



# *Te Lagosi*

## **VAITUPU COASTAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN**

2024 - 2027

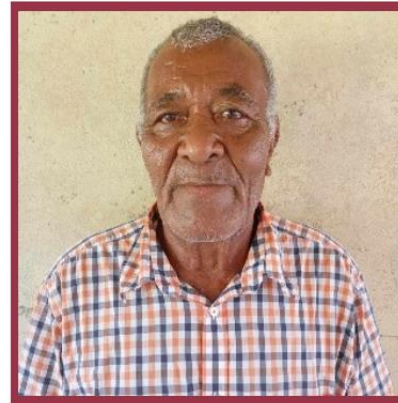
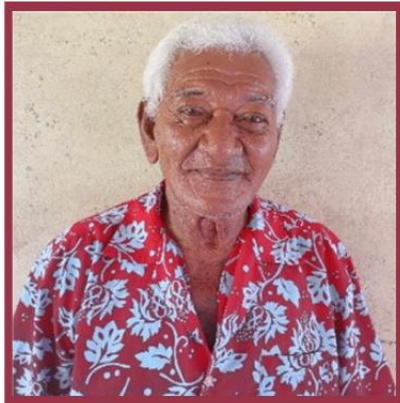


# Table of Contents

Foreword	3
Statement from the Minister	4
Definitions	6
Abbreviations	6
Part 1: Introduction	8
1.1 Why do we need a Vaitupu Coastal Fisheries Management Plan?	8
1.2 Scope	8
1.3 Goal	8
1.4 Policy and legislation	8
Part 2: Authorities and Roles	10
Part 3: Status of the Fishery	11
Part 4: Objectives and Strategies: What we want to achieve	13
Part 5: Management Measures	14
Part 6: Review & Amendment	15
Part 7: Financial Strategy for the Plan	15
Appendix I: Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation	16
Appendix II: Vaitupu landings reported from creel surveys (2016-2022)	20



## Foreword



With our deepest and sincere honour, we are grateful to present “Te Lagai 2024-2027”. The fulfilment of Vaitupu Coastal Fisheries Management Plan was made ready for use by Vaitupu community, which had been developed with tremendous inputs from the people of Vaitupu.

The island of Vaitupu works in collaboration with the Tuvalu Fisheries Department to obtain and establish issues and key priorities for its coastal fisheries. Such issues have been consolidated into a coherent Plan to ensure a healthy and sustainable resources for the greater benefit of the whole island community.

Coastal resources of Vaitupu are bountiful in nature, However, our vision as leaders sees the importance of “Te Lagai” for better livelihood, success and happy living if we become custodians of our coastal fisheries resources.

May the Almighty richly bless and ordain this Plan for the success and profound health of Vaitupu widespread.

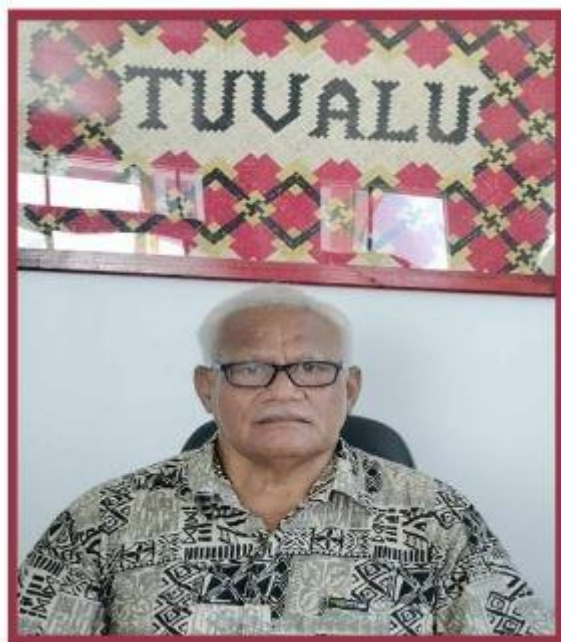
Fakafetai lasi

**Ke manuia Vaitupu Tasi Kae Afe!**

Nelu Avega *Nelu Avega*  
Ulu Aiki  
Fonua O Vaitupu  
Kalesa Toomu *Kalesa Toomu*  
Pule Kaupule  
Kaupule O Vaitupu



## Statement from the Minister



The idea to develop fisheries management plans for the outer islands of Tuvalu came to light in 2021 as a result of the respective Island Strategic Plans that highlight fisheries as a key priority area.

In 2022, the Tuvalu Fisheries Department (the Department) commenced its work to collect fisheries information through a series of consultations with the outer islands' communities. A second series of consultations was held in the following year to validate the information collected previously. The Department also found that these communities find great value in having a management plan that provides guidance in their aspirations to sustainably manage and improve their coastal fisheries.

In light of the results from these consultations, the Department started to draft and formulate the different fisheries management plans for all the outer islands and to align them with the key objectives of existing plans like *Te Kete* (Tuvalu National Strategy for Sustainable Development 2021-2030), Tuvalu Fisheries Corporate Plan 2023-2025, and the respective Island Strategic Plans.

The successful management of each island's coastal fisheries resources lies heavily in the hands of the Falekaupule, Kaupule, and the people on the island. The Department will stand ready to provide technical and also partly financial assistance to each island community as requested.

Throughout the years, most of the work and services provided by the Department's Coastal Fisheries Section has contributed to the development process of the fisheries management plans. But these efforts would have been impossible without the continued support and financial assistance provided by our donor partners, for which I share my profound gratitude and appreciation – thank you!

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the island communities in the outer islands, from the Falekaupule, the Kaupule, to groups of women, youth, and fishermen, for their continued support and trusting us to invest in this program. I look forward to your future cooperation in implementing this plan.

Also, *fakafetai lasi* to the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the financial and technical support of this work through the Tuvalu Fisheries Support Programme. I would also like to acknowledge the external review by the Pacific Community (SPC) and New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries.

Lastly, my big *fakafetai lasi* to all staff of the Tuvalu Fisheries Department for their tireless efforts in achieving this important task.



Hon. Sa'aga Talu Teafa

Minister for Natural Resources Development

This plan comes into effect on the day it is signed and approved.

Signed on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024

*Photograph credits*

Aimée Komugabe-Dixon, Jamie Whitford



## Definitions

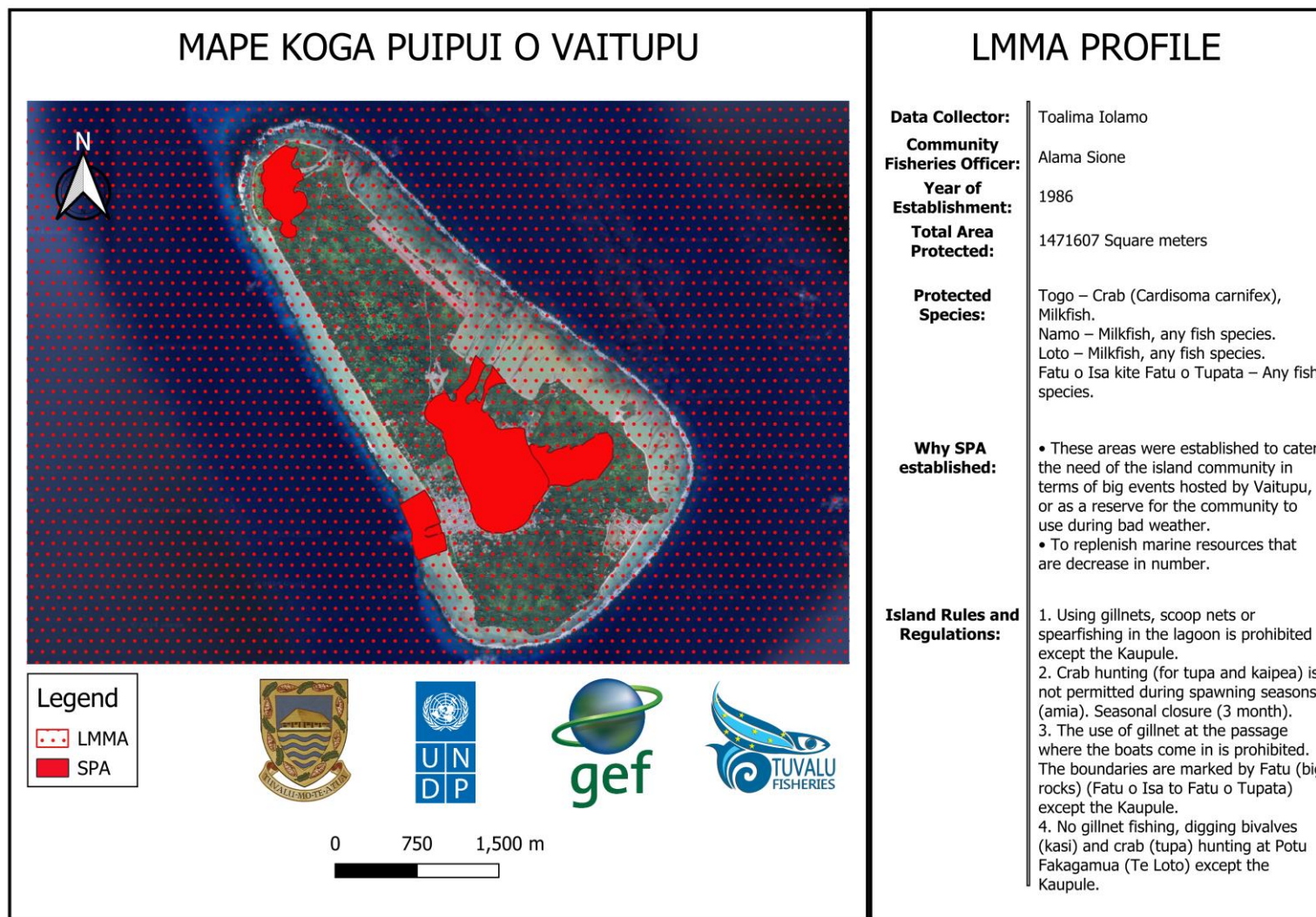
Unless otherwise expressed, words and expressions used in this plan have the same meaning as defined in the Marine Resources Act 2006 and Falekaupule Act 2008.

<b>Aquaculture</b>	The cultivation, propagation or farming of fish, whether from eggs, spawn, spat or seed, including rearing fish lawfully taken from the wild or lawfully imported into the country, or by other similar process.
<b>Baseline</b>	The low-water line of the seaward side of the reef fringing the coast of any part of Tuvalu or bounding any lagoon waters adjacent to any part of the coast, or where a reef is not present, the low-waterline of the coast itself.
<b>Bye-law</b>	A local law made by a specific island Falekaupule or as defined in the Falekaupule Act 2008.
<b>Closed season</b>	A period of time during when certain fishing gear or activities are prohibited
<b>Creel Survey</b>	A method to collect coastal fisheries data by interviewing fishers about the catch they have landed and their effort (i.e., fishing method and how long they have spent fishing)
<b>FAD</b>	A Fish Aggregating Device, and includes any floating object, whether anchored or drifting, for the purpose of aggregating fish
<b>Fish</b>	Any marine or aquatic animal or plant, whether piscine or not, and includes shellfish, crustaceans, sponges, holothurians (beche-de-mer), sea urchins and turtles and their eggs
<b>Gleaning</b>	The hand gathering of fish from the intertidal zone
<b>Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA)</b>	An area of nearshore waters and coastal resources out to 12 nautical miles that is largely or wholly managed at a local level by the coastal communities, land-owning groups, partner organisations, and/or collaborative government representatives who reside or are based in the immediate area
<b>Special Protected Area (SPA)</b>	A Special Protected Area within the LMMA under the Falekaupule area
<b>Territorial Sea</b>	The part of the sea adjacent to the coast of any island of Tuvalu that is within the 12 nautical miles measured from the baseline
<b>Traditional fishing knowledge</b>	Local knowledge that is passed down from generation to generation that form part of the traditions or heritage of communities
<b>Traditional fishing methods</b>	Practices related to small-scale commercial or subsistence fishing practices that have been passed down from previous generations

## Abbreviations

<b>FAD</b>	Fish Aggregating Device
<b>LMMA</b>	Locally Managed Marine Area
<b>SPA</b>	Special Protected Area
<b>TFD</b>	Tuvalu Fisheries Department

Figure 1. Map of Vaitupu



## Part 1: Introduction

### 1.1 Why do we need a Vaitupu Coastal Fisheries Management Plan?

The Vaitupu Community has traditionally relied on the island's coastal reef fisheries for their livelihoods, food security, and socio-economic benefits. However, in recent years the community has observed significant changes noticeably in the declining number of bivalves, milkfish, sea cucumber, and other fish species around the island. This change is likely due to the drastic change in habitat caused by several natural disasters and storm surges. Concern is also raised over once productive natural marine habitats that have now been covered with sand.

The people of Vaitupu with the support of the Tuvalu Fisheries Department (the Department) have developed this Coastal Fisheries Management Plan (the Plan) to address these issues. The Plan aims to guide the management and conservation of coastal fisheries resources for a long-term sustainable fisheries resource for the people of Vaitupu.

### 1.2 Scope

This Plan applies to the area of authority of the Vaitupu Falekaupule under the Falekaupule Act 2008. This is the Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA), which includes the lagoons, coastal, and all other waters extending out 12 nautical miles from the baseline. This Plan includes all coastal fisheries, and aquaculture and fisheries related activities within the LMMA, including traditional fishing.

This Plan does not include pelagic and oceanic fisheries.

### 1.3 Goal

An abundant and healthy coastal fisheries resources for food security, livelihood, economic growth, and marine biodiversity in Vaitupu.

### 1.4 Policy and legislation

- Te Kete National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)
- *Kafateke*, Vaitupu Island Strategic Plan (2021-2024)
- Tuvalu Fisheries Department Corporate Plan (2023-2025)
- Wildlife Conservation Act 1975
- Falekaupule Act 2008
- Marine Resources Act 2008
- Maritime Zones Act 2012

Our guiding principles are taken from the *Kafateke*, Vaitupu Island Strategic Plan (2021-2024), and include:

1. **Collaboration:** The principle of 'Tasi kae Afe' (One in a thousand)
2. **Unity:** Development and implementation of this plan is dependent on maintaining unity among the Vaitupu people
3. **Action:** The accomplishment of this plan will be measured by the actions and performances of the people of Vaitupu and all stakeholders

4. **Transparency:** Drafting and implementation of this Plan is done transparently, with honesty and fairness
5. **Implementation:** The Plan is effective and efficient as it is associated with the issues and needs of the Vaitupu people
6. **Commitment:** This is the cultural principle of 'agatasi', related to a Vaitupuan saying, "since when could Vaitupu not accomplish a goal?"



## Part 2: Authorities and Roles

Table 1 states the authorities and roles involved in the development and implementation of this Plan.

Specific responsibilities pertaining to the Plan’s activities are outlined in the Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (Appendix I).

**Table 1. Authorities and Roles**

Authority	Role
1. Minister for Natural Resources Development	Approves the Coastal Fisheries Management Plan.
2. Falekaupule	Development of bye-laws, decision-making, and governance under the Falekaupule Act 2008 in relation to this Plan.
3. Kaupule	Co-ordinate implementation of the Plan, key liaison between the community and government departments, and has responsibilities to enforce and ensure compliance with management measures and rules under the Plan.
4. Coastal Fisheries Management Committee	Oversee the implementation and progress of the Plan. Work with the community, Tuvalu Fisheries Department, and other agencies to ensure timely implementation of the Plan, including provision of annual progress reports.
5. Fishermen’s Association	Represent fishers’ rights and interests, FAD maintenance, and provide fisheries information.
6. Women’s Association	Represent women’s rights and interests in the fishery especially with gleaning and rod fishing, post-harvest activities, and raising awareness.
7. Youth Association	Represent youth’s rights and interests in the fishery, coordinate social participation in community events, and raising awareness.
8. Tuvalu Fisheries Department	Provide technical and financial assistance where appropriate, support and co-ordinate aquaculture and fisheries-related activities, and implement national plans and strategies.
9. Department of Environment	Assist with technical and financial assistance, and implement other relevant national plans and strategies.
10. Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)	Assist with technical and financial assistance.

## Part 3: Status of the Fishery

The people of Vaitupu rely heavily on their coastal fisheries resources for food security and livelihood (approximately 76% of the recorded catch).

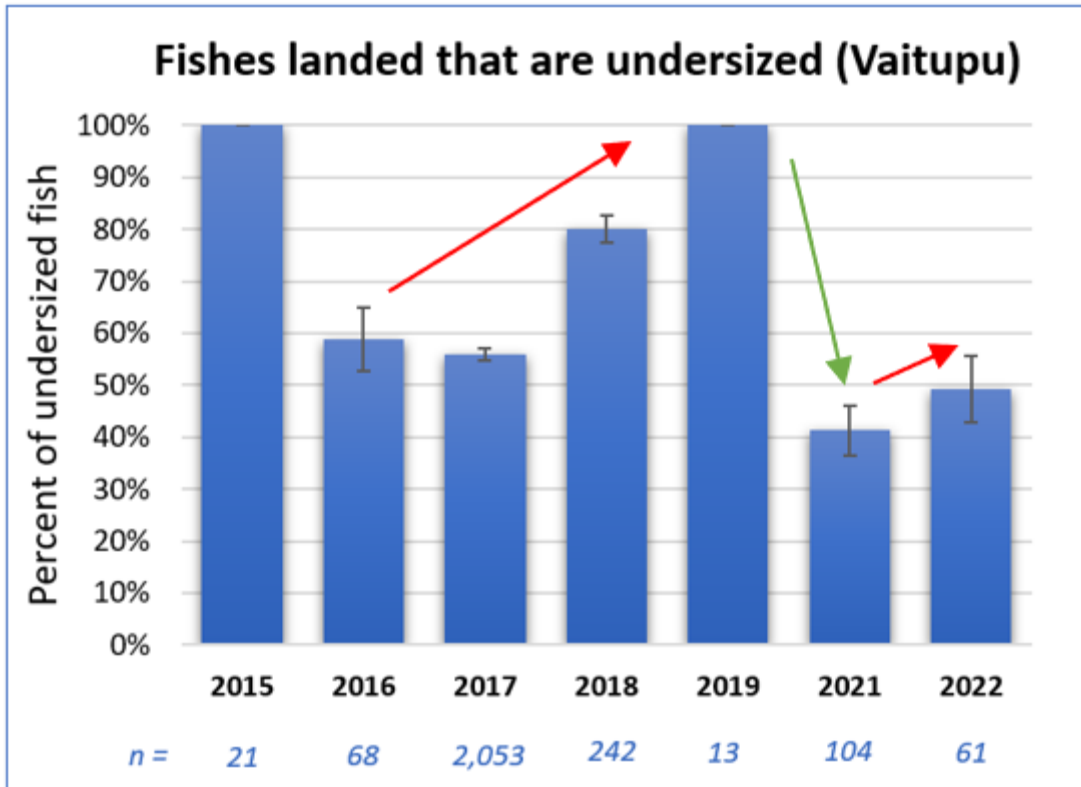
Among the coastal catch records, *Acanthurus triostegus* (locally known as Manini, Koinava), *Crenimugil crenilabis* (Kanase), and *Liza macrolepis* (Kafakafa) are the most frequently landed species (Table 2). Fishers typically use handlines, casting nets, gillnets and rods to catch coastal fish.

**Table 2: Most frequently landed species in Vaitupu based on creel surveys conducted from 2016 to 2022**

	Coastal Species*	Local Name	Family	Number	Total Weight (kg)	Fishing Methods Used
1	<i>Acanthurus triostegus</i>	Manini, Koinava	Acanthuridae	969	90	Casting net; Gillnetting
2	<i>Crenimugil crenilabis</i>	Kanase	Mugilidae	495	131	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
3	<i>Liza macrolepis</i>	Kafakafa	Mugilidae	286	84	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
4	<i>Gerres oblongus</i>	Matu	Gerridae	283	25	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
5	<i>Liza vaigiensis</i>	Kafakafa	Mugilidae	260	58	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
6	<i>Abudefduf saxatilis</i>	Mutumutu	Pomacentridae	239	22	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
7	<i>Epinephelus macrospilos</i>	Gatala , fapuku	Serranidae	116	13	Rod fishing; Handlining
8	<i>Lutjanus fulvus</i>	Tagau, Takape	Lutjanidae	114	16	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
9	<i>Kyphosus vaigiensis</i>	Nanue	Kyphosidae	68	32	Gillnetting
10	<i>Lutjanus monostigma</i>	Taiva	Lutjanidae	60	13	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
11	<i>Epinephelus merra</i>	Gatalaliki	Serranidae	58	4	Rod fishing
12	<i>Epinephelus hexagonatus</i>	Eve	Serranidae	55	4	Rod fishing
13	<i>Chanos chanos</i>	Paneava, Awa	Chanidae	43	58	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
14	<i>Acanthurus blochii</i>	Kapalagi, Maa	Acanthuridae	35	17	Gillnetting; Rod fishing
15	<i>Epinephelus maculatus</i>	Fapuku	Serranidae	33	4	Rod fishing; Handlining

\*Other fish species recorded by creel surveys are listed in Appendix II.

Recent Creel Survey Reports indicate overall status of Vaitupu's coastal fisheries resources has been poor, with an average of 58% of the fish caught being undersized (2016 – 2022, Figure 2). This is well above the national average of 36%. Ideally, no undersize fish should be landed; hence management actions will be necessary to reduce catch of undersize fish and this would lead to improvements in the resources.



**Figure 2.** Percentage of fishes being landed undersized by year. The sample size (n) is reported in blue. Green arrow = good trend red arrow = bad trend.



## Part 4: Objectives and Strategies: What we want to achieve

The Plan focuses on conservation, sustainable management, and recovery of Vaitupu coastal marine biodiversity taking into account its biological, ecological and social impacts. We will achieve our Goal by focusing on three main objectives: improving marine biodiversity and environment, improve the management of milkfish, and foster collaboration to improve enforcement of the fishing rules.

**Table 3. Management objectives and strategies**

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES
<p><b>1. To improve marine biodiversity and environment</b></p>	<p>1.1 Expand Vaitupu Special Protected Area.</p> <p>1.2 Establish a new Special Protected Area.</p> <p>1.3 Develop a sustainable and cost-effective method for removing excess sand from the lagoon.</p> <p>1.4 Investigate opportunities to restock Kumala (bivalves) and sea cucumbers once sand has been removed from the lagoon.</p> <p>1.5 Investigate status of coral habitats and explore restoration initiatives.</p>
<p><b>2. To improve the management of milkfish initiatives</b></p>	<p>2.1 Investigate improvements in management of milkfish.</p> <p>2.2 Provide technical training on milkfish farm establishment and management.</p>
<p><b>3. To foster collaboration and improve enforcement of the rules</b></p>	<p>3.1 Improve collaboration between the Tuvalu Fisheries Department, the fishers, and Vaitupu community.</p> <p>3.2 Increase awareness of conservation rules in the Special Protected Areas.</p>



## Part 5: Management Measures

The following management measures will be implemented to sustainably manage our coastal fisheries resources.

These measures will be given legal effect through the national coastal fisheries regulations and bye-laws in accordance with the Marine Resources Act 2008 and Falekaupule Act 2008.

Management Measures	
1	The use of gillnets, scoop nets, and spearfishing in the lagoon is strictly prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to Kaupule members.
2	Harvesting of berried female <b>Tupa crabs</b> is strictly prohibited. When harvesting Tupa crabs, a seasonal closure (3 months) applies to each side of the island (Asau and Tumaseu) on a continuous rotational basis.
3	Harvesting of berried female <b>Coconut crabs</b> is strictly prohibited.
4	The use of all gillnets at the passage where the boats come in is strictly prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to Kaupule members.
5	Gillnet fishing in the Potu Fakagamua (Te Loto) Special Protected Area is strictly prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to Kaupule members.
6	The harvest of bivalves ( <i>kasi</i> ) and scrub ( <i>tupa</i> ) is strictly prohibited in the Potu Fakagamua (Te Loto) Special Protected Area.
7	Gillnet fishing during high tides or catching milkfish at low tides is strictly prohibited in the Togo Special Protected Area. This prohibition does not apply to Kaupule members.
8	The use of outboard motors is strictly prohibited in the lagoon, except for management purposes as approved by the Kaupule.
9	The use of fishing nets with a mesh size two (2) inches or less is strictly prohibited.
10	All fishing methods are strictly prohibited in the Special Protected Areas (Lagoon) and (Passage), except handlining and rod fishing.
11	Hunting of turtles at sea and on land is strictly prohibited, including collecting eggs from their nests.



## Part 6: Review & Amendment

The Plan will be effective for three years (2024-2027) following the date of approval by the Minister for Natural Resources Development.

A mid-term review will be conducted before the end of 2026, during which minor adjustments may be made to ensure the successful implementation of the Plan. An end-of-term review will take place by the end of 2027. The review will evaluate the current Plan and provide up-to-date scientific information for the drafting of the next plan.

The Fisheries Management Committee will produce an annual report on the status of the Plan, working together with the Kaupule Secretary.

## Part 7: Financial Strategy for the Plan

The activities outlined in this Plan will be supported by a combination of funding sources to ensure sustainability and self-reliance.

Communities will not solely depend on government funds. Instead, they will also utilise their island budgets and the Vessel Day Scheme community funds allocated to each Kaupule. Additionally, external financial assistance may be sought through funding proposals and collaboration with ongoing projects supported by external partners. This diversified funding approach will enhance the effectiveness and resilience of the activities stated in this Plan.



Setting up milkfish cages inside Vaitupu lagoon



## Appendix I: Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

Strategies	Actions	Responsibilities	Resources	Timeline	Indicators	Target	Progress	Reporting	Risks
<b>Objective 1: To improve marine biodiversity and environment</b>									
<b>Strategy 1.1: Expand Vaitupu Special Protected Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek approval from Vaitupu Falekaupule</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD in collaboration with Vaitupu Kaupule	Vaitupu Kaupule	2024	Minutes of approval from Falekaupule assembly recorded	Falekaupule approval obtained	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, Community, TFD	Lack of staff and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demarcate the new expanded protected area (50m outward from the initial markings)</li> </ul>		Vaitupu Falekaupule	Metro 2025	Demarcation of new expanded SPA report shared	SPA boundary expanded	Planned		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install beacons to mark the new expanded boundary</li> </ul>		Beacons	2025-26	Beacons procured and installed	Beacons installed to mark new boundary	Planned		
<b>Strategy 1.2: Establish a new Special Protected Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate potential viable new SPA sites</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD in collaboration with Vaitupu Kaupule	Vaitupu Kaupule	2024	Potential viable new SPA sites investigated	Approval obtained from Falekaupule	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, Community TFD	Lack of staff and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request approval from Vaitupu Falekaupule</li> </ul>		Vaitupu Falekaupule	2025	Approval obtained from Falekaupule		Planned		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demarcate the new Special Protected Area</li> </ul>		TFD	2025-26	New Protected Area demarcated	New SPA demarcated	Planned		

<b>Strategy 1.3: Develop a sustainable and cost-effective method for removing excess sand from the lagoon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit a formal request to TFD</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD in collaboration with Vaitupu Kaupule	Vaitupu Kaupule	2024	Formal request submitted to TFD	Formal request submitted to TFD	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, community, TFD	Lack of funding  Lack of staff and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct an Environment and Social Impact Assessment</li> </ul>		TFD	2025	ESIA Report published and shared	ESIA undertaken	Planned		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tender and contract a dredging company</li> </ul>		Dredging company	2025	Contract signed by Dredging company	Dredging company contracted	Planned		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove excess sand</li> </ul>		Dredging machines	2026	Sand extracted	Excess sand completely removed from lagoon	Planned		
<b>Strategy 1.4: Investigate opportunities to restock Kumala (bivalves) and sea cucumbers once sand has been removed from the lagoon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct survey to locate bivalves and sea cucumbers for translocation</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD in collaboration with Vaitupu Community	Community VDS funds	2025-26	Survey completed	Stock for translocation located	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, community, TFD	Lack of funding  Lack of staff and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce survey report</li> </ul>		Vaitupu Kaupule	2026	Survey report published and shared	Report published and shared	Planned		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate and monitor restocking activities</li> </ul>		Vaitupu community	2026-2027	Monitoring updates from Vaitupu Kaupule shared via emails	Bivalves and sea cucumber restocked into the lagoon	Planned		
<b>Strategy 1.5: Investigate status of coral habitats and explore restoration initiatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit formal request to TFD</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD in collaboration with	TFD Vaitupu Kaupule	2024	Copy of formal request submitted	Formal request submitted	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule,	Lack of funding  Lack of human and equipment resources

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a coral habitat survey</li> </ul>	Vaitupu Community	Vaitupu Community	2025-26	Coral survey report published and shared	Coral habitat survey completed	Planned	community, TFD	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify transplanting sites</li> </ul>		Local NGO (Fuligafou)	2026	Sites identified	Transplanting sites identified	Planned		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake coral transplanting</li> </ul>			2026-27	Coral transplanting undertaken	Coral's status improved	Planned		
<b>Objective 2: To improve management of milkfish initiatives</b>									
<b>Strategy 2.1: Investigate improvements in management of milkfish</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate and compile existing information on milkfish</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD in collaboration with Vaitupu Kaupule	Vaitupu Kaupule	2024-25	Report for Size limit study of milkfish published and shared	Size limit study of milkfish in Vaitupu completed and report published	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, community, TFD	Lack of funding  Lack of human and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement management measures (size limits, seasonal closures)</li> </ul>		Research study equipment	2026-2027	New Size limit management measures implemented	New Size limits management measure implemented	Planned		
<b>Strategy 2.2: Provide technical training on milkfish farm establishment and management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruit an aquaculture (milkfish) specialist</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD in collaboration with Aquaculture Specialist and Vaitupu Kaupule	Vaitupu Kaupule	2025	Request to SPC submitted	Aquaculture specialist confirmed	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, community, TFD	Lack of funding  Lack of human and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct technical workshops with</li> </ul>		Tuvalu Fisheries Department	Aquaculture specialist	2026	Community milkfish workshop	Training conducted		

	community to establish, operate, and manage milkfish ponds		(SPC Consultant) Funding for training		report published and shared	with community			
<b>Objective 3: To foster collaboration and improve enforcement of the rules</b>									
<b>Strategy 3.1: Improve collaboration between the Tuvalu Fisheries Department and Vaitupu Kaupule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct regular engagements (metronome visits and quarterly visits, emails and social media)</li> </ul>	Coastal Section, TFD	TFD  Vaitupu Kaupule	2024-27	Regular trip reports (quarterly visits and metronome trips) published and shared	Collaboration between Kaupule and TFD improved  MOU reviewed, signed and adopted	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, community, TFD	Lack of funding  Lack of staff and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review TFD Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kaupule</li> </ul>			2024	MOU reviewed and revised MOU signed and adopted				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and Sign the new MOU</li> </ul>			2024	MOU signed and adopted				
<b>Strategy 3.2: Increase awareness of conservation rules in the Special Protected Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set up billboards to create more awareness of the rules and penalties</li> </ul>	LMMA officer and Coastal Section, TFD	Tuvalu Fisheries Department	2024-25	Billboards procured and installed	Billboards set up and installed at key access points  Community awareness program conducted	Planned	Vaitupu Kaupule, community, TFD	Lack of funding  Lack of staff and equipment resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a one-week community awareness program on protected areas</li> </ul>		Vaitupu Kaupule  Billboards	2024-25	Community awareness report published and shared				

## Appendix II: Vaitupu landings reported from creel surveys (2016-2022)

	Species	Local Name	Family	Sum of Weight (kg)	Count of Fish Name
1	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Kasi, Takuo, Takua, Tavatava	Scombridae	1956.28	458
2	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Atu	Scombridae	786.40	271
3	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Kasi matalasi	Scombridae	726.89	219
4	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	Paala	Scombridae	206.92	20
5	<i>Crenimugil crenilabis</i>	Kanase	Mugilidae	130.96	495
6	<i>Acanthurus triostegus</i>	Manini, Koinava	Acanthuridae	86.69	940
7	<i>Liza macrolepis</i>	Kafakafa	Mugilidae	84.06	286
8	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Fonu telaa	Cheloniidae	68.00	8
9	<i>Chanos chanos</i>	Paneava, Awa	Chanidae	58.13	43
10	<i>Liza vaigiensis</i>	Kafakafa	Mugilidae	55.85	241
11	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Fonu una	Cheloniidae	55.00	2
12	<i>Himantura fai</i>	fai (Ff, Nm)	Dasyatidae	50.00	1
13	<i>Gerreidae</i>	Matu	Gerreidae	38.15	135
14	<i>Kyphosus vaigiensis</i>	Nanue (Ff, Nm)	Kyphosidae	31.71	68
15	<i>Gerres oblongus</i>	Matu (Ff, Nm)	Gerridae	25.37	283
16	<i>Tylosurus crocodilus</i>	Maliolio	Belonidae	25.29	3
17	<i>Caranx ignobilis</i>	Tino ulua (lge), Lupo (small), Aseu (med); Mea tal	Carangidae	24.22	4
18	<i>Abudefduf saxatilis</i>	Mutumutu	Pomacentridae	21.74	239
19	<i>Gymnothorax javanicus</i>	Pusi	Muraenidae	16.70	3
20	<i>Acanthurus blochii</i>	Kapalagi, Maa	Acanthuridae	16.69	35
21	<i>Lutjanus fulvus</i>	Tagau, Takape	Lutjanidae	14.45	101
22	<i>Sphyraena barracuda</i>	Ono, Pauea	Sphyraenidae	14.11	3
23	<i>Epinephelus macrospilos</i>	Gatala (Ff), fapuku (Nm)	Serranidae	13.47	116
24	<i>Lutjanus monostigma</i>	Taiva	Lutjanidae	12.89	56

25	<i>Exocoetus volitans</i>	Isave, Sasave	Exocoetidae	12.87	67
26	<i>Elagatis bipinnulata</i>	Kami, Kamai	Carangidae	12.65	4
27	<i>Plectropomus areolatus</i>	Tonu gatala	Serranidae	12.40	18
28	<i>Naso lituratus</i>	Maninilakau	Acanthuridae	10.17	24
29	<i>Plectropomus leopardus</i>	Tonu	Serranidae	8.80	2
30	<i>Sphyraena jello?</i>	Ono, Oso, Nn	Sphyraenidae	8.51	4
31	<i>Cephalopholis sonnerati</i>	Pula (Ff, Nm)	Serranidae	7.13	9
32	<i>Acanthurus nigricauda</i>	Kapalagi, Pone	Acanthuridae	6.60	4
33	<i>Sphyraena helleri</i>	Taotao, PÄuea	Sphyraenidae	6.40	2
34	<i>Caranx sexfasciatus</i>	Teu	Carangidae	6.33	14
35	<i>Acanthurus lineatus</i>	Ponelolo, Alogo, Pone hamoa	Acanthuridae	6.12	32
36	<i>Caranx melampygus</i>	Aseu	Carangidae	5.83	5
37	<i>Parupeneus barberinus</i>	Malili, Kaivete	Mullidae	5.68	29
38	<i>Hipposcarus longiceps</i>	Ulafi	Scaridae	4.50	6
39	<i>Epinephelus hexagonatus</i>	Gatala	Serranidae	4.13	55
40	<i>Epinephelus maculatus</i>	Fapuku	Serranidae	3.91	33
41	<i>Epinephelus merra</i>	Gatalaliki	Serranidae	3.67	56
42	<i>Gerres oyena</i>	Matu (Ff, Nm, Nf, Nl, Vt), matu papa (Ff), te nini	Gerridae	3.63	27
43	<i>Myripristis amaena</i>	Malau	Holocentridae	3.56	21
44	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Masimasi	Coryphaenidae	3.30	1
45	<i>Acanthurus guttatus</i>	Api, Maono	Acanthuridae	2.98	29
46	<i>Monotaxis grandoculis</i>	Muu, Mufala	Lethrinidae	2.83	7
47	<i>Parupeneus cyclostomus</i>	Kaivete piniki	Mullidae	2.80	16
48	<i>Strombus luhuanus</i>	Panea	Strombidae	2.80	1
49	<i>Lethrinus obsoletus</i>	Tanutanu	Lethrinidae	2.67	18
50	<i>Anyperodon leucogrammicus</i>	Gatala lautalo, Gatala lautala	Serranidae	2.61	24
51	<i>Acanthurus leucopareius</i>	Maono	Acanthuridae	2.51	23
52	<i>Epinephelus areolatus</i>	Gatala	Serranidae	2.43	22
53	<i>Chlorurus (Scarus) microrhino</i>	Laea	Scaridae	2.30	3

54	<i>Epinephelus spilotoceps</i>	Gatala (Ff, Nm)	Serranidae	2.14	20
55	<i>Cirrhitus pinnulatus</i>	Patuki	Cirrhitidae	2.12	17
56	<i>Gnathanodon speciosus</i>	Filu, Fua'ala'ala, Fuaika, Kautea, Pakeva	Carangidae	2.07	28
57	<i>Parupeneus ciliatus</i>	Afulu (Ff)	Mullidae	2.07	11
58	<i>Valenciennea muralis</i>	Manoko	Gobiidae	1.96	7
59	<i>Ctenochaetus binotatus</i>	Pone uli	Acanthuridae	1.86	15
60	<i>Epinephelus microdon</i>	Gatala	Serranidae	1.78	14
61	<i>Naso caesius</i>	Ume (Ff?), pokapoka (Nm?)	Acanthuridae	1.76	1
62	<i>Turbo marmoratus</i>	Alili	Turbinidae	1.70	28
63	<i>Chlorurus japanensis</i>	Laea (Ff), kamutu maga (Nm)	Scaridae	1.64	2
64	<i>Variola albimarginata</i>	Pula	Serranidae	1.56	3
65	<i>Epinephelus polyphekadion</i>	Gatala (one dot)	Serranidae	1.46	1
66	<i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i>	Gatala	Serranidae	1.39	3
67	<i>Albula glossodonta</i>	Kiokio	Albulidae	1.37	3
68	<i>Myripristis berndti</i>	Malau	Holocentridae	1.22	6
69	<i>Lethrinus variegatus</i>	Noto, Tanutanu	Lethrinidae	1.17	6
70	<i>Cephalopholis argus</i>	Loi	Serranidae	1.13	2
71	<i>Heniochus acuminatus</i>	Maninipapa	Chaetodontidae	1.08	12
72	<i>Mulloidichthys vanicolensis</i>	Kalo	Mullidae	0.98	8
73	<i>Lethrinus elongatus</i>	Filoa	Lethrinidae	0.94	1
74	<i>Naso vlamingii</i>	Pokapoka lanulanu	Acanthuridae	0.92	2
75	<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	Tagau	Lutjanidae	0.88	6
76	<i>Cephalopholis urodeta</i>	Mataele	Serranidae	0.81	5
77	<i>Halichoeres melanurus</i>	Ulo'ulo (Ff, Nm)	Labridae	0.80	4
78	<i>Sargocentron spiniferum</i>	Tamalau	Holocentridae	0.78	3
79	<i>Myripristis pralinia?</i>	Malau puku	Holocentridae	0.75	9
80	<i>Pterocaesio tile</i>	Ulia	Caesionidae	0.71	3
81	<i>Parupeneus multifasciatus</i>	Afulu	Mullidae	0.70	3
82	Balistidae spp	Sumu	Balistidae	0.67	4
83	<i>Lethrinus miniatus</i>	Noto	Lethrinidae	0.53	5

84	<i>Acanthurus leucocheilus</i>	Pone	Acanthuridae	0.50	1
85	<i>Aethaloperca rogaa</i>	Sikuku sinu	Serranidae	0.47	3
86	<i>Neomyxus chaptalii</i>	Fua gutuloa (Ff, Nm)	Mugilidae	0.41	10
87	<i>Epinephelus coioides</i>	Gatala moana (Ff, Nm)	Serranidae	0.35	4
88	<i>Panulirus longipes bispinosus</i>	Ula	Palinuridae	0.33	1
89	<i>Neoniphon argenteus</i>	Talakisi	Holocentridae	0.31	4
90	<i>Decapterus macarellus</i>	Atule	Carangidae	0.30	2
91	<i>Myripristis violacea</i>	Malau	Holocentridae	0.28	2
92	<i>Acanthurus nigrofuscus</i>	Pone	Acanthuridae	0.27	1
93	<i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i>	Valu	Scombridae	0.26	1
94	<i>Spratelloides gracilis</i>	Kavaliki, HalÄ«, Halala	Clupeidae	0.20	1
95	<i>Hemitaurichtys zoster</i>	Tifitifi laufou (NB, KHR)	Chaetodontidae	0.19	2
96	<i>Anampses melanurus</i>	Gole, Kiole	Labridae	0.18	1
97	<i>Rhinecanthus aculeatus</i>	Sumu	Balistidae	0.16	2
98	<i>Aphareus furca</i>	Palusega, Kotua, Taelepe, Takuoga	Lutjanidae	0.15	1
99	<i>Acanthurus nigricans</i>	Pone, Pone uli, Pone sina	Acanthuridae	0.14	1
100	<i>Pempheris analis</i>	Maanifi, Bronze sweeper	Pempheridae	0.12	6
101	<i>Pempheris oualensis</i>	Maanifi, Cooper sweeper	Pempheridae	0.10	1
102	<i>Cephalopholis spiloparaea</i>		Serranidae	0.09	1
103	<i>Lutjanus gibbus</i>	Taea	Lutjanidae	0.09	1
104	<i>Cephalopholis leopardus</i>	Mataele (Ff, Nm)	Serranidae	0.07	1
105	<i>Carangoides fulvogttatus</i>	Lupolupo	Carangidae	0.05	2
106	LABRIDAE spp	Uloulo, Kimoa, Kiole	Labridae	0.03	1
107	(blank)			66.76	62
	<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>4790.82</b>	<b>4930</b>