



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



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# Report of the Fourth Project Steering Committee:

## Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the ABNJ

11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017  
Rome, Italy

ABNJ-Tuna-2017-PSC-Rep



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For bibliographic purposes, please reference this publication as:

FAO. 2017. *Report of the Fourth Project Steering Committee: Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the ABNJ, Rome, Italy, 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017*. Rome. 42 pp.

## List of Acronyms

AIS	Automatic Identification System
BDEP	Bycatch Data Exchange Protocol
BMIS	Bycatch Management Information System
CCSBT	Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna
CLAV	Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels
CMM	Conservation and Management Measures
COFI	FAO Committee on Fisheries
CPC	Contracting party and cooperating non-contracting party
CSM	Compliance Support Mission
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EAFM	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
EBFM	Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management
EMS	Electronic Monitoring Systems
FAD	Fish Aggregating Device
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFA	Pacific Islands Fisheries Forum Agency
FTBOA	Fiji Tuna Boat Owners Association
FFIA	Fiji Fishing Industry Association (previously FTBOA)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GR	Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels
HCR	Harvest Control Rule
IATTC	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
IMCSN	International Monitoring Control and Surveillance Network
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
ISSA	International Seafood Sustainability Association
ISSF	International Seafood Sustainability Foundation
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUU fishing	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing
IW-LEARN	International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network
LoA	Letter of Agreement
MCS	Monitor, Control and Surveillance
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MSE	Management Strategy Evaluation
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (US)
OPAGAC	Organización de Productores Asociados de Grandes Atuneros Congeladores
OPP	Ocean Partnerships Project (Common Oceans Project by the World Bank)
OSPESCA	Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector Organization of the Central American Isthmus
PA	Precautionary Approach
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNA	Parties of the Nauru Agreement
PSM	Port State Measures
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RBM	Rights-Based Management
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
RP	Reference point
SPC	Pacific Community
TCN	Tuna Compliance Network
t-RFMO	One of the tuna RFMOs, i.e. CCSBT, IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC and WCPFC
UNEP	UN Environment
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VDS	Vessel-Days Scheme
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System

WCPFC                    Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
WB                        World Bank  
WWF                      World Wide Fund for Nature

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## **I. Opening of the Meeting**

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1. The fourth meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) of the Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project was held in FAO Headquarters in Rome from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017. A total of 54 participants attended the meeting. The list of participants is provided in Annex I.
2. Jacqueline Alder, Common Oceans/ABNJ Global Program Coordinator, welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. She highlighted achievements of the project so far and the recent completion of the Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE). She encouraged the PSC to start thinking about potential future activities beyond the project.

## **II. Election of the Chair**

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3. Alexandre Aires-da-Silva, Senior Scientist at IATTC was nominated and elected new Chair of the PSC.

## **III. Adoption of the Agenda**

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4. The PSC adopted the Agenda provided in Annex II. The list of documents presented to the PSC is provided in

## 5. Annex III.

#### IV. Progress of the Common Ocean ABNJ Tuna Project <sup>1</sup>

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6. The Global Tuna Project Coordinator, Alejandro Anganuzzi, presented some highlights from the third year of implementation:
  - a. advances in the process of harvest strategies development and the operationalization of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management;
  - b. advances in the work on MCS, in particular the development of best practices in MCS in the context of t-RFMOs, the dissemination of the tools already developed in the framework of the project, and the EMS pilots in Fiji, Ghana and Seychelles;
  - c. project-supported collaborative work of the RFMOs on different topics i.e. the IMCS Tuna Compliance Network, the *Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs on the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management*, the *Kobe Joint Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Technical Working Group*, and the *joint t-RFMO FAD Working Group* (IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC); and
  - d. progress achieved on mitigation of ecosystem impacts of tuna fisheries i.e. the launch of the global [Bycatch mitigation information system](#)<sup>2</sup>, the shark data and shark management work, the seabird mortality assessment and mitigation and the bycatch mitigation techniques on tuna purse seiners.
7. The Global Tuna Project Coordinator also announced that as of 1 July 2017, he is no longer covering the role of the Executive Secretary and the Science Manager of IOTC.

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<sup>1</sup> A short title for the Outputs is used throughout this section. Please refer to the Project Document for a full title of the output.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.bmis-bycatch.org/>

## Component I : Strengthening governance

8. The Global Tuna Project Coordinator highlighted that this component supports an evolution on how decisions are taken in the t-RFMOs, with pre-agreed set of decision rules, compared to the current status where decisions are taken *a posteriori* where management actions are rising from scientific advice.

### Output 1.1.1. Capacity Building on Harvest Strategy

9. WWF presented the progress under Output 1.1.1 that aims at building capacity of coastal States for a better understanding of the scientific process around harvest strategies, harvest control rules and reference points and to support better decision making. Four workshops have been held since the start of the project, two [in Sri Lanka in 2014 and 2017 targeting Indian Ocean coastal States](#), one [in Panama in 2015 targeting IATTC developing Members](#), one in [Ghana targeting ICCAT developing members in August 2016](#).
10. Two additional workshops targeting the Pacific region are planned to be held in August 2017 in Bali, Indonesia and in February 2018 in Ecuador. Discussions are underway for an additional workshop in French for francophone ICCAT member States in Senegal in 2018.
11. The PSC reaffirmed the need for these capacity building workshops to strengthen informal dialogue between scientists and managers and noted the need for (i) holding these workshops in other languages, French in particular (ii) regionalization of workshop contents in collaboration with involved scientists whilst ensuring terminology and use of concepts consistent with those in use by the relevant t-RFMO, (iii) follow-up surveys to assess the medium-term effectiveness, and (iv) champion countries to help advance the process within the t-RFMOs.
12. The PSC reiterated that this capacity building exercise should not be limited to developing countries, and that the workshops should also be open to developed countries, even if the project cannot fund their participation, in order to promote a common understanding.

### Output 1.1.4. Science management dialogue

13. The PMU presented the progress achieved under Output 1.1.4., an output closely linked to Output 1.1.1., which supports the dialogue between science and management and the development of harvest strategies through, for example, testing of candidate harvest control rules. The Project has supported in the past informal science-management dialogues in WCPFC, IOTC and ICCAT. The Project is now encouraging a more formal structure or body under which the dialogue could take place in each t-RFMO, and which would support clear communication lines with the respective Commissions. Under the IOTC for example, a [Technical Committee on Management Procedures](#) has now been created to which the scientific working group on MSE can present progress and pose specific questions to delegates and which is held back-to-back with the annual meeting of the Commission. In November 2016, the Project supported the first meeting of the [Joint MSE Technical Working Group](#) hosted by the ICCAT Secretariat, which is dedicated to the exchange of information across t-RFMOs among experts working on the technical side of the process.
14. The PSC noted the usefulness of the Joint MSE Technical Working Group to support the adoption of Harvest Strategies. A second meeting of the [Joint t-RFMO MSE Working Group](#) in 2018 will be supported on request, but this Working Group will require stable funding to continue its work in future years. New partners, such as the foundation community, could assist in supporting the development of a long term vision for the group.
15. The PSC highlighted that the need for more communication around the concepts lying behind the development of Harvest Strategies, and recommended that the Project develops visual communication material to better explain and disseminate these concepts.



16. The PSC noted the good progress made under Outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.4. In particular, the Project contributed to the adoption of harvest control rules in IOTC<sup>3</sup> and IATTC<sup>4</sup>, a [training on data-limited stock assessment methods for tuna species for the IOTC](#), and processes and work plans that are now in place in ICCAT and WCPFC for the development and adoption of Harvest Strategies.
17. The PSC noted the general acceptance of the principles of harvest strategies in the t-RFMOs, but highlighted difficulties of decision-makers to work with pre-agreed decision rules which they sometimes see as limiting factors to negotiation.

#### **Output 1.1.5. Formulation of plans for implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries.**

18. The PMU presented the progress achieved under Output 1.1.5, which supports the development of plans for implementation of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) / Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) as another tool to strengthen management. The Project supported a [Joint meeting of the tuna RFMOs on the implementation of the EBFM](#), initiated by ICCAT, held in December 2016 in Rome. A 2nd joint t-RFMO meeting on the implementation of the ecosystem approach is planned for 2018 (tentative). A key point of discussion during the meeting was the need for a common understanding of how to operationalize EBFM within the context of tuna RFMOs and the need for stronger engagement of decision-makers in the process.
19. The PSC noted that some operational measures on ecosystem were already in place in most t-RFMOs, however that there were not part of integrated ecosystem approaches.
20. The PSC noted that the development of EAFM/EBFM was a process that should be driven by the managers, but that there was a general lack of understanding and engagement at that level.
21. The PSC noted that the EAFM/EBFM is often perceived as complicated and that there is a strong need to clarify basic steps of EBFM implementation, and to follow a step-wise approach to enhance understanding and engagement of decision-makers.

#### **Output 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 Rights based management**

22. These two outputs had the objective of reviewing the Rights Based Management system developed in the Western Pacific, *i.e.* the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) of the Parties of the Nauru Agreement (PNA) and disseminating the review's conclusions and lessons. Due to the delays in the approval and start of the Project, PNA undertook the review of the VDS without the support of the Project.
23. The PSC notes FFA's role as a facilitator of the VDS review on behalf of PNA and the current support FFA provides under the Oceanic Fisheries Management Project II to implement the recommendations resulting from the review. The PSC recommended that FFA liaise with the PNA Secretariat to discuss opportunities to collaborate with the Project on sharing lessons learned from the PNA VDS more broadly.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.iotc.org/cmm/resolution-1602-harvest-control-rules-skipjack-tuna-iotc-area-competence>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.iattc.org/PDFFiles2/Resolutions/C-16-02-Harvest-control-rules.pdf>

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## Component 2. Component 2: Reducing IUU fishing

### Output 2.1.1 Best practices in MCS

24. The PMU presented the progress achieved under Output 2.1.1, which aims at developing a document on Best Practices for Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) which would be endorsed by all t-RFMOs.
25. The PSC noted good progress this year on this activity, with the Project working with ISSF as main partner to develop draft chapters addressing seven different thematic areas. The Project also took advantage of the creation of the Tuna Compliance Network (output 2.1.2) to receive inputs from the Compliance officers of the t-RFMOs. Finally, the PSC noted that a consultant will be hired to coordinate the development of the Best Practices as additional chapters for others MCS tools need to be developed by other institutions or experts. The PSC encouraged the consideration of existing sources of information regarding MCS best practices.
26. The PSC acknowledged that the Best Practices are focusing on the specific actions and principles, including those described by CMMs (an overview of all t-RFMO CMMs can be accessed [here](#)) rather than on process. The PSC also acknowledged that considering FAO publishing requirements for a document named “Best Practices”, other potential names for the document might need to be explored, but that an Expert Consultation could be organized for endorsement of the document.
27. The PSC welcomed the opportunity to provide inputs to the document at a more advanced state of development.

### Output 2.1.2 Sharing of Experiences in MCS

28. Adriana Fabra, Coordinator of the IMCS Tuna Compliance Network presented the progress achieved under Output 2.1.2, which aims at enhancing capacity by facilitating cooperation, experience and information sharing among MCS practitioners by establishing a tuna compliance network. Officers in charge of compliance in t-RFMOs Secretariats met during the [Inception Workshop of the Tuna Compliance Network](#) in Spain in March 2017 with the dual objectives of establishing the Tuna Compliance Network (TCN) and sharing knowledge and experiences among them and other experts in fisheries MCS. An online tool was provided to TCN members to facilitate their discussions which has been used for example to provide inputs to the draft MCS Best Practices prepared under output 2.1.1.
29. The PSC welcomed the establishment of the TCN and highlighted opportunities for joint activities such as joint compliance support missions or use of electronic MCS support tools across t-RFMOs (e.g. the IOTC ePSM application). It noted that this model could also be used for other joint Working Group of the t-RFMOs, but that this kind of forum needs to be animated.

### Output 2.1.3 Certification-based program for training in MCS

30. The PMU presented the progress achieved under Output 2.1.3, which aims at strengthening the capacity of developing countries by providing career development opportunities to MCS officers through the establishment of a MCS certification-based course. The development of the curriculum has been slower than expected, in particular as the consultant hired for this work had serious health issues. However, he had provided a first draft provided in document ABNJ\_Tuna\_2017\_PSC\_Inf\_01.
31. FFA presented the work done in the Pacific, where a Certificate IV in fisheries enforcement and compliance is now in place with the University of the Pacific in Fiji. This came from a training needs assessment conducted in 2011, during which it became clear that MCS trainings needed to be more integrated. After two courses being held in USP and supported by the Project, online content was developed and physical attendance is only required for the last 10 days of the course as it was

difficult for MCS officers to spend several weeks outside of their countries. While the course was developed in the Pacific Ocean, 70 to 75% of the content is generic and can be applied to other t-RFMOs, and the rest can be adapted to the specificities of other oceans.

32. In addition, FFA presented a proposal (ABNJ\_Tuna\_2017\_PSC\_12) to expand the current course with additional global elements and to adapt it to other regions of the world.
33. The PSC noted that motivation of the participants was enhanced through the online courses, as students were completing the coursework on their own time and at their pace, and that such an integrated course was enhancing retention of MCS officers, as lack of retention is a recurrent problem in many countries.
34. The PSC recommended to extend the FFA online course to the other t-RFMOs with the inclusion regional elements that could be provided through the TCN.

#### **Output 1.1.2. Support to improve compliance by t-RFMO members.**

35. The PMU presented recent progress achieved under Output 1.1.2, which is designed to supplement capacity building efforts in the t-RFMOs to improve compliance of members with t-RFMO rules, in particular through (i) the IOTC e-Maris (compliance-oriented) online reporting, (ii) the ICCAT online reporting facility (more data-oriented) and (iii) support to the Joint t-RFMO FAD Working Group (including IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC).
36. The PSC noted that both IOTC and ICCAT were working on online reporting systems and that both Secretariats expressed interested in each other's work, and encouraged experience and lessons sharing.
37. The PSC noted the success of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the joint t-RFMO FAD Working Group during which common interests of the three participating RFMOs were discussed, *e.g.* FAD management plans, common design of non-entangling and biodegradable FADs, etc. The PSC recommended that the Project continues its support to the group, if possible with the participation of the WCPFC.

#### **Output 2.1.4 Legal framework for Port State Measures**

38. Judith Swan presented the progress achieved under Output 2.1.4, designed for the development of a legislative template to facilitate the implementation of the PSMA, which was successfully completed in mid-2016.. Her publication [\*Implementation of Port State measures - A legislative template; framework for procedures; the role of RFMOs\*](#) is now available in French and Spanish as well and has been widely used in FAO national and regional training activities. In total over 2,250 hard copies of the document were distributed, and the documents was downloaded more than 2,150 times from the FAO website. The Project also supported training activities related to the implementation of the IOTC ePSM application.
39. The PSC expressed its congratulation for the success of the publication and recommended to monitor uptake in national legislation of t-RFMOs members.

#### **Output 2.1.5 Harmonization of the Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels and the Global Vessel Record**

40. The PMU presented the progress achieved under Output 2.1.5 on the Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV), an initiative taken in 2007 by the t-RFMOs in the context of the Kobe process. The CLAV combines the records of authorized vessels of each t-RFMOs into one global online database<sup>5</sup> which, since last year, is automatically updated daily. Review of the CLAV data led to significantly increased data quality.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://tuna-org.org/GlobalTVR.htm>

41. Harry Koster reported on the third meeting of the Global Record Working Group, which took place in Rome from 26-28 June 2017. The PSC noted that a pilot phase of the Global Vessel Record (GVR) was being initiated with some participating members. In its first phase, the GVR will focus on large vessels, *i.e.* over 24m.
42. The PSC recommended that ways of harmonization between the CLAV and GVR are studied, for example the GVR could use data contained in the CLAV which is reported by the flag States to the Secretariats.
43. Finally, the PSC noted that the quality of the data contained in the CLAV decreased rapidly when no verification, validation and maintenance was performed, and recommended that ways of maintaining this work, with supported from the Project, should be discussed among t-RFMOs.
44. The PSC welcomed the automated CLAV and the review activities and noted that the t-RFMOs still need to discuss the CLAV operation and maintenance beyond the project duration.

### Output 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 Pilot trials of Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS)

45. The Fisheries Department of Fiji (remotely) and the Fishery Commission of Ghana presented the progress achieved under Output 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 on the two pilot EMS activities, in Fiji on board longliners, and in Ghana on board purse seiners. The objective of these outputs is to facilitate the integration of this new technology into domestic MCS activities in order to improve compliance with, and enforcement of, international, regional and national regulations.
46. The PSC noted that Fiji has faced challenges resulting in implementation delays. In particular after some staff changes inside the Offshore division, the EMS coordinator had to take up more responsibilities and could not devote the required amount of time to the project, and the Ministry of Fisheries and Forest was split with the creation of a dedicated Ministry of Fisheries, resulting in important administrative changes. In addition, the availability of only one technician also prevented fast deployment of EMS on the participating vessels. However, this did not prevent progress and at the moment, 11 vessels are equipped with EMS and reviews are ongoing. A legal review has also been initiated to study how best legal provision related to the use of EMS could be integrated into Fijian legislation.
47. The PSC noted that the EMS on board longliners allowed to detect several compliance issues, pertaining to six different types related to sharks, silky sharks, oceanic whitetip sharks, transshipment, misreporting and obstruction/assault on an observer. The Fisheries Department and the Fijian industry are working together to address those issues.
48. The FFIA renewed their interest and commitment to the EMS pilot activity in Fiji, but highlighted the need to improve communication between the stakeholders involved in the Fiji pilot.
49. In Ghana, good progress has been achieved during the last year and currently all 12 active purse seine vessels are equipped with EMS provided by the Project and two additional ones will be equipped soon.
50. For both pilots, the PSC noted that more work was needed on (i) the integration of provisions related to EMS in the Fijian and Ghanaian legal framework in order to use EMS information for the compliance purposes, (ii) the comparison between observer-generated information and EMS data, and (iii) sound business analysis to explore sustainability, costs, burden, and confidentiality rules. The business analysis has already started in Ghana and shall start early next year in Fiji.
51. The PSC welcomed the progress achieved under Outputs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 and the valuable lessons emerging from the EMS pilots and noted that other West-African countries have expressed interest in EMS and that several EMS related activities were being implemented in the Pacific Ocean.
52. The PSC recommended that a meeting is planned for Fiji and Ghana to share experiences and lessons learned through these two activities.

53. OPAGAC presented progress of the EMS pilot implemented in collaboration with the Seychelles Fishing Authority and the University of Alicante in Spain. Under this activity, data from on board observers, EMS, sampling, oversampling and logbook was analysed and compared. Results seemed to indicate that EMS performs well to identify activities of the vessel, catch quantities, bycatch quantities and species, however, it fails to provide good estimates of species composition and size distribution. The PSC recommended that new procedures are identified, to enhance these estimations through EMS

### Output 2.2.3 Integrated MCS system FFA

54. The FFA presented the progress achieved under Output 2.2.3 which aims at increasing the capacity of FFA members at national and regional level to conduct fisheries intelligence analyses. FFA has successfully set up a system which integrates different sources of information coming from various MCS tools.

55. The PSC noted that FFA is producing intelligence reports that are sent to Members, but there is still limited percentage of detected anomalies which are being acted upon. This is due to the lack of capacity and human resources in the national administrations. FFA is strengthening national capacity through the MCS course and additional regional MCS Data Analysis training and in-country coaching and mentoring programs.

### Output 2.2.4 Assessment of Catch Documentation Schemes

56. The PMU presented the progress achieved under Output 2.2.4, which aims at identifying best practices and weaknesses in existing catch documentation schemes that lead to the preparation of [Design options for the development of tuna catch documentation schemes](#)<sup>6</sup>, authored by Gilles Hosch. This publication clarifies the nature of CDS and what they can achieve, and identifies the factors to be considered in the design of such schemes as a management and monitoring, control and surveillance tool in tuna fisheries.

57. The PSC noted that this activity has been successfully completed last with strong international interest, including amongst t-RFMOs.

## Component 3. Reducing ecosystem impacts of tuna fishing

### Outputs 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 Development of pan-Pacific shark management plans

58. The Technical Coordinator-Sharks and Bycatch of the Project presented progress under Outputs 3.1.1 and 3.1.2.

59. The PSC noted achievements, in particular:

- a. Pan-Pacific coordination was strengthened through a 2.5 months posting of the Technical Coordinator-Sharks and Bycatch to the IATTC Secretariat;
- b. the Bycatch Data Exchange Protocol to standardize bycatch summaries across the t-RFMOs is gaining momentum and now involves WCPFC, IOTC and IATTC;
- c. [WCPFC](#) and [IATTC](#) both initiated shark post-release mortality tagging studies with funding from the EU which in the case of WCPFC represents co-funding for ABNJ-supported activities;
- d. two of the four shark assessments have been completed, and a third one has started;

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<sup>6</sup> Hosch, G. 2016. Design options for the development of tuna catch documentation schemes. Rome, FAO (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5684e.pdf>)

60. The PSC noted that work achieved under this output was an excellent example of inter-RFMO collaboration, and recommended to continue strengthen communications and information sharing regarding bycatch issues in tuna fisheries.
61. IATTC presented progress of its activity to improve shark data collection in the Eastern Pacific Ocean in collaboration with OSPESCA.
62. The PSC welcomed progress achieved, in particular that now three out of six Pacific coastal IATTC/OSPESCA countries are collecting detailed species composition data for important shark fishing fleets, and the remaining three are improving their data collection. The PSC further noted that the boundaries between catch and bycatch cannot always be clearly drawn, in particular with sharks as they are fully targeted by some fleets.

### Output 3.1.3 Global Bycatch Management Information System (BMIS)

63. WCPFC presented progress achieved under Output 3.1.3, the global [Bycatch Management Information System](#)<sup>7</sup> was launched in May 2017.
64. The PSC noted that WCPFC and SPC completed the [analysis of the largest compilation to date of Pacific sea turtle-longline fishery interactions](#).

### Output 3.2.1 Mitigation of seabird mortality

65. Birdlife presented the progress achieved under Output 3.2.1 in particular:
  - a. Five National Awareness workshops targeting Namibia, Indonesia, China, Seychelles and South Africa;
  - b. Port-based outreach activities in Cape Town targeting 33 vessels since October 2016;
  - c. Two Regional Seabird Bycatch Pre-assessment Workshops working towards a global seabird assessment; and
  - d. Data showing increased uptake of seabird mitigation measures by tuna longliners in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans fishing in the concerned areas.
66. The PSC welcomed the progress achieved and further noted that the main transformational impact of these activities remains the uptake of mitigation measures by the longline fleets. The PSC also noted that CMMs related to seabirds can be quite complex, and could be improved with better streamlining, resulting in better reporting by members.

### Output 3.2.2 Mitigation of bycatch of small tunas and sharks

67. ISSF presented the progress achieved under Output 3.2.2 which aims at developing mitigation measures on board tuna purse seine vessels. ISSF activities in this field started in 2010/2011 and since then research cruises, five of which received support from the Project (equipment), have been undertaken in cooperation with the industry to test mitigation measures for use by purse seiners. During the last year of implementation, trials were conducted in excess of 90 sea days with ISSF scientists and data collection by the crews and ISSF held 19 skipper workshops involving 842 participants.
68. The PSC also noted ISSF's activities contributing to additional areas of work of the project such as Harvest Strategies and the Ghanaian EMS pilot.
69. The PSC acknowledged the significant amount of co-financing by ISSF to the Project (which has already exceeded the amount of 22 million USD originally foreseen), but also that the partnership

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<sup>7</sup> [www.bmis-bycatch.org](http://www.bmis-bycatch.org)

with ISSF provides access to components of the private sector, with which it would have been difficult to work with otherwise.

### **Output 1.1.3. Estimation of bycatch rates in gillnet fisheries in the Northern Indian Ocean.**

70. WWF Pakistan presented progress achieved under Output 1.1.3 which aims at better estimating bycatch rates of the gillnet fisheries in the northern Indian Ocean. Achievements include:
  - a. WWF Pakistan has engaged Maldives, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan and Iran for regional cooperation;
  - b. 15% on-board tuna gillnets crew-observer (75 in total) coverage has been achieved; and
  - c. project data has supported (i) development of an action plan for yellowfin tuna in Pakistan, (ii) the provisioning of new legislation for sharks and rays in Sindh and Balochistan provinces, and (iii) the declaration of Pakistan's first MPA.
71. The PSC welcomed the progress achieved and noted the challenges WWF Pakistan is still facing with database entry of the information and data collection on small vessels where the use of EMS could be explored.
72. The PSC highlighted that, the "observers" being members of the crew, the program should be considered a logbook program.
73. The PSC noted that the gear conversion from gillnet to longline will require large investment, will not eliminate bycatch and that in parallel, mitigation measures for gillnetters should be a high priority.

## **Component 4. Information and best practices dissemination and M&E**

### **Output 4.1.1 Key messages and progress**

74. The PMU presented progress achieved under Output 4.1.1, in particular:
  - a. Emelie Mårtensson joined the PMU as a communications professional;
  - b. The improved programmatic website, now migrated under the FAO framework <http://www.fao.org/in-action/commonoceans/en/>;
  - c. Increased social media presence on Twitter and LinkedIn; and
  - d. The first programmatic [Common Oceans Newsletter](#) sent out in June 2017 to over 3000 recipients.
75. The PSC welcomed the improved communication efforts and noted that there are difficulties to draw the line between project and program communications and the need for a clear programmatic communications strategy. Florence Wallemacq will join the FAO Common Oceans Team to strengthen programmatic communications.
76. The PSC also noted that there are still misunderstandings by t-RFMO member States with regard to the project and recommended translation of key communication materials into main languages and additional efforts to engage t-RFMO members, both through t-RFMO meetings, increased communication efforts, and targeted outreach to key t-RFMO Members.

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## V. Project Mid-Term Evaluation

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### i. Presentation of results and recommendations of the project Mid-term evaluation

77. The Mid Term Evaluation (MTE) team presented a summary of key findings and recommendations described in detail in the MTE report (document ABNJ\_Tuna\_2017\_PSC\_07). Main recommendations included:
- a. restructuring the Project's results framework and revise indicators;
  - b. addressing sustainability (financial and institutional) of project results;
  - c. increasing efforts on communication of project results;
  - d. establishing a lesson learning framework;
  - e. strengthening partnership, in particular through greater participation of industry;
  - f. addressing project management weaknesses; and
  - g. considering a no cost extension of six to twelve months.
78. The PSC took note of the overall satisfactory rating of the Project.
79. The Global Coordinator thanked the MTE team for the positive experience and noted the PMU had already started to implement some of the recommendations.
80. Sustainability of some of the main outcomes will be secure through the adoption of measures at the RFMO level that are based on the work conducted. In some cases, such as the EMS pilots, the Project is providing information to the government involved to assist it in making the decisions required to maintain the activities beyond the life of the Project.
81. Communications were clearly recognized as an area that needs to be reinforced, and steps have been taken already to provide such strengthening, overcoming the lack of resources in the original Project plan.
82. The Coordinator expressed some concerns about engaging in certain restructuring steps at a time when the Project is reaching its maturity, and with 18-24 months left before termination. However, he pledged efforts to look at possible improvements in the overall structure of the Projects, welcoming the suggestions of the MTE team on the Project logframe, including the structure of the indicators.
83. The PSC highlighted that industry engagement is already strong with ISSF and OPAGAC representing a significant part of the sector.
84. The PSC welcomed the opportunity for a no cost extension of 6 (or 12 months, if possible under GEF regulations) to finalize many of the activities and to ensure greater sustainability of efforts. GEF clarified that such an extension would be communicated by the implementing agency through the yearly Project Implementation Review and that this would not require new or amended co-financing letters by the partners.
85. The PSC requested to clarify the modalities for requesting funds for new activities or for extending existing ones as this would facilitate communications of the Secretariats with the membership. In this context, the Global Coordinator clarified that the criteria for new activities were included in [Report of the Second Project Steering Committee](#)<sup>8</sup> and that most resources were allocated during the project design phase based on involvement of the partner and eligibility of proposed activities

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<sup>8</sup> [http://www.commonoceans.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/common\\_oceans/docs/ABNJ-Tuna-2015-PSC.pdf](http://www.commonoceans.org/fileadmin/user_upload/common_oceans/docs/ABNJ-Tuna-2015-PSC.pdf)



leaving not much room for new activities beyond those identified in the annual work plan and budget covering 01 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

## **ii. Revised Project indicator framework**

86. The PMU highlighted that the findings of the MTE with regard to the project indicators and results framework were in line with issues previously brought to the attention of the PSC. The MTE reviewed the Project's logic and reconstructed a Theory of Change. The MTE recommended to restructure the Project's results framework to follow the suggested reconstructed Theory of Change and to revise and replace the current indicator set with a smaller set of SMART-er outcome and project objective level indicators and retrofit baselines where needed, and eliminate output-level indicators altogether.
87. The PSC noted that this process has started and the PMU will engage with partners to discuss indicators relevant to their work.

## **VI. Annual Work Plan and Budget**

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### **i. Budgetary situation**

88. The PMU presented the status of expenditures for total project resources including financial transactions up to 30 June 2017 provided in Annex IV. As of 30 June, 17,720,880 USD have been spent. Annex V provides a draft budget for planned and proposed activities to be undertaken during the remaining duration of the project already taking into account a six months no cost extension of the Project.
89. Several PSC members expressed interest in extending their activities, in particular considering that a no cost extension would provide additional time to carry out these activities.
90. The PSC supported the two proposals for extension by FFA (ABNJ\_Tuna\_2017\_PSC\_12) and WWF Pakistan (ABNJ\_Tuna\_2017\_PSC\_13)
91. The PSC also supported some of the activities proposed by ICCAT (ABNJ\_Tuna\_2017\_PSC\_16), noting that some of the activities being proposed were already included in the work plan, albeit in some cases under the lead of other project partners. It was noted however, that other proposed activities (such as peer/external review of MSE processes in the RFMOs; capacity building courses aiming to enhance participation of scientists and managers of developing countries on the MSE, cloud computing and sharing tools for EBFM and expert technical working group to discuss the future of the EBFM) could not be subject to immediate approval as other tuna RFMOs had not been consulted, and that approval for these activities might need to be discussed within the context of the Kobe joint Working Group on MSE before final approval. Possible funding for these activities was not rejected, and could be considered subject to t-RFMO agreement and availability of funds under the various outputs.

### **ii. Work plan and budget for Project Year 4 (July 2017 – June 2018)**

92. The PMU presented the annual work Plan and budget that covers the period July 2017-June 2018.
93. The PSC acknowledged the work already done during the third year and generally endorsed the annual work plan and the budget for the fourth year of the project (Annex VI), assuming a no-cost extension of 6 months.

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## VII. Next steps: Principles and ideas

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94. The Global Coordinator presented some key principles emerging during the three years of project implementation, which could be applied during a second phase, in particular:
- a. the usefulness of a Theory of Change during the project design stage;
  - b. the need for a two-pronged approach focusing on (i) common issues across RFMOs, and (ii) regional-specific issues and supporting existing RFMO processes;
  - c. the need to be mindful of the required time frame to achieve intended outcomes in the framework of intergovernmental organizations;
  - d. the need to clearly define the expected role of the partners in the implementation strategy during the design phase; and
  - e. direct engagement with key t-RFMO member States.
95. The PSC collected some ideas for potential next steps after the completion of the project, not necessarily with a particular donor in mind, including:
- a. for the management component (i) completing the evolution in decision making processes; and (ii) increasing cooperation and communication with environmental initiatives;
  - b. for the IUU component i) exploring innovations to improve member State compliance performance (electronic reporting and facilitation) (ii) integrating information into actionable intelligence (replicate and upscale existing initiatives), (iii) promoting and piloting the use of EMS in small-scale fisheries, (iv) promoting electronic surveillance applications (VMS, AIS, solar-powered data loggers), (v) improving traceability in the tuna supply chain, including through piloting technologies such as Blockchain approaches, (vi) piloting technology applications in the context of observer programs, (vii) harmonization of the CLAV and the GVR;
  - c. for the reduction of fisheries impacts (i) continuing work on sharks and bycatch mitigation, particularly through collaboration among the t-RFMOs, (ii) promoting communication and consistency between environmental and fisheries management, (iii) FAD designs and FAD management processes, (iv) piloting close-kin techniques to estimate absolute abundance in sharks; (v) promote efficiency and waste reduction throughout the tuna supply chains, (vi) marine pollution (micro-plastics, lost gear);
  - d. capacity building across all the activities as a unifying enabler in particular through the extensive use of online tools tailored to multiple audiences.
96. The PSC noted that it could be beneficial to explore opportunities for broadening the partnership including organizations which could bring additional value as e.g. selected NGOs, sub-regional organizations and selected RFMO member States and to consider participation in specific multi-stakeholder initiatives. The PSC also noted that it will be important to get input from t-RFMO Membership about future priorities.

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## VIII. Other business

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### **i. Cooperation with other Projects under the Common Oceans Programme**

97. The PSC noted progress of the other three projects of the Common Oceans Program and invited representatives from each of the projects to present the current situation. In particular, the PSC noted:

- a. the Deep-seas Project (Sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation of deep-sea living marine resources and ecosystems in the ABNJ), implemented by FAO and UNEP, present opportunities for collaboration with the other Common Oceans projects, in particular with the Tuna Project regarding MSC related work (TCN, MCS trainings, electronic monitoring), market- based incentives and an EAFM review framework for RFMOs.
- b. the Ocean Partnerships for sustainable fisheries & biodiversity conservation, led by the World Bank is currently undergoing a mid-term review with the executing partners meeting in Rome from 13-15 July 2017 and most of them attending the present meeting as observers.
- c. the Capacity Project (Strengthening global capacity to effectively manage ABNJ) translates some of the experiences of the other Common Oceans projects into lessons learned and experiences that could be applied in the development of future approaches for multi-sectoral management of ABNJ, and contribute to the communication of these experiences and lessons to the relevant audiences.

## **ii. FAO activities of relevance for the Project partners**

98. The PSC noted presentations of FAO on the following activities:

- a. Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics activities regarding reference harmonization and data exchange; showcasing benefits with global Tuna Atlas and countries reporting to t-RFMOs;
- b. FAO's research collaboration with Global Fishing Watch on AIS for spatial distribution of fishing activity; and
- c. SmartForms for data collection in Caribbean Billfishes recreational fisheries.

## **iii. Time and place of the fifth PSC meeting**

99. The PSC noted that its next and fifth meeting will take place at FAO HQ, in Rome, from 16-18 July 2018.

## **IX. Closing of the meeting**

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100. The meeting was closed on 13 July 2017, by the Chair who thanked all the participants for their support and collaboration, and the PMU of the Project.

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## Annex I. List of participants

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## Annex II. Agenda of the Meeting

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**Fourth Project Steering Committee  
Provisional Agenda**  
*FAO, Rome – Lebanon Room (D-209)*  
*11-13 July 2017*  
*Opening 11 July at 9:00am*

1. **OPENING OF THE MEETING**
2. **ELECTION OF THE CHAIR**
3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

4. **PROGRESS OF THE COMMON OCEANS TUNA PROJECT**

**Overview of the activities of the Project in 2016-17**

**A. Component 1: Strengthening governance**

- i. Support to implementation of precautionary approach via Harvest Strategies (Outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.4)
- ii. Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (Output 1.1.5)
- iii. Rights-Based Management (Outputs 1.2.1, 1.2.2)

**B. Component 2: Reducing IUU fishing**

- i. Increasing Capacity to combat IUU fishing
  - o Best practices on MCS processes (2.1.1)
  - o The Tuna Subnetwork of the iMCS Network (2.1.2)
  - o Certification-based training
- ii. Support to compliance (Outputs 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3 and 2.2.3)
  - o Electronic Reporting
  - o Electronic Monitoring Systems: Fiji (Output 2.2,1) Ghana (Output 2.2.2) and Seychelles (Output 1.1.2)
- iii. Expansion of MCS tools
  - o CLAV and its relationship with other (Output 2.1.5)
  - o PSMA Legislative template and other documents (Output 2.1.4)
  - o Options for Catch Documentation Schemes (Output 2.2.4)

**C. Component 3: Reducing ecosystem impacts of tuna fishing**

- i. Sharks: data collection and assessments (Output 3.1.1 and 3.1.2)
- ii. Bycatch Mitigation Information System (Output 3.1.3)
- iii. Bycatch Mitigation measures for seabirds on board longliners (Output 3.2.1)
- iv. Bycatch Mitigation measures on board purse seiners (Output 3.2.2)
- v. Bycatch in Northern Indian Ocean gillnet fisheries (Output 1.1.3)

**D. Component 4: Dissemination of information and M&E**

- i. Project communication and knowledge management (Output 4.1.1 and 4.1.3)

5. **PROJECT MID-TERM EVALUATION**

- i. Presentation of results and recommendations of the project Mid-term evaluation
- ii. Revised Project indicator framework

**6. ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET**

- i. Budgetary situation
- ii. Work plan and budget for Project Year 4 (July 2017 – June 2018)

**7. NEXT STEPS: PRINCIPLES AND IDEAS**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

- i. Cooperation with other Projects under the Common Oceans Programme
  - ii. FAO activities of relevance for the Project partners
    - a. CWP activities regarding Reference harmonization and data exchange; showcasing benefits with global Tuna Atlas and countries reporting to t-RFMOs
    - b. FAO's research collaboration with Global Fishing Watch on AIS for spatial distribution of fishing activity
    - c. SmartForms for data collection in Caribbean Billfishes recreational fisheries
- 102.
- iii. Time and place for the 5th PSC meeting



## Annex III. List of documents

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### Meeting documents

ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_01	Provisional Agenda
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_02	List of Documents
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_03	Component 1: Strengthening of sustainable fisheries management, including precautionary approach and ecosystem approach to fisheries - Summary of progress -
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_04	Component 2: Strengthening and Harmonizing Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) to Address Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing (IUU) - Summary of progress
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_05	Component 3: Reducing Ecosystem Impacts of Tuna Fishing Activities - Summary of Progress
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_06	Component 4: Component 4: Information and Best Practices Dissemination and M&E - Summary of progress -
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_07	Mid Term Evaluation report
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_08	Review of the Project Indicators - draft
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_09	Work Plan and Budget for Project Year 4
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_10	Review of budgetary situation
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_11	Placeholder – not presented
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_12	ABNJ Tuna Project Extension Proposal (Output 2.1.3) submitted by FFA
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_13	ABNJ Tuna Project Extension Proposal (Output 1.1.3) submitted by WWF Pakistan
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_14	Informal paper on the Fiji Industry perspective of the installation and operation of camera surveillance on Fiji flagged Longline vessels.
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_15	Overview Of ICCAT Activities under the Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project 2016/2017
ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_16	Activities proposed by ICCAT for the work plan and budget for project year four Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project 2017/18

## Information documents

<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_01</b>	Development of a Curriculum for a Certification-Based Capacity Building on Monitoring, Control And Surveillance
<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_02</b>	Implementation of port State measures - Legislative template, framework for procedures, role of regional fisheries management organizations available in English, French and Spanish here <a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/549fb5dc-2750-454a-9dc4-35edfac5c6b0/">http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/549fb5dc-2750-454a-9dc4-35edfac5c6b0/</a>
<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_03</b>	CLAV. The Consolidated List of Authorized Vessel. Monthly Report of the CLAV: April – May 2017
<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_04</b>	Design Options for the Development of Tuna Catch Documentation Schemes available online here <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5684e.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5684e.pdf</a>
<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_05</b>	Report of the 2016 Tuna Project Steering Committee Meeting <a href="http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/common_oceans/docs/ABNJ-Tuna-2016-PSC_vFINAL.pdf">http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/common_oceans/docs/ABNJ-Tuna-2016-PSC_vFINAL.pdf</a>
<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_06</b>	Report of the Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs on the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management, 12 – 14 December 2016, FAO HQ Rome <a href="http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/common_oceans/docs/JointTunaRFMO_EBFM_Meeting.pdf">http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/common_oceans/docs/JointTunaRFMO_EBFM_Meeting.pdf</a>
<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_07</b>	Chair report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Joint Tuna RFMO FAD Working Group Meeting, 19-21 April 2017, Madrid, Spain <a href="http://iccat.org/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2017_JFADS_REP_ENG.pdf">http://iccat.org/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2017_JFADS_REP_ENG.pdf</a>
<b>ABNJ_Tuna_2017_ PSC_Inf_08</b>	Kobe MSE Working Group Kick off Meeting Report, Madrid, 1-3 Nov 2016 <a href="http://files.groupspaces.com/tRFMO-MSE/files/1866749/hF408cGGTyoid_AufUQz/MSE-tRFMO-synthesis-report-final+.doc">http://files.groupspaces.com/tRFMO-MSE/files/1866749/hF408cGGTyoid_AufUQz/MSE-tRFMO-synthesis-report-final+.doc</a>



## Annex IV: Statement of Expenditures for total Project Resources (including financial transactions up to June 30, 2017)

Output	Total expenditures cumulative
1.1.1 HS - Capacity building	1,316,129
1.1.2 Compliance improvement	407,475
1.1.3 Gillnet bycatch	601,049
1.1.4 MSE development	766,185
1.1.5 EAF evaluations and plans	48,528
1.2.1 Review-Pilot VDS	1,416
1.2.2 RBM lessons learnt	267,359
2.1.1 Global best MCS practices	40,000
2.1.2 Capacity building MCS	332,532
2.1.3 MCS staff trained	190,978
2.1.4 PSM legislation for ten countries	143,857
2.1.5 CLAV and GR harmonized	193,442
2.2.1 EOS Fiji LL	1,026,909
2.2.2 EOS Ghana PS	1,967,406
2.2.3 Integrated MCS FFA	401,350
2.2.4 Assessment supply chains for CDS	347,417
3.1.1 Sharks data	1,460,040
3.1.2 Shark assessment and management	813,125
3.1.3 BMIS	1,200,835
3.2.1 Seabird mitigation LL	1,205,205
3.2.2 Purse seine trials bycatch mitigation	1,558,866
4.1.1 Dissemination of results	107,958
4.1.2 Results and next steps*	19,084
4.1.3 IW:LEARN	62,984
4.2.1 Evaluations	119,452
5.1.1 Project Management**	868,412
5.1.2 Global Project Coordinator	1,098,020
5.1.3 Global Tuna Specialist	439,510
5.1.4 M&E Specialist	272,314
5.1.5 PMU travel	93,464
5.1.6 Inception workshop	52,844
5.1.7 PSC Meetings	153,127
5.1.8 ICRU Charges	117,032
Unassigned transactions	26,576
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,720,880</b>

## Annex V: Draft budget for planned and proposed activities to be undertaken during the remaining duration of the project

Planned and proposed activity	Budget in USD
PMU Staff (1 Jan 2018 – 30 June 2019)	1,319,400
Shark Bycatch work in areas of ICCAT/IOTC (human resources through June 2019)	140,000
Support to work on MCS Best Practices and IMCS tuna sub-network (human resources through June 2019)	250,000
Knowledge Management/Communication (human resources through June 2019)	200,000
ICRU charges	152,752
PMU Travel	75,000
Two PSC meetings	150,000
IW Learn: IW Conference, learning exchange	75,000
Terminal Project Evaluation	100,000
Draft Work Plan and Budget PY 4: Output 1.1.4 MSE Development	250,000
Draft Work Plan and Budget PY 4: Output 1.1.5 Integrated Ecosystem Evaluations and Plans prepared for each t-RFMO to support an EAF	50,000
Draft Work Plan and Budget PY 4: Output 2.1.3 globalisation of MCS certification programme (see document ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_12)	300,000
Draft Work Plan and Budget PY 4: Output 2.1.4 PSM legislative template	70,000
Draft Work Plan and Budget PY 4: Output 1.1.3 Bycatch and catch data gaps in the northern Indian Ocean tuna-directed driftnet fisheries (see document ABNJ_Tuna_2017_PSC_13)	473,000
Draft Work Plan and Budget PY 4: Output 1.1.2 Increased Compliance	300,000
ICCAT: support to Port Inspector Experts Group meeting for Capacity and Assistance	60,000
ICCAT: increased support to FORS – Fisheries Online Reporting System	12,500
IATTC: 12 months extension of LoA on Integrated bycatch data collection on sharks	75,000
IATTC: support to design of shark sampling pilot in Central America	200,000
BLSA: support to global tuna RFMOs seabird bycatch evaluation	92,500
BLSA: continued support to Port Outreach activities in three countries	45,000
ISSF: biodegradable FADs trials, electronic tags, echo sounder buoys	435,000
Continued support to quality control of CLAV data	50,000
Management Strategy Evaluation Work Plan to Build Awareness on Management Objectives in the Indian Ocean Region	140,000
Support to replicate Shark Bycatch activities area of ICCAT/IOTC	300,000
Fiji: preparation of business plan for national level up scaling of EMS	60,000
<b>Balance</b>	<b>4,076,904</b>

## Annex VI: Annual work plan and budget covering 01 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Component 1 Promotion of Sustainable Management (including Rights-Based Management) of Tuna Fisheries, in Accordance with an Ecosystem Approach</b>												
<b>Output 1.1.1</b> MSE – Capacity building	Lead: WWF			Budget allocation for Year 4: 500,000 USD								
<b>Planned work:</b> Two workshops focused on the WCPFC are planned for Project year 4. Both workshops will be an evolution of previous workshops and tailored to the WCP ecosystem and socio/politics. Discussion will include harvest strategy frameworks and the current Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) management strategy evaluation (MSE) process. It will further equip participants with the skills and background necessary for effective and informed participation in the development of Western and Central Pacific Ocean harvest strategies. Using an innovative and ‘hands on’ simulation tool workshop participants will learn how MSEs can test and contribute to the development of robust control rules within an overall harvest strategy approach. To avoid contention, the workshop will present general examples of control rules, focusing on principles and process, rather than the specifics of proposed harvest strategies for WCPFC stocks.												
Training curriculum revision												
Directed training of fisheries admin personnel on t-RFMO processes and development of harvest strategy framework plans (two additional workshops)												
<b>Output 1.1.4</b> MSE - Development	Lead: FAO			Budget allocation for Year 4: 250,000 USD								
<b>Planned work:</b> The Project will continue supporting the dialogues between science and management in IOTC and IATTC. In IOTC this will happen through the Technical Committee on Management Procedures in the second quarter of 2018 and in IATTC, a combined output 1.1.1 and 1.1.4 workshop is planned for IATTC countries in Ecuador in collaboration with WWF for the first quarter of 2018. IATTC has requested support for a workshop on application of new software to MSE applications in data-poor situations. A second meeting of the Joint t-RFMO MSE Working Group will be supported on request. IOTC is planning a second workshop on 2nd Training on data-limited stock assessment methods for Tuna species in the fourth quarter of 2017.												
Support to Science Management dialogues in t-RFMOs (dates tentative)							IATTC	IATTC	IATTC	IOTC	IOTC	IOTC
Support to MSE development on request												
Support for a 2 <sup>nd</sup> joint t-RFMO MSE Working Group (tentative)												
Support for MSE-related trainings												






	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>1.1.5</b> Integrated Ecosystem Evaluations and Plans prepared for each t-RFMO to support an EAF.	<b>Lead: FAO with ICCAT</b>			<b>Budget allocation for Year 4</b> 50,000 USD								
<b>Planned work:</b> A 2 <sup>nd</sup> joint t-RFMO meeting on the implementation of the ecosystem approach is planned for December 2017 or January 2018.												
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Joint t-RFMO meeting led by ICCAT (tentative)</b>												
<b>Output 1.2.1</b> Pilot enhanced Rights Based Management system in the Western Pacific Ocean (PNA VDS) implemented	<b>Lead: FAO with PNA</b>			<b>Budget allocation for Year 4</b> 0 USD								
<b>Planned work:</b> The activities anticipated to be covered by the Project have already been executed. There is still an opportunity to facilitate up-scaling and replication by assisting in presenting an unbiased review of the conditions that enabled PNA Members to benefit from the VDS. No activities planned for 2015-16.												
<b>Output 1.2.2</b> RBM discussions at the RFMO-level, and disseminating lessons learned from the RBM pilot implementation shared globally	<b>Lead WWF</b>			<b>Budget allocation for Year 4</b> 0 USD								
<b>Planned work:</b> No work planned for year 4.												




	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Component 2 Strengthening and Harmonizing Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) to Address Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing (IUU)</b>												
<b>Output 2.1.1</b> Global Best practices for MCS in tuna fisheries prepared and agreed by the five t-RFMOs	Lead FAO			Budget allocation for Year 4 100,000 USD								
<b>Planned work:</b> The compilation of Global Best Practices for MCS in tuna fisheries will continue with additional chapters to be developed on issues not addressed in the current draft (such as port State measure and catch documentation). The revision of the draft chapters by the Tuna Compliance Network and other interested parties will continue. If necessary, a dedicated Expert Consultation to provide further input might be organized in Project year 5.												
<b>Develop first draft of Best Practices</b>	■	■	■	■	■	■						
<b>Review by the Tuna Compliance Network and other interested parties</b>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<b>Expert consultation</b>												➔
<b>Output 2.1.2</b> MCS network	Lead FAO with IMCS Network			Budget allocation for Year 4: 200,000 USD (FAO 160,000, IMCS 40,000)								
<b>Planned work:</b> With the Network established, the Project will further develop collaboration, information exchange and capacity development among its members. For the next year, the network is planning to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical input into MCS-related projects (Best Practices in MCS, FAO Study on transshipment)</li> <li>• Continue information-sharing, technical exchange and discussion on MCS-related issues, e.g. Port State Measures; Compliance Procedures</li> </ul> The Network Coordinator will continue to animate the network through News, Updates and development of further Network activities. The Network will seek to incorporate new MCS experts and provide outputs that strengthen the work of compliance officers in RFMOs and beyond. The next meeting of the network is planned for early 2018.												
<b>Set-up network - COMPLETED</b>												
<b>Facilitated activities of the network</b>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	➔
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Tuna Compliance Network, with a special emphasis on “Data Management and Reporting”</b>							■	■	■			➔

		Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 2.1.3</b> Competency based certification program for MCS	<b>Lead: FAO</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 300,000 USD											
<b>Planned work</b> The development of a curriculum and a training strategy for a 6-8-week course with a core global component of basic skills, supplemented by regional issues will be completed. Support will continue to the FFA regional MCS Course.													
<b>Further development of training curriculum including regional considerations</b>		█	█	█	█	█	█						
<b>Organize and implement first global course</b>													→
<b>Support to FFA MCS capacity building activities</b>		█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<b>Output 2.1.4</b> PSM legislative template	<b>Lead: FAO</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 70,000 USD											
<b>Planned work</b> Distribution and use in FAO PSMA-related capacity building activities will continue. This includes in Project year 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support for IOTC ePSM national trainings as requested</li> <li>- Support for ICCAT Port Inspection Expert Group for Capacity Building and Assistance in October 2017</li> </ul>													
<b>Dissemination of the template to stakeholders</b>		█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	→
<b>Support for PSMA implementation</b>		█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	→



	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 2.1.5</b> CLAV and GR harmonized to provide a complete record and search tool for tuna vessels authorized to fish in all t-RFMO regions	Lead: IOTC			Budget allocation for Year 4: 30,000 USD								
<b>Planned work</b> After the successful completion of the revision of the CLAV, work to identify and address issues and inconsistencies will continue in collaboration with t-RFMOs												
<b>Improving data quality in collaboration with RFMOs</b>												
<b>Output 2.2.1</b> Pilot trials of electronic observer systems aboard tuna longline vessels successfully completed in Fiji with lessons learned and best practices disseminated to sub regional organizations and t-RFMOs for upscaling.	Lead: FAO with Fiji			Budget allocation for Year 4: 350,000 USD								
<b>Planned work</b> As of 06 July 2017 no year 4 work plan was received by the Government of Fiji. The PMU will continue to support the activities according to the contractual arrangement with Fiji and recommendations of the MTE which includes completion of installation of equipment, analysis of EMS data and preparation of a business plan for continuation of activities after Project closure												
<b>Installation of equipment</b>												
<b>Conduct trials</b>												→
<b>Training for land-based observers on software, and collection of compliance and biological data – completed</b>												
<b>Preparation of specialized training material for the collection of data</b>												→
<b>Review reports on compliance and biological catch data</b>												→
<b>Business plan for continuation of activities after Project</b>												→

	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 2.2.2</b> Pilot trials of electronic observer systems aboard tuna purse seine vessels successfully completed in Ghana with lessons learned and best practices disseminated to all t-RFMOs for up-scaling	<b>Lead: WWF with Ghana</b>						<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 200,000 USD					
<b>Planned work.</b> Continue with conducting trials and the analysis of the completed trials, strengthen staff capacity to interpret data and streamline the operationalization of the EM program through training and technical assistance. We will have a heavy focus on finalizing and disseminating “Making the Business Case” among tuna stakeholders.												
<b>Installation of equipment</b>												
<b>Conduct trials</b>												
<b>Data Analysis</b>												
<b>Review</b>												
<b>Land-Based Observer Training</b>												
<b>Making the Business Case</b>												
<b>Output 2.2.3</b> Integrated MCS system in FFA	<b>Lead: FFA</b>						<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 47,200 USD					
<b>Planned work:</b> Continuing support for a Data Analyst position contributing to the production of intelligence reports and risk assessments of IUU fishing												
<b>Real time assistance to national MCS officers and national MCS data analysis trainings</b>												
<b>Integrated analysis of MCS data with updates, development of Standard Operating Procedures and of tools and models to automate MCS data analysis</b>												

	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 2.2.4</b> Best practices on Traceability / CDS systems	Lead:FAO			Budget allocation for Year 4: 0 USD								
<b>Planned work:</b> Output has been successfully completed. Dissemination of Final Technical study will continue.												
<b>Publication of the document through FAO's Fisheries Technical Paper series – Completed</b>												
<b>Dissemination of the document</b>												
<b>Output 1.1.2</b> Increased compliance	Lead FAO			Budget allocation for Year 4: 300,000 USD								
<p><b>Planned work</b> The project will continue supporting Compliance Support missions with the IOTC Secretariat for the Members of the Commission, supporting the exchange of experiences with other RFMOs staff. The Project will continue to support t-RFMO compliance activities, as requested.</p> <p>Additional planned work under this output includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support to the IOTC electronic monitoring and reporting information system including a stakeholder consultation in October 2017.</li> <li>- Support to a feasibility study and demo production to facilitate web based reporting of validated information by CPCs to ICCAT</li> <li>- Support to the second meeting of the joint t-RFMO FAD Working Group under ICCAT lead</li> </ul>												
<b>Compliance support missions in the IOTC region (tentative)</b>												
<b>Support t-RFMO Compliance activities</b>												
<b>Development of IOTC e-Maris electronic reporting facility</b>												
<b>EMS pilot Seychelles – Completed</b>												
<b>ICCAT web based reporting of validated information by CPCs</b>												
<b>Second meeting of the joint t-RFMO FAD Working Group (dates TBD, ICCAT lead))</b>												

	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Component 3 Reducing ecosystem impacts of tuna fishing</b>												
<b>Output 3.1.1</b> Shark data Improvement and Harmonization:	<b>Lead WCPFC with IATTC</b>					<b>Budget allocation for Year 4</b> WCPFC: 193,000 USD <sup>9</sup> IATTC: 335,141 USD						
<p><b>Planned work:</b></p> <p><b>WCPFC:</b> Work during the next year will focus on completing the shark post-release mortality tagging programme recently initiated in New Zealand and planned for Fiji and a third country. This project will require constant technical and logistical management of tags and equipment, as well as coordination with government officials and observer coordinators. The Global t-RFMO Shark Browser prototype will be updated for loading into BMIS, and a paper will be produced to draw out insights on data quality and trends. SPC will continue with BDEP work for WCPFC and IATTC, and ABNJ Tuna Project collaborators will advocate in t-RFMO bycatch working groups for public sharing and combining holdings into a global dataset. SPC will support the designation of manta and mobulid rays as WCPFC key shark species through better observer training and identification guides.</p> <p><b>IATTC:</b> Work in the next year will include continuing analysis of existing and new data and their inclusion into a database suitable for stock assessment. For the IATTC, Year 4 will culminate with a new activity: development of the experimental design for a long-term shark fishery sampling program in the EPO. This one year-long program will consist of three phases: 1) workshop to develop a shark sampling pilot study (June-September 2017); 2) implementation of the shark sampling pilot study in Central American ports (October 2017-October 2018); 3) analysis of data collected under the shark sampling pilot study and preparation of final report to submit to the commission (October-November 2018).</p> <p>WCPFC and IATTC and their members will continue to coordinate through the pan-Pacific Shark and Bycatch Technical Steering Group and the ABNJ Tuna Project-Sharks and Bycatch Consultative Committee.</p>												
<b>Pan-Pacific Shark and Bycatch Technical Steering Group (via skype, in blue) and ABNJ Tuna Project-Sharks and Bycatch Consultative Committee (at WCPFC Annual Commission meeting, in green)</b>												
<b>WCPFC: Produce peer-reviewed paper from global shark data inventory prototype and pursue development of an “app” for auto-updated public use</b>												
<b>WCPFC: Continue to develop the Bycatch Data Exchange Protocol (BDEP) as a common format for all t-RFMOs; work toward public posting and data sharing</b>												
<b>WCPFC: Develop manta and mobulid ray training and identification materials</b>												
<b>WCPFC: Complete shark post-release mortality tagging study (if possible by mid-2018)</b>												
<b>IATTC: Capacity building for IATTC member States on data collection and analyses of shark species 2nd Workshop on Data Limited Assessment Methods Shark Species</b>												






<sup>9</sup> Budget allocations in the Execution Agreement with WCPFC are based on the calendar year. This amount is an estimate resulting by adding up the 2017 and the 2018 allocations and dividing them by 2



	Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
IATTC: Analysis of existing and new data and inclusion into a database suitable for stock assessment and preparation of Reports to be presented at annual IATTC Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting in May 2018												➔
IATTC: Workshop to Develop a Shark Sampling Pilot Study in Central America (workshop preparatory work in June-August 2017; workshop in September 2017)												
IATTC: Implementation of Shark Sampling Pilot Study (September 2017 – September 2018)												➔
IATTC: Analysis of data collected under the Shark Sampling Pilot Study and preparation of Final Report (October-November 2018)												➔
<b>Output 3.1.2</b> Shark Assessment and Management:	<b>Lead WCPFC</b>			<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 150,000 USD <sup>10</sup>								
<p><b>Planned work:</b>Methods development for data-poor pelagic sharks has been progressed through bigeye thresher shark risk assessment and southern hemisphere porbeagle shark indicators and risk assessment. A scientific paper describing the methodological advances made in these assessments will be prepared upon completion of two more assessments. The third assessment is underway in collaboration with IATTC on Pacific-wide analysis of the silky shark. The fourth assessment is expected to be identified in the third quarter of 2017 based on input from the WCPFC Scientific Committee and may focus on whale shark interactions with the purse seine fishery. If any of these assessments identify a need for management action, the ABNJ Tuna Project will explore drafting conservation and management measures for consideration by the t-RFMOs.</p>												
Develop methods for assessing shark populations which are data poor or have other data quality issues												➔
Develop methods for assessing shark populations which are data poor or have other data quality issues												➔
Completion and review of southern hemisphere porbeagle stock status assessment												
Completion and review of Pacific-wide bigeye thresher shark stock status assessment												
Conduct Pacific-wide silky shark assessment in collaboration with IATTC												➔
Identify and conduct fourth shark stock status assessment												➔
Formulate new conservation and management measures (dependent on assessment outcomes)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

<sup>10</sup> Budget allocations in the Execution Agreement with WCPFC are based on the calendar year. This amount is an estimate resulting by adding up the 2017 and the 2018 allocations and dividing them by 2

<b>Output 3.1.3</b> Global Bycatch Management and Information System and Mitigation Workshops	<b>Lead WCPFC with SPC</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4</b> 81,500 USD <sup>11</sup>									
<b>Planned work:</b> Now that the BMIS has been launched with its new web interface, work will turn to publicizing it and expanding its content. Shark tagging information, mapping functions and integration of BDEP summaries will be the focus of new work, while updating and rectification of existing content will be continued. The sea turtle workshops are complete but it remains for the various management bodies to discuss the results and consider what actions are required. The ABNJ team is facilitating this discussion through policy-oriented covering papers. The second expert workshop on shark mitigation will be planned for late 2018, once all of the shark post-release mortality tags have returned. This workshop will assist with interpreting the results, designing appropriate handling techniques, and advising on how the information should be utilized in stock assessments. More broadly, the workshop is planned as a forum for synthesizing the data from multiple studies across a range of fisheries, thus setting a future shark mitigation agenda based on remaining data gaps.											
<b>Further updates and improvements to the re-designed BMIS</b>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■ →
<b>Expansion of the BMIS functionality to encompass shark tagging, mapping and BDEP bycatch summaries</b>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■ →
<b>Dissemination of outcomes from sea turtle workshop, including consideration of conservation and management measures</b>	■	■	■	■	■	?	?	?	?	?	?
<b>Monitor the mitigation implications of shark post-release mortality tagging studies and plan for the final workshop in late 2018</b>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■ →




<sup>11</sup> Budget allocations in the Execution Agreement with WCPFC are based on the calendar year. This amount is an estimate resulting by adding up the 2017 and the 2018 allocations and dividing them by 2

		Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 3.2.1</b> Seabird mitigation long liners	<b>Lead BirdLife</b>	<b>Budget allocation year 4:</b> 300,000 USD											
<p><b>A</b> <i>The use of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures is enhanced and accelerated, and additional methods to monitor the uptake, use and effectiveness of these measures are tested</i></p> <p>Work in year 4 will include the continued planning and implementation of the remaining Awareness Workshops for Mozambique, Korea and Brazil. There will be a strong focus on implementing the observer training sessions and sea trials for South Africa, Namibia, China and Indonesia. There will be continued implementation of the port visits through the pilot outreach initiative in Cape Town and the establishment and development of the pilot port-based outreach project in Fiji. The Namibian and South African Seabird Bycatch Mitigation Instructors will continue to collect at-sea data and establish an understanding of the seabird bycatch and mitigation measures use within these local fisheries. Ultimately we hope to implement seabird bycatch regulations within the Namibian fleet before the finalization of LOA4.</p> <p><b>B</b> <i>The capacity of national institutions to manage and conduct analyses of seabird bycatch data and the effectiveness of bycatch mitigation measures is strengthened, and assessment methods are harmonised to facilitate a joint tuna RFMO assessment of the current bycatch mitigation measures contained in the relevant Conservation and Management Measures</i></p> <p>During year 4, intersessional work with the relevant CPCs will be implemented leading up to the third workshop focusing on data preparation. This workshop will be conducted in February 2018 in Mexico and will lay the foundations towards the final Global Seabird Bycatch Assessment Workshop in late 2018 or early 2019.</p>													
<b>A Seabird bycatch mitigation outreach, liaison and training</b>													
<b>A Design and implement trial of port-based visits of vessels in Suva, Fiji for outreach and monitoring in relation to seabird bycatch and mitigation in the Chinese longline fleet</b>													
<b>A Design and implement trial of port-based visits of vessels in South Africa for outreach and monitoring in relation to seabird bycatch and mitigation</b>													
<b>A Data collection and seabird bycatch estimation in the South African and Namibian local tuna longline fleets</b>													
<b>B Regional seabird bycatch data analysis workshops, including training and data preparation</b>													

		Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 3.2.2</b> Purse seine trials of bycatch mitigation	<b>Lead WWF with ISSF</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 200,000 USD											
<p><b>Planned work:</b> ISSF will continue to assimilate Skipper’s Workshop ‘Best Practices’ updates into training materials for dissemination based on most recent workshops and sea trial outcomes. ISSF will continue Sea Trials testing biodegradation rates of FAD materials in the Maldives. ISSF will continue the 2nd NIRSA sea trials testing deep vs shallow FADs as a mitigation method for reducing bigeye tuna catch. ISSF will initiate a large-scale biodegradable FAD sea trial in the Indian Ocean, co-financed by ABNJ, ISSF, the EU, and European fishing industry. ISSF will initiate planning for a year 5 sea trial for safe removal of sharks from purse seine sets and subsequently initiate that sea trial. ISSF will initiate planning for the Y5 Synthesis workshop.</p>													
<b>Purse seine sea trials AO, PO, IO</b>													
<b>Results analysis</b>													
<b>Incorporation of results into best practices</b>													
<b>Workshops to disseminate best practices</b>													
<b>Plans for synthesis workshop (to be held late Y4 or early Y5)</b>													



		Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 1.1.3</b> Bycatch and catch data gaps in the northern Indian Ocean tuna-directed driftnet fisheries effectively filled through engagement of fishing communities and CSOs using co-management approaches	<b>Lead WWF with WWF-Pakistan/SFI</b> Cooperating Partners: MFD (Pakistan),IFRO/Shilat Iran and MOFW, Oman/IOTC	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4</b> 325,000 USD											
<b>Planned work:</b> Scale-up the observer program in Pakistan and continue dialogue with Iran on replicating the approach. Pilot AIS on Pakistan fleets and digital observer technology with Maldives yellowfin tuna fleet. Convert several gill-nets to long-line, and exchange experiences between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Work with IOTC on addressing capacity gaps in the Northern Indian Ocean through workshops and other training.													
<b>Capacity building workshop</b>													
<b>RFMO compliance program</b>													
<b>Evaluation of alternative gear configurations</b>													
<b>Stakeholder consultations</b>													
<b>Synthesizing data to t-RFMO by reporting to science committee of IOTC</b>													

		Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Component 4 Component 4: Information and Best Practices Dissemination and M&amp;E</b>													
<b>Output 4.1.1</b> Communications	<b>Lead FAO</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 150,000 USD											
<p><b>Planned work:</b> The PMU through the new Communications Professional in collaboration with Partners will continue to communicate project key messages, progress, results and best practices to relevant stakeholders at meetings, workshops and events, and by using various channels and communicative means. The PMU with inputs from Partners will finalize a Project specific Communications Strategy (CS) based on the Programmatic Strategy from 2014. A Communication Activity Plan will be added to the CS that provides an overview of upcoming events and efforts, to facilitate planning of communication efforts. The Activity Plan will be a semiannual document reflective of main activities scheduled under the Project components, updated as necessary during reporting periods by PMU and inputs from Partners. The new website will be updated with content regularly; 2-4 monthly news bulletins, recent project reports, publications and communications products. Work will continue with the new Programmatic Newsletter that incorporates news, information and events from all four Common Oceans Projects, scheduled to be sent out on a quarterly basis. Particular attention will be given to increase the Project’s presence on social media; weekly website updates and messages will be forwarded for dissemination by the corporate Twitter accounts FAOFish and FAOPesca. Additional social media updates will posted by the PMU and other Partners as they see fit, labelling their content with the hashtag #CommonOceans..</p>													
<b>Communicate key messages, progress, results and best practices to stakeholders</b>													
<b>Produce content for website</b>													
<b>Finalize Project Specific Communication Strategy</b>													
<b>Develop and update Communication Activity Plan</b>													
<b>Newsletter dissemination quarterly</b>													
<b>Increase visibility on Social media</b>													

		Q3-2017			Q4-2017			Q1-2018			Q2-2018		
		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>Output 4.1.3</b> IW:Learn	<b>Lead FAO</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 50,000 USD											
<b>Planned work:</b> The Project will participate in the GEF IW:Learn Conference expected to take place in Project Year 4. A Project Experience Note will be prepared following the Mid-term evaluation. Learning exchange meetings between EMS pilots is tentatively planned at the end of year 4.													
<b>Participation in GEF International Waters conference (tentative)</b>													
<b>Project Experience Note</b>													
<b>Learning exchange meetings between EMS pilots (tentative)</b>													
<b>Output 4.1.2</b> Synthesis of immediate project results, compilation of catalytic results globally	<b>Lead FAO</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> Total allocated under PMU costs											
<b>Planned work:</b> The PMU will continue to compile information on progress for the different Project outputs and prepare Project progress reports and the PIR as required.													
<b>Monitoring and documentation of project progress</b>													
<b>Preparation of PPRs and PIRs</b>													
<b>Output 4.2.1</b> Midterm and final evaluations	<b>Lead: FAO Office of Evaluation</b>	<b>Budget allocation for Year 4:</b> 10,000 USD											
<b>Planned work:</b> The Mid-Term Evaluation will be completed in Q3 2017 with the management response. The final evaluation will take place towards the end of the Project starting in the fourth quarter of 2018.													
<b>Mid Term Evaluation</b>													
<b>Final Evaluation</b>													