

The Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme now in the implementation phase

The Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme has been designed to improve the economic, social and environmental benefits of 15 Pacific ACP states by stronger regional economic integration and the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment. This will be achieved through supporting sustainable management and development of fisheries for food security and economic growth, while addressing climate change resilience and conservation of marine biodiversity.

With the support of the European Union (EUR 35 million) and Swedish Government (EUR 10 million), the Financing Agreement for this Programme was signed in October 2017, and the Contribution Agreement signed in September 2018. The Pacific Community is the lead agency, implementing in partnership with the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Secretariat of the Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and, through a separate European Union agreement, the University of the South Pacific (USP). Each agency has a number of implementing partners.

The PEUMP Programme has six key results areas (KRAs), targeting gaps in: 1) fisheries science; 2) fisheries development; 3) coastal resources and livelihoods; 4) illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing; 5) ecosystem-based management; 6) biodiversity conservation; and 7) capacity building at the national and community level.

- KRA 1: Scientific advice for management of the oceanic fishery (EUR 4.45 million) – Lead agency: SPC
- KRA 2: Economic development of national tuna industries (EUR 4.4 million) – Lead agency: FFA
- KRA 3: Coastal fisheries science and management (EUR 12.3 million) – Lead agency: SPC
- KRA 4: Enhanced MCS to control IUU fishing (EUR 4.85 million) – Lead agency: FFA
- KRA 5: Ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation (EUR 5.8 million) – Lead agency: SPREP
- KRA 6: Relevant tertiary training (EUR 5.6 million) – Lead agency: USP
- Programme management and communication (EUR 4.2 million + 1.65 million)

With the end of the inception phase (July–December 2018), this four-year programme is now in the early stages of the implementation phase (January 2019 to December 2022), which will be followed by a closing phase (January–March 2023).

The following article reproduces, verbatim, a leaflet that describes the PEUMP programme in more detail. It was produced for the Inception Meeting for Key Result Area 3 on Coastal Fisheries, held in Noumea on 15 November 2018, and is followed by a brief summary of topics discussed during this one-day meeting.

