



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
NINETH REGULAR SESSION**

**WEST PACIFIC EAST ASIA PROJECT
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
13:30-16:00, 10 August 2013

SUMMARY REPORT ON 2012-2013 WPEA PROJECT ACTIVITIES

WCPFC-SC9-2013-RP/WPEA-02

Secretariat

I. INTRODUCTION

A general term “WPEA” has been used to refer the GEF-funded *West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management (WPEA OFM) Project*, which will be extended to the second phase project called *Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas*. For convenience, the second phase project is abbreviated as “WPEA SM” and the following terms are used in this document:

Project title	Advisory body	Remarks
IPDCP ¹	IPDCP-SC (Steering Committee)	2004 - 2009
WPEA OFM Project	WPEA OFM PSC (Project Steering Committee)	2010 - 2012
WPEA Project	WPEA-SC	2013 – mid-2014?
WPEA SM Project	WPEA SM PSC	2014 – (3-4 years)?

The advisory body of the project called the steering committee is designed to review the progress of WPEA project, provide advice to facilitate cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders and seek better options for future activities. As the WPEA OFM Project was wrapped up early this year, no official PSC is required this year, instead the WPEA Project is hosting a steering committee meeting called WPEA-SC during this bridging period to review the work done since July 2012 and to share planned activities. The final 2013 APR/PIR was submitted to the GEF in late July 2013.

The 3-year GEF funded project, officially commenced on 6 January 2010, was extended from January to March 2013 to complete financial arrangements among UNDP, UNOPS and WCPFC. Over 90% of the project outputs were completed in November 2012, an independent terminal evaluation was arranged by the UNDP, where Mr Robert Gillett was selected as an independent terminal evaluator. The evaluation included reviewing all project outputs and interviewing with 25 participants at WCPFC9. The

¹ Indonesia and Philippines Data Collection Project

evaluation report was submitted to the UNDP-GEF in January 2013 and posted on the SC9 website.

II. SUMMARY OF WPEA ACTIVITIES

Since July 2012, the WPEA Project team devoted their best efforts to wrap up most of the work by November 2012 in order to facilitate the terminal evaluation. All details of the project outputs and outcomes are described in detail in the independent evaluation report.

Though the official WPEA OFM Project was completed, the Project Manager secured some co-finance budget from the last 3-4 years' income to fund the three countries in 2013 in order to continue core WPEA activities such as data collection from port sampling and convening review workshops, to estimate total annual tuna catch in the three countries. The following table summarizes key project activities since July 2012 and future activities planned for 2013.

Indonesia	
1. Data collection in Bitung, Sodohoa, Kendari and extension of a new sampling site in Sorong	Routine activities
2. Supervision of port sampling and data collection	September 2012, May, July 2013
3. Review WS on port sampling and data audit	November 2012
4. Third Indonesian (WCPFC Area) annual catch estimates workshop	July 2012
5. Review workshop on the Indonesian tuna fisheries profile, national tuna management plan, national-level tuna association activities, and the status of logbook and observer programmes	September, November 2012
6. Participation in the workshop on tuna management on a national level	October 2012
7. Consultation meeting for the development of 2013 annual work plan	March 2013
8. Participation in the Seventh Tuna Data Workshop	April 2013
9. Logbook awareness workshop to enhance return rate of logsheets	May 2013
10. Fourth Indonesian (WCPFC Area) annual catch estimates workshop	June 2013
11. Participation in the workshop on the review of WPEA-1 and preparation of WPEA-2 Project	June 2013
Philippines	
1. Data collection from port sampling	Routine activities
2. Collection of the Pacific tuna tag recoveries	Routine activities
3. Logsheets awareness activities to enhance the return rate of logsheets	Routine activities
4. Participation in the first regional TUFMAN training workshop	December 2012
5. WPEA-NSAP tuna catch estimates review workshop and Philippines-WCPFC annual tuna catch estimates review workshop	May 2013
6. Field study for the compilation of catch information at landing sites to improve the municipal small tuna hook-and-line annual catch estimates	March 2013
7. Participation in the Seventh Tuna Data Workshop	April 2013
8. Hosting a three-country workshop on the review of WPEA-1 and	June 2013

preparation of WPEA-2 Project	
Vietnam	
1. Data collection from port sampling and logbook programme	Routine activities
2. Participation in SC8 and WPEA-OFM Project Steering Committee meeting	August 2012
3. Workshop on the review of policy, legal and institutional arrangements, national tuna management plan, national-level tuna association activities, and national tuna fisheries profile	September, November 2012
4. Review workshop on port sampling	November 2012
5. Workshop on annual total tuna catch estimates, review of estimation methodology and review of handline fishery	April 2013
6. Training of new enumerators at additional six provinces	June 2013
7. Participation in a workshop on the review of WPEA-1 and preparation of WPEA-2 Project	June 2013

III. PROGRESS OF THE WPEA-2 PROJECT

The UNDP submitted an umbrella project proposal to the GEF in mid 2012, which is called Project Framework Document (PFD), to position themselves better to secure the approval from the GEF. The PFD, with a budget of USD 21,800,000, includes the following three projects:

- 1) YS LME: Implementation of the Yellow Sea LME Strategic Action Program for Adaptive Management (USD 8,243,049);
- 2) WCPFC: Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas (USD 2,500,000); and
- 3) PEMSEA: Scaling up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (USD 11,056,951).

After the approval of the PFD late 2012, each project prepared a Project Identification Form (PIF) which includes project concepts and budget estimates of the project. The WPEA SM PIF was submitted to GEF on 5 April 2013. The GEF approved the WPEA SM PIF on 29 April 2013 subject to the comments from the GEF Secretariat. The GEF Secretariat finalized its official approval of the WPEA SM PIF in mid-June 2013 with the following budget schedule:

Indicative GEF Project Grant	\$2,233,578
Indicative Agency Fee	\$201,022
Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	\$60,000
PPG Agency Fee	\$5,400

Once the WPEA SM PIF is approved, within six months, the Project Document should be submitted to the GEF. The project document includes details on the project components, project activities and indicative budget allocation to each components. The UNDP will make [made] a contract with Drs Anna Tengberg and Antony Lewis for the development of the project document. As a prior process, the WPEA Project hosted a workshop, with the three participating countries and UNDP staff in Cebu Philippines, 25-27 June 2013, to review the WPEA-2 project components, indicators, baselines, targets and to identify potential activities plausible to implement. The UNDP is aiming to submit the WPEA Project Document in early 2014 but the process of each country's endorsement may delay the submission. It is anticipated that the second phase project will start in mid 2014.

The current state of project activities and budget are shown in the table below.

Activities	Transferred	2013	Country
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		budget	total
Indonesia			
1) Enumerator's salary	14,352	27,264	
2) National tuna coordinator's fee	5,600	16,800	
3) Prior research on a new sampling area (Mamuju area)		2,764	
4) Enumerator's salary in a new sampling site: Mamuju area (\$4,508/year)			
5) Maintenance of port sampling equipment per year		500	
6) Development of data quality control software (\$4,000)			
7) Research – Improvement of the monitoring and auditing scheme in port sampling		1,500	
8) Review Workshop on tuna data collected by port sampling and supervision of port sampling, Bitung, November 2013		25,113	
9) Field trip for the supervision of port sampling (July, November)		6,172	
10) Consultation meeting for the development of 2013 annual work plan		1,500	
11) Development of national tuna fisheries profile – Archipelagic waters FMA 713, 714 and 715		1,500	
12) Participation in the SPC's Tuna Data WS		3,615	
13) Annual Total Tuna Catch Estimates Workshop		19,958	
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>19,952</i>	<i>106,686</i>	<i>126,638</i>
Philippines			
1) Enumerator's salary	36,780	36,780	
2) Field trip for the supervision and maintenance of equipment	3,980		
3) Publication of Philippine Tuna Fisheries Profile / WS on update of Operations Guide for Filipino Fishermen	4,000		
4) Project coordination fee in Philippines	600		
5) Strengthen the National Tuna Industry Council (NTIC)	6,875		
6) Enhance the accuracy of PHL total annual catch estimates: Compiling information to improve the municipal "small-tuna" hook-and-line annual catch estimates	7,500		
7) Review WS on tuna data and catch estimates		15,600	
8) Participation in the SPC's Tuna Data WS		3,691	
9) Development of WPEA2 Project Document (Three country WS)		39,376	
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>59,735</i>	<i>95,447</i>	<i>155,182</i>
Vietnam			
1) Enumerator's salary	55,600		
2) National tuna coordinator's fee	16,800		
3) Consultation meeting for the development of 2013 annual work plan	750		
4) Development of estimation methodology, review of handline fishery and workshop on annual total tuna catch estimates		29,261	
5) Participation in the SPC's Tuna Data WS		4,246	
6) Field trip for supervision of port sampling		1,000	
7) Review WS on port sampling data, Binh Dinh, November		15,000	

2013			
8) Training of enumerators at six provinces		3,284	
9) Port sampling in six provinces (target to start from July)		12,600	
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>73,150</i>	<i>65,391</i>	<i>138,541</i>
Programmed Budget for 2013	152,837	267,524	420,361
Total WPEA budget remaining (as of 1 March 2013)		507,464	
Contingency fund		20,000	
Remaining budget for 2014 + 2014 WCPFC Support		244,940	

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

In 2013 and 2014 until the commencement of the WPEA SM Project, core activities will be supported from the WPEA budget. Those activities include

- Data collection from port sampling and field trips for the supervision of port sampling;
- Review workshop on port sampling and data audits;
- Country's annual total tuna catch estimates workshop;
- Participation in the SPC's Tuna Data Workshop;
- Development/Update of national tuna fisheries profiles;
- Country workshop for the development/finalization of the WPEA-2 Project Document (funded by PPG)

Through the IPDCP and WPEA OFM Project, the capacity of the three countries improved significantly in complying with the requirements of WCPFC and uncertainty in regional stock assessments has been considerably reduced through the provision of more reliable annual tuna catch estimates by species and by gear. Considering the importance of the WPEA Project and because of budget constraint in 2013 and early 2014, WPEA is seeking financial support from the WCPFC members.