

Adapting Tuna-dependent Pacific Island Communities and Economies to Climate Change

Annex 11: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Introduction

This document describes the framework for the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan for the proposed GCF Programme “Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change”. This M&E Plan is a living document and focuses on measuring the delivery of outputs, outcomes and broader paradigm shift impact of the Programme. More detail will be added to the M&E Plan during the inception stage of the Programme (within the first 6 months of implementation) by Programme M&E staff in collaboration with government and local partners. Development of the full M&E plan by the dedicated M&E specialist will ensure that GCF, AE and EE M&E requirements are fully incorporated, that the Plan is owned by all stakeholders, and that it will be implemented effectively by the Programme Management Unit. The full M&E Plan will build on the information provided in this document by elaborating on the roles and responsibilities for data collection and management, information flows and reporting systems, monitoring protocols and tools, implementation plans and schedules, and alignment / collaborations with existing national M&E systems. The detailed M&E Plan will include participatory methods for data collection and learning, and an impact evaluation plan that builds on the summary included in this document.

This M&E Plan is designed to monitor indicators relevant to each of the outcomes and outputs presented in the Programme Theory of Change (ToC) and logical framework (Logframe), which are described in detail in the Feasibility Study and Funding Proposal.

The establishment of the monitoring system for the Programme will require several steps which will be undertaken in a logical sequence. The primary responsibility for day-to-day Programme monitoring and implementation rests with the Programme Manager of the Project Management Unit (PMU) to be located at SPC HQ, Noumea. The Programme Manager, in consultation with key stakeholders, will develop annual work plans and associated budgets based on the Inception Report to ensure the efficient implementation of the Programme. A Programme Inception Workshop, involving CI, SPC, FFA, CSIRO, senior representatives of each of the 14 PICs, and other key stakeholders (such as the PNAO) will be held within the first six months of the official commencement of the Programme. The overarching objectives of the Inception Workshop will be to:

- a). assist the Programme team and stakeholders to understand and take ownership of the Programme implementation approach, objectives and outcomes and discuss any changes in the overall context that might influence Programme implementation;
- b). discuss the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of the Programme team and the national government ministries including financial and narrative reporting and communication lines and conflict resolution mechanisms;
- c). review the results logical framework, re-assess baselines as needed, and discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E Plan, and
- d). establish the Project Steering Committee (PSC).

After the Inception Workshop, the EE will be responsible for convening an annual PSC. The Steering Committee, which will consist of senior officials representing each of the PICs, may adopt its own rules of procedure, if appropriate. The AE will participate in the PSC in an advisory capacity. Decision-making in the PSC will be the responsibility of the 14 PCs. The PMU will provide logistical and administrative support to the PSC.

Regional oversight will be achieved through annual reporting on Programme achievements and issues arising to SPC's Heads of Fisheries (HoF) meeting and to FFA's Forum Fisheries Committee (FFC). All 14 PICs are represented in these bodies at a head of agency/senior official's level. The PMU will coordinate national and regional reporting to these fora and report key outcomes to the AE.

The Programme team will ensure that the indicators included in the Programme results logical framework are monitored and reported on every six months and will objectively report progress. Programme components, including activities and outputs, will be monitored separately as well as in relation to the achievement of higher-level Programme results and overall GCF goals. In addition to monitoring progress against Programme-level goals, the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning system will also measure progress against GCF level targets as well as enabling environment and paradigm shift targets as described in the Programme FP and logical framework.

Details of M&E implementation will be negotiated and included in the agreements between the CI GCF Agency as AE and the Executing Entity (SPC). Agreements between SPC and Implementing Partners (FFA, PNAO and the CSIRO) will include similar obligations.

Logical Framework

Programme Outcomes, Components, Outputs, and Co-benefits

The Logframe describes the Programme structure (Outcomes, Outputs, Activities, Sub-activities, Deliverables and means of verification) of the Programme). The Programme includes two Components, which are summarized below.

Component A – Adaptations to harness tuna for food availability of Pacific Island communities as coral reefs are degraded by climate change: This Component contains sets of activities intended to (i) strengthen and invest at scale in national programmes for deployment and use of fish aggregating devices (FADs) to make it easier and safer for fishers in coastal communities to catch tuna and other associated pelagic fish species (hereafter 'tuna') as an additional source of dietary protein to fish caught from coral reef ecosystems degraded by the impacts of climate change; and (ii) design and implement mechanisms that will provide for increased availability of bycatch and tuna during transshipping and unloading operations by industrial fishing vessels in Pacific Island ports to increase the supply of fish to improve food availability in urban and peri-urban communities. These activities are captured in the Logframe under the following two outputs:

Output 1: Increased national capacity to access tuna and other pelagic fish for coastal communities

Output 2: Increased supply of bycatch and tuna from industrial fishing operations for urban/peri-urban communities

These outputs both contribute to **Outcome 1** and **Co-benefit 1**, which are:

Outcome 1: Improved food availability of vulnerable communities in participating countries

Co-benefit 1: Improved livelihoods of vulnerable communities in participating countries

Component B – Adaptations to reduce risks to Pacific Island economies from climate-driven tuna redistribution: This Component includes a set of activities to establish a region-wide Advanced Warning System (AWS), designed to more accurately forecast and project the redistribution of tuna

stocks due to climate change. The information generated by the AWS will enhance decision-making for the sustainable management of tuna stocks and the supporting ecosystem by governments and relevant regional and national fisheries organizations. It will also improve the ability of tuna-dependent PICs to negotiate for retention of their rights to the historical benefits they have received from tuna caught in their waters, regardless of the redistribution of the fish due to climate change. Component B includes the following output:

Output 3: Improved forecasts and projections for climate-driven tuna redistribution which facilitate effective adaptations for all stakeholders

Output 3 will lead to accomplishment of **Outcome 2** and **Co-benefit 2**, as follows:

Outcome 2: Strengthened capacity of tuna-dependent Pacific Island nations to negotiate for benefits from climate-redistributed tuna stocks

Co-benefit 2: Strengthened management of industrial tuna fisheries by regional and national institutions

Programme Impact and Paradigm Shift (Goal Statement)

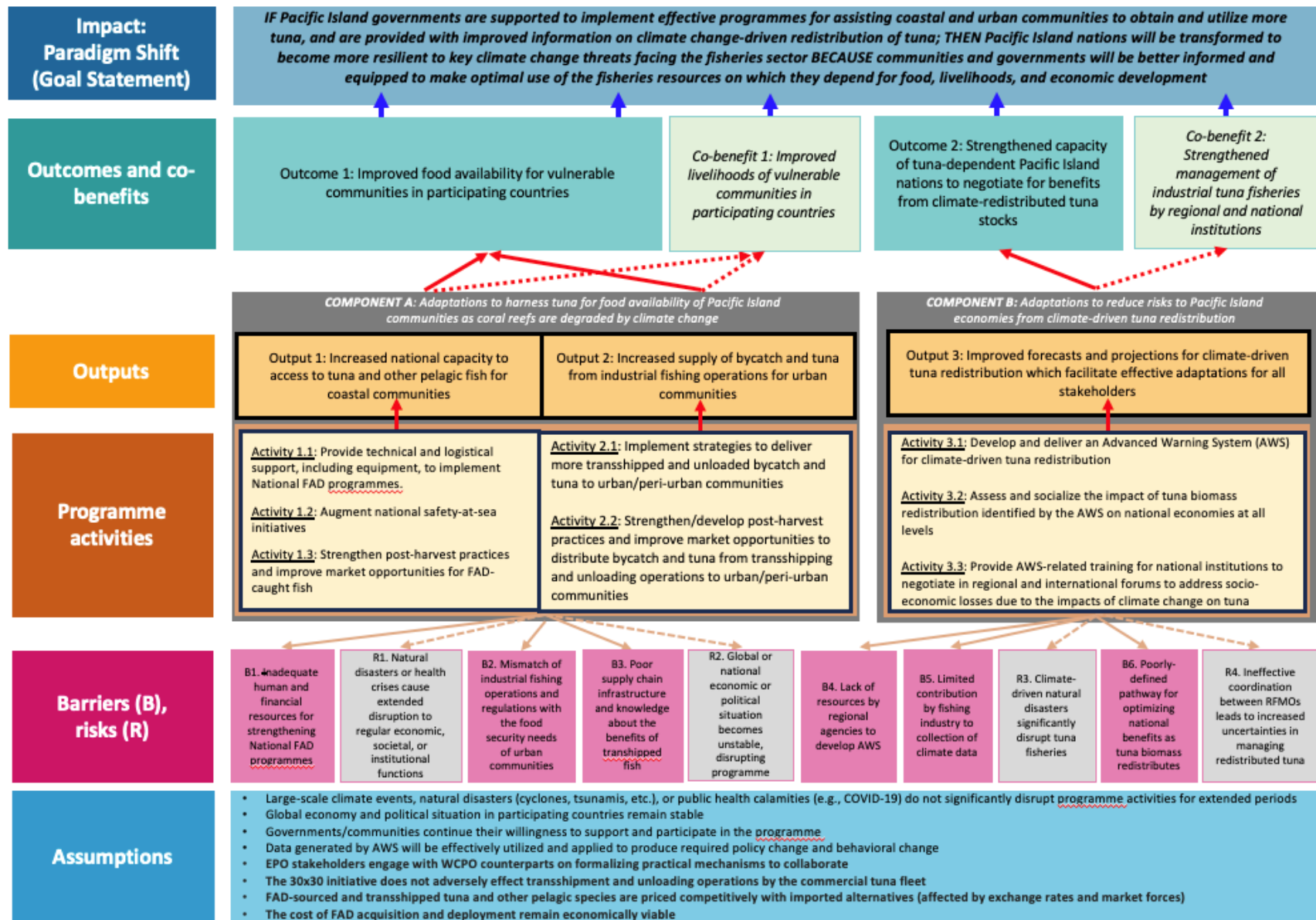
Achievement of the outcomes and co-benefits will enable the aims of the Programme, and its paradigm shift, to be achieved. This is reflected in the Goal Statement for the Programme:

IF Pacific Island governments are supported to implement effective programmes for assisting coastal and urban communities to obtain and utilize more tuna, and are provided with improved information on climate change-driven redistribution of tuna ***THEN*** Pacific Island nations will be transformed to become more resilient to key climate change threats facing the fisheries sector ***BECAUSE*** communities and governments will be better informed and equipped to make optimal use of the fisheries resources on which they depend for food, livelihoods, and economic development.

Theory of Change

The Theory of Change (ToC) illustrates in diagrammatic form the linkages between Programme activities and outputs, and how these will lead to achieving the desired outcomes, co-benefits, and ultimately, the transformational paradigm shift that will bring about greater resiliency to climate change threats in the fisheries sector—the overarching goal of the Programme. The ToC also identifies the barriers, risks and assumptions which have been considered in the formulation of the Programme design. The ToC flowchart is presented in Figure 1, below.

Figure 1. Programme Theory of Change



Contributions to GCF's Integrated Results Management Framework (IRMF)

A detailed description of Programme impacts and outcomes is included in sections E.3 and E.4 of the Logframe within the Funding Proposal. A summary of Programme alignment with GCF Adaptation Results Areas is presented below:

ARA1 Most vulnerable people and communities

Programme Component B will establish an Advanced Warning System (AWS) designed to track and predict changes in tuna distribution across the Pacific, due to ocean warming. Data obtained through the AWS will be used primarily to enable PICs to identify the timing and extent of climate-driven tuna redistribution with increased confidence and negotiate more effectively for the retention of their rights to tuna resources which occur outside of their historic locations, i.e., within waters under the jurisdiction of the 14 participating countries. Such negotiations will be mediated through the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), and through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the International Court of Justice if necessary. The enhanced ability of countries to negotiate for the retention of access rights and revenue from tuna is expected to improve the climate resilience of the full populations of 13 participating countries (*indirect beneficiaries* of the Programme). The full population of Papua New Guinea (14th country) is not included in this calculation of indirect beneficiaries as the relative percentage of government revenue from tuna fishing license fees is low.

A co-benefit to be realized through the implementation of Component A will be an increase in livelihood opportunities for fishers operating around Programme deployed FADs, increased number of individuals engaged in the offloading and sale of bycatch, and individuals engaged in post-harvest processing of bycatch into products with a longer shelf-life for household consumption. Creation of these additional livelihood opportunities is expected in turn to lead to higher household incomes, resulting in improved adaptive capacity of households and resilience to the impacts of climate. The creation of livelihood co-benefits will be monitored through periodic surveys designed to confirm that the estimated 3,000 small-scale fishers use the additional 333 FADs deployed by the Programme, the number of individuals involved in the offloading of bycatch, and the number of individuals engaged in urban post-harvest of bycatch.

An additional co-benefit under Component A and aligned with ARA1 is improving the meteorological and disaster forecasting available to coastal communities (those living within 1km of the coast) across all 14 participating countries (~2.5M individuals, *indirect beneficiaries*).

ARA2 Health, well-being, food and water security

Component A addresses the urgent need to provide greater access to tuna as a reliable source of dietary protein for the most vulnerable populations of the 14 Pacific Island countries (PICs) participating in the Programme. The availability of traditional sources of dietary animal protein, primarily from fish caught from coral reefs, will be reduced due to the impacts of ocean warming and acidification on the health of these fragile habitats, as well as degradation of reefs from pollution and increased fishing pressure related to population growth. The Programme will help to address this food availability problem through (i) strengthening of national FAD programmes to increase the supply of tuna for coastal communities, and (ii)

improving the distribution of bycatch and tuna available from transshipping and unloading operations by industrial fishing fleets in regional ports to increase the supply of fish for urban communities. The Program expects to improve the food availability of 790,000 individuals (*direct beneficiaries*).

Programme interventions will increase the number of nutritious fish meals available per person per month for men, women, and children within the target populations of each participating country (see Annex 23). Each of these meals will provide 50% of the daily per capita protein intake recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), derived from fresh tuna caught around FADs, brine-preserved bycatch offloaded during transshipping operations, and post-harvest products from both types of fish. The benefits will be quantified by measuring the quantity of tuna and other pelagic fish caught around FADs and the quantity of offloaded fish from industrial fishing vessels, converted to the total number of meals available from the edible portions of these fish (*level of benefit*, see **Annex 23** for more information).

ARA4 Ecosystems and ecosystem services

While not indicated in the Funding Proposal as an Adaptation Results Area of the Programme, an important co-benefit of Component B will target this Results Area through strengthened management of the WCPO and its industrial tuna fisheries by regional and national fisheries management organizations. Component B will enhance existing scientific processes that have established WCPO fisheries as the best managed of the world's tuna fisheries. This will be achieved by reducing uncertainties in the effects of climate change on the future abundance and distribution of tuna stocks, and integration of this information into the CMMs and harvest strategies used by WCPFC to sustain tuna catches from the WCPO.

Approximately 99% of the purse-seine tuna catch from the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO), which has averaged more than 1.5 million tonnes per year for the past 10-15 years, is taken in a band across the tropical Pacific between 10°N and 10°S, and between 130°E and 150°W - approximately 19.7 million km². Although data to build the AWS will be collected across this area, and beyond to include longline fisheries (representing a total of 34.5 million km², or 3.45 billion hectares), this Component of the Programme is expected to have the most significant benefits to sustainable management of WCPO tuna resources over approximately 75 million hectares (**Annex 22**).

11.1 MONITORING - Summary of the monitoring procedures to be applied during Programme implementation.

GCF IRMF Outcome and co-benefits level monitoring (IRMF core indicators 1-4)

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
ARA 1. Most vulnerable people and communities				
Core 2. Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached				
a) Programme records on FAD deployment b) Programme records on activities to increase distribution of fish from by-catch, transshipping and unloading to urban and peri-urban populations c) Government records on population estimates (census data)	Government data/records	Mid-Term and Final	<p><u>Number of people with improved food availability.</u></p> <p><u>Direct beneficiaries</u> are individuals with improved food availability from increased access to tuna from FADs and those benefitting from improved distribution of bycatch and tuna from transshipping operations. Please see FP section E3 and Annex 23 for more detail.</p> <p><u>Indirect beneficiaries</u> are the full populations of all participating tuna-dependent countries (except for PNG - see footnote) and the population within 1km of the coast for the five sub-tropical countries.¹</p>	Staff time
Supplementary 2.4 Beneficiaries (female/male) covered by new or improved early warning systems				
c) Census data d) Programme records	Government data/records	Mid-Term and Final	The number of people in participating countries who benefit from deployment of the AWS and increased government capacity to negotiate for retention of tuna-	Staff Time

¹ The full populations of all tuna-dependent economies except PNG are expected to benefit from an enhanced ability to negotiate for retention of fishing license revenue to support government funding and continued strong management of tuna stocks (AWS interventions). For PNG, the benefit is expected to apply only to the population living within 1 km of the coast. For the five subtropical countries benefits are also expected to be limited to people within 1 km of the coast. Populations living in coastal areas in all 14 countries will benefit from improved meteorological and disaster forecasts. **See Annex 23 for details.**

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
			fishing access fees; and/or the sustainable management of industrial tuna fishing fleets.	
Supplementary 2.2 Number of beneficiaries with improved food availability				
a) Programme reports	<i>Document review</i>	Mid-Term and Final	Number of people benefitting from increased availability of fish due to FADs put in place by the Programme.	Staff time
a) Programme reports	<i>Document review</i>	Mid-Term and Final	Number of people benefitting from increased availability of fish from transshipping operations.	Staff time

Project-level Output monitoring

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
Outcome 1: Improved food availability of vulnerable communities in participating countries				
Output 1: Increased national capacity to access tuna and other pelagic fish for coastal communities				
a) National fisheries agency FAD management plans, associated annual reports, and provisions within national fisheries legislation; extent to which national FAD programmes have been strengthened will be measured against the framework in SPC Policy Brief 31/2017.	<i>Government data/records</i>	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	a) Number of participating countries with strengthened national FAD programmes (from 2023 baseline); Outcomes of national FAD audits. Revised national fisheries legislation.	Staff time

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
b) Programme records / reporting from national FAD programmes.	<i>Government data/records</i> Programme records	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	b) Number of dedicated staff provided to national FAD programmes under service agreements.	Staff time
c) Nearshore FAD deployment and maintenance records from national fisheries agencies, including provincial or district fisheries offices.	<i>Government data/records</i>	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	c) Details (number deployed, depth, community, number and type of maintenance visits, replacement history), for nearshore FADs installed and maintained.	Staff time
d) Catch data from a representative subset of FADs in each participating country based on a sampling design developed in consultation with all participating countries and experts in representative data collection.	<i>Survey/questionnaire</i>	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	d) Catch quantity of tuna reported from a subset of FADs in each country deployed by the Programme, extrapolated to determine total additional fish provided by FADs and level of benefit (fish meals per person per day) for target beneficiaries. Number of individuals in each country with access to fish caught from FADs deployed by the Programme (proportionality with FADs deployed, see Annex 23).	Staff time
e) Programme training records.	<i>Choose an item.</i> Programme records	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	e) Number of FAD fishers that have participated in effective and safe FAD fishing training.	Staff time
f) Programme training records	<i>Choose an item.</i> Programme records	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	f) Number of individuals trained in and applying post-harvest processing for FAD-caught fish.	Staff time
g) Programme training / communications/outreach records.	<i>Choose an item.</i> Programme records	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	g) Number of individuals in coastal areas provided with information on climate change impacts on coral reef fish and the need to consume tuna as	Staff time

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
			an alternative to reef-associated fish resources.	
h) Records and services from national authorities for meteorology, maritime safety, and disaster risk reduction.	<i>Government data/records</i> Programme records		h) Number of individuals with access to improved meteorological and disaster forecasts.	Staff time
Output 2: Increased supply of bycatch and tuna from industrial fishing operations for urban communities				
a) National fisheries management plans, port access/fisheries access agreements and associated annual reports, and national fisheries legislation.	<i>Government data/records</i>	At least annual reporting by participating PICs.	a) Number of countries adopting and implementing policies promoting the increased availability of bycatch and tuna for urban and peri-urban communities.	Staff time
(b) Records maintained by national fisheries agencies, and national authorities for town planning and small business development.	<i>Government data/records</i> Programme records	At least annual reporting by participating PICs.	b) Number of countries provided with designs and potential financing mechanism options to develop new fish marketing facilities / outlets.	Staff time
c) Reports by FFA Fisheries Development Division and SPC.	<i>Other (please specify)</i> Regional organization records and Observer Programme reports.	At least annual reporting by FFA and SPC	c) Number of people with improved access to bycatch and tuna in urban and peri-urban communities. Amount of transhipped and/or unloaded bycatch and tuna distributed through local supply chains – leading to determination of Level of Benefit (number of additional fish meals per person per day provided through increased availability of bycatch).	Staff time

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
(d) Programme training records.	<i>Choose an item.</i> Programme records	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	d) Number of individuals engaged in post-harvest and value chain activities that participated in Programme training.	Staff time
e) Records of workshops, articles /broadcasts by media outlets, etc. related to outputs of Programme.	<i>Choose an item.</i> Programme records	At least annual reporting by each participating PIC.	e) Number of individuals provided with information on climate change impacts on coral reef fish and informed about the need to consume bycatch and tuna as an alternative to reef-associated fish resources.	Staff time
Outcome 2: Strengthened capacity of tuna- dependent Pacific Island nations to negotiate for benefits from climate redistributed tuna stocks				
Output 3: Improved forecasts and projections for climate change-driven tuna redistribution which facilitate effective adaptations for all stakeholders				
a) Programme reports reviewed in national, sub-regional and regional forums, data inventories, analytical reports. Decision-making in regional and/or sub-regional forums reflects AWS-associated information and analysis.	<i>Choose an item.</i> Programme records	At least annually by SPC.	a) An increasingly sophisticated integrated, Advanced Warning System (AWS) developed and deployed, producing higher resolution tuna-climate models. Scientific advice to WCPFC incorporates AWS-derived information.	Staff time
b) Programme reports. WCPFC Scientific Committee meeting documents and summary/outcomes reports.	<i>Choose an item.</i> Programme records	At least annually by SPC.	b) Contributions by SPC utilizing AWS data published in reports from the WCPFC Scientific Committee meetings. Improved resolution and description of uncertainty associated with climate-driven impacts on the WCPO marine	Staff time

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
			ecosystem and tuna biomass redistribution.	
c) Data inventories available on the SPC website and submitted to regional and sub-regional forums. Reports of field activities to acquire oceanographic and WCPO ecosystem data.	<i>Government data/records</i>	At least annually by SPC	<p>c) Changes in inventories to incorporate AWS data.</p> <p>Reports on field and research activities associated with the acquisition of oceanographic and ecological information associated with tuna in the WCPO.</p> <p>Utilization of AWS-derived research and field data in analysis of tuna redistribution in the WCPO.</p>	Staff time
d) Outcomes of FFC meetings, PNAO meetings, and meetings held by other agencies, e.g., WCPFC, IATTC, SPC, SPREP and PIFS.	<i>Other (please specify)</i> Regional organization records	At least annually by SPC and FFA.	d) Bio-economic and fleet dynamic modelling outcomes considered in regional and sub-regional forums.	Staff time
e) Contributions of senior representatives from the 14 participating countries during relevant negotiations within UNFCCC meetings and climate change-related WCPFC negotiations.	<i>Government data/records</i>	Annual Programme reports.	e) Number of individuals trained by the Programme and informed with AWS data participating in relevant negotiations and/or meetings.	Staff time

Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Monitoring Budget
Co-Benefits				
Co-Benefit 1: Improved livelihoods of vulnerable communities in participating countries				
a) Sex-disaggregated data from focused community social surveys on contributions of FADs to fishers' livelihoods in 14 PICs. Programme data on number of FAD fishers, collected as part of FAD yield data collection.	Survey/questionnaire Programme records	At least three [3] surveys undertaken in each participating PIC during Programme implementation.	a) Number of fishers whose livelihoods are improved from deployment of FADs.	Staff time
b) Data on number of people with livelihoods linked to trans-shipping and unloading operations from surveys and programme training records;	Survey/questionnaire Programme records	At least three [3] surveys undertaken in participating PICs during Programme implementation.	b) Number of people with improved livelihoods linked to sale of bycatch from transshipping operations and post-harvest processing of bycatch.	Staff time
Co-Benefit 2: Strengthened management of industrial tuna fisheries by regional and national institutions				
WCPFC Scientific Committee meeting documents and summary/outcomes reports.	Programme records	At least annually.	Number of WCPFC Conservation and Management Measures, Harvest Strategies and other management arrangements informed by the AWS.	Staff time

A summary of costs for Project M&E activities is below; details can be found in Annex 04. Additional staff time and travel for other Programme activities, not listed here, may also support project M&E.

Cost category	Description	Amount (USD) – GCF Funds	Amount (USD) – SPC co-financing	Amount (USD) - Total
Staff Costs	MEAL staff, GESI staff, and Programme Director (and HR specialist to support these staff)	2,899,596	483,704	3,383,300
International consultant	Data collection for Independent Evaluation	495,924	0	0
Travel, Meetings, and Workshops	Travel of MEAL staff, Project Director, other programme staff, and country representatives related to M&E	635,408	0	0
Other	Other Direct Costs related to M&E activities	267,765	0	0
Total		4,298,692	483,704	4,782,396

11.2 EVALUATION

The Programme's Mid-term Evaluation (MTE) process will include an internal Impact Evaluation and an independent Process Evaluation. An independent Final Impact Evaluation will take place no later than three months prior to operational closure of the Programme.

The evaluations will rely on key evaluation questions (to be developed during inception planning) to respond to the performance and impact of the Programme's completed activities, and will include assessment against OECD-DAC and GCF evaluation criteria. These may include the following: relevance; effectiveness of the programme and processes; the efficiency of processes; sustained impact and coherence in climate finance delivery; gender equity and inclusiveness; innovation and potential for paradigm shift; country ownership; coherence of climate finance; and potential for building scale and unexpected results (positive and negative). The Terms of Reference for the Evaluation will be developed and agreed between the EE and AE.

Overall, the evaluation will contribute to accountability and learning by reviewing emerging evidence on the performance and the impact and/or likelihood of impact of the Programme, and disseminating that evidence to Programme implementors, beneficiaries and stakeholders (including donors) to support evidence-based decision-making. The midterm evaluation will be instrumental in contributing – through operational and strategic recommendations – to improving implementation, setting out any necessary corrective measures for the remaining period of the programme. The final evaluation will assess the relevance of the intervention, its overall performance, as well as sustainability, scalability and replicability of results, differential impacts and lessons learned. The evaluation should also assess the extent to which the intervention has contributed to the Fund's higher-level goal of achieving a paradigm shift in adaptation to climate change with respect to the tuna resources of the Pacific.

Type	Activity/Action	Timing	Independent/Self-evaluation	Indicative Budget (USD)
<i>Process</i>	Interim evaluation and report	Year 3	Independent	\$106,090 - Covered by AE fees
<i>Summative</i>	Final evaluation and report including evaluation of Paradigm shift	Year 8	Independent	\$119,405- Covered by AE fees

11.3 Summary description of the M&E system

In its role as Accredited Entity, Conservation International (CI) will oversee implementation of this Programme, in accordance with the Funded Activity Agreement to be signed between CI and the GCF. The Pacific Community (SPC), in its capacity as EE, through the PMU will be responsible for Programme implementation. SPC will also be responsible for monitoring and evaluation, and reporting, in compliance with CI and GCF requirements. SPC will also provide supervision and technical assistance as needed to support the PMU with tools and methods to monitor, evaluate and learn from Programme interventions to inform adaptive management of the Programme.

In 2020, SPC co-designed a participatory process to assess and understand the current M&E system and opportunities for capacity strengthening for projects/programmes in the region. This M&E system is informed by a set of principles: Pacific ownership, a strengths-based approach to capacity development, adult learning, and supporting situationally appropriate choices of MEL methods and processes. The full M&E plan and system for the Programme will be based on this *rebbilib*,².

The logical framework for the Programme describes performance indicators at all levels. Programme-level monitoring will be undertaken to ensure progress towards the Programme's ambitious targets. The PMU will provide regular (semi-annual) updates to the NDAs and national fisheries agencies during Programme implementation. Additionally, the Programme will carry out relevant knowledge management (KM) and M&E functions through many of its training and capacity-building activities. The outcomes of the Programmes M&E and KM initiatives will be reported to, and discussed by, participating PICs in the annual Programme Steering Committee meeting.

Two full-time Monitoring and Evaluation and Learning Officers will coordinate M&E for each Component and across the Programme. This will include establishing M&E systems that are aligned with policies of GCF, SPC, and the participating PICs, and which are consistent with the logical framework.

² The term is being used here metaphorically. The *rebbilib* was a traditional Marshallese navigational chart, typically constructed of coconut leaf midribs and seashells. Though highly stylized, the *rebbilib* was a functional tool which helped Marshallese sailors to navigate over long distances, to mark the locations of known islands and to identify prevailing patterns of wind, waves, and ocean currents.

The MEL Officers will work together with the Programme Director under the guidance of the EE to develop a set of M&E tools, approaches and reporting arrangements for Programme activities. This will include quarterly performance reports (submitted to the AE) and annual performance reports and Programme closure reports (submitted to the GCF). The two Programme M&L officers will be supported by SPC M&E specialists contributing part-time to the Programme to align Programme M&E with SPC and regional M&E frameworks.

Monitoring will also be applied as a tool for “adaptive management,” - it will enable the PMU to make adjustments and “course corrections” in response to unexpected circumstances which may arise during implementation. As such, the adaptive management approach will allow the Programme to proceed along a trajectory that will have a greater probability of achieving desired outcomes and impacts. All monitoring activities and subsequent adaptive management and strategies will be developed and carried out in a participatory manner, involving fishers’ groups, MSMEs, government personnel, regional or sub-regional agencies, and other key stakeholders.

In addition to the monitoring functions described above, the AE and EE will be responsible for coordinating the independent interim and final evaluations of Programme performance for the GCF. The evaluations will be conducted following the GCF’s evaluation guidelines.³ As presented in the guidance document, the evaluations will assess Programme performance according to key evaluation criteria as advanced by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD),⁴ namely, *relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact* and *sustainability*. The Mid-Term Evaluation will be instrumental in improving implementation, setting out any necessary corrective and adaptive management measures for the remaining period of the Programme, and identifying relevant lessons learned for stakeholders across the PICs and implementation partners. The Final Evaluation will assess the relevance and impacts of the Programme and will capture lessons learned and recommendations which may inform similar initiatives in the future.

The Final Evaluation will also assess the extent to which the Programme has contributed to GCF’s higher-level goal of achieving a paradigm shift in adaptation to climate change among the 14 participating PICs. Both evaluations will contribute to the evidence base for adaptation to climate change across the Pacific region. These and all other relevant reports will be published on the CI and SPC websites and other relevant platforms to enhance transparency and fully inform stakeholders about the progress of the Programme.

³ GCF. 2023. Evaluation Operational Procedures and Guidelines for Accredited Entity-led Evaluations. Accessible at: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-evaluation-guidelines.pdf>

⁴ OECD. 1991. DAC Principles for Evaluation of Development Assistance. Development Assistance Committee, Paris. Accessible at: <https://www.oecd.org/development/evaluation/2755284.pdf>