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Information paper 12

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MFAT- Sustainable Pacific aquaculture development for food security and economic growth – Summary

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Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to:

- Brief Heads of Fisheries of a new project within Aquaculture Section of Fisheries Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Division of SPC
- Request HoFs to broadly indicate where this project could assist in strengthening the areas of aquaculture for food security and economic development.

Background

The Activity will improve food security and economic development in the Pacific through sustainable aquaculture demonstrating enhanced business acumen, reduced aquatic biosecurity risks and increased uptake of improved aquaculture practices

It will strengthen aquatic biosecurity capacity at the regional and national levels by facilitating the setting of aquatic biosecurity standards that can be adopted and applied through developing national biosecurity plans, capacity building in risk assessments, and strengthening national aquatic diseases reporting systems.

As aquaculture is successful when run as a business or set on a business-like footing, the Activity will enhance business acumen among private sector operators, through business mentoring and training that will strengthen the capacity in business skills. Selection of participating enterprises and delivery of mentoring services will be run by the Recipient and be open, transparent and allow for new entrants.

The Activity will increase the uptake of improved aquaculture practices by strengthening government and farmer capacity for seed, feed and broodstock management. Technology transfer will also be facilitated through demonstrations on selected farms that will service as models of other enterprises.

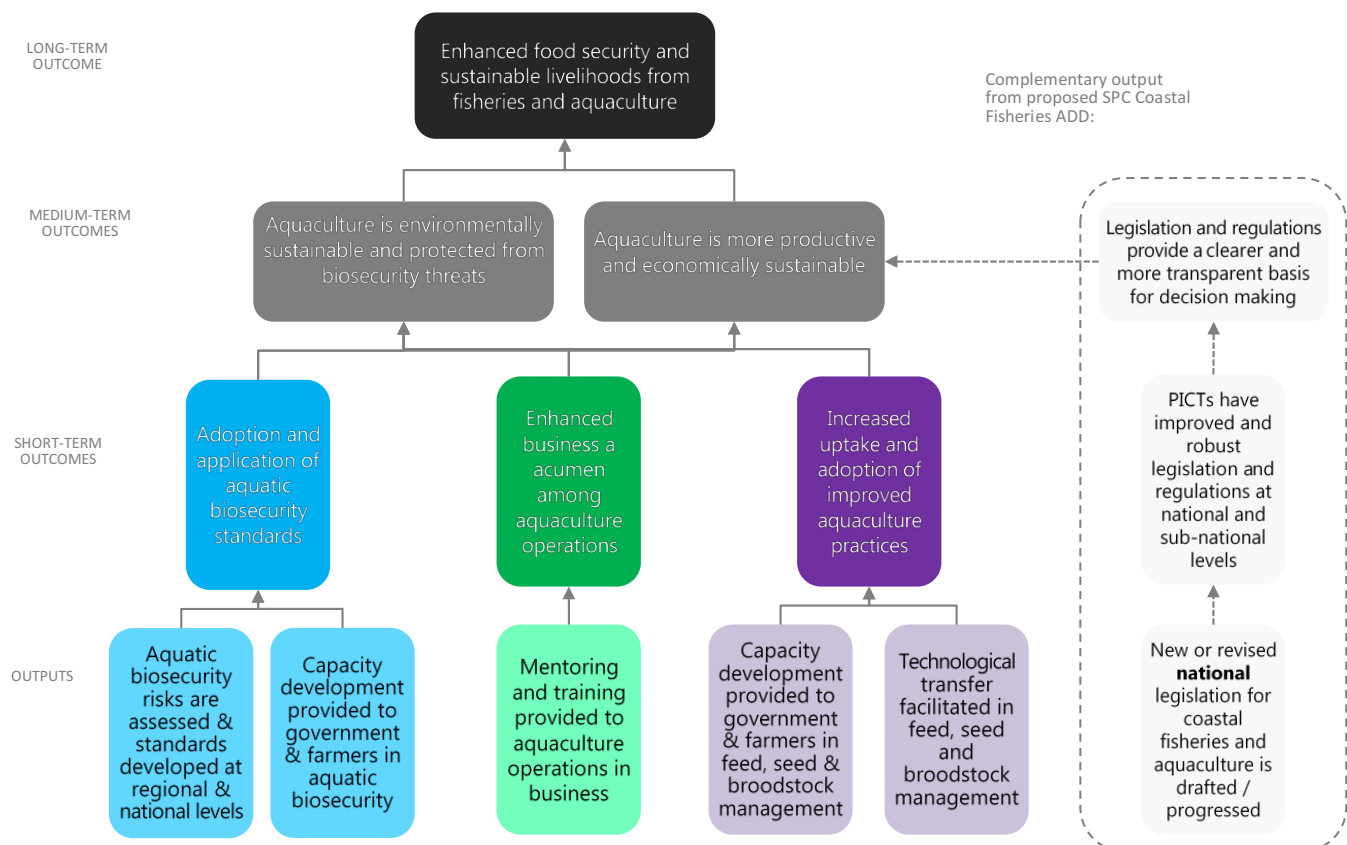
The principal environmental risk of the Activity comes from biosecurity impacts of aquaculture. This risk will be managed by ensuring that those enterprises selected for support have relevant national and local permissions for their activity. The Activity also strengthens biosecurity standards and monitoring.

Women participate extensively in aquaculture, but are often excluded from the transfer of technology, decision making and large scale production (except as processors). The Activity will ensure biosecurity standards development, capacity building, mentoring and technology transfer includes women and promotes shared benefits.

Overall the Activity will contribute to aquaculture being more productive and economically sustainable, underpinned by responsible practices to ensure that the environment is protected from biosecurity threats

Results diagram

Goal of the activity: Food security and livelihoods in the Pacific are improved through sustainable aquaculture demonstrating enhanced business acumen, reduced aquatic biosecurity risks and increased uptake of improved aquaculture practices.



The Recipient will deliver the following Outputs in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Arrangement:

Outputs

Output 1: Aquatic biosecurity risks are assessed and standards developed at regional and national levels.

Baselines for aquatic biosecurity identified and a risk assessment matrix established

Work with fisheries departments in six countries to develop national aquatic biosecurity plans

Assess and address gender and human rights issues (through gender and social analysis) to identify viable approaches to support national aquatic biosecurity plans

Gender analysis to identify the different impacts aquatic biosecurity plans have on men and women, with this being used to inform the content of the plans to ensure that the needs of both men and women are met

Work with fisheries department staff to undertake three risk assessments and/or environmental impact assessments per year for proposed species translocation and trade in aquatic commodities in the region.

Work with 8 countries to improve national aquatic disease reporting systems.

Assist with stakeholder consultations for input to the development of a national aquatic biosecurity plan

Assistance with formatting and printing the national aquatic biosecurity plan in 6 countries

Coordinate activities with FAO, OIE and MPI to form collaborations in relevant countries and avoid any overlap of work.

Output 2: Capacity development provided to government & farmers in aquatic biosecurity

Three subregional workshops to be held on aquatic biosecurity from a regional/subregional perspective

Six national workshops supported to enable implementation of national aquatic biosecurity plans

Provide attachment training in Noumea for fisheries department staff to develop their national aquatic biosecurity plan and/or risk assessments

Work with and support at least eight clusters of aquaculture farmers over the life of the activity to improve farm level biosecurity

Identify, work with and support enterprises who provide sector services as part of Output 4 (potentially outside the eight clusters) to manage biosecurity risks (e.g. fish transfer activities)

At least one knowledge product produced to bridge information gaps that are identified

Liaise with MPI, FAO, OIE and other relevant organisations in the training provided to ensure collaboration and no duplication.

Output 3: Mentoring and training provided to aquaculture operations in business

Mentoring provided to at least 25 aquaculture operations (private sector, community, NGOs etc.) over the life of the activity, to address their business skills, knowledge and information needs

Mentoring to be arranged through partner mentoring organisations (see Annex D: Governance and Implementation Arrangements)

Assess and address gender and human rights issues (including gender and social analysis) to identify strategic approaches to support equitable sharing of benefits from mentoring and training for women

Gender analysis will be used to understand the needs of male and female farmers, and used to design mentoring and training activities to ensure women's participation

At least two knowledge products produced to bridge information gaps that are identified

Run one regional workshop on leadership development for around 15 participants, with follow-up in-country mentoring for the participants where appropriate

Six national business skills workshops for aquaculture enterprise managers conducted (three targeting women) in three countries

Work with at least one financial institution to increase their understanding of aquaculture enterprises as commercially viable loan investments

Coordinate activities with other partners (national governments, FAO, MPI) to form collaborations in some countries and avoid any overlap of work.

Output 4: Capacity development provided to government and farmers in feed, seed and broodstock management

Mentoring provided to at least 10 aquaculture enterprises (private sector, community, NGOs) over the life of the activity, to address their skills, knowledge and information needs

Mentoring arranged through partner mentoring organisations (see Annex D: Governance and implementation Arrangements)

Assess and address gender and human rights issues (including gender and social analysis) to identify strategic approaches to support equitable sharing of benefits from mentoring and training for women

Gender analysis used to understand the needs of male and female farmers, and used to design mentoring and training activities to ensure women's participation

Training provided to at least two countries in feed formulation, where required through sub-contracted consultants

Training provided to at least two countries in broodstock management

Attachment training provided for eight National Fisheries Officer staff to Noumea to work on cost-benefit analysis for feed options or broodstock management

Work with and support at least eight clusters of aquaculture farmers over the life of the activity to improve feed, seed and broodstock management

At least two knowledge products produced to bridge information gaps that are identified

Where necessary, liaise with MPI, FAO, OIE and other relevant organisations in the training provided to ensure collaboration and no duplication.

Output 5: Technological transfer facilitated in feed, seed and broodstock management

Assess and address gender and human rights issues (including gender and social analysis) to identify strategic approaches to support technology transfer

Gender analysis used to understand the needs of male and female farmers, and used to design technology transfer activities to ensure equitable women's participation (e.g. access to support, type of support required, method for providing technology support and engagement with enterprises)

Conduct a cost-benefit analysis on feed options to assess viability and suitability

Conduct a cost-benefit analysis on broodstock management and breeding to assess viability and suitability

Supervise and assist with research on suitable feed options in two countries, where required through sub-contracted consultants

Supervise and assist with research on suitable broodstock management and breeding

Develop guidelines and/or strategies to address sectoral constraints to the adoption of best aquaculture practices for feed and/or seed, for at least four sectors/commodities

Provide technical and financial support if required for up to 10 enterprises to demonstrate and/or model aquaculture best practice in feed, seed or broodstock management

Where necessary, liaise with MPI, FAO and other relevant organisation to ensure collaboration and no duplication.

Funding

MFAT will provide Funding for the Recipient to implement the Activity and deliver the Outputs, up to the Maximum Amount of NZD \$4,929,300 exclusive of GST but inclusive of any other taxes) at the times and on the conditions that are set out in this Arrangement.

Period: 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2021