

Original: English

Paper reference:	CBFD-Working Paper 2 (CBFD-WP2) Community-based Fisheries Dialogue Session
Title:	The role of non-state actors in implementation of the Pacific Framework for Action on Scaling up CBFM: 2021–2025
Author(s):	Watisoni Lalavanua

#### Summary/short description/key points:

Pacific Islands countries and territories (PICTs), now have the *Pacific Framework for Action on Scaling up Community-based Fisheries Management: 2021–2025* (*Framework for Action*) to implement the regional strategy (the *New Song for Coastal Fisheries*) that focuses on community-based fisheries management (CBFM). The *Framework for Action* provides guidance in developing, prioritising, and implementing national actions for scaling up CBFM that support local communities and achieve national and regional goals. Non-state actors (NSAs)<sup>1</sup> played a vital role in the development of the *Framework for Action* and will be instrumental in its implementation. Therefore, the purpose of this Working paper is to:

- Present to NSAs the endorsed *Pacific Framework for Action on Scaling up Community-based Fisheries Management: 2021–2025*.
- Promote discussion on how NSAs can:
  - a. contribute to the implementation of the *Framework for Action* at country and / or community level and
  - b. contribute to the regional level evaluation of the implementation of the *Framework for Action*.

#### Recommendations:

The CBFD participants are invited to:

- i. Note that the endorsed *Framework for Action* is a broad regional framework that provides guidance in implementing the scaling up of CBFM that supports and empowers local communities
- ii. Discuss how NSA regional or national programmes contribute and/or may further align to achieving the outcomes in the *Framework for Action*

<sup>1</sup> Refer to CBFD-WP1 of the CBFD session: (*Strengthening civil society organisations' and other non-state actors' engagement in regional Community-based Fisheries Dialogue: Next steps*) for definition of NSAs.

## Introduction

1. Community-based fisheries management (CBFM), as referred to in the *New Song for Coastal Fisheries*<sup>2</sup>, refers to fisheries management approaches that are community-driven and encompass an ecosystem approach that will sustain livelihoods and ensure resilient island communities.
2. At the 12<sup>th</sup> SPC Heads of Fisheries (HoF12) meeting in May 2020, the Heads of Fisheries (HoF) requested the Pacific Community (SPC) Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems division (FAME) to work with members and partners to assess CBFM and scaling up approaches in the region and to assist members in developing and implementing effective scaling-up approaches which are appropriate to national contexts<sup>3</sup>.
3. In welcoming and supporting the HoF12 request, the First Regional Fisheries Ministerial Meeting in August 2020, further stressed and acknowledged the increased importance of sustainable CBFM for long-term management and recovery of coastal fisheries and local communities, especially in response to COVID-19 impacts<sup>4</sup>.
4. SPC FAME, together with its regional partners, responded to the request by implementing subregional and regional consultations that involved national and subnational fisheries agencies, local communities (including traditional leaders, fishers, youth and women), local non-governmental and civil society organisations, as well as regional and international organisations and institutions<sup>5</sup>.
5. The outcome of the extensive consultative process was the development of the draft *Pacific Framework for Action on scaling up CBFM: 2021–2025* (hereafter referred to as the *Framework for Action*). The draft *Framework for Action* was subsequently reviewed and approved by SPC members at the 13<sup>th</sup> SPC Heads of Fisheries Meeting<sup>6</sup> and endorsed at the Second Regional Fisheries Ministerial Meeting in August 2021<sup>7</sup>.

## The Framework for Action

6. Recognising SPC member government responsibility for coastal fisheries management at the national level, the purpose of the *Framework for Action*<sup>8</sup> is to provide regional and subregional guidance to Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) in developing, prioritising, and implementing national and sub-national actions in scaling up CBFM that support all local communities and achieve national and regional goals.

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://purl.org/spc/digilib/doc/b8hvs>

<sup>3</sup> <https://fame1.spc.int/en/meetings/250>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.spc.int/sites/default/files/documents/FAME/RFMM%20STATEMENT%20OF%20OUTCOMES-2020.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [Scaling up CBFM Workshop \(spc.int\)](https://www.spc.int/en/meetings/254)

<sup>6</sup> <https://fame1.spc.int/en/meetings/254>

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.ffa.int/system/files/2021%20RFMM2%20Statement%20of%20Outcomes\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ffa.int/system/files/2021%20RFMM2%20Statement%20of%20Outcomes_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> <https://purl.org/spc/digilib/doc/yr5yv> - This document is Background paper 2 of the Community-based Fisheries Management Dialogue session.

7. The intended users of this *Framework for Action* are fisheries agencies and staff, relevant government agencies and decision makers, SPC and other regional agencies to support and empower coastal communities to implement and scale-up CBFM.
8. Non-governmental and civil society organisations, donors and other development partners are encouraged to use this *Framework for Action* as a common reference point for coordination and collaboration with fisheries agencies and SPC.

## Implementation of the Framework for Action

9. Firstly, to implement the *Framework for Action* at the country level, an inclusive national prioritisation process to develop CBFM scaling-up actions is highly recommended<sup>9</sup> and ensures that priority actions are incorporated into agencies and organisations work plan and budget.
10. Secondly, regular and inclusive monitoring<sup>10</sup> of implemented actions is necessary for improving and adapting national scaling up actions or approaches and will further assist and/or support PICTs in its regional and international reporting obligations and/or commitments.
11. At the regional level, inclusion of NSAs in the monitoring and evaluation of the *Framework for Action* is needed. NSAs views and inputs will also assist in strengthening and improving current regional monitoring mechanisms of coastal fisheries management.

## Recommendations

12. The CBFD participants are invited to:
  - i. Note that the endorsed *Framework for Action* is a broad regional framework that provides guidance in implementing the scaling up of CBFM that supports and empowers local communities
  - ii. Discuss how NSA regional or national programmes contributes and/or may further align to achieving the outcomes in the *Framework for Action*.

---

<sup>9</sup> Action / Steps 1 and 2 of Section 6.3 of the [Framework for Action](#)

<sup>10</sup> Action / Steps 3 and 4 of Section 6.3 of the [Framework for Action](#)