

Information Paper 4

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Pacific handbook for gender equity and social inclusion in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture

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Pacific handbook for gender equity and social inclusion in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture

Background

1. In 2019, the Pacific Community (SPC) will publish a handbook designed to give practical guidance for staff working on fisheries and aquaculture in Pacific Island governments on how to improve gender and social inclusion in their work.
2. The *Pacific handbook for gender equity and social inclusion in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture* (hereafter referred to as ‘the Handbook’) will focus on the responsibilities of Pacific Island governments to help promote sustainable development outcomes for all people relying on coastal fisheries and aquaculture for their livelihoods. The contents of the Handbook will therefore be structured around the tasks involved in government work on coastal fisheries and aquaculture – around the planning and implementation of projects and programmes – including social analysis, monitoring and evaluation, policy development, community engagement, fisheries management, and livelihoods projects.
3. The idea for this Handbook came about in 2017 as part of discussions around the activities in the final year of an Australian Government funded ‘Pacfish’ project on community-based fisheries management in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kiribati (FIS/2012/074). Staff from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) travelled to Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kiribati and asked people working in government agencies for fisheries management and aquaculture development, environmental protection, and women’s affairs about how they approach gender equality and social inclusion in their work on coastal resource management and development. Following this, Pacfish partners decided that a toolkit or handbook for fisheries agency staff would be useful.
4. A first draft of the Handbook was worked on during a writing workshop (write-shop) in November 2017 (Figure 1). Feedback and new material were then incorporated into a second draft which was refined during another write-shop in November 2018 (Figure 2), bringing the first edition of the Handbook through to publication in early 2019.

Content of the Handbook

5. The Handbook is tailored to Pacific Island government staff working on coastal fisheries and aquaculture and includes many examples and case studies from the region.
6. The first edition of the Handbook consists of five modules:
 - 1) Introduction (an overview of why gender and social inclusion are important in coastal fisheries and aquaculture in the Pacific);
 - 2) Gender and social inclusion analysis;
 - 3) Monitoring, evaluation and learning;
 - 4) Government processes;
 - 5) Policy cycle.

Next steps

7. During 2019, we intend to draft up three more modules to include in a second edition on: 6) Community engagement; 7) Livelihood projects; and 8) Small-scale fisheries management.
8. Next will be to trial its use in training for government staff from around the region, and revise it based on lessons learned from this testing so that it remains as useful for fisheries and aquaculture staff as it can be. It will also be important to develop high quality teaching materials for using the handbook in training activities.
9. If you would like to be involved in helping develop the second edition of the Handbook, or in the training as a trainer or as a trainee, please reach out to the organisers (Kate Barclay, UTS kate.barclay@uts.edu.au; Joanne Lee Kunatuba, joannek@spc.int; Sangeeta Mangubhai, WCS smangubhai@wcs.org; or, Connie Donato-Hunt, SPC connied@spc.int).

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12. Other participating partner and author affiliate organisations include (in alphabetical order): Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), Centre of Excellence on Coral Reef Studies at James Cook University (JCU), Charles Darwin University, Fiji Locally-Managed Marine Area (FLMMA) Network, Fiji Ministry of Fisheries, Kiribati Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development (MELAD), Kiribati Islands Conservation Society (KICS), Kiribati Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development (MFMRD), Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), Samoa Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP), Solomon Islands Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR), University of Technology Sydney (UTS), Vanuatu Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Women in Fisheries Network – Fiji (WiFN-Fiji) and WorldFish.
13. Authorship of each module: Module 1 - Barclay, Kate, Leduc, Brigitte, Mangubhai, Sangeeta, Vunisea, Aliti, Namakin, Ben, Teimarane, Mwaiango, Leweniqila, Loata; Module 2 - Leduc, Brigitte, Barclay, Kate, Kunatuba, Joanne, Danford, Makelesi, Rakuro, Meliki; Module 3 - Mangubhai, Sangeeta, Donato-Hunt, Connie, Kleiber, Danika; Module 4 - Barclay, Kate, Leduc, Brigitte, Sanders, Jessica, Kunatuba, Joanne, Raubani, Jason; and, Module 5 - Barclay, Kate, Leduc, Brigitte, Sanders, Jessica, Raubani, Jason, Streeter, Megan.
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Figure 1. Participants to the first Handbook Write-shop, November 2017, Nadi, Fiji.



Figure 2. Participants to the second Handbook Write-shop, November 2018, Suva, Fiji.