FFA Members / FFA Sec / PNAO / SPC	MCSWG Papers/ Records, Evaluation Report from Pacific Islands PSM Project
	Regional PSM standards approved by FFC	FFA Members / FFA Sec	FFC outcomes
	No. of Members that have implemented regional PSM standards into national PSM framework.	FFA Members/ FFA Sec / SPC / PNAO	Primary/secondary National legislation
1.3 E-reporting & E-monitoring			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop regional standards to implement e-reporting for all vessel registrations, licence applications, logsheet reporting, vessel notifications, observer data forms and unloading forms - Develop regional standards for the use of e-monitoring that defines both scientific and compliance data needs, and identifies optimal coverage and analysis rates 	Regional e-reporting standards developed	FFA Members / FFA Sec, PNAO, SPC	MCSWG Papers/ Records, DCC records / outcomes
	Regional e-reporting standards adopted by FFC	FFA Members / FFA Sec	FFC outcomes
	Regional e-monitoring standards developed (data and process standards)	FFA Members / FFA Sec, PNAO, SPC	MCSWG Papers/ Records, DCC records / outcomes,
	Regional e-monitoring standards adopted by FFC	FFA Members / FFA Sec	FFC outcomes
1.4 Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop FFA regional CDS standards, including for landing or transshipment validation, and regional coordination of data between Flag State, Coastal State, Port State and Observer Providers - Continue to lead in the development of WCPFC standards-based approach to developing CDS - Ensure any developed CDS standards are compatible with related MCS areas (e.g. port State measures, e-reporting) 	Regional CDS standards developed that are compatible with related MCS areas	FFA Members/ FFA Sec, PNAO, SPC	MCSWG Papers/ Records
	Regional CDS standards adopted by FFC	FFA Members / FFA Sec	FFC outcomes
	Members' actively engaged in the development of WCPFC CDS standards	FFA Members	WCPFC & TCC papers & records / CDS IWG records / outcomes / FFA-led WCPFC proposals
1.5 Harmonised Minimum Terms & Conditions (HMTCs)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to develop and refine the content of the HMTCs to ensure they reflect FFC decisions and other regionally-agreed positions and standards. 	HMTCs reviewed and, where necessary, amended based on regional developments.	FFA Members / FFA Sec	MCSWG outcomes/ recommendations / FFC outcomes
	Amended HMTCs approved by FFC	FFA Members / FFA Sec	FFC outcomes
1.6 Legislation			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop model legislative provisions in line with HMTCs and other regional positions, for use and consideration by national administrations - MCS standards reflected in national laws. 	Model fisheries legislation developed to reflect HMTCs and regional MCS standards	FFA Sec	MCSWG Papers / FFC outcomes
	No. of Members that have reviewed national fisheries legislation since 2016 upon consideration of regional MCS standards and any model legislation.	FFA Members / Assisted by FFA Sec and SPC	Draft Bills submitted to National Parliament
	No. of Members that have amended national fisheries legislation since 2016	FFA Members	Primary/secondary National legislation enacted

2. Quality information is available and accessible to national and regional officials to assess IUU risks and plan MCS activities

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
<p>2.1 Development of e-licensing systems for national administrations that are compatible with regional systems and regional developments (e.g. CDS, e-reporting).</p> <p>Refine the two foundational elements of these systems upon reference to developed regional standards (see Priority 1.1):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Registry: streamlined database of registration details (e.g. vessel and operator details) 2. Authorisations: Those authorisations subject to a specified time period (e.g. licenses, permits, certificates, access agreements) 	<p>No. of Members with national e-licensing systems that are compatible with regional standards and systems.</p> <p>No. of Members with national capacity to amend and maintain national e-licensing system.</p>	<p>FFA Members / FFA Sec / PNAO / SPC</p> <p>FFA Members / FFA Sec</p>	<p>MCSWG Papers, RIMS Papers, FLOW Papers</p>
<p>2.2 Finalise and/or implement regional strategies relating to the availability, quality and/or accessibility of information.</p> <p>2.2(a) Regional Monitoring Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This strategy seeks to streamline and enhance national and regional independent fisheries monitoring and data collection. It will primarily address the availability and quality of fisheries data required to conduct MCS activities. <p>2.2(b) Regional Information Management Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This strategy will guide the enhancement of both national and regional information management through, among other things, improving the accessibility of information to MCS officials to conduct MCS activities - The information management systems that facilitate the operation of the MCS framework comprises multiple interconnected components – at national, sub-regional and regional level. Some of these components have been progressively developed upon consideration of the broader MCS regime (e.g. RIMF), while others have been developed in isolation often based on specific national needs (e.g. national license systems). This has resulted in a high level of complexity within existing information management systems. Therefore, it is critical that national, sub-regional, and regional MCS activities have scalability and modularity in approach. - While this strategy seeks to improve the accessibility of information available to MCS officials, it also calls for the improved population of existing MCS databases in the first place. The continued and complete population of existing databases is critical to ensuring availability of necessary information (e.g. Violations and Prosecutions data base). <p>2.2(c) Persons of Interest Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This strategy will seek to improve the availability of information to MCS officials concerning persons (natural persons and companies) involved in IUU activities. It focuses on the collection, sharing and use of profile information for persons of interest. This information should be integrated with existing databases and platforms e.g. developed e-licensing systems. - This will expand on the current national, regional and international approaches to combatting IUU fishing, which have been heavily focussed on vessels (e.g. good standing vessel list on the FFA Vessel Register, the vessel compliance indices in the Regional Surveillance Picture, IUU Vessel Lists, and flags of convenience). <p>2.2(d) Illegal Small-Scale Fishing Vessels Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This strategy provides guidance to FFA Members (and other affected countries such as New Caledonia), the FFA Secretariat and SPC FAME in addressing incursions into territorial seas and coastal waters by illegal small-scale foreign fishing vessels to fish for high value inshore species. - This strategy complements broader efforts in the Pacific region to enhance domestic and regional maritime domain awareness. 	<p>The following Performance Indicators apply to each regional strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of strategy 2. FFC approval and adoption of strategy 3. Implementation of strategy, including performance of both national and regional level action 4. Monitoring the outputs and outcomes of strategy against the objectives and vision of this RMCSS 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FFA Members / FFA Sec / SPC / PNAO 2. FFA Members 3. FFA Members / FFA Sec / SPC / PNAO 4. FFA Sec 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MCSWG papers, FFC papers 2. FFC records 3. Monitoring & Evaluation components of each regional strategy, FFC and MCSWG reports 4. FFC and MCSWG reports

2. Quality information is available and accessible to national and regional officials to assess IUU risks and plan MCS activities (cont.)

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
<p>2.3 Facilitate information exchange and cooperation between national and regional agencies involved in MCS activities through efficient and effective processes underpinned by legally sound mechanisms</p> <p>National</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Between national agencies involved in maritime activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhanced sharing of information to strengthen national fisheries' monitoring, surveillance and enforcement capabilities • enhanced sharing of information to strengthen general maritime domain awareness and build capacity to detect and respond to broader maritime risks <p>Regional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Between FFA Secretariat and other regional organisations with a mandate and/or capacity related to maritime activities (e.g. PNAO, SPC FAME, SPREP, WCPFC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share information in a manner consistent with respective organisations' data security policies • Establish critical handover points between organisations and agencies (based on operational mandates) for use of MCS data - Between FFA Members, FFA Secretariat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodic MCS priorities and consultation sessions • Maintain up-to-date communication channels/forums and contacts • Utilisation of the multilateral NTSA - Between FFA Members and Regional Quadrilateral Surveillance Providers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accordance with FFA ISMS Policy, which is to be audited and updated periodically as required 	<p>National:</p> <p>No. of Members with operational national MCS Coordination Committees</p> <p>Regional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Info exchange mechanisms established? <i>Y/N and list</i> 2. Type of information exchanged? <i>Detail</i> 3. Amount of information exchanged? <i>No. of tranches or sets.</i> 4. What is the shared information to be used for? <i>1) Address IUU fishing 2) Other fisheries-related crimes 3) Other maritime crimes</i> 	<p>FFA Members</p> <p>FFA Secretariat (lead) PNAO, SPC, SPREP</p>	<p>National Coordination Committee Meeting Reports</p> <p>Database exchange between national and regional database</p> <p>RFSC outputs.</p> <p>ISMS Policy Statements.</p>

3. Procedures established and operationalised to conduct effective MCS activities

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
<p>3.1 Develop MCS data analysis procedures to guide national MCS officers to identify, analyse and verify IUU fishing</p> <p>To ensure a targeted approach, these procedures should disaggregate IUU fishing into its three main components, then outline key steps to be taken to effectively identify, analyse and verify suspect activity. This can be achieved through developing distinct Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) or other procedural guidelines each for illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing activity analysis.</p> <p>Any procedures should include critical handover points with other law enforcement agencies, surveillance providers, or other organisations with established cooperation with FFA Members.</p>	<p>Regional MCS data analysis guidelines developed for consideration and use by Members</p> <p>No. of Members with MCS data analysis procedures developed</p> <p>No. of Members with MCS data analysis procedures implemented into national processes</p> <p>No. of Members with dedicated data-analyst function</p>	<p>FFA Secretariat</p> <p>FFA Members</p> <p>FFA Members</p> <p>FFA Members</p>	<p>MCSWG Papers</p> <p>MCSWG Country Report</p> <p>MCSWG Country Reports</p> <p>MCSWG Country Reports</p>
<p>3.2 Enhance the capacity and capability of national MCS officers through strengthened and continued practical and theoretical MCS training.</p> <p>Ongoing training is essential to ensure that appropriate MCS skillsets are developed amongst national MCS officers. These skills then must be practically applied to national officers' roles in the context of both national and regional MCS activities.</p>	<p>MCS Training Needs Analysis undertaken.</p> <p>Results and recommendations of MCS Training Needs Analysis incorporated into FFA capacity building and training programme</p>	<p>FFA Sec (lead), and independent consultant</p>	<p>Training Needs Analysis Report</p> <p>FFA Training Programme and FFC report</p>
<p>3.2(a) Certificate IV in Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance</p> <p>Covers the general skills and knowledge required by MCS officers</p>	<p>No. of FFA Member officers completed all competencies under Cert IV.</p> <p>No. of FFA Member officers that did not complete the Cert IV competencies (including reason for non-completion e.g. non-attendance, failure etc.)</p>	<p>FFA Sec / FFA Members</p> <p>FFA Sec / FFA Members</p>	<p>National requests - Fisheries Training Profile (provided to FFC)</p>

3. Procedures established and operationalised to conduct effective MCS activities (cont.)

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
3.2(b) Attachments a) FFA Secretariat (General MCS, VMS and RFSC) b) Inter-member	No. and type of attachments completed by MCS officers.	FFA Sec / FFA Members	National requests / Fisheries Training Profile (provided to FFC)
3.2(c) Deployment a) National fisheries officers on other FFA Members' patrol vessels b) Shiprider agreements	No. and type of deployments of MCS officers	FFA Members / FFA Sec / QUADS	National requests - Fisheries Training Profile (provided to FFC)
3.2(d) National requests National MCS capacity building and training provided by FFA Secretariat and Members in response to national requests e.g. dockside boarding and inspection, prosecutions and evidence, VMS, WCPFC obligations.	No. and type of national requests for MCS training, and corresponding FFA Sec response	FFA Members / FFA Sec / SPC	National requests - Fisheries Training Profile (provided to FFC) Service Legal Agreements.
3.2(e) Regional MCS Workshops Regional workshops delivering targeted MCS training e.g. observer incident analysis, Fisheries Licensing Officers' Workshop (FLOW), Fisheries Evidence Training and Investigation Course (FETIC).	No. and type of regional MCS training and/or workshops delivered	FFA Sec / SPC/ PNAO	MCSWG Reports, FFC Reports, Regional Workshop reports
3.3 Continue to optimise the use of surveillance and response assets at the national, sub-regional and regional level. Surface and aerial assets play a significant role in the regional MCS regime. These assets operate as a key deterrent to non-compliance as well as detecting possible IUU activity within the region. Due to the high expense and limited availability of surveillance and response assets, continued optimisation of their use is essential. As such, the optimisation of surveillance and response assets is a key regional MCS priority area during the implementation period of the RMCSS. The new Pacific Maritime Security Program (PMSP) will greatly enhance the timeliness and capacity of aerial surveillance tasked through the Regional Fisheries Surveillance Centre on behalf of the FFA membership. The PMSP seeks to strengthen areas of national, sub-regional and regional surveillance and response assets. The effective implementation and coordination of these programs is essential to the consolidation, strengthening and expansion of the use of surveillance and response assets. Improved coordination and cooperation at the national, sub-regional and regional level is required to facilitate optimisation of surveillance and response assets.	Prioritisation model developed for deployment of assets under PMSP Prioritisation model implemented for deployment of assets under PMSP % of planned or allocated air and sea surveillance hours completed No. of air tasking requests and responses	Involvement of FFA Members and surveillance providers in operations utilising surveillance and enforcement assets	Air Tasking requests from Members in support of National Surveillance Efforts Operation Planning Directive (PD) Operation Post Activity Report (PAR)
3.3(a) National level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved cooperation between fisheries and surveillance agencies - Timely and accurate completion of national actions e.g. provision of license lists, patrol briefings - Whole of government coordination to provide necessary approvals etc for activities of regional surveillance aircraft 	No. of standing approvals No. of national multi-agency command centres established.	FFA Members FFA Members	MCSWG Country Reports / National Government Reports
3.3(b) Sub-regional level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation under the Niue Treaty, and particularly the NTSA - Sub-regional deployments and asset sharing - Ship Rider Agreements 	No. of co-operative surveillance and enforcement activities conducted under NTSA No. of requests submitted by Members through the NTIS No. of successful responses to requests through the NTIS. No. of Members utilising Ship rider agreements and submitting reports No. of bilateral fisheries operations completed (e.g. OP SOLVAN)	FFA Members / FFA Sec (coordination role)	MCSWG Reports / NTIS

3. Procedures established and operationalised to conduct effective MCS activities (cont.)

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
<p>3.3(c) Regional level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved targeting of assets through strengthened information management and analysis, as well as clear procedures - Improved communication and planning for cooperative deployment of multiple assets outside of planned regional operations - Harness new surveillance technologies and tools, incorporating into national systems where appropriate 	<p>No. of multilateral operations completed, including Op Nasse, Op Calypso and equivalent French and US regional surveillance Operations</p> <p>Development of the National IMS portal which facilitates timely information exchange into the RIMF(2)</p>	<p>FFA Sec (RFSC) / QUADs / FFA Members</p> <p>FFA Members / FFA Sec</p>	<p>Operation Post Activity Report (PAR)</p> <p>RIMS Workshop Report</p>
<p>3.4 Enhanced implementation of port State measures by FFA Members</p> <p>a. National: Identify and address gaps and weaknesses in national port State controls</p> <p>b. Regional: Establish an integrated and harmonised regional PSM framework</p> <p>Both national and regional objectives are closely linked to regional objectives and actions regarding traceability developments i.e. CDS (see 3.5). These objectives are directly aligned to the Pacific Islands PSM Project (2017-2022). This project responds to the need to reduce IUU fishing through improved monitoring of catch unloadings, verification of fishing vessel activities, and a structured fishing vessel regime based on IUU risk analysis.</p> <p>National strengthening of PSM is a key component of this work with key focus areas including: review of port State legislative and policy framework, implementation of e-reporting by fishing vessels, IUU risk analytical tools, MCS information networks and port-based IUU identification tools and response mechanisms.</p>	<p>Outputs from PI PSM Project (refer to Results Framework for further detail):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framework for regional PSM recognising international agreements developed - National strategies and implementation tools developed - Improved national regulatory and governance framework - Training programme to implement PSM developed and rolled out <p>Adoption of arrangements to ensure interoperability & integration among e-information management systems in the region.</p>	<p>FFA Members / FFA Sec / SPC / PNAO</p>	<p>PI PSM Project Results Framework / PI PSM Project Steering Committee Reports / MCSWG Papers / FFC Reports</p>
<p>3.5 Develop and implement Catch Documentation Schemes to verify and validate product from point of harvest through the market chain</p> <p>The development and implementation of CDS requires coordination and collaboration between different sectors across the commodity chain. It also requires close linkages to other MCS work programs that are involved in monitoring and inspection activities including: the development of PSM and the continued development of information management systems and ER frameworks (national, sub-regional, and regional).</p> <p>Strengthened partnerships are required between both internal (FFA, SPC, PNAO and industry) and external stakeholders (donors, NGOs and private vendors) to develop inclusive and robust systems.</p> <p>The development of CDS in the region must be electronic-based so that any systems developed or used are suitable for application to the scale, complexities and sensitivities of Pacific tuna fisheries. This work must also incorporate necessary linkages to WCPFC processes and to other relevant stakeholders in the market chain, including non-WCPFC and non-FFA States.</p>	<p>Relevant outputs from PI CDS Project regarding development and implementation of national CDS, consistent with regional standards (refer to the project's Results Framework, once approved, for further detail)</p>	<p>FFA Members / FFA Sec / PNAO / SPC</p>	<p>PI CDS Project Results Framework / PI CDS Project Steering Committee Reports / FFC Reports / MCSWG Papers</p>

4. Effective compliance and enforcement through efficient use of available information, analyses and intelligence, achieved through whole of government engagement

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
<p>4.1 Ensure timely and effective responses to all potential non-compliance identified by national or regional agencies as well as by other Members.</p> <p>Members must ensure that national administrative arrangements in place to adequately respond to non-compliance in a manner consistent with national and international law.</p>	<p>% of MCS intelligence & information provided by FFA Sec to Members (e.g. incident reports, RFIs, red contacts on Vessel Compliance Index) acted upon by Members.</p> <p>No. of violations, prosecutions or other case outcomes entered into the Violations and Prosecutions database.</p> <p>No. of Members with dedicated compliance and inspection officers to respond to non-compliance.</p>	<p>FFA Members</p>	<p>Violations and Prosecution database / MCSWG Country Reports</p>
<p>4.2 Strengthen voluntary compliance tools and initiatives relating to awareness, enforcement, detection and penalty.</p> <p>Strengthened voluntary compliance tools and initiatives can lead to more cost-effective compliance and MCS programs. These tools and initiatives can consist of either incentives or deterrents, or a combination of the two. The implementation and measurement of voluntary compliance tools/initiatives under the Strategy is focused on the highest IUU risk in Pacific tuna fisheries: reporting violations (includes mis-reporting, under-reporting and non-reporting).</p> <p>Engagement with industry is critical to the efficient operation of MCS programs, including by increasing Members' understanding of the drivers of non-compliance from which effective MCS programs can be designed.</p>	<p>No. of Members implementing incentive schemes rewarding compliant fleets.</p> <p>No. of Members implemented voluntary compliance tools and initiatives to address reporting violations.</p> <p>No. of consultations by Members/Sec with industry groups and flag States</p>	<p>National fisheries policies / National MCS Plans / MCSWG Country Reports</p>	<p>MCSWG Country Reports / National Agency Websites</p>





ATTACHMENT B IMPLEMENTATION TABLE: NATIONAL MCS PLANS

Comprehensive national MCS plan developed encompassing entire MCS framework required for effective national MCS, and consistent with established regional fisheries objectives and policies

Actions/Outcomes	Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Verification Sources
<p>1. Develop national MCS plan template that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - outlines regional MCS priority objectives contained in this Strategy; - reflects the core MCS components of FFA regional policy documents (e.g. operationalisation of the NTSA to facilitate cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities); - is consistent with other international MCS documents (e.g. IPOA-IUU); and - consolidates existing national MCS capabilities (e.g. through identification of core MCS components and programmes). 	National MCS Plan template developed and provided to FFA Members.	FFA Sec / PNAO / SPC	MCSWG Reports / FFA Circulars
<p>2. National MCS plans developed and implemented into national fisheries programs through procedural documents (e.g. SOPs), including consideration of any necessary national legislative amendments.</p>	<p>No. of FFA Members with national MCS plan developed.</p> <p>No. and type of SOPs developed by each Member.</p> <p>No. of FFA Members with national MCS plan implemented and publicised.</p>	<p>FFA Members / FFA Sec to assist</p> <p>FFA Members / FFA Sec to assist</p> <p>FFA Members</p>	MCSWG Country Reports / national policy documents
<p>3. Targeted and sustainable MCS funding delivered for effective implementation of national MCS plans and programs. Methods of achieving this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adequate national investment of fisheries revenue into national MCS programs; - utilisation of cost-recovery mechanisms to fund MCS activities where possible; and - exploring available donor funding to assist in achieving sustainably-funded MCS programs. 	<p>% of fisheries revenue reinvested in fisheries MCS activities each year for each Member</p> <p>No. and type of MCS programs funded by cost recovery mechanisms for each Member</p>	<p>FFA Members</p> <p>FFA Members / assisted by FFA Sec</p>	MCSWG Country Reports / National administration reports
<p>4. National MCS Coordination Committees established and operational.</p> <p>These committees should focus on national MCS awareness and intergovernmental agency awareness, cooperation and collaboration. This will facilitate national capability, capacity and responsiveness to IUU fishing and other fisheries related and/or transnational crime. In addition, these committees are likely the most appropriate groups to review and assess Members' National MCS Plan implementation.</p>	<p>1. No. of FFA Members with established national MCS coordination committee (interagency body)</p> <p>2. No. of Members with established committees holding regular (at least annual) meetings</p> <p>3. Exchange of MCS data (VMS, observers, port inspections) between national agencies increased.</p>	FFA Members	National Coordination Committee Meeting Reports / MCSWG Country Reports



ATTACHMENT C OVERARCHING PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The below performance indicators have been developed to evaluate regional performance in relation to the overall goal of the Strategy: 'The reduction of IUU fishing in Pacific tuna fisheries through enhanced MCS programmes and strengthening compliance and enforcement throughout the regional MCS framework.'

Through the use of quantifiable metrics, FFA Members will be able to evaluate the impact of the regional MCS framework on reducing IUU fishing in Pacific tuna fisheries. It is acknowledged that the below indicators are not all encompassing and will not give a complete evaluation of IUU fishing in the Pacific. However, these indicators seek to establish useful metrics for assessing IUU fishing, or potential IUU fishing, from which the MCSWG can evaluate appropriate MCS responses and treatments. Some indicators do not directly measure IUU fishing activity but are informative, providing context and scope to particular MCS activities that target IUU fishing. It is proposed that the reporting at MCSWG22 (year 1 of the Strategy) will provide a baseline for future analysis of any potential 'reduction in IUU fishing'.

MCS Area	Indicator	Possible verification sources
Aerial Surveillance	No. of aerial surveillance hours coordinated by FFA Members and relevant partners (e.g. QUADs)	QUAD reports / RFSC records
	No. and % of EEZ coverage by aerial surveillance	QUAD reports / RFSC records
	% of High Seas coverage by aerial surveillance	QUAD reports / RFSC records
	No. of contacts identified by aerial surveillance or other surveillance techniques (such as remote sensing surveillance systems)	NHQ / RFSC records / QUAD reports
	No. of vessels detected by aerial surveillance committing an infringement that results in prosecution and/or other compliance response	National administration reports / Court records / NHQ records / RFSC records
Surface patrols	No. and % of EEZ coverage by surface patrols	QUAD reports / RFSC records / NHQ records
	% of High Seas coverage by surface patrols	QUAD reports / RFSC records / NHQ records
	No. of surface patrol days coordinated by FFA Members and relevant partners (e.g. QUADS)	QUAD reports / RFSC records
	No. of boardings and inspections completed by surface patrol vessels	QUAD reports / RFSC records / NHQ records
	No. of vessels sighted by patrol vessels	QUAD reports / RFSC records / NHQ records
	% of boardings and inspections with infringements detected	QUAD reports / RFSC records / NHQ records

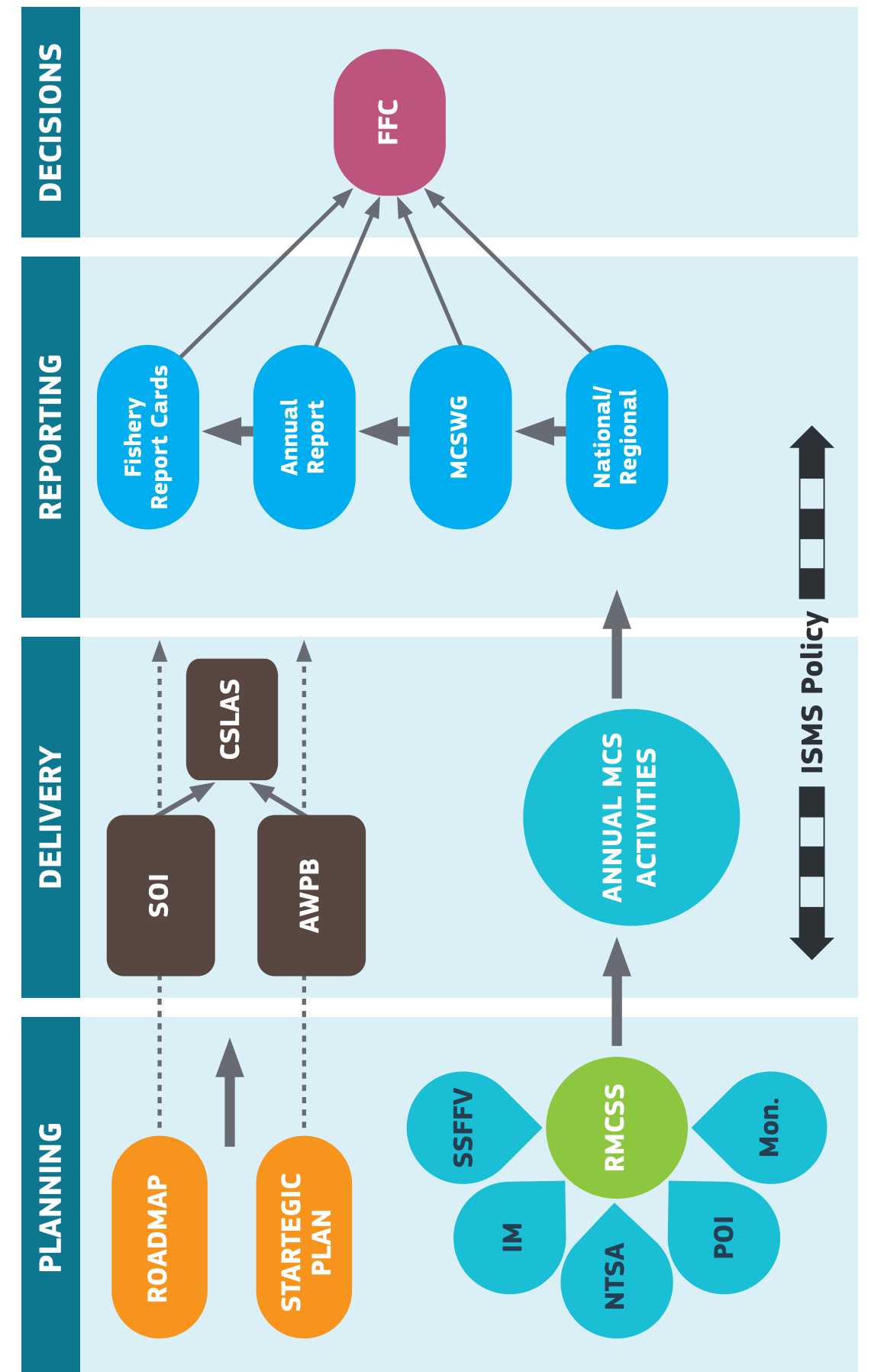
MCS Area	Indicator	Possible verification sources
VMS	% of fishing vessels on FFA Register not-reporting on VMS	Logsheets/Good standing list v VMS coverage
	No. of fishing vessels submitting manual reports	National and regional VMS officer information
	No. and type of potential VMS infringements identified	VMS v license conditions
Logsheets	No. of fishing trips with logsheet data submitted	Logsheet v VMS
	% of fishing trips with logsheet data submitted in compliance with national time requirements	Logsheet v VMS v license conditions
	% of fishing trips with ER logsheet data submitted	eTUNALOG/OnBoard/iFIMS/TUFMAN2 data
	% of reported catch (target and non-target) verified by independent monitoring	Logsheet vs observer data vs EM data Vs port sampling v unloadings
Unloadings	% of trips with unloadings data	Logsheet v VMS v unloadings
	Verified catch by number, species, volume	Logsheet v unloadings v port sampling
	% of trips with unloadings reported via e-reporting	TUFMAN2/FIMS data
Observer	No. of Observer placements	RIMF OPM
	Observer trip coverage	No. of observer placements v observer reports received v VMS trips
	Observer report coverage	No. observer placements v No. of observer reports
	% of observer reports submitted within national temporal requirements	Observer placements v observer reports v license conditions
	% of observer reports submitted via e-reporting	iFIMS eObs data
	No. of alleged infringements identified by observer data that result in prosecution and/or other compliance response	Observer reports v MCS data / National administration reports / Court records
	% of trips where infringements identified by observer data	Observer reports
	% of trips where reporting violations identified by observers	Observer reports
License conditions	No. and type of potential infringements of license conditions	VMS v license conditions v other MCS data
FFA Vessel Register	No. of fishing vessels in good standing on FFA Vessel Register	FFA Vessel Register / Good standing list
	No. of fishing vessels suspended or revoked from FFA Vessel Register	FFA Vessel Register
Port inspections	% of fishing vessels entering port inspected (in-port)	Pent/VMS/logsheets v port inspection reports
	No. and type of potential infringements identified from port inspections	Port inspection reports v licensing conditions

Transshipment (TS)	No. of FVs authorised to tranship (at sea or in port)	License lists / WCPFC RFV
	No. and type of transshipment reports submitted	TS reports
	% of transshipment events occurring in port rather than at sea	TS reports
	% of transshipment events involving carrier vessels with independent monitoring	VMS v transshipment reports v observer data
	No. and type of potential transshipment infringements	TS authorisations v VMS v TS reports
	% of ER transshipment reports (by type)	National databases / WCPFC CCM portals
Compliance responses	No., type and outcome of national compliance responses to identified or potential infringements	Prosecution/settlement/ confidential outcome/ fine information/warning/ no further action following investigation
	No. of national infringement investigations	National administration reports
	% of infringements detected that are sanctioned (including prosecutions)	National administration reports / Court records
	% of prosecutions that are successful	National administration reports / Court records
	Total revenue collected through fines	National administration reports



Heading out for a compliance inspection (PHOTO CREDIT: Francisco Blaha).

ATTACHMENT D
RMCSS - LINKAGES TO FFA POLICY DOCUMENTS & REPORTING





GLOSSARY

RMCSS LINKAGES TO FFA POLICY DOCUMENTS & REPORTING

TERM	DESCRIPTION
Roadmap	Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Pacific Fisheries (endorsed by Forum Leaders)
Strategic Plan	FFA Strategic Plan (2014 - 2020)
SOI	FFA Statement of Intent (2017-2020)
AWPB	Annual Work Plan and Budget
CLSAs	Country Service Legal Agreements
Fishery Report Cards	Annual Fishery Report Cards (for reporting on the Regional Roadmap)
Annual Report	FFA Annual Report
MCSWG	FFA Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Working Group
National/Regional	National and regional reports on performance of MCS activities
FFC	Forum Fisheries Committee
RMCSS	Regional MCS Strategy (2018 -2023)
Annual MCS Activities	Full suite of national and regional MCS activities
SSFFV	Small-Scale Foreign Fishing Vessel Strategy
IM	Regional Information Management Strategy
NTSA	Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement
POI	Persons of Interest Strategy
Mon.	Regional Monitoring Strategy
ISMS Policy	Information Security Management Statement Policy



NOTES



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