

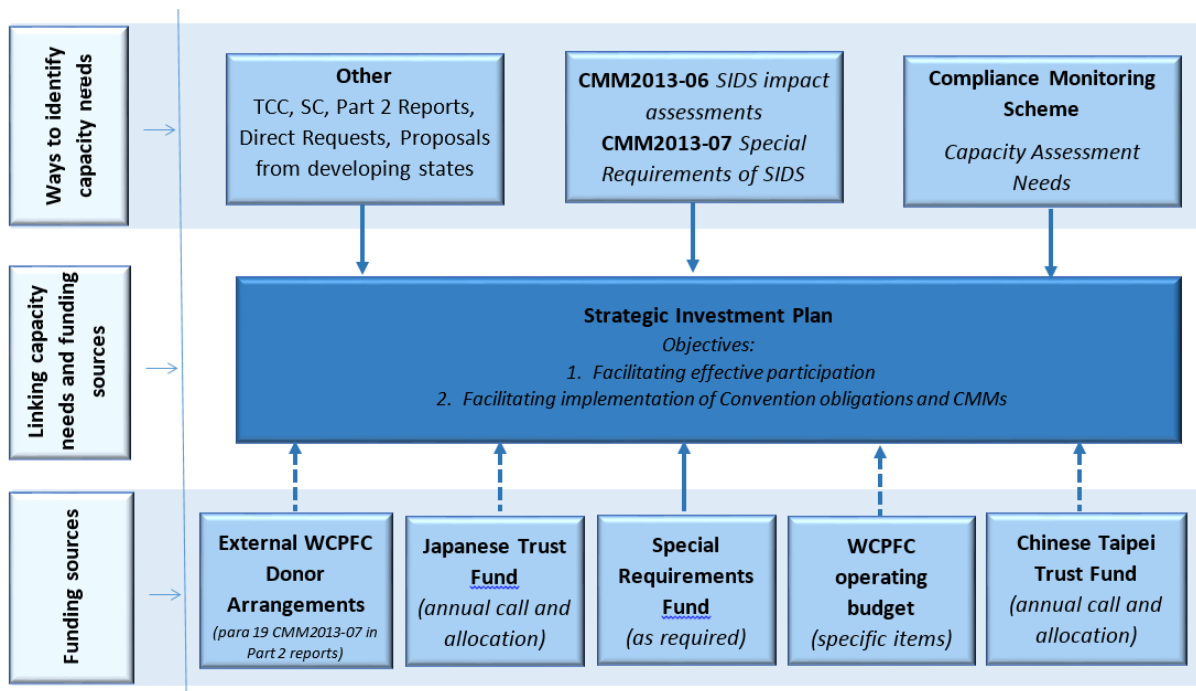


**COMMISSION
SEVENTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Electronic Meeting
8 – 15 December 2020

2020 Strategic Investment Plan

Introduction

1. The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), at its 14th meeting in Manila, Philippines, agreed to the development of a Strategic Investment Plan.
2. The purpose of the Strategic Investment Plan is to match capacity and capability requirements of developing states and territories with appropriate investment strategies as outlined in the following diagram:



Objectives

3. The objectives of the Strategic Investment Plan are to support:
 - effective input and participation of member developing states and territories in the meetings of the Commission; and
 - development of management and technical capability and capacity in developing states and territories to enable them to implement obligations under the WCPFC Convention and Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs).

Funding

4. Funding options are illustrated in the diagram above and the WCPFC Secretariat has a role in ensuring capacity needs identified in this Strategic Investment Plan are addressed over the coming year. This includes provision of information to developing state and territory members on how to access funds and notification to members when funds are needed. This will assist the Commission as a whole meet the requirements of Article 30 of the Convention¹.

Capacity needs recommended by the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC)

5. The following Capacity Assistance Need areas were recommended by TCC16 in the Compliance Monitoring Report:

Indonesia for Scientific data provision (SciData03)	Capacity Development Plan (CDP) submitted to TCC13	TCC noted that a report on progress was submitted by Indonesia to TCC16 that confirms that due to COVID-19 there were some delays in the anticipated timeframe and assistance delivery set out in the Capacity Development Plan. TCC noted that for RY 2019 Indonesia's capacity assistance needs in their Capacity Development Plan were not yet met. The revised Capacity Development Plan would indicate that implementation would be completed at the end of 2020 or early 2021.
Indonesia for annual report on estimated number of releases and status upon release of oceanic whitetip sharks (CMM 2011-04 paragraph 3)	Capacity Assistance Needed (CMR RY2019)	TCC noted that Indonesia's capacity assistance needed for the reporting obligation in CMM 2011-04, paragraph 3 and the implementation obligation in CMM 2013-08, paragraph 3 were related to its existing Capacity Development Plan. The identified reporting gap for silky sharks in particular is linked to COVID-19 preventing delivery of capacity assistance. This is to be incorporated into its CDP for RY 2019. TCC16 expects Indonesia to be meet this obligation in 2021.
Indonesia for annual report on estimated number of releases and status upon release of silky sharks (CMM 2013-08 paragraph 3)	Capacity Assistance Needed (CMR RY2019)	
Philippines for 100% purse seine observer coverage for vessels fishing exclusively in areas under national jurisdiction (CMM 2018-01 paragraph 5)	Capacity Development Plan (CDP) submitted to TCC15	TCC noted that a written report was received from the Philippines on progress on its Capacity Development Plan which provided a schedule for implementation to progressively increase observer coverage in Philippine waters over 2020 to 2023. TCC noted that for RY 2019 Philippine's capacity assistance needs in their Capacity Development Plan were not yet met.

¹ Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, 2000

Capacity needs identified through WCPFC Annual Report Part 2

6. The following areas of capacity assistance were identified by CCMs in their Annual Report Part 2 RY2018 and are understood to be continuing capacity assistance needs in RY 2019 that were outside the scope of the list of obligations to be assessed in the CMS in 2020. These are identified in paragraph 28 of the provisional Compliance Monitoring Report:

CMM	Notes about types of assistance requested	CCM
2017-03 03-06, 11, 12 Observer Safety CMM	Assistance from FFA with this and other measures that require legislation changes	Cook Islands
2013-07 04-05 Capacity development for personnel	Additional training is needed in the following areas: 1. Prosecution 2. Data analysis 3. MCS	Fiji
2013-07 10-11 Capacity development for MCS activities	Assistance from developed partners to assist in both aerial and surface surveillance coverage	Kiribati

Capacity needs identified through the SRF Intersessional Working Group process

7. An analysis of conceptual capacity needs to meet the objectives of the Strategic Investment Plan (see paragraph 3 above) was conducted and WCPFC members were asked to rank these needs in terms of priority.

8. Current development assistance was identified from open source data and assessed against each capacity need area. A summary of the findings is provided at **Attachment A**. The broad conclusion was that nearly all capacity needs have a funding stream associated.

9. The main gap identified was an explicit mechanism to support effective participation. The following proposal is included in the Strategic Investment Plan to fill this void.

Title: Enabling effective participation in the WCPFC
Obligation: Article 30
<p>Capacity Building Assistance Needed:</p> <p>Support to effectively input and participate in meetings of the WCPFC. This includes support for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • travel to the Science Committee, the Technical and Compliance Committee and/or the main meeting of the Commission, and • in-country capacity building prior to and post WCPFC meetings to help build capacity to engage and to institutionalise outcomes of the meetings (existing Secretariat support built into WCPFC budget). <p>It is noted that the level of assistance required will vary between members, so should remain flexible to the needs of the country. This will depend on the sovereign interests of the member, including the scale of WCPFC fishery interests, the capacity of the administration to engage in the program and the priority afforded to this over other interests.</p> <p>Parameters around accessing the program will include:</p>

- limit to one participant per country per meeting (or as funding allows) – this is in addition to the one participant already funded for each meeting from the WCPFC operational budget

Timeframe: Ongoing, annual calls by the Secretariat for participation in the funded program

Cost: up to USD300,000 annually

ATTACHMENT A

Thematic capacity needs	Rank 1 = highest; 18 = lowest priority	Funding support available (see Attachment B for recipients)
17. Disproportionate burden & economic development	1	Australia, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, NZ, PROP, US and the SRF
3. Capacity to understand, evaluate and implement harvest strategies	2	Australia, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, Japan, NZ, PROP, US, the SRF and SPC
11. Capacity to collect data and meet reporting obligations	3	All donors
16. Capacity to establish and implement other MCS & enforcement measures	4	All donors
18. Additional capacity building needs	5	All donors – except meeting support
2. Capacity to implement legal and policy aspects of managing fishing authorisations/licensing & related issues	6	Australia, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, Japan, NZ, PROP, US and the SRF
4. Capacity to regulate, implement, monitor and enforce tropical tuna measures	7	Australia, the EU, FFA, OFMP2, Japan, NZ, PROP, US and the SRF
15. Capacity to establish, implement and enforce port State measures	8	All donors
1. Capacity to understand and effectively implement technical & operational aspects of managing fishing authorisations/licensing and related requirements	9	Australia, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, Japan, NZ, PROP, US and the SRF
5. Capacity to regulate, implement, monitor and enforce rules related to albacore and Pacific Bluefin tuna	10	Australia, the EU, FFA, OFMP2, NZ, PROP and the SRF
13. Capacity to regulate, monitor and enforce rules relating to transshipment	11	All donors
14. Capacity needs relating to the administration, training, provision and work of observers, including in relation to the Regional Observer Program (ROP).	12	All donors
9. Purse seine rules relating to non-target species	13	Australia, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, NZ, PROP and the SRF
12. Capacity to implement and use vessel monitoring system	13	All donors
8. Capacity to implement rules relating to other non-target species	15	Australia, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, NZ, PROP and the SRF
7. Capacity to regulate, implement, monitor and enforce rules relating to sharks	16	Australia, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, NZ, PROP and the SRF
6. Capacity to implement rules relating to billfish species	17	Australia, the EU, FFA, OFMP2, NZ, PROP and the SRF
10. Capacity to regulate, implement, monitor and enforce fishing gear restrictions	18	Australia, CTTF, the EU, ABNJ project, FFA, OFMP2, NZ, PROP and the SRF

ATTACHMENT B

Donor/program	Eligible Recipients
Australia: various programs	Pacific island countries and Pacific regional
WCPFC Chinese Taipei Trust Fund	Developing states party to the WCPFC Convention, in particular SIDS
European Union: Pacific-EU Marine Partnership (PEUMP)	PACP countries and Pacific regional
FAO GEF: Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ project)	WCPFC, PNA, FFA
FFA: various programs	Pacific island FFA members
GEF/UNDP/FAO Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project II (OFMP 2)	FFA, SPC, MSG, Pacific SIDS, PITIA, WWF
WCPFC Japanese Trust Fund	Developing states party to the WCPFC Convention, in particular SIDS
New Zealand: various programs	Pacific SIDS, PICTs, FFA, SPC; Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam through WCPFC
World Bank/GEF: Pacific Islands Regional Oceanscape Program (PROP)	FSM, RMI, SI, Tuvalu, FFA
US: various programs	All WCPFC members