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Where to from here - the future of coastal fisheries?

Lindsay Chapman, Deputy Director FAME

(Coastal Fisheries)





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Outline



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- Early policies covering coastal fisheries
- Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape
- Future of Fisheries – Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Pacific Fisheries
- MSG Roadmap
- FAO SSF Guidelines
- The New Song for coastal fisheries – pathways to change; key outcomes
- SDG 14: Life below water
- Links from the New Song to the Future of Fisheries
- Taking the New Song forward
- Concluding remarks





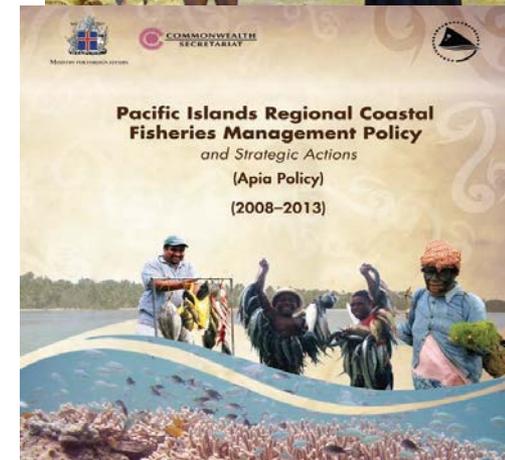
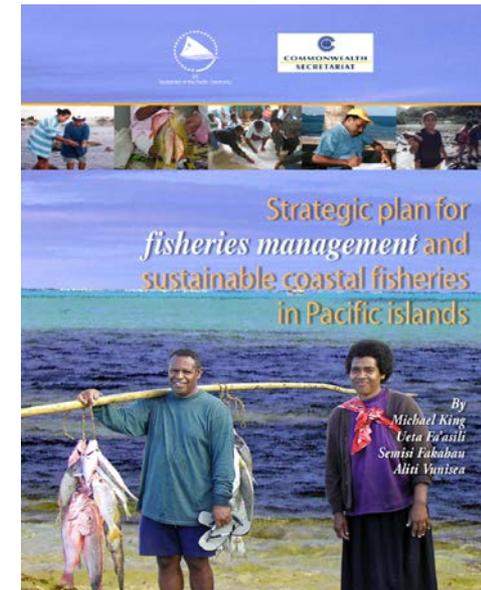
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Early policies and frameworks

- Pacific Islands Regional Oceans Policy (PIROP 2002) and Integrated Strategic Action Framework (FL 2002)
- Strategic plan for fisheries management and sustainable coastal fisheries in Pacific Islands (HoF 2003).
- Vava'u Declaration on Pacific Fisheries Resources (FL 2007)
- Pacific Islands Regional Coastal Fisheries Management Policy and Strategic Actions 2008-2013 (FFC Min. 2008)



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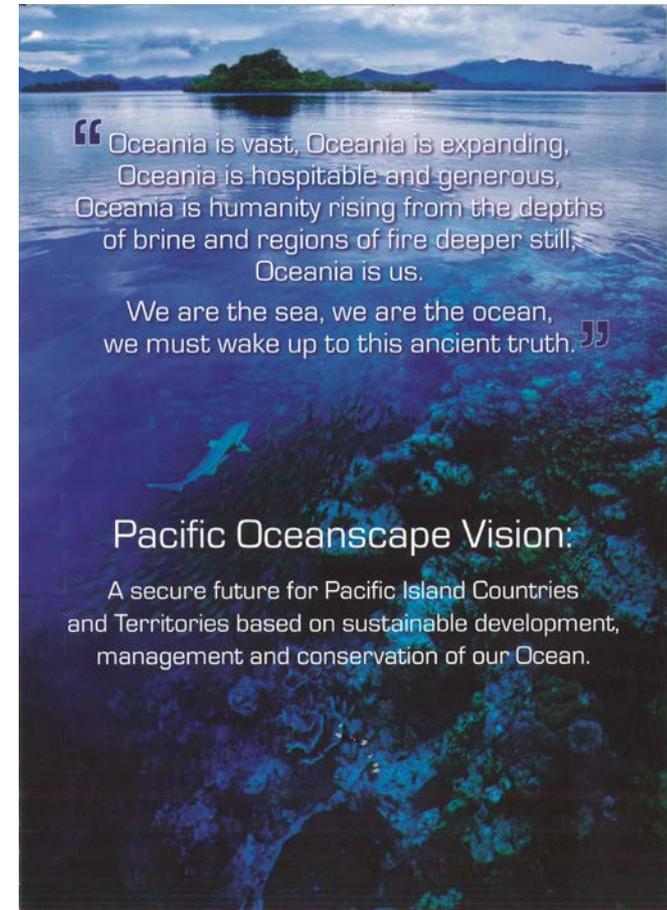




Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape – 2010 (FL)

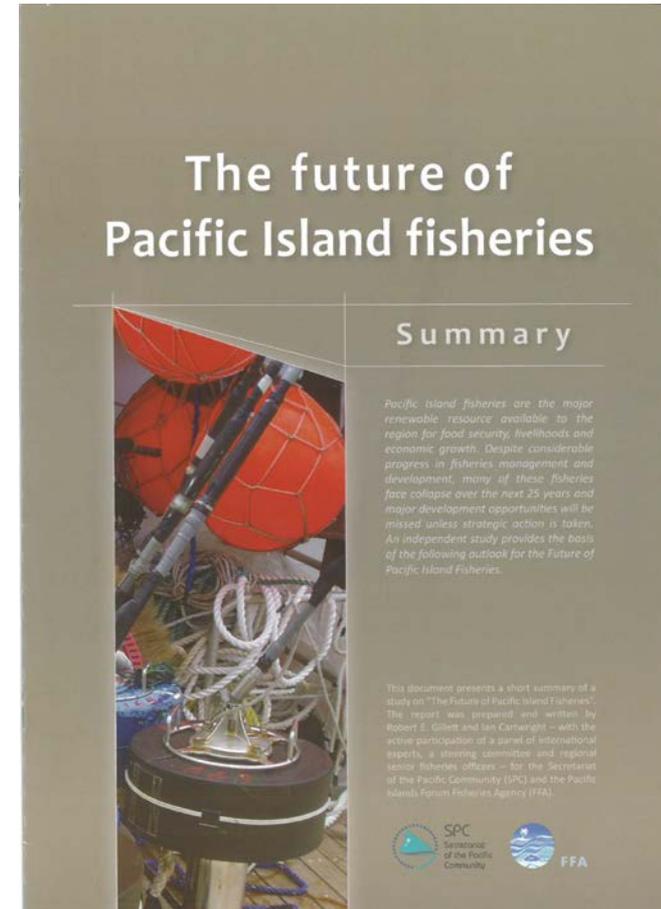


- Priority 1: **Jurisdictional rights** and responsibilities
- Priority 2: **Good ocean governance**
- Priority 3: **Sustainable development, management and conservation**
- Priority 4: **Listening, learning, liaising and leading**
- Priority 5: **Sustainable action**
- Priority 6: **Adapting to a rapidly changing environment**



Future of Pacific island Fisheries (FFC Min 2010)

- Seven steps to a better future:
 - Strong **political commitment**
 - Ensure **food security**
 - Involve and support the private sector
 - **Strengthen fisheries agencies and build national capacity**
 - Maximise long-term benefits from offshore resources through regional solidarity
 - Coastal communities to **protect coastal resources**
 - Measure and **manage**





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A Regional Roadmap for

Sustainable Pacific Fisheries 2015 (FL)



• Coastal Fisheries Goals:

- Empowerment
- Resilience
- Livelihoods

• Strategies:

- Provide relevant **information to inform management and policy**
- Re-focus **fisheries agencies to support coastal fisheries management**
- Ensure effective **collaboration and coordination of stakeholders**
- Develop and enforce **strong and up-to-date legislation, policy and plans**
- Ensure **equitable access to benefits and involvement in decision making**



FUTURE OF FISHERIES



A REGIONAL ROADMAP FOR SUSTAINABLE PACIFIC FISHERIES



Introduction

In proposing the Framework for Pacific Regionalism, Sir Mekere Morauta, stated that, *we see a region that is at a crossroads and one that needs regionalism more than ever before. Nowhere is this more true than in fisheries, the region's largest shared natural resource and a sector in which regional cooperation has already provided real results – but can do much more.*

In 2010, Pacific Islands Forum Leaders were presented with the outcomes of a forward-looking study on the Future of Fisheries, which identified very broad focal areas to achieve a best-case scenario for the region over the following 25 years. Five years on, it is clear that our region is instead following a pathway of missed opportunities.

Bigeye tuna is overfished, and the region's longline fisheries – although targeting the highest value tuna species – are barely economic. Despite controls on fishing effort, purse seine catches continue to increase, driving down the value of the catch. Fishing on the high seas is virtually uncontrolled. Although tuna fisheries are seen as an important opportunity for economic development, we are still in the situation of allowing two-thirds of our tuna to be harvested by foreign fishing boats, and nearly 90% is taken out of the region for processing. Larger and more developed countries are taking our fish to create their profits, exports and jobs.

Inshore fisheries resources have supported the survival of coastal communities since our islands were first settled. They are enormously important for food security and livelihoods, but are under threat from growing populations and, in the longer term, from the impacts of climate change. Finfish resources in many areas are now overfished to meet local demand, while high value export species like *bêche-de-mer* have been driven almost to extinction. Only a concerted effort to improve the management of coastal fisheries and provide alternative livelihoods and protein sources can prevent a decline in fish supplies and further degradation of the coastal environment. Traditional 'top-down' management is not working and there is a need to empower coastal communities to manage and use their fisheries resources sustainably. Although aquaculture has potential, it currently makes only a tiny contribution to fisheries production in FFA member countries. This paper therefore focuses on tuna and coastal fisheries.

This brief paper outlines seven clear goals for oceanic and coastal fisheries for the next ten years, as well as indicators that can be used to measure progress. To achieve these goals will require commitment by leaders to 11 strategies that will allow our region to take control of the future of our fisheries. As a Regional Roadmap, the strategies outlined below will be facilitated through regional agencies (primarily the Forum Fisheries Agency and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community) working together. However, it is important to note that many of the issues require high-level political direction and whole-of-government implementation at the national level.





MSG Roadmap for Inshore Fisheries Management and Sustainable Development



- Roadmap for 2015-2024 endorsed by MSG Ministers in 2015
- Objectives:
 - Implement **effective policies, legislation, management frameworks** and financial mechanisms
 - Conduct **education, awareness raising** and the provision of **information on the importance of management** of inshore fisheries to **all stakeholders**
 - **Manage**, maintain and restore fisheries stocks (e.g. BDM) to **secure long-term economic and social benefits**

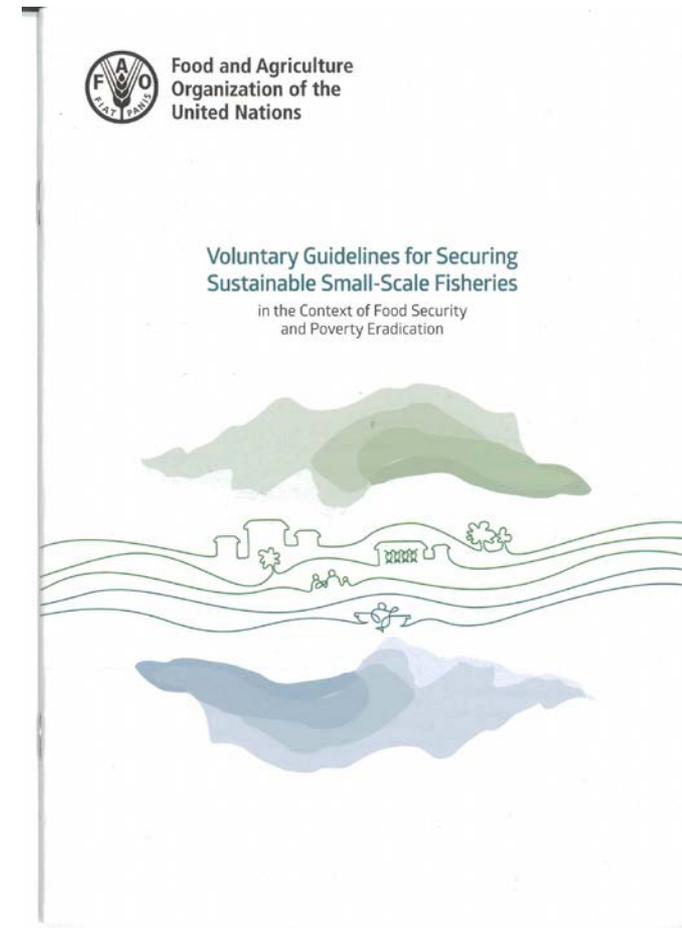




FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (2015)



- Thirteen thematic areas broken into three parts:
 - Introduction covering guiding principles and relationships with other international instruments (setting the scene)
 - Responsible fisheries and sustainable development covering **governance (tenure and fishing rights)**, social development, value chains, **gender (and human rights)** issues and **disaster risk and climate change**
 - Ensuring an enabling environment and supporting implementation, **covering policy coherence, information, research and communication, capacity development and monitoring and evaluation.**





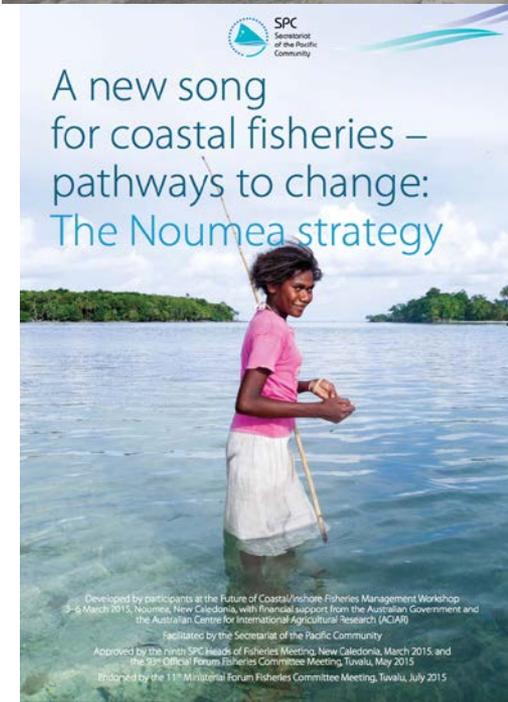
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The “New Song” 2015



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- **Developed** by participants at a regional workshop on future of coastal fisheries management, March 2015;
- **Approved** by HOF9, March 2015;
- **Approved** by FFC93, Funafuti, Tuvalu, May 2015
- **Endorsed** by FFCMIN11, Funafuti, Tuvalu, July 2015.





The “New Song” – Key Outcomes - CEAFM



- Key Outcome 1 - Informed, **empowered coastal communities with clearly defined user rights**.
- Key Outcome 2 - Adequate and relevant **information to inform management and policy**.
- Key Outcome 3 - Recognition of, and **strong political commitment** and support for, **coastal fisheries management** on a **national and sub-national** scale.
- Key Outcome 4 - Re-focused **fisheries agencies** that are **transparent, accountable and adequately resourced, supporting coastal fisheries management** and sustainable development, **underpinned by CEAFM**.
- Key Outcome 5 - Strong and **up-to-date management policy, legislation and planning**
- Key Outcome 6 – Effective **collaboration and coordination among stakeholders** and key sectors of influence
- Key Outcome 7 – More **equitable access to benefits and decision making** within communities, **including women, youth and marginalised groups**
- Key Outcome 8 – Diverse livelihoods **reducing pressure on fisheries resources, enhancing community incomes, and contributing to improved fisheries management**





Forum Leaders Communique of September 2016



The Forum Leaders:

- Agreed to expand the broad heading of “fisheries” to include coastal fisheries, **noting links to communities, food security, health issues and in particular non-communicable diseases;**
- Noted the need to **ensure ecosystem integrity** to address issues such as ciguatera outbreaks and to **sustainably manage beche-de-mer;** and
- Tasked the SPC to coordinate with National Fisheries Agencies, CROP Agencies and regional and national community groups, to **strengthen support** and resourcing for **coastal fisheries management.**





Sustainable Development Goal

14: Life Below Water



- Conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development:
 - 10 indicators agreed internationally, however only 2 have data sources available;
 - Pacific looking at suitable indicators for the region and methods for collecting the data
 - Need for standardised indicators to cover all Pacific policies and strategies to lead into SDG 14 reporting.
 - Need to ensure target 14b “Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets” is not lost.

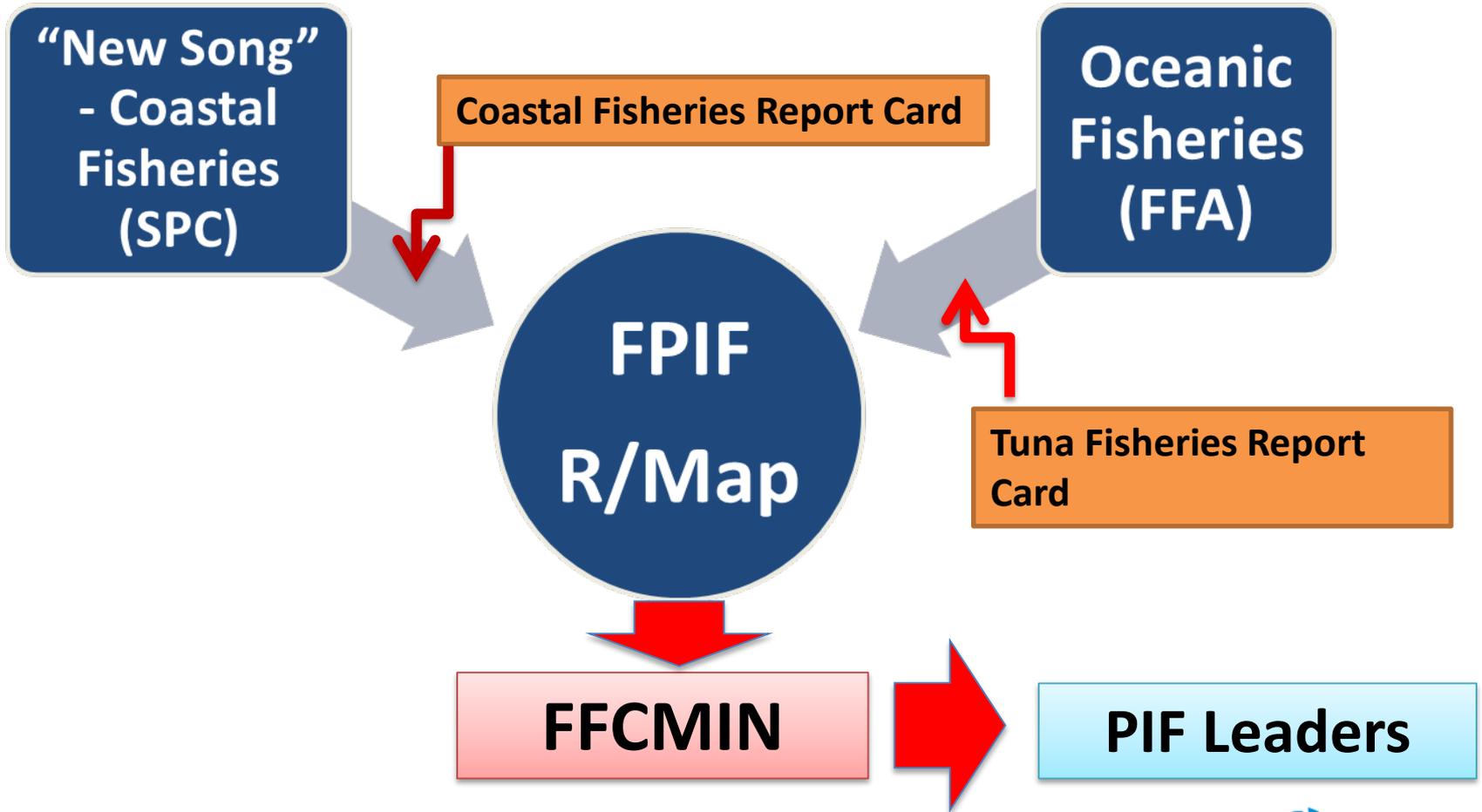




New Song – link to the “Future of the Pacific Island Fisheries”



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The New Song for Coastal Fisheries – *Pathway to Change* –



Build momentum?

- The Pacific Community, through SPC:
 - being responsible for building momentum for the ‘new song’ at the regional level.
 - supporting, facilitating, and preparing regular assessments of progress with the ‘new song’ initiative.
 - implementing an effective monitoring, evaluation, and learning framework to monitor progress.
- Formation of a “coastal fisheries working group”
- Mapping indicators from the different policies and strategies – reporting on SDG 14
- PICTs need to be driving this process at the national and sub-national level to support communities and empower them to manage their coastal resources.



Concluding remarks

- Strong support for the New Song
- Need continued political support at the highest levels
- Reporting for the NS / RR / SDG 14 will be difficult, so need appropriate indicators
- Data will be an issue, so need to strengthen and standardise
- Need sustainably managed fisheries and their supporting habitats and environment
- Fisheries departments need to be resourced, have the skills and be equipped to deliver all of this



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THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

