Coastal and tuna fisheries development options in the Pacific Islands and potential for collaboration with South Korea

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Outline

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- What has been done
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- Tuna Management Issues
- PNA CMMs
- Assessment of Regional Management
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- Justification for Improvement
- Potential Areas of Collaboration with South Korea
Pacific Islands Context

- Population of 10 million
- Annual growth rate of 2.2 per cent
- Population doubling time is 32-37 years
- Urban population growth rate of 3-4%
- Demand on natural resources high
- Resources management now critical
- Coastal and tuna resources depleting quickly
Coastal Fisheries Management Issues

- Highly efficient modern methods
- Fully exploited and overexploited stocks
- Increasing commercialisation, users and activities
- Pollution and coastal developments threaten fisheries
- Exploitation of rural communities
- Loss of fishing rights in urban areas
- Alternative sources of protein required
What Has Been Done?

Apia Policy
Coral Triangle Initiative – Regional research, Fisheries Forum
Community-based fisheries management - Micronesian Challenge, LMMA
Responsible Development in PNG - love, respect, help, generosity, honesty, goodwill and righteousness
PIDF - space for sustainable development involving all stakeholders; focus on Green/Blue Economy
MSG Roadmap - food security, fisheries management part of work programme
Tuna Fisheries in PICs

- Conducted by DWFNs for export markets
- Tuna stocks *moderately to fully exploited* and require aggressive management interventions
- Vigilance and precaution needed
- Tuna production worth in excess of US$6 billion per year
- PICs aim to expand production and returns
- New and expanded shore operation
- Small-scale development
- IUU caught fish end up in developed countries
Tuna Management Measures and State of Implementation

- WCPFC banned use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas – CMM 2008-04
- According to Scientific Committee big-eye stock is overfished and yellow-fin stock fished at capacity
- Scientific Committee advised reduction in fishing mortality for two stocks to reduce risks of overfishing
PNA Conservation and Management Measures

- A five month ban on floating objects (FADs) set in PNA EEZs
- Permanent closure of the high-seas pockets
- Full catch retention (no discarding) in PNA EEZs
- 25% reduction in bigeye-targeting longline effort
Assessment of Regional Management

- Disparity between scientific advice and management response
- Overfishing of bigeye and yellowfin continue, unless other measures are implemented
- PNA/FFA measures could reduce overfishing but need support
- Evolution of purse seine FAD based fishery is critical
- Observer programme does not ensure compliance
- Overcapacity remains unresolved since 1999.
- High fishing mortality of juvenile big eye
- 30% reduction of big eye long line catch to 2001–2004 average insufficient to reduce adult big eye fishing mortality
- Uncertainties with MSY
Justification for Improvements

- PIROP Vision - ‘healthy ocean that sustains the livelihood and aspirations of Pacific Island communities’
  - Goal - ‘ensure future sustainable use of ocean and its resources’
- Pacific Plan Vision ‘of a region of peace, harmony, security and economic prosperity
- Framework for Pacific Oceanscape
Potential Areas of Collaboration with South Korea

- Joint venture arrangements
- Promote marine research, and technology development – mariculture, rehabilitation and habitat repair
- Increase value-adding and quality processing operations - mass production vs high value
- Promote aquariums, museums’ fun and theme parks
- Incorporate use of sustainable energy
Coastal and tuna fisheries are on the same side of the same coin

- Both are being developed simultaneously for different purposes
- Both now require management
- Solutions for both sectors have to be found by changing, overhauling present practices in the two sectors