

**FFA**

FORUM FISHERIES COMMITTEE
ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH MEETING

*Virtual***11 - 14 May 2021**

Agenda Item:	17
Paper Number:	FFC118-WP14
Title:	Socio-economic Development Indicator Framework

Summary:

At FFC114 Members requested FFA to commission a study to design a socio-economic development indicator framework for the Pacific tuna industry. The purpose of the framework is to enable member countries to measure and track the range of benefits generated from their tuna resources. A team of researchers from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) started the project in December 2020 and submitted their report and draft monitoring and evaluation framework on 9 April 2021.

This paper provides a summary of the work undertaken, an overview of the framework, and next steps to its practical application by stakeholders. The paper also outlines some of the indicators that will be available to members to monitor and evaluate on a self-select basis. The framework has been designed to provide members the flexibility to choose indicators which best suit their individual priorities and which may change over time.

Recommendations:

The Committee is invited to:

- Endorse the progress made to date; and .
- Encourage member administrations to provide feedback on the development framework which will be circulated to members following FFC118.

Socio-economic Development Indicator Framework

Introduction:

1. At FFC114 Members requested FFA to commission a study to design a socio-economic development indicator framework for the Pacific tuna industry. The purpose of the framework is to enable member countries to measure and track the range of benefits generated from their tuna resources. A team of researchers from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) started the project in December 2020 and submitted their report and draft monitoring and evaluation framework on 9 April 2021.
2. In order to develop the framework, the research team undertook the following activities:
 - Desktop review of technical literature and regional and national fishery policy and development policy documents (total 104 documents).
 - Participatory consultative workshops with member country fisheries agency staff.
 - Key informant interviews (24) and expert consultations on data.
 - Community focus group discussions (three, involving 26 individuals).
3. In total 93 individuals participated in data collection activities to develop the framework. This included officers and representatives from eleven FFA member administrations and stakeholder groups.
4. The document review, fisheries agency consultative workshops and community focus group discussions were used to generate and validate a set of broad sustainable development goals, and associated tuna industry objectives. The document review, key informant interviews and expert elicitations were used to generate the set of candidate indicators (see [Appendix 1](#)).

The Indicator Framework

5. The framework starts with broad **sustainable development goals** to which tuna fisheries contribute, from which were derived **tuna industry-specific objectives**. The framework then lists candidate **indicators** suitable for evaluating progress towards those objectives, and a consideration of the quality of existing data and feasibility of collecting new data for the indicators.
6. Broad **development goals** to which tuna industries contribute:
 - Sustainable and equitable national economic development
 - Improved food security and nutrition (incl. public health outcomes)
 - Full and productive employment
 - Reduced inequality and poverty
 - Decent work for all
 - Achieving gender equity, particularly reducing gender gaps in employment
 - Ensuring resource access for small scale fishers and traders
 - Provision of quality education
 - Improved public services & infrastructure
7. For each of these broad development goals there are several **tuna industry-specific**

objectives. For example, for the development goal ‘sustainable and equitable national economic development’ tuna industry objectives include ‘maintain/increase the direct contribution of the tuna sector to economic growth’ and ‘increase benefits from onshore development’.

8. Candidate **indicators** in the framework are grouped around the following areas (this is a sample list only from a complete database of 137 indicators and a subset of 48 priority indicators):

- **Production** – levels of catch for the main tuna and bycatch species, and its distribution to specific countries and/or market channels, including processed fish.
- **Revenue** – financial income accruing to governments, companies or other organisations.
- **Incomes** – financial income accruing to individuals or households.
- **Employment** – jobs and livelihoods in the tuna industry, including formal and informal sectors, offshore and coastal.
- **Labour conditions** – conditions of work across sectors and roles.
- **Expenditure** – expenditure of both tuna revenue and tuna incomes.
- **Access and availability** – The availability and accessibility of tuna for fishing, trading and consumption.
- **Consumption** – consumption of tuna for food.
- **Development** – contribution of tuna industry to overall social and economic development.
- **Community** – contribution of tuna industry to community wellbeing.

9. In the course of framework development, a series of **enabling conditions** were identified. These are factors that influence the delivery of benefits from tuna industries, without themselves being benefits. Some member country staff involved in consultation workshops specified that consideration of these enabling conditions was a priority for developing the framework.

- **Fish availability**, including the impacts of climate change, the health of key stocks and effective waste management.
- **Effective trade**, including maintaining market access, and strategic investment partnerships.
- **Effective governance**, including co-operative governance and diplomacy, transparency, reducing IUU, involvement of customary institutions in decision-making, the presence of legal and policy instruments to support appropriate development.

Data Considerations

10. Throughout the project the researchers liaised with staff in FFA and the Pacific Community (SPC) knowledgeable about existing and potential data collection. The proposed framework is thus based on the following considerations:

- i. Utilise indicators that measure as directly as possible, with available data, progress towards objectives. Where data was not available to directly track progress the best available indirect measure was selected.
- ii. As far as possible utilise data sources that are available in the public

domain, or could be feasibly accessed within a 6 to 12-month timeframe.

- iii. Where data meeting the criteria at (2) are not available, utilise data sources that may be feasibly adapted for use in this framework within a two-year timeframe.
- iv. Allow for progressive updating of objectives and indicators based on improvements in data, or improved knowledge of member country priorities.

11. The project team proposes that FFA conduct a thorough update utilising this framework roughly every 5-7 years and in between, utilise existing data in FFA economics database for annual or biennial monitoring of relevant trends. A key finding of this study is that use of Household Income and Expenditure (HIES) survey data collected by member countries and housed within SPC holds significant potential for use within this framework, albeit with some adjustments to data collection and/or classification processes necessary. Thus far HIES data is not used for any tuna fisheries reporting processes. Further recommendations on data collection will be provided in the full report.

Next Steps

- 12. Circulate the consultant report and SEI development framework for stakeholder feedback.
- 13. Provide consultancy support to member administrations to customize the SEI framework according to national priorities, and support its practical application.
- 14. Provide an update on the implementation of the SEI development framework to FFC119.

Appendix I

