

# Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme Tonga | 2018 - 2025



PEUMP

Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme

This Factsheet highlights some of the Key Result Area (KRA) achievements of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme in Tonga. The PEUMP Programme provides its assistance across 15 Pacific Island Countries to promote sustainable fisheries management and sound ocean governance. This is done through a holistic and multi-sectoral approach that contributes to the social, economic and environmental development of the Pacific. The KRAs are achieved through PEUMP partner organisations, each contributing to the implementation of the programme objectives.

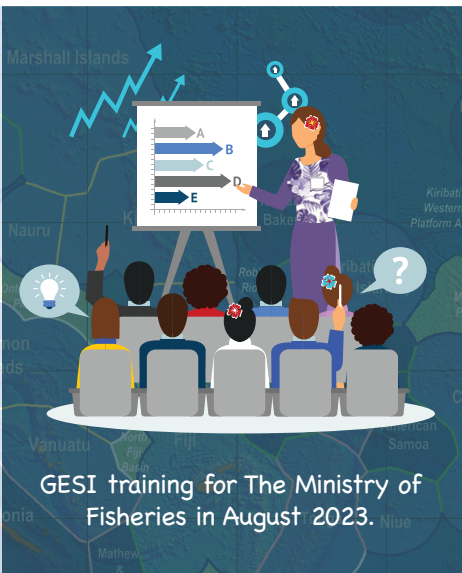


## KRA 0

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND MARITIME BOUNDARIES



Conducted a Special Management Areas (SMAs) workshop in Kolonga village, Tongatapu, focusing on gender, social inclusion, human rights, and women's empowerment.

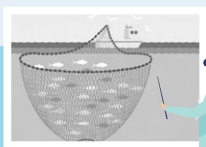


GESI training for The Ministry of Fisheries in August 2023.

**Tonga's maritime boundary work received technical support from SPC, including a 2019 staff attachment from the Ministry of Lands, Survey and Natural Resources to SPC Suva, which built capacity in boundary delimitation.**

## KRA 1

### OCEANIC FISHERIES



- National bycatch report completed for Tonga.
- The Tuna Research and Applications Workshop (TRAW) was conducted in Tonga during April 2025, with SPC PEUMP staff providing technical support.
- In August 2025, the PEUMP-supported assessment scientist presented the completed 2025 WCPO skipjack stock assessment to WCPFC's Scientific Committee (SC21) which was held in Tonga.

## KRA 2

### SUSTAINABLE TUNA FISHERIES



Ministry of Fisheries staff completed the FFA Regional Fish Inspectors' training provided for upskilling established Competent Authorities and Fisheries Industry officials.



In July 2024, PEUMP-funded consultancy services commenced for a feasibility study on establishing a tuna and deep-water snapper loining facility in Tonga. The consultancy, awarded to MarFishEco and will conclude in late 2025.

Tonga received in-country support to implement WCPFC Conservation and Management Measures (CMM), including a CMM awareness workshop in February 2025, crewing and labour standards and climate change considerations, fostering collaboration between administrations, enforcement agencies and industry.



## KRA 3 COASTAL FISHERIES



### Knowledge Exchange:

Supported a Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area (FLMMA) representative to attend Tonga's SMA Workshop in Vava'u (2019), facilitating peer learning between Fiji and Tonga communities.

### Training and Capacity Building:

Since 2019, fisheries staff have received in-country and virtual training on sea cucumber and giant clam surveys, covering survey design, invertebrate monitoring, and GIS use. Staff are now proficient in survey and data management.

Ministry staff also undertook attachment training in Noumea on socio-economics, databases, CBFM, and fisheries surveying.

### Research and Data Management:

Completed data analysis and reporting on The Status of Sea Cucumber Resources in Tonga (2020) and supported development of Tonga's Sea Cucumber Fishery Management Plan.

Introduced the Ikasavea app for creel and market surveys in 2021, followed by field data collection from 2022.

### Community-Based Fisheries Management (CBFM):

Finalised the Socioeconomic Assessment of Tonga's Special Management Areas (SMAs) in 2022. Developed Tonga's national CBFM scaling-up strategy, along with staff training using SMA manuals, compliance SOPs, and brochures. Leaders at the Pacific Islands Forum (2024) commended

Tonga's CBFM progress and endorsed the regional framework as an effective coastal management tool.

**Awareness and Outreach:** Produced The Fisher's Tales animated video series in Tonga, promoting sustainable fishing practices. Released a short video showcasing CBFM implementation in Tonga's SMAs. Launched the "iKiai - Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe" campaign to raise SMA awareness, including an information guide, workplan, and the appointment of a Ministry Information Coordinator.

Released a short video showcasing CBFM implementation in Tonga's SMAs.

Launched the "iKiai - Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe" campaign to raise SMA awareness, including an information guide, workplan, and the appointment of a Ministry Information Coordinator.

### Regional Participation and Certification:

Supported Tongan representatives to attend the Regional CBFM Scaling-Up Training in Suva (October 2024).

Supported Tongan nationals to complete the USP/SPC Certificate IV in Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Compliance course.

## KRA 4 ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING IN OCEANIC FISHERIES



Provided technical and financial support for Tonga e-Port State Measures (e-PSM) systems user training and trials that took place in February 2024. The system is currently in use by Tonga.

Supported Tonga Ministry of Fisheries staff to attend a regional training for Observer Debriefers on the Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS) and e-Reporting application.

Support provided to Tonga for funding license subscription fees to trial the Starboard software at Tonga Armed Forces to aid in flagging non-reporting vessels, anomalous movement and possible infringements.

Seven Starlink packages with one-year subscriptions for remote electronic monitoring/electronic reporting (EM/ER) connectivity was provided to Tonga.

**Tonga nationals enrolled in the Diploma of Fisheries Prosecution and Investigation (CEFIP5), developed by FFA and USP.**

**An in-country OLLO training was held for national observers in Tonga on the use of the OLLO e-reporting tool.**

## KRA 5 SUSTAINABLE UTILISATION OF COASTAL AND MARINE BIODIVERSITY



Surveys of communities across Tonga shed light on community uses of turtles and indicate that communities in Tonga may be harvesting 6,100 adult turtles annually.

The BIEM assisted the Tongan government to complete surveys of corals, giant clams and sea cucumbers to determine if they could be sustainably traded on international markets under CITES treaty rules.

## KRA 6 CAPACITY BUILDING



- Tongan nationals completed Certificate IV programmes in Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Compliance, Resilience, and Training and Assessment.
- Additional training covered Maintaining Seafood Safety and Quality, and Establishing and Operating a Small Seafood Business.
- Delivered community trainings on money-minded business basics and Beqa canoe building and sailing.

