

## Funding to address IUU fishing in the Pacific end of investment evaluation – management response

### Summary of management response

This evaluation of funding to address Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Pacific was conducted for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to inform decision making on possible future investments in this area. DFAT agrees that Australia should continue to support efforts to address IUU fishing and ensure Pacific island countries (PICs) are aware of available Australian support. DFAT agrees that strengthened governance structures, capacity building and gender equality and social inclusion should be prioritised in the design of future investments.

### Individual management response to the recommendations

Recommendation	Response	Explanation	Action plan	Timeframe
DFAT/Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) communicate to PICs as to what is due to happen next with the support and how it might be transitioned.	Agree	Countering IUU fishing is a priority for PICs and for Australia. It is important that Australia continue to provide support in this area and that PICs are aware of the support available.	DFAT will identify opportunities to ensure PICs are aware of current and future support available for addressing IUU fishing, including requests for assistance through the Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement (NTSA).	Ongoing
In designing the next phase, careful thought will be required as to the governance structure both in terms of its scope (and frequency of meetings) and its role in	Agree	DFAT acknowledges strengthened governance structures play an important role in enabling communication and collaboration, increasing	DFAT will consider opportunities for strengthening governance structures and coordination in future investments addressing IUU fishing.	Ongoing

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enhancing coordination and coherence across the project.		coordination across projects.		
The next phase increases its focus on strengthening its capacity building initiatives.	Agree	DFAT notes the importance of operationalisation of the NTSA and the potential contribution of capacity building to operationalisation.	DFAT will consider options to include capacity building in future investments to address IUU fishing. This has already been included in a two-year Record of Understanding (2022-24) with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) to provide support to PICs and the FFA to address IUU fishing.	Ongoing
That in designing the next phase of support the project deliberately clarifies what it can i. realistically and feasibly achieve within the next reporting period with regards to both gender equality and social inclusion, ii. the type of support it can provide to ensure its	Agree	Gender equality and social inclusion are priorities within Australia’s development program. DFAT supports the inclusion of realistic and feasible gender and social inclusion objectives in future investments in addressing IUU fishing.	DFAT will consider opportunities for strengthening gender and social inclusion objectives in future investments addressing IUU fishing. A gender and social inclusion objective has been included in the new Record of Understanding (2022-24) with AFMA.	Ongoing

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implementing partners promote gender and social inclusion efforts, iii. the steps the project will take to strengthen the commitment of PICs to promote gender and social inclusion within the sector, and iv. how the project will monitor progress against its commitment to gender equality and social inclusion.				