Local fish names added to PacFishID

In 2017, the Pacific Community's Coastal Fisheries Programme developed and released the innovative mobile application (app) PacFishID to assist with the identification of fishes and invertebrates from Pacific Island countries and territories. The app, based on SPC's earlier publication titled, Identification guide to the common coastal food fishes of the Pacific Islands region*, was primarily designed to assist fisheries officers with identifying common coastal food fishes found in catches or during market surveys. But, considering the several thousands of downloads made so far, it has obviously reached a far wider audience.*
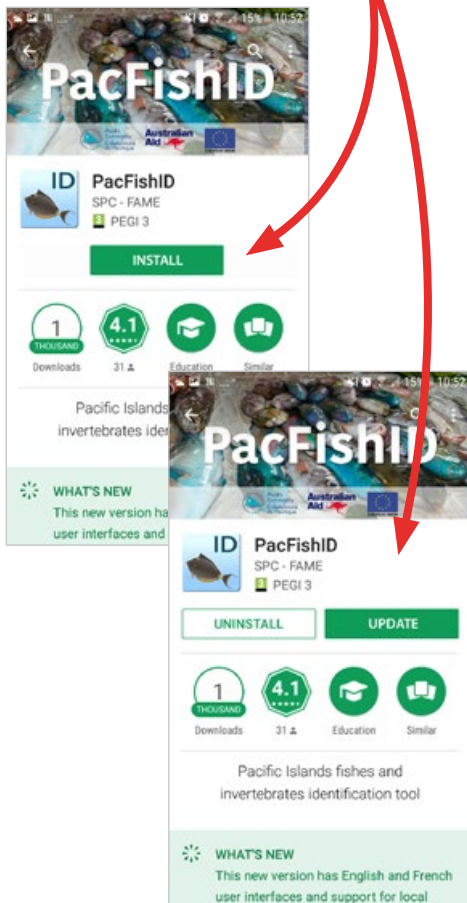
An audience that will certainly further increase with the recent addition of two new features:

1. PacFishID is now available in French, a feature that was expected by scientists, managers, fishers and fish lovers from French Polynesia, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna.

2. PacFishID now offers the possibility to display local fish names.
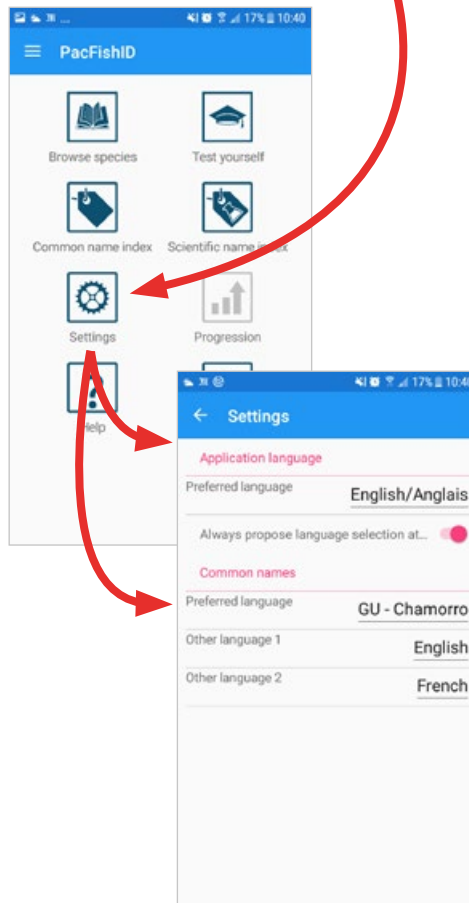
At present, common names used in Guam, New Caledonia, Tahiti, the Tuamotu Islands, the Austral Islands, the Marquesas Islands, and Wallis and Futuna have been added to the dataset. Fiji, Palau, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu fisheries authorities are currently putting together their list of local names, and it is hoped that other countries and territories will quickly follow.
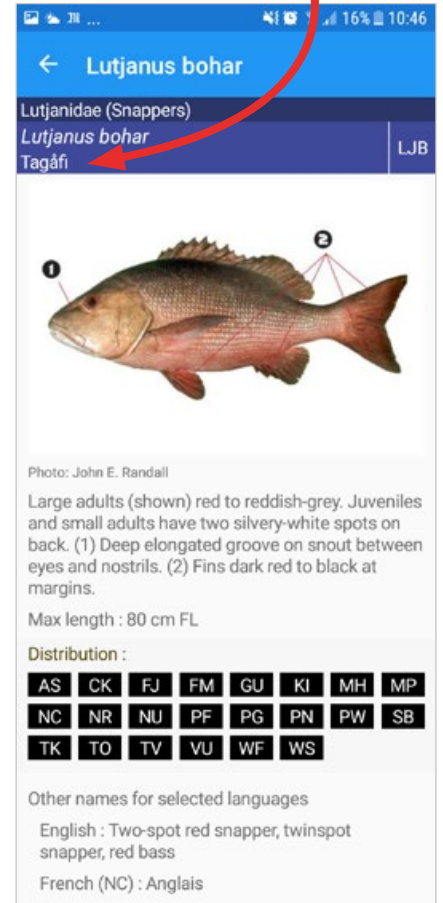
How to display local fish names

① Type PacFishID in the search box of the Play Store, App Store or Windows Store, and either install it or update the app.

② Open the app, and go to "Settings". Select the language of the app itself (English or French), and select the local names you wish to display in priority.

③ The preferred common name is displayed at the top of the species page (e.g. *Lutjanus bohar* is called Tagåfi in Guam).

You can display three sets of common names.

Other common names are displayed at the bottom of the page.