



# **MINISTRY OF FISHERIES**

## **Annual Report**



**Financial Year 2017/2018**

## Chapter 1 Table of Contents

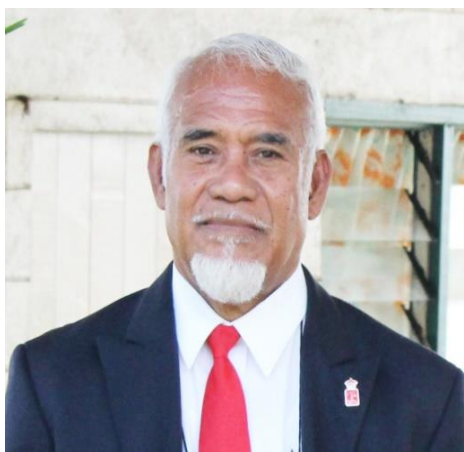
Chapter 1 Table of Contents.....	2
Chapter 2 List of Abbreviations and Acronyms .....	3
Chapter 3 Foreword from the Minister for Fisheries.....	5
Chapter 4 Preface.....	7
Executive Summary of the Ministry of Fisheries overall performance.....	9
1. Overview of the Ministry of Fisheries.....	16
1.1 Introduction.....	16
1.2 Legislation, Mandate, Stakeholders .....	17
1.3 Operational Structure .....	20
1.4 Performance Management Framework – Results Map (Logframe).....	21
2. Ministry of Fisheries Performance .....	24
2.1 Human Resource Management.....	24
2.2 Results Management (Reporting outputs and outcome) .....	29
2.2.1 Office of the Honourable Minister .....	29
2.2.2 Office of the Chief Executive .....	30
2.2.3 Corporate Services Division .....	32
2.2.4 Fisheries Management and Development Division.....	40
2.2.5 Fisheries Science Division.....	49
2.2.6 Fisheries Compliance Division .....	61
2.3 Financial Management .....	66
2.4 Procurement .....	68
2.5 Assets Management.....	68
3. Significant issues/challenges.....	69
3.1 Issues/Challenges .....	69
3.2 Risks and risk management.....	72
4 Disclosures and legal compliance.....	73
4.1 Audit statements .....	73
4.2 Ministerial and Cabinet directives.....	73
4.3 Governance disclosures .....	74
4.4 Government policy requirements.....	75
4.5 Board and Committee Remuneration.....	76
Chapter 5 Conclusion.....	77

## Chapter 2 List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AMP	Annual Management Plan
ANCORS	Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security
AR	Annual Report
CP	Corporate Plan
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFEC	Certificate in Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CSU	Central Service Unit
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EFY	End of Financial Year
FAD	Fishing Aggregate Device
FAO	Food Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCD	Fisheries Compliance Division
FFA	Forum Fisheries Agencies
FFC	Forum Fisheries Committee
FFC MIN	Forum Fisheries Committee Ministerial
FY	Financial Year
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GPA	Government's Priority Agenda
IP	Internal Policy
IUU	Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (fishing)
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
MC	Ministerial Conference
MCS	Monitoring Control Surveillance
MSC	Master Stewardship Certificate
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MFNP	Ministry of Finance and National Planning
MoF	Ministry of Fisheries
NFOSC	National Fisheries Officer Surveillance Course
NPOA	National Plan of Action
NTSA	Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement
NIWA	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric
NZ	New Zealand
OPM	Observer Program Management
PC	Pacific Community (formerly Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC))
PSC	Public Service Commission
PMS	Performance Management System
PNA	Parties to Niue Agreement
PROP	Pacific Regional Oceanscape Programme
POI	Person of Interest
RIMSW	Regional Management System Workshop
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal (United Nations)
SIDS	Small Island development State
SMA	Special Management Area

SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
TC	Tropical Cyclone
TFSP	Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan
TSDf II	Tonga Strategic Development Framework
TPFES	Tonga Passenger Food Export System
UN	United Nations
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WB	World Bank
WTO	World Trade Organisation
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System

## Chapter 3 Foreword from the Minister for Fisheries



I am pleased to present the Ministry of Fisheries Annual Report for the Financial Year 2017/2018 which provides an overview of the Ministry's achievements, outputs and challenges encountered during the year.

One of the highlights of the year was the Ministry's participation in the Royal Agricultural & Fisheries Show, which is a national event that takes place on annual basis, and it coincides with the celebration of His Majesty King Tupou VI's Birthday. The 2017 Royal Agriculture and Fisheries Show commenced in Vava'u, then moved on to Niuatoputapu, Niuafo'ou, Ha'apai, 'Eua and ended in Tongatapu. There were two special events that took place in Vava'u namely, the celebration of His Majesty King Tupou VI's Birthday that was held in Neiafu, and the celebration of the success of the Special Management Areas (SMAs) Programme that was held in 'Ovaka Island and hosted by the 'Ovaka Island community.

The 2018 Royal Agriculture and Fisheries Show began in Ha'apai including the celebration of His Majesty King Tupou VI's Birthday that took place in Pangai, and the celebration of the success of the Special Management Areas (SMAs) Programme that was held in Felemea Village, Uiha Island. From Ha'apai, the Royal Agriculture and Fisheries Show moved on to Vava'u, Niuatoputapu, Niuafo'ou, Eua and ended in Tongatapu.

These events were successfully executed due mainly to the direct involvement of their Majesties King Tupou VI and Queen Nanasipau'u, as Guests of Honour, in addressing the ceremonies and the award of prizes to the winners of judged events in each island group. Their Majesties' presence is very much welcomed by the local communities, as it encourages them to actively partake in the Royal Agriculture and Fisheries Show every year, as well as in agriculture and fisheries activities that contribute positively towards raising the country's level of food security. Their Majesties, King Tupou VI and Queen Nanasipau'u attended both the Special Management Areas (SMAs) Programme celebrations that were held in 'Ovaka Island, Vava'u and Felemea Village, Ha'apai.

The Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan (TFSP) was prepared by the Ministry of Fisheries in close collaboration with the World Bank (WB) and approved by Cabinet in 2016. The implementation of the TFSP began in 2017, while the World Bank and Ministry of Fisheries continued with the preparation of a funding proposal to assist in the implementation of most TFSP programme activities.

I would like to acknowledge the effective leadership of the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Fisheries Dr. Tu'ikolongahau Halafihi and the expert support provided by the Fisheries Adviser, Mr. Stephenpaul Dunn, which contributed positively towards ensuring the continuous and timely delivery of the Ministry's core functions by Ministry of Fisheries staff, as mandated by the Fisheries Management Act.

The on-going support of development partners, regional and international fisheries organisations and agencies, in terms of providing financial and technical assistance, have met

the urgent development needs of fisheries sector stakeholders and contribute productively towards the advancement of the development of sustainable fisheries in Tonga.

I fully recognise that abundance of fisheries resources in the country's national waters is variable subject to the impacts of human activities and climate change. It is therefore the responsibility of the Ministry of Fisheries and all stakeholders in the fisheries sector to work together in the management of concerned human activities and climate change impacts to ensure the existence of sustainable fisheries to support the nation's prosperity. I place particular value on the Special Management Area (SMA) Program for the coastal communities, as the number of SMAs to be established will continue to increase in future years. This will empower coastal communities to have ownership and capacity to engage in sustainable development and community-based fisheries management.

Mälö 'aupito



Honourable Semisi Fakahau

**Minister for Fisheries**

## Chapter 4 Preface



This Annual Report for Financial Year 2017/18 presents the actual outputs achieved by the Ministry of Fisheries based on the Ministry's Corporate Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20 with indicators that can be used to measure and report on our progress.

During the financial year (FY) 2017/18 the Ministry of Fisheries experienced a great number of challenges, including Tropical Cyclone Gita during the first half of 2018 and the impacts of climate change. Despite the challenges, including technical and financial resource limitations, the Ministry delivered on its mandate and achieved the goals of the 2017-18 Corporate Plan.

The key focuses of this financial year included the implementation of the Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan (TFSP) and the first year of implementing the Performance Management System (PMS). There were 49 staff out of 69 who were eligible for reward under the end of the year PMS. The Ministry also received the first prizes of the most compliant ministry in End of the Year (EFY) submission of Results and for outer Islands Readiness for PMS category.

The Ministry's budget increased from \$2.808 in 2016/17 to \$3.667 million in 2017/2018 and the actual spending was \$3.625 million. Revenue target for 2017/2018 was 1.7 million and the Ministry collected 2.8 million.

Under the TFSP, the Ministry focused on implementing the Special Management Areas (SMA) with 12 newly established SMAs in this financial year. This included the expansion of mabe pearl farming from 5 to 18 farms in this period.

Tonga still relies on wild fisheries stocks for food and income. The three-main export marine products from Tonga are tuna, deep-water snapper, and aquarium species.

The total marine product exported (not including aquarium products) during 2017/2018 was 1,196 metric tons compared to 2,611 metric ton in 2016/2017. The total FOB value for all fish exports for 2017/2018 was valued at TOP\$ 7 million which is a 46% decrease from the value of fish exported in the previous financial year.

The big decline in the marine export for 2017/2018 was due to the big reduction in catches for tuna fisheries from poor catch rates in the Tongan waters. This attributed to the impacts of climate change, as a result, most foreign fishing vessels left Tongan waters and local tuna vessels were mostly tied up in port during that period.

Tuna fishery is the main fishery for Tonga in terms of volume and value. However, the impacts of climate change have caused change in the distribution of tuna species in our waters. Hence, a total of only 1,011 metric tons of tuna were exported in this financial year which is a 57% decline from the last financial year. The total tuna exported within this period was valued at approximately TOP\$5.7 million, which is a 56% decrease from the previous financial year.

The total aquarium products exported in this FY 2017/2018 was 194,840 pieces, and was valued at approximately TOP\$0.46 million. This was a 56% increase in quantities and associated with 4% decrease in value from aquarium exports from 2016/2017.

A total of 88 metric tons of snapper was exported in this financial year. It was valued at approximately TOP\$0.6 million which decreased by 50% from the last financial year. The decline in the snapper export in this financial year was attributed to the impact of the Tropical Cyclone Gita, damaging fishing vessels plus decline in fish stock.

Due to the decline in wild fisheries stocks from various reasons, including climate change and overfishing, the Ministry has made new initiatives to ensure productions from the fisheries sector meet the demand of the country for food and income. The Ministry managed to deploy fishing aggregating devices (FAD) around Tongan waters to increase production for artisanal fisheries. Aquaculture has been promoted by successful spawning of sea cucumber in December 2017. The trial for squid fisheries was very successful in the first half of 2018 to promote diversification in order to lessen fishing pressure on deep-water snapper fisheries.

Another priority initiative was the introduction of a new program to address healthy livelihood, food security and combat non-communicable diseases (NCDs) which commenced with the selling of fish at an affordable price for the public at Tu'imatamoana market.

New initiatives in this financial year have been further developed in the next financial year to ensure fishery production in maintained in this sector.

It is my sincere hope that the implementation of the Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan and Corporate Plan for this financial year effectively contributed to the overall development of Tonga.

Mälö 'aupito



Dr. Tu'ikolongahau Halafihi

**Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Fisheries**

## Executive Summary of the Ministry of Fisheries overall performance

Output	Major Reform Activities	Summary Highlights
<b>Output 1:</b> Leadership and Policy Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Establishment of the Ministry of Fisheries as an independent Ministry</li> <li>➤ Support the implementation of SDG 14</li> <li>➤ Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan (TFSP) National Fisheries Policy</li> <li>➤ Amendments the Fisheries Coastal Communities Regulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cabinet submission for the Establishment of the Ministry of Fisheries as an independent Ministry- 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017</li> <li>➤ Support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14). Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine ocean for sustainable development</li> <li>➤ Aims to address a range of important policy issues raise in the Tonga Fisheries Sector</li> <li>➤ Cabinet approved proposed amendments to the Fisheries (Coastal Communities) (Amendment) Regulations submitted on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2018</li> </ul>
<b>Output 2:</b> Leadership and Policy Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ TFSP</li> <li>➤ Royal Agricultural &amp; Fisheries Show</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Review and update of TFSP in preparation for seeking funding from the World Bank.</li> <li>➤ Royal Agriculture &amp; Fisheries show and Celebration of</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Legislation Review</li> <li>➤ Healthy livelihood and food security</li> </ul>	<p>Kings birthday in Vavaú and Ha'apai</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Review of the SMA legislation and regulations with the assistance from SPC</li> <li>➤ Port State Measure legislative review</li> <li>➤ Low fish Price Program - selling of fish at affordable prices for the local people</li> </ul>
<b>Output 3:</b> Administrative Support and Human Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Implementation of Performance Management System (PMS)/End of Financial Year (EFY) reward</li> <li>➤ Staff recruitment and promotion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ These are the awards to Ministry of Fisheries (MoF) during FY17/18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2nd prize: Oct-Dec 2017 quarterly award.</li> <li>- 2nd prize: Jan-Mar 2018 quarterly award.</li> <li>- 1st prize: Apr-Jun 2018 quarterly award.</li> <li>- 1st prize: Most Consistent Ministry Category.</li> <li>- 1st prize: Outer Island Readiness Category.</li> <li>- 1st prize: Most Compliant Ministry in End of Year (EFY) submission of Results.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ 49 employees out of 69 total number of employees were eligible for rewards (full rewards and pro-rata)</li> <li>➤ 16 new staff recruited by the ministry and 4 staff who were promoted to a new position</li> </ul>
<b>Output 4:</b> Budget, Plans, and Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Internal Policy (IP)</li> <li>➤ Budget, Corporate Plan (CP), Annual Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 4 Internal policies approved</li> <li>➤ Budget, CP, AMP submitted on time to MFNP</li> </ul>

	(AMP), Annual Report (AR).	➤ AR submitted to Cabinet and LA
<b>Output 5:</b> Financial Services, Procurement and Asset Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Budget – expenditure</li> <li>➤ Revenue</li> <li>➤ Procurement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Budget approved 3.667 million, actual spending 3.625 million</li> <li>➤ Targeted revenue 1.7 million, actual revenue collected 2.8 million</li> <li>➤ 100% compliance in independent review</li> </ul>
<b>Output 6:</b> Training and Capacity Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 54 overseas training events and 88 national training events were conducted and attended by Fisheries staff</li> </ul>
<b>Output 7:</b> Information and Communications Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ TOFISH Networking System</li> <li>➤ Databases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upgrading of the TOFISH Networking System</li> <li>➤ Maintaining and consistently updating fisheries development and other activities on the website (<a href="http://www.tongafish.gov.to">www.tongafish.gov.to</a>) with over a thousand hits recorded on each published article.</li> <li>➤ Maintaining 15 local databases and 3 regional database systems.</li> <li>➤ Developing the Licensing System for Tuna and Snapper Fishery</li> <li>➤ Integration of TUBS (observer module) into TUFMAN2</li> <li>➤ Data reporting and data dissemination to internal and external reporting obligations.</li> </ul>
<b>Output 8.</b> Fisheries Management and Development Plans, Monitoring and Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 4 management plans reviewed and approved</li> <li>- Tuna Management plan 2018 – 2022</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tonga National Strategy on Aquatic biosecurity</li> <li>- Revised Deepwater management</li> <li>- Tonga sport fishing plan</li> </ul>
<b>Output 9:</b> Policy and Regulatory Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fisheries policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 4 Fisheries policies drafted and approved</li> <li>- National Plan of Action for shark's</li> <li>- Policy paper for mid-term review of Deepwater management plan</li> <li>- Sport fishing policy</li> <li>- Bareboat charter</li> </ul>
<b>Output 10:</b> Economics and statistics reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Export</li> <li>➤ National Market survey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The total value of marine product exported including aquarium products during this period was T\$7 million. The total quantity of marine product exported (not included aquarium products) during this period was 1,196 metric tons.</li> <li>➤ Total quantity aquarium products exported was 194,840 pieces with a value of approximately TOP\$0.46 million</li> <li>➤ Total of 105 metric tons of marine resources was recorded from the market survey with a value of \$TOP 0.86 million</li> </ul>
<b>Output 11:</b> Aquaculture Research, Planning and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ SMA supported with a spat seedings/juveniles</li> <li>➤ Hatchery spawning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 15 pearl farmers were provided with pearl oyster spats</li> <li>➤ 5 Special Management Area communities provided with juvenile giant clams</li> <li>➤ 14 hatchery spawning events conducted (5 x Giant</li> </ul>

		clams, 2 x Pearl Oysters, 7 x sea cucumber)
<b>Output 12:</b> Special Management Area (SMA), Community Development and Advisory Services	➤ SMA	➤ 12 new SMAs established ➤ 27 existing SMAs supported
<b>Output 13:</b> Training and Capacity Development	➤ Capacity building	➤ 12 training events for compliance and fish catch data ➤ 12 training events on fish catch value adding ➤ 15 training events on catch data for inshore and offshore
<b>Output 14:</b> Extension and Outer Island Services	➤ Technical Assistant  ➤ Royal Agriculture Show (RAS)         ➤ Tropical Cyclone Gita	➤ 150 engagements with stakeholder (communities and farmers)  ➤ 17 technical assistance support activities provided to fishermen. ➤ Royal Agriculture Show 2017 with the aim of “In a well-stocked farm still stands a teve” (‘Api fa’a toe tu’u ai ‘a e teve) commenced in Vava’u, Ha’apai, Niuatoputapu, Niuafo’ou, ‘Eua and Tongatapu. In addition, the celebration of His Majesty’s Birthday was also held in Neiafu, Vava’u.  ➤ Royal Agriculture Show 2018 with the aim of “good hope for something despite uncertainty of the circumstances” (Kina ‘umu tali ki tahi) commenced in Ha’apai, Vava’u, Niuatoputapu, Niuafo’ou, ‘Eua and Tongatapu. In addition, the celebration of His Majesty’s Birthday was also held in Pangai, Ha’apai.  ➤ Tropical Cyclone Gita hit the island groups of ‘Eua and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Exploratory fishing for squid fishery</li> </ul>	<p>Tongatapu on the 12th and 13th February 2018. The damages had great impacts on the Fishery Sector especially several fishing vessels, fishing gears, 4 pearl farmers, all 34 registered fish fences in Tongatapu and even the multicultural centre (hatchery) at the Ministry of Fisheries Office. All total cost of damages was estimated to TOP\$1.45 million.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In May of 2019, the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster approved a re-allocation of TOP\$384,911 to the Ministry of Fisheries to fund the TC Gita recovery activities.</li> <li>➤ The squid trial was conducted in June 2018 and funded by the NIWA Project. The trial was very successful and good catch rates were obtained. Two species were caught are Diamondback and Neon Squids.</li> </ul>
<b>Output 15:</b> Fishery resource research, monitoring, and assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Offshore data collection</li> <li>➤ Scientific report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 100% coverage</li> <li>➤ 100% comply with part 1 report (Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC))</li> <li>➤ Total catch for Tuna and bycatch in Tongan waters was 1,682.8 metric tons (national fleet 468.57 metric ton, foreign fishing vessel 1,214.3 metric ton)</li> <li>➤ Total catch for main deep-water snapper and bycatch was 226.1 metric ton.</li> </ul>
<b>Output 16:</b> Enforcement and Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Enforcement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 35 enforcement conducted, 5 operation (national/regional)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ License</li> <li>➤ Exemption duty and tax</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 43 Number of license issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 14 local snappers</li> <li>– 6 local sport fishing</li> <li>– 11 fish fences</li> <li>– 7 local tuna</li> <li>– 3 sport fishing</li> <li>– 1 fish export</li> <li>– 1 seaweed export</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ 411 certificates for consumption tax exemption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 101 fishing input (fishing gear, aquaculture materials)</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ 310 fuel (for commercial licensed vessels)</li> </ul>
<b>Output 17: Surveillance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Observer</li> <li>➤ VMS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 75% of observer deployed</li> <li>➤ 37 observer data debriefed</li> <li>➤ 90% of VMS snap shot</li> </ul>

## 1. Overview of the Ministry of Fisheries

### 1.1 Introduction

The re-instatement of the Ministry of Fisheries as a stand-alone government agency and the appointment of Dr Tu'ikolongahau Halafihi as the Ministry's new Chief Executive was one of the major achievements in upgrading the Ministry's profile both at the national and international level.

The planned national impact of the TSDF is a *“progressive Tonga supporting a higher quality of life for all”* which is supported by the whole of government.

The TSDF describes both national and organisational outcomes for the whole public sector. Those that are applicable to the Ministry of Fisheries are:

#### 1.1.1 TSDF National Outcomes

- A: A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic, knowledge-based economy.
- D: More inclusive, sustainable and responsive good governance with strengthened rule of law.
- F: A more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk.

#### 1.1.2 TSDF Organisational Outcomes

##### **Pillar 1. Economic Institutions:**

- **Organisational Outcome 1.2:** Closer, more effective public/private partnerships with business, consumers and other community groups across the Kingdom to help better identify and address constraints to more inclusive, sustainable and resilient economic growth

##### **Pillar 3. Political Institutions**

- **Organisational Outcome 3.1:** More efficient, effective, affordable, honest and transparent public service with a clear focus on priority needs

##### **Pillar 5. National Resources and Environment Inputs:**

- **Organisational Outcome 5.2:** More equitable, inclusive, sustainable and appropriate management of the use of renewable and non-renewable natural resources to maintain a steady long-term flow of benefits rather than booms followed by bust and long-term recovery periods.

## 1.2 Legislation, Mandate, Stakeholders

The Ministry of Fisheries operated under the following legislative mandates;

### 1.2.1 Legislation

General	Specific to Ministry of Fisheries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Constitution of Tonga</li><li>• Government Priority Agenda</li><li>• Tonga Strategic Development Framework II</li><li>• Government Act</li><li>• Public Finance Management Act</li><li>• Public Audit Act</li><li>• Public Service Act</li><li>• Remuneration Act</li><li>• Procurement Regulations</li><li>• Public Revenue Regulations</li><li>• Internal Audit Charter</li><li>• International Agreements</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aquaculture Management Act 2003</li><li>• Aquaculture Management (Amendment) Act 2005</li><li>• Aquaculture Management (Amendment) Act 2009</li><li>• Fisheries Management Act 2002</li><li>• Fisheries Management (Amendment) Act 2009</li><li>• Maritime Zone Act 2009</li><li>• Tonga Defence Services (Amendment) Act 2013</li><li>• Fisheries Management (Processing and Export) Regulations 2008</li><li>• Fisheries Management (Conservation) Regulations 2008</li><li>• Fisheries Management (Conservation) (Amendment) Regulations 2013</li><li>• Fisheries Management (Processing and Export) (Amendment) Regulations 2010</li><li>• Fisheries (Local Fishing) Regulations 2009</li><li>• Aquaculture Management Regulations 2008</li><li>• Fisheries Management Act 2002 Special Management Area Order (GS 20 of 2004)</li><li>• Fisheries Regulations 1992</li><li>• Fisheries (Vessel Monitoring System) Regulations 2009</li><li>• Fisheries (Coastal Communities) Regulations 2009</li><li>• Fisheries (LimuTanga'u) Regulations 2009</li><li>• Special Management Area Order No.25/2013</li><li>• Stowage of Gear Regulations</li></ul>

### 1.2.2 Mandate

The mandate of the Ministry of Fisheries involves conserving, managing, developing, and sustainably utilising the Kingdom's aquatic resources to ensure food security, and to improve the social and economic well-being of the people of Tonga.

The Ministry of Fisheries operations are guided by the following:

1. Our National Constitution, whole-of-government Acts and Regulations, other general government policies and directives, the Tonga Strategic Development Framework 2015-2025, the Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan, the Tonga National Fisheries Policy, and Ministry specific legislation including the Fisheries Management Act 2002, the Aquaculture Management Act 2003, and the Maritime Zone Act 2009, and associated regulations.
2. A range of international treaties and conventions of direct relevance to sustainable fisheries including and derived from the United Nations Convention on the Law of the

Sea (UNCLOS) that defines the territorial sea and oceanic boundaries of coastal states, including the areas in which they may exploit marine resources.

3. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 to “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development” advocates significantly reducing all kinds of marine pollution and minimizing ocean acidification by 2025, as well as sustainably managing and protecting marine and coastal ecosystems by as early as 2020. It also aims, by 2020, to regulate harvesting in an effective manner and to halt overfishing by ending illegal and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices. In addition, SDG 14 aims to prohibit specific types of subsidy to fisheries.

## Ministry Vision and Mission

Our vision directs us in how we think about and plan for the future, with imagination and wisdom. Our mission gives us direction towards achieving that vision.

**Our Vision:** *“To achieve economically, socially and environmentally sustainable fisheries that contributes to better living standards for all Tongans.”*

**Our Mission:** *“Providing quality and timely services characterised by integrity, teamwork and professionalism.”*

### 1.2.3 Stakeholders

Stakeholder	Customer of MoF	Supplier to MoF	Partner with MoF	Oversight of MoF
Cabinet	Advice, Recommendations, Information	Decisions	Operating Effectiveness of Government	Direction
Parliament (Legislative Assembly)	Advice, Recommendations, Information	Decisions, Legislation		Direction
Ministry/Department/Agencies (MFNP, PSC, AGO, MAFF, MEIDECC, MOFA, MET, MOI- Marine & Ports and HMAF)	Advice, Guidance, Instructions, Information	Information	Operating Effectiveness of Government,	Oversight by PMO, PSC - Policy, Operations
Public Enterprises	Advice, Guidance, Instructions, Information	Information	Operating Effectiveness of Government,	
NGO	Advice, Guidance, Instructions, Services, Information	Goods, Services, Fees, Charges	Community Work, Education, Health	Monitor, Petition

<b>General Public</b>	Advice, Guidance, Instructions, Services, Information	Goods, Services, Fees, Charges		Vote, Petition
<b>Investors, fish farmers, processors and export</b>	Provide service information		Provide Services	
<b>Regional and international agencies</b>	Provide information and services	Information	Provide funding Providing information and services	
<b>Development Partners</b>	Advice, Guidance, Instructions, Services, Information	Development Assistance and Advice	Delivery of Aid Funded Programs	Oversight of the Use of Development Funds, General Performance Management

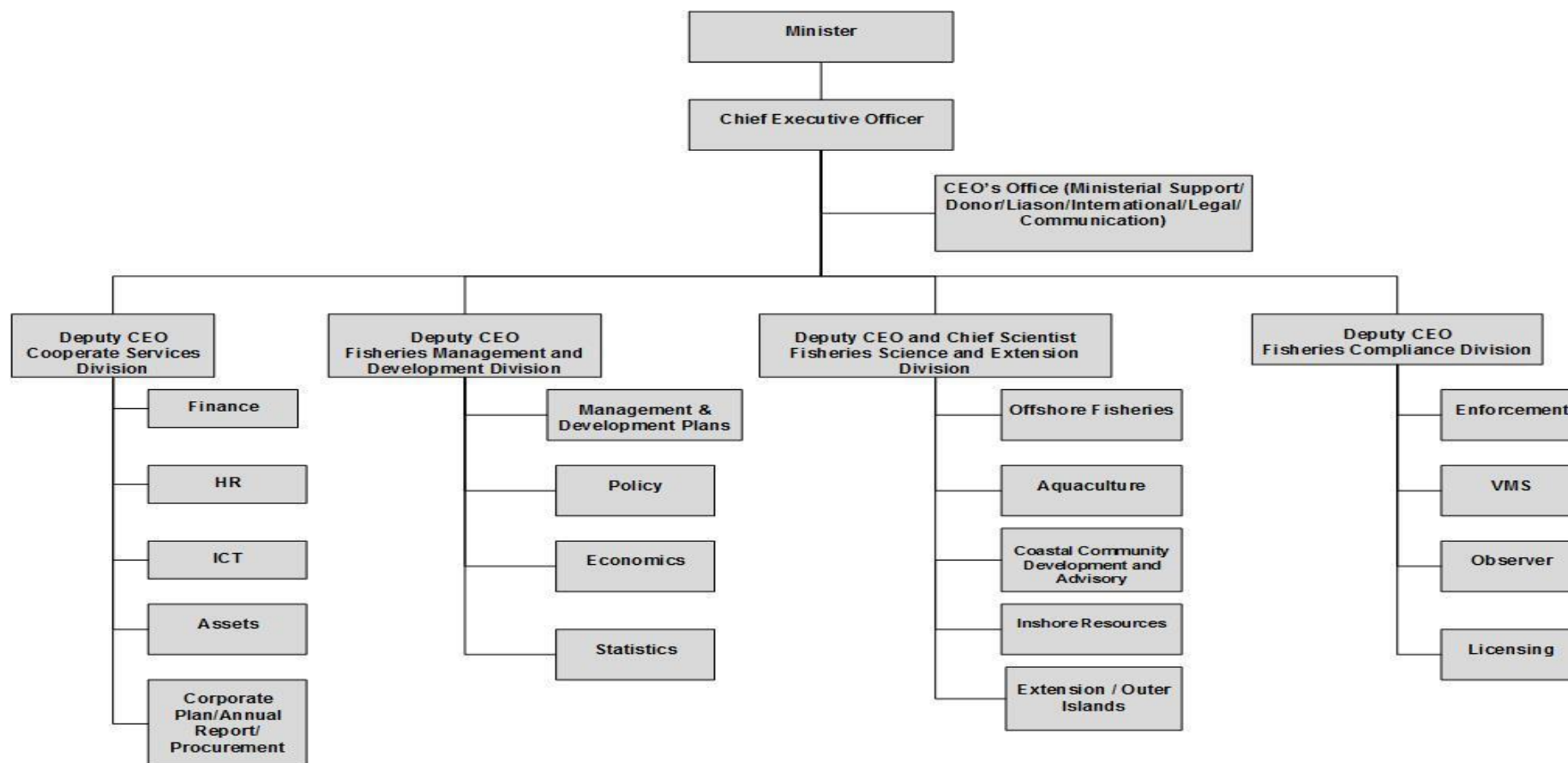
The Ministry of Fisheries (MoF) relies on the Cabinet and Parliament for high level strategic direction, and for support for policy and legislation, and budget resources. MoF has close ties with a range of Ministries, Departments and Agencies. For example, seeking support and guidance on budget and planning from the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, working collaboratively with the Tonga Navy on fisheries patrols, and with Tonga Customs on border controls for imports and exports of fish products.

MoF works closely with key industry stakeholders towards sustainable fishery management, and with coastal communities on the establishment and administration of the Special Management Area Program. A range of species are being investigate for their potential for aquaculture, bot as alternate livelihoods for coastal communities and for their potential for larger scale and export level production.

MoF has particularly close ties with two regional agencies, the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the Pacific Community (SPC), and regularly attends workshops, training events and meetings. Bi-lateral MOUs are in place for the provision of services to Tonga, such as support for management planning, compliance, resource assessment, and aquaculture development.

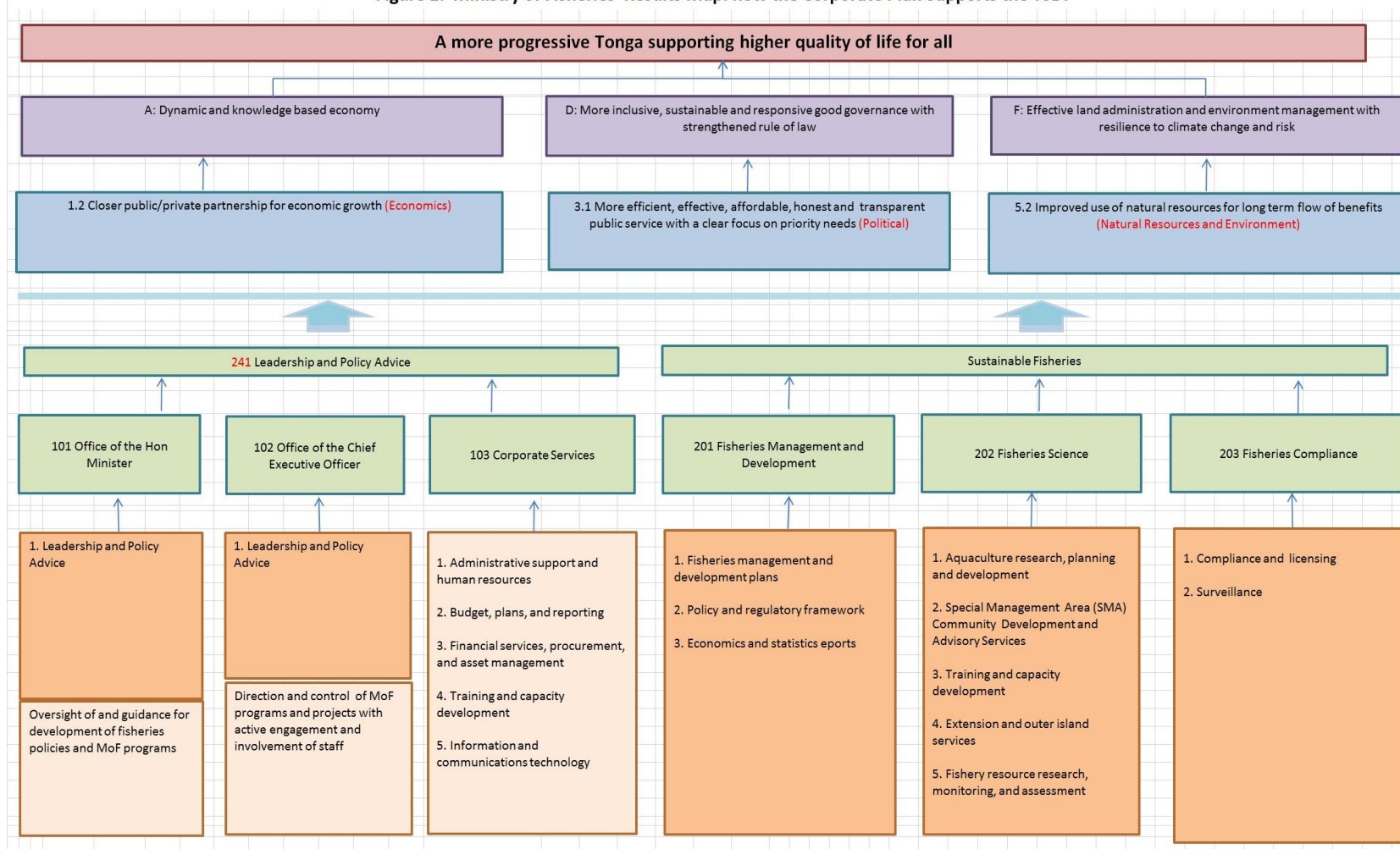
MoF works very closely with many development partners, in particular the World Bank, the NZ Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade, the NZ Ministry for Primary Industries, the Asian Development Bank, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, and the Japan Trust Find, and is extremely grateful for the generous support provided.

## 1.3 Operational Structure



## 1.4 Performance Management Framework – Results Map (Logframe)

Figure 1: Ministry of Fisheries Results Map: how the Corporate Plan Supports the TSDF



During the 2017/2018 financial year the Ministry can report achievements and outcomes consistent with the Ministry's Results Map (Logframe). These achievements and outcomes span our externally facing activities in fisheries resource management and aquaculture, as well as in or internally facing financial management and other corporate support activities. The Ministry also reports that some planned activities were hampered by tropical cyclone Gita in the month of February, 2018. The cyclone first prevented the Ministry from conducting its work, and then, during the initial recovery period diverted staff and resources away from planned activities. It took several months for the situation to return to normality.

The Ministry has applied itself diligently to the annual corporate planning and budget cycle, completing its obligations in accordance with stipulated time frames. The corporate plan and budget were finalised in line with budget guidelines from the Ministry of Finance in March 2018. The CP and Budget were submitted to Cabinet before the deadline.

The foundation for the corporate plan is the Tonga Strategic Development Framework (TSDf), the national approach to planning. The corporate plan presents a clear picture of the Ministry's priorities activities at a national level, as well as taking into account regional issues that affect the tuna fisheries that we share with other countries. The plan focuses on the higher-level outcomes expected from the Ministry's work and what we expect to achieve over the plan's three-year period, along with indicators that can be used to measure and report on our progress.

The corporate plan links to the TSDf's national and organisation outcomes that are relevant to the Ministry's outputs. Whilst there is further detail in this annual report where we report on our key performance indicators, we take this opportunity to mention a few key strategic priority areas, and our results during the year.

- Fisheries management planning
  - During the reporting year the Ministry reviewed the fishery management plan for the Tuna and Deepwater fishery. Management plans ensure harvests are controlled to a sustainable level.
- Special Management Areas
  - During the reporting year the Ministry implemented 12 new SMAs for coastal communities, developing management plans to ensure communities have control over their local fisheries.
- Aquaculture
  - During the reporting year the Ministry continued to support the emerging Mabé pearl industry with 2 new permits issued. These pearls may present a significant export opportunity into the future.

The aim of the Corporate Plan is to provide a foundation for the budget, to support and guide the work of the Ministry, and to provide an insight into the work of the Ministry for stakeholders and the community in general. The new CP and Budget included some notable changes:

- Provision for establishment of the World Bank funded Tongafish Pathway project Management Unit.

- Provision for implementation of the World Bank funded Tongafish Pathway project.
- Cyclone Gita recovery activities:
  - All total cost of damages was estimated to TOP\$1.45 million.
  - Food Security and Livelihood Cluster approved a re-allocation of TOP\$384,911 to the Ministry of Fisheries to fund the TC Gita recovery activities
- Provision to support an increase in the Special Management Area (SMA) program and related activities:
  - Implementation of SMAs in Vava'u, Ha'apai, and Tongatapu.
  - Compliance activities, market survey, creel survey, airport inspections, sea cucumber survey, bio-sampling survey, aquaculture, stock enhancement.
- Extension of the aquaculture laboratory to upgrade facilities and to support priority activities for the emerging aquaculture industries.
- Additional vessel outboard motors to support compliance, research, and outer island and extension support services to improve efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

The corporate plan provides a renewed focus on the sustainable management of our fisheries. The plan supports the establishment of community based special management areas, and fosters sustainable and profitable commercial fisheries and aquaculture. The plan aims to ensure that the fisheries sector grows sustainably, makes an increasingly valuable contribution to our national economy, creates more exports, makes a meaningful contribution to our gross domestic product, provide employment for more people in our fishing industries. It will also support commercialization of aquaculture opportunities, and encourage the availability of affordable fresh fish, making a greater contribution to both food security and a healthy diet for Tonga's citizens, to help combat the scourge of preventable non-communicable disease.

A key focus of the corporate plan is the implementation of the Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan (TFSP). Under the sector plan we are developing and reviewing fishery management and development plans, placing an increased focus on the science necessary to support fishery management decisions, and striving for an increasingly effective compliance program that creates a deterrent to illegal fishing. We continue to identify potential aquaculture opportunities, and to investigate their potential; working with communities and industries to commercialise those that may present opportunities to create new industries and new livelihoods. We are helping our stakeholders to act as stewards of fishery resources by harvesting only what can be taken in a sustainable way.

Fish are a natural resource and populations vary for a range of reasons. Some are influenced by fishing pressure, others by natural environmental cycles. Our fish catches and exports declined during the reporting period in both the deepwater snapper and tuna fisheries. Deepwater snapper declining catches were probably the result of fishing pressure, and tuna declining catches the result of natural population variations due to the El Nino cycle. Active steps are being taken to find diversification opportunities for deepwater snapper fishers to allow stocks to recover.

## 2. Ministry of Fisheries Performance

### 2.1 Human Resource Management

During the FY 2017/18 we had 69 staff (28 female, 41 male) including 16 new staff recruited by the ministry and 4 staff who got promoted to a new position (1x Accountant, 2x Senior Fisheries Assistant, 1 x Fisheries Assistant).

Established staff	69
New appointees	16
Unestablished staff	7
Promotions	4

#### New Appointments

No.	Name	Post	Division	Date of Assumption of duty
1	Mrs. Lupe Fe'iloaki	Senior Fisheries Officer	Corporate Service	10/07/ 2017
2	Mrs. Holani Kilikiti	Fisheries Trainee	Corporate Service	31/07/2017
3	Mrs. 'Ana Liliti	Technical Officer Grade II	Corporate Service	9/08/2017
4	Mrs. Tilisa Alalea	Fisheries Trainee	Corporate Service	27/11/2017
5	Mrs. Eileen Fonua	Principal Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Science	13/12/2017
6	Mr. Tevita Havea	Fisheries Assistant	Fisheries Science	22/02/2018
7	Mr. 'Etuate Fakatu'anoa	Fisheries Trainee	Corporate Service	22/02/2018
8	Ms. Faka'osilea Moala	Fisheries Officer	Corporate Service	26/02/ 2018
9	Ms. Kilisitina 'Akimeta	Fisheries Trainee	CEO Office	16/03/2018
10	Mr. Metali Henoa	Driver	Corporate Service	18/04/2018
11	Mr. Petelo Tauvaka	Fisheries Assistant	Fisheries Science	11/05/2018
12	Mr. Viliami 'Ofa	Fisheries Trainee	Fisheries Science	23/05/ 2018
13	Ms. Angelica Mafile'o	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Science	5/06/2018
14	Mr. Tolu Fa'au	Fisheries Trainee	Fisheries Compliance	6/06/ 2018
15	Mr. Taufa Fainga'anuku	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Science	11/06/ 2018
16	Mr. Molisi Fifita	Fisheries Officer	Corporate Service	28/06/2018

#### Promotions

No.	Name/Previous post	Post promoted to	Division	Date of assumption of duty
1	Mr. Viliami Fatongiatau	Senior	Fisheries Science	14/07/ 2017

	(Fisheries Trainee)	Fisheries Assistant		
2	Mrs. Mele Holo'ia (Technical Officer Grade II)	Accountant	Corporate Service	24/08/ 2017
3	Mr. Malakai Faletau (Fisheries Trainee)	Senior Fisheries Assistant	Fisheries Compliance	30/12/2017
4	Mr. Siaosi Fonua (Fisheries Trainee)	Fisheries Assistant	Fisheries Science	19/01/2018

### Staff transfer

No.	Name/Previous post/Ministry	Post promoted to/lateral transferred	Division	Date of assumption of duty
1	Elaine Havealeta, Senior Employment Officer, Ministry of Internal Affair	Principal Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Management and Development	25/07/2017
2	Manatu Maile, Senior Education Officer, Ministry of Education and Training	Senior Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Management and Development	08/12/2017
3	Talita Moala, Clerk Class II, Ministry of Internal Affair	Technical Officer Grade II	Corporate Services	04/01/2018

**This table shows the numbers of staff in each Band Level;**

Band Level	Numbers
E	1
G	2
H	2
I	2
J	2
K	8
L	14
M	11
N	6
Q	4
R	11
S	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>

These are the list of numbers of qualifications of the staff, we have 36 staff who already received a PhD, Masters, Bachelor Degrees and Diplomas and the rest of the staff they

had a certificate from secondary school (Form 5, 6, 7) and other Fisheries Certificate received from training events.

Qualifications	Number
PhD	2
Master's Degree	7
Bachelor Degrees	20
Diplomas	7

## Staff development and training

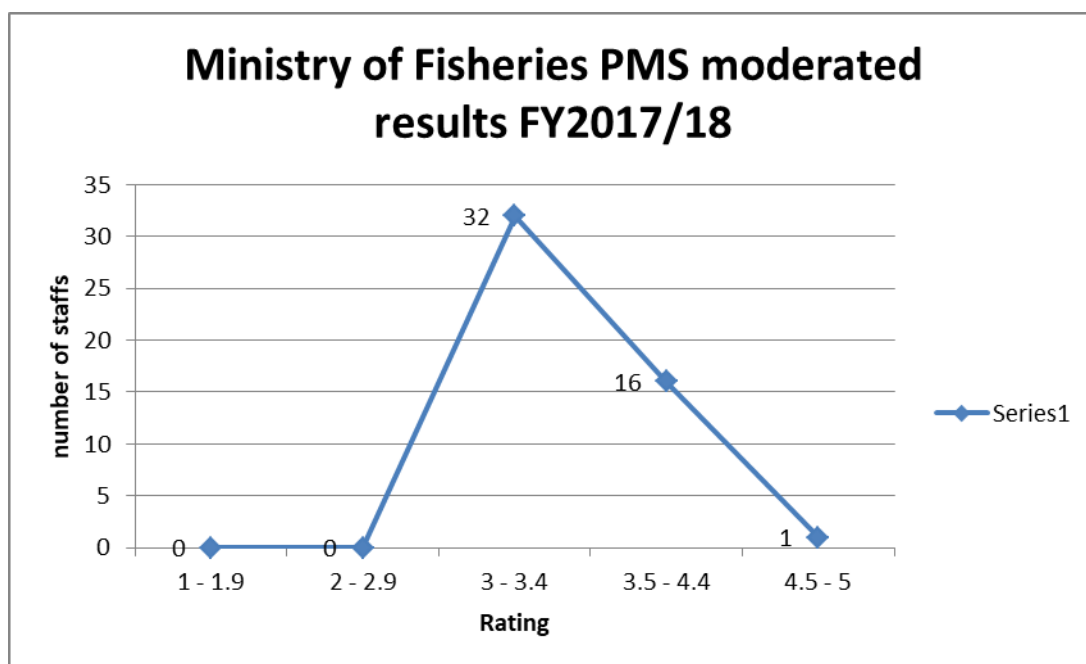
The Ministry planned 32 training events; training needs were taken from the staff PMS forms. This is the easiest way to identify the training that staff need to build and strengthen their capacity and to improve their performance. During the FY2017/18 the Ministry achieved 22 training events out of the planned 32. Insufficient funds prevented further training, in particular those that were conducted overseas.

The table below lists the training events, attachments and workshops that staff attended overseas during FY 2017/18.

FY 2017/2018	Training/workshops/attachments
August 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attachment with Pacific Community (SPC)</li> <li>- MCS Attachment</li> <li>- Short-term training attachment as Legal Trainee with the Pacific Community</li> </ul>
September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agriculture Development Cooperation Project based on the Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy</li> </ul>
October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coastal Fisheries Management Operationalizing policy Australia – Pacific workshop 2017</li> <li>- Attachment to FFA</li> <li>- National Fisheries Officer Surveillance Course (NFOSC)</li> </ul>
November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional preparatory workshop for the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC 11)</li> <li>- Electronic monitoring process standards workshop at SPC</li> <li>- Workshop on exploring SDG 14b and its proposed indicator 14b.1</li> </ul>
January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Examining the role of trade policy in understanding fisheries industry</li> <li>- Marine Spatial Planning workshop</li> </ul>
February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The 18<sup>th</sup> Regional Observer Coordinator's workshop</li> <li>- Fisheries Data Analysis &amp; R Programming</li> <li>- MCS CFEC Face to Face. Monitoring, control and surveillance activities supporting sound policy and environments complying with regulations. Regulatory Environment</li> <li>- 2017 Regional Training Course in Fisheries Trade, Policy Investment Appraisal</li> </ul>
March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Person of Interest (POI) Strategy workshop 12 –</li> </ul>

	13/03/2018 - Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement NTSA workshop 14 – 15/03/2018 - 4th Regional Information Management System workshop 4RIMSW 16 – 17/03/2018 - 21st MCS working group meeting 19 – 23/03/2018 - Future Leader Summit - Capacity building of Fisheries Officers for practical support for sustainable local fisheries development
April 2018	- Joint PNA and FFA workshop on Insurance coverage for Fisheries Observer - Economics for Fisheries Management Workshop - 12th Tuna Data Working Group - Attachment – TUFMAN 2 Observer Module
May 2018	- Fishery Training Course for Pacific Island in Guangzhou, China, 2018 - Regional seminar on Fisheries Development for the viewpoint of Gender and Disaster Risk Management - 2018 Oceanic Fisheries Stock Assessment Training workshop - Experience sharing trip Fishing Aggregated Device (FAD) practitioners from the Pacific and Caribbean - FFA Economic Indicator Workshop - Operation Tu'imoana 2018
June 2018	- Regional Prosecutors and Fisheries Observer Workshop - Fishery Management Using Resource Management Approach - ANCORS Law of the Sea short course - Training on Marine Finfish Parasites, - International Fisheries Negotiation Course at University of Wollongong - Compliance Monitoring Scheme Workshop - Pacific workshop for SIDS - for “Effective Fish trade and sustainable development”

Figure 1: Ministry of Fisheries staff Performance Moderated Result for FY2017/2017



## 2.2 Results Management (Reporting outputs and outcome)

### 2.2.1 Office of the Honourable Minister

#### TSDF II Outcomes

**A:** A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic, knowledge-based economy.

**D:** More inclusive, sustainable and responsive good governance with strengthened rule of law.

**F:** A more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Targets	Achievements (based on the targets and KPIs.)	Beneficiaries	Cross cutting implications	Future plans
<b>Output 1: Leadership and Policy Advice</b>					
Number of international and regional meetings attended	5	4	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance, PSC, Cabinet	Information gaps	Attendance at all meetings
Submission of MoF annual report to Legislative Assembly in accordance with deadline	1	1	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance, PSC, Cabinet	Good Management	Maintain submission on time of the report
High quality advice on fisheries policies and regulations to Cabinet and Legislative Assembly as required	2	>2	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Justice, Cabinet	The Government is well informed of fisheries activities	Inform key stakeholders and relevant ministries of policy and regulations

## 2.2.2 Office of the Chief Executive

### TSDF II Outcomes

**A:** A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic, knowledge-based economy.

**D:** More inclusive, sustainable and responsive good governance with strengthened rule of law.

**F:** A more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Targets	Achievements (based on the targets and KPIs.)	Beneficiaries	Cross cutting implications	Future plans
<b>Output 2: Leadership and Policy Advice</b>					
Effective planning and reporting for the Ministry through Corporate Plan and Annual Report being completed in accordance with deadlines	2	2	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance, PSC, Cabinet	Approval of Budget outcome if the budget proposed in initial submission does not go through then the obligation is to amend CP output target and its activities on the Annual Management Plan accordingly.	Suggest a one-week training for preparation of the CP, budget and Annual report
Monthly report of Ministry expenditure does not exceed approved MoF budget	12	12	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance	Approval of Budget outcome if the budget proposed in initial submission does not go through then the obligation is to amend CP output target and its activities on the Annual Management Plan accordingly.	Follow up with monthly cash flow
Number of policy and	20	>20	Ministry of	All meetings were well	More briefings for the

strategy meetings with the Hon Minister			Fisheries	planned	Minister
Effective leadership through regular Heads of Division meetings with meeting records, and with actions effectively progressed	12	>12	Ministry of Fisheries	Better Ministry of Fisheries Management and Development according to planned activities in the CP and Annual Management Plan	Distribute minutes weekly, follow up status from HoDs and conduct more meetings
Submission of quarterly and six-monthly reports to PSC and MFNP in accordance with deadlines	6	6	Ministry of Fisheries, PSC	The PSC and MFNP were well informed with the current activities and achievements of the Ministry of Fisheries	Maintain the number of reports and improve the quality and contents of the reports
Successful engagements with regional and international agencies and development partners as indicated by meeting records and actions effectively progressed	10	> 10	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance, PSC, FFA, SPC, WCPFC, World Bank, FAO, ACIAR, MFAT, JICA	Increased understanding of fisheries issues among stakeholders	Increase engagement with regional and national agencies
Successful quarterly meetings with stakeholders as indicated by meeting records and actions effectively progressed	8	> 8	Ministry of Fisheries	Increased understanding of fisheries issues among stakeholders	Increase engagement with regional and national agencies
Implementation of TFSP – number of TFSP implementation schedule produced	10	10	Ministry of Fisheries	HoDs understood their responsibilities for the implementation of activities in the schedule	Seek funding  Update schedule once activities are achieved

Timely legal advice provided (target 14 days - up to four per quarter)	14	14	Ministry of Fisheries, Attorney General's office, PMO	Availability of resources and changes in circumstances might affect the work plan	Create a cabinet submission register and copies of all submissions Public awareness programs to inform of new regulations and policies
number of media outputs produced	60	> 60	Ministry of Fisheries,	The public is well informed of Fisheries activities	Increase the number of media outputs

### 2.2.3 Corporate Services Division

<b>TSDF II Outcomes</b>  <b>A:</b> A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic, knowledge-based economy. <b>D:</b> More inclusive, sustainable and responsive good governance with strengthened rule of law. <b>F:</b> A more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk.					
Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Targets	Achievements (based on the targets and KPIs.)	Beneficiaries	Cross cutting implications	Future plans
<b>Output 3: Administrative Support and Human Resources</b>					
One hundred percent compliance with PSC policies	100%	100%	Ministry of Fisheries, Public Service Commission, Ministry of Finance		Brief the staff about the policies especially the amended policies
Staff database updated	80%	50%	Ministry of Fisheries	Need to consult with	HR teams are working

in 1-week changes occurring		Staff database not updated but recorded in excel format		the ICT team to conduct a training about the staff database	together with the ICT team to update the staff database
PMS quarterly report and annual assessment report submitted in accordance with deadlines provided	3	4 3 quarterly report and EFY	Ministry of Fisheries, Public Service Commission, Key stakeholders	Consultation and implementation of the Performance Management System	Undergo regular briefings and training events on Performance Management System
<b>Output 4: Budget, Plans, and Reporting</b>					
Submit MoF budget, CP and AMP to CEO in accordance with deadlines provided	1	1	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Approval of Budget outcome if the budget proposed in initial submission does not go through then the obligation is to amend CP output target and its activities on the Annual Management Plan accordingly.	Continue to strengthen the justifications of activities especially if there are variations specifically for any increase compared to previous approved budget and proposed target.
Monitoring and evaluation quarterly and 6 monthly reports submitted to MFNP in	4	1 MFNP M & E change from	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Public Service Commission	The target was with the understanding with the Ministry of Finance and National	We appreciate that Ministry of Finance and National Planning completes its plan for consultation with our Ministry

accordance with deadlines provided		quarterly to EFY		<p>Planning Budget team will request with a formulate template of four quarterly, one six month and an annual monitor report of the Ministry's budget monitoring and evaluation report. Unfortunately, these reports were not requested except for the annual monitor and evaluation report and it was submitted according to deadline including regular consultations on the report prior to submission.</p> <p>Not undergoing the M&amp;E consultation per M&amp;E schedule provided to MOF.</p>	on the status of our budget performance which is indicating in their budget M&E schedule.
Submission of MoF annual report in accordance with deadlines provided	1	1	Ministry of Fisheries, Cabinet, Legislative Assembly, Key stakeholders.	Consistency of tabling MOF's Annual Report given the unclear status of the AR16/17submitted.	Recommendation of reporting on Outcomes based.

Number of internal policies drafted, reviewed and approved	2 approved 5 draft	8 (5A, 3D)	Ministry of Fisheries, Public Service Commission	Internal implementation, Monitoring and Compliance of these Internal policies.	Regular refresh of these policies and the flexibility to adjust with justifications accordingly.
<b>Output 5:</b> Financial Services, Procurement, Cash flow and Asset Management					
Accurate annual and monthly cash flow projections submitted to MFNP in accordance with deadlines provided	13	13	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Annual Cash flow plus monthly cashflow completed and submitted to MFNP in accordance with deadlines provided	Send reminder to MoF divisions by the last week of every month  Send update of divisions budget balance every last week of every month
Financial reports do not indicate over-expenditure or under-expenditure	2	2	Ministry of Fisheries, Office of the Public Service Commission	Updated Financial report for CEO six-month report	Six months updated submitted on time to CEO
Staff register is updated within 7 days of the beginning of each month with 100% accuracy.	100%	100%	Ministry of Fisheries	Updated and circulated to staffs	Fortnightly updated and circulated to MoF staffs
Full compliance with Treasury Instructions and Financial Management Act	100%	100%	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance and National Planning	100% comply with Public Finance Management Act 2010	Update staffs on Public Finance Management Act 2010 and Instructions accordingly
Annual assets report prepared accurately and submitted to MFNP in accordance with deadline provided.	1	1	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Completed and updated list of MoF asset and submitted to MFNP in accordance to deadline set.	Updated MoF asset list and submit to MFNP

Number of procurement proposals submitted, approved and tendered	5	5	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Proposal approved and submitted, endorsed 5 proposals	Award successful bidder
<b>Outputs</b>					
<b>Output 6: Training and Capacity Development</b>					
Number of PMS Training conducted	6	>6	Ministry of Fisheries	Conducted through MoF internal induction and quarterly outer island visit	Conducted internal refresher PMS training for MoF staffs
Number of ICT training courses coordinated and conducted in-house	5	>5	Ministry of Fisheries	internal ICT training provided to new MoF staffs and ICT internal training conducted via internal induction	Provide ICT training for new recruit staffs,
Number of compliance training courses for the ministry, industry, coastal communities, existing SMA's, and schools	5	>5	Communities, Observer, industry	Improve compliant with legal aspects and the performance against their SMA  Need newer provide job opportunity for the public	Effective and efficient inspection of their SMA
Number of scientific training courses completed	1	4 2 inshore trainings for SMAS	Ministry of Fisheries staff	Sustainable economic development  Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate	1) Strengthening and enhance the fisheries data at all level needed.  2) Recruit data collection staff

		communities catch data collection. 2 Offshore trainings on logsheet data collection (TAILS)		change Sustainable and good governance	
Number of policy development training	2	2	FMDD staff	Internal FMP for people and Fisheries policy training for FMDD staff	Provide training for new recruit staff of FMDD
Number fisheries extension officer training completed	2	2 trainings on seafood quality control	Ministry of Fisheries	Food security  Sustainable economic development in community level	1) To improve technical skills and capacity of the Fisheries staff in areas of proper pearl harvesting, grading and carving in order to assist pearl farmers to do their work successfully (ACIAR) 2) To improve equipment's and facilities in order to assist pearl activities. 3) Need to improve financial supports from government in order to assist smoke fish activities throughout the

					islands in Tonga.
Training needs assessment is developed and implemented	1	1	Ministry of Fisheries	Training events have been conducted according to the staff needs and training plan	Continue on compiling all the training from the PMS form to include in the training plan.
<b>Output 7: Information and Communications Technology</b>					
ICT ensures Tofish network, and full internet services are provided	80%	80%	Ministry of Fisheries, Government Line Ministries, Private Sector, Fishers, Schools, NGOs, General Public, Regional and International Agencies.	<p>Upgrade, maintain and closely monitored the TOFISH network with its 4 servers to ensure it is secured and powerful to store and manage the heavy traffic of information flow. Daily backup of the servers is in place in case of emergencies.</p> <p>Upgrade and update Fisheries website (tongafish.gov.to) with updated Fisheries Development.</p> <p>Staff emails is accessible 24/7 anytime anywhere.</p> <p>Secured Internet connection is 24/7</p>	<p>Technology is updating every minute and we will continue to ensure the security of the TOFISH network system is maintained.</p> <p>Link the remote areas including outer islands to main office</p> <p>Strengthen the TOFISH network system through obtaining more powerful servers.</p>

				access for all staff.	
Number of databases monitored and maintained to support core functions	80%	80%	Ministry of Fisheries, Government Line Ministries, Private Sector, Fishers, Schools, NGOs, General Public, Regional and International Agencies and Researchers	<p>There are 15 local databases currently managed, maintained and monitored. These databases include coastal data collections databases and administration databases. There are 3 Regional Databases Systems with various modules currently monitored i.e the Tuna Management systems (TUFMAN2) in which the Observer tuna data collection module, Artisanal tuna data collection has been integrated to. Also, there is a creel and market survey databases system for marketing survey data collections. Also, Tonga IMS portal caters for MCS activities.</p> <p>Data reporting and</p>	<p>To continue updating and upgrading these local databases to ensure that database capacity is gauging the growth of capacity over time.</p> <p>To seek ways through Regional organisation (SPC or FFA) or any donor project assistant on database migration to an online web base system and online data collection.</p>

				data dissemination of the Ministry is extracted from these databases system.	
Number of new databases developed to support core functions	1	1	Ministry of Fisheries, Government Line Ministries, Private Sector, Fishers, Schools, NGOs, General Public, Regional and International Agencies and Researchers	Ministry of Fisheries licensing system has been developing with the assistance of FFA.	This system has partially developed and is currently used for Tuna and Snapper fishery. We are currently working on expanding it to all licensing activities of the Ministry

## 2.2.4 Fisheries Management and Development Division

### TSDF II Outcomes

**A:** A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic, knowledge-based economy.

**D:** More inclusive, sustainable and responsive good governance with strengthened rule of law.

**F:** A more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Targets	Achievements (based on the targets and KPIs.)	Beneficiaries	Cross cutting implications	Future plans
<b>Output 8.</b> Fisheries Management and Development Plans, Monitoring and Review					
Fishery Management and Development Plans approved in accordance	4	4 Tuna Management	Ministry of Fisheries and relevant stakeholders (Tuna Licence holders)	Liaising with SPC and HODs within the Ministry on the	Continue quarterly updates on the implementation schedule of the Tuna Management Plan

with agreed schedule		t plan 2018 – 2022  Tonga National Strategy on Aquatic biosecurity  Revised Deepwater management  Tonga sport fishing plan	and SPC Noumea Office	Implementation schedule of the Tuna Plan and other queries on the Aquaculture Plan	Continue to work on the remaining Management Plans that need to be approved
Number of FMP activities/projects completed in accordance with implementation schedule	4	>4	Ministry of Fisheries and collaborating agencies that include Ministry of Primary Industries (NZ), SPC Noumea Office, National Fisheries Council (NFC), NIWA and local communities	Consultations on the new regime for sea cucumber with communities in the island groups of Tonga	Continue consultations with the remaining communities that have not participated in the sessions
<b>Output 9: Policy and Regulatory Framework</b>					
Number of fishery policies and management measures approved	4	4  National Plan of Action for shark's  Policy paper for mid-term review of deepwater	The Ministry of Fisheries would work together with the Office of the CEO in confirming		Continue to work on the National Plan of Action for Sharks

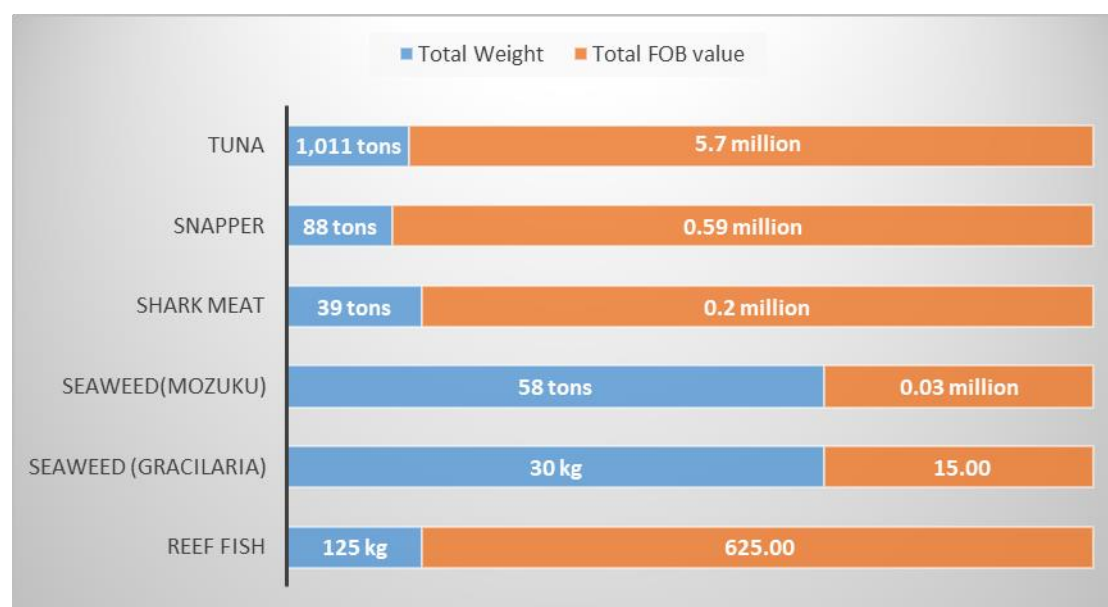
		management plan Sport fishing policy Bareboat charter	status of Bareboat Charter		
<b>Output 10:</b> Economics and statistics reports.					
Quarterly economics and statistics bulletin completed within 3 weeks of the end of each quarter	4	4	Ministry of Fisheries, Statistics Department, National Reserve Bank and public as a whole as these bulletins are uploaded on the Ministry 's website.	Data that are used for the quarterly bulletin report are collected from other divisions within the Ministry.	The Ministry will continue to provide quarterly bulletins.
Number of economic analysis reports completed in accordance with timetable	2	1 *staff recruited during the FY	Ministry of Fisheries	Liaising with compliance division for information required for the review of resource rent.	Economic Section will continue to report on economic analysis required by the Ministry
Market research reports provided in accordance with timetable	2	1 Pearl market research still in progress to be submitted the	Ministry of Fisheries and Deepwater Fishermen	Consultation with Deepwater fishermen plus information on market analysis that was available on the	Market research on Snapper to be implemented.  Other market research on other fisheries will be conducted.

		next financial year		internet.	
Market reports provided in accordance with timetable	12	8 6 reports from 2017 and in 2018, it was decided that this report will be provided in a quarterly basis.	Ministry of Fisheries and Fisheries Industries as they now have collected statistics on prices of fish in the market.	Market survey data are conducted every Saturday in every fish market in Tongatapu and in Outer Islands.	Market survey report will continue to be provided on a quarterly basis.

## Export Performance

The total marine product exported (not including aquarium products), during this period was 1,196 metric tons. This is a 54% decrease from the total marine products exported in the last financial year which was predominantly due to substantial increase in tuna exports. All fish exports in this financial year were valued at TOP\$6.5 million which is a 60% decrease from the value of fish exported in the last financial year.

**Figure 2 : Total Marine Exports as of July 2017 – June 2018**



## Tuna Fishery

A total of 1,011 metric tons of tuna was exported in this financial year which is a 57% decrease from the last financial year. Tuna was the main contributor to the total amounts of marine products exported, making up 85%. The total tuna exported within this period was valued at approximately TOP\$5.7 million, which is a 56% decrease from the previous period.

**Figure 3: Total Tuna Exported by weights (kg), July 2017 – June 2018**



## Deepwater Line Fishery (DWLF)

A total of 88 metric tons of snapper was exported in this financial year, which is decrease by 44% from the last financial year and contributing 7% to the total quantities of marine products exported. It was valued at approximately TOP\$0.6 million which is decrease by 50% from the last financial year. The export of snapper was dominated by flame snapper (P. Tavake).

**Figure 4: Total Snapper Exported by weights (kg) by month as of July 2017 – June 2018**



### Aquarium Fishery

The total aquarium products exported in this period was 194,840 pieces, was valued at approximately TOP\$0.46 million. This was a 56% increase in quantities and associated with 4% decrease in value from aquarium exports from last financial year. The aquarium export was dominated by low value invertebrates in terms on quantity as can be seen in figure 1.4. The main market for exported aquarium products is the United States.

**Figure 5: Aquarium exports by pieces by value as of July 2017 – June 2018**



## Domestic Market Survey

A market survey is conducted once every week in a local fish market with the purpose to gather information based on marine resources market price and estimated volume sold in local markets. This survey includes Vava'u, Ha'apai and four main fish markets in Tongatapu. A total of 105 metric tons of marine resources was recorded in this financial year which is approximately valued at \$TOP 0.86 million.

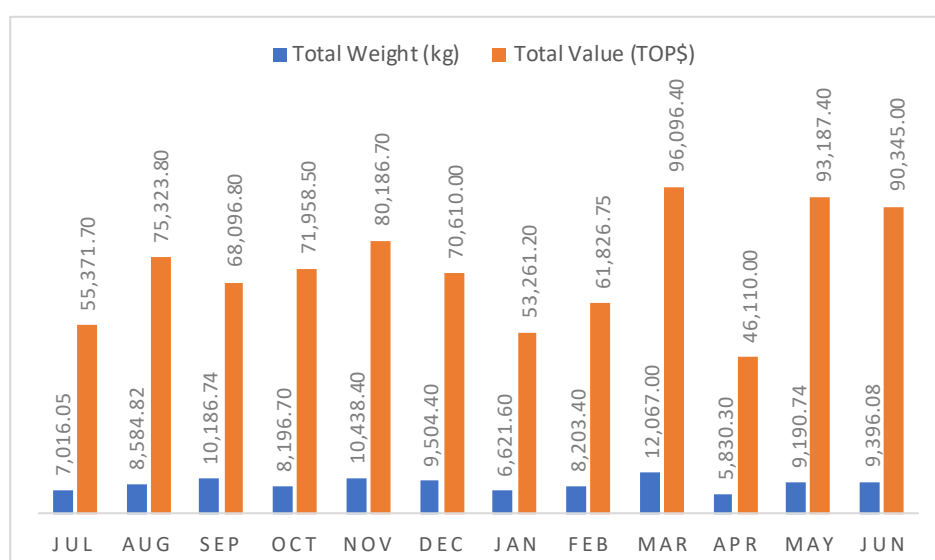
The average market price of fin fish was at range of \$8 to \$9 per kilogram and sold at price of \$20, \$30, \$50 and up to \$ 60 and \$70 per bag. The market price of other species varied according to production cost and a change in fish market price were determined by the quantity of marine products available in the market in a particular time. However, middle men also influence the price of marine products depending on the quantity available in the market especially the main fish market at Fua and Vava'u. The detail of average price is detailed on the table below, with a general indication of stable or increasing prices.

**Table 1: Average price (\$)/species as of July 2017 – June 2018**

Product	2017 (Price/kg)	2018 (Price/kg)
Algae	3.33	3.33
Anadara	4.38	4.60
Crab	22.41	28.26
Crayfish	15.63	15.
Crustaceans	22.43	19.01
Cryptoplax	43.51	29.36
Dried fish	26.36	17.24
Dried octopus	103.47	181.35
Fin Fish	6.88	9.05
Fried octopus	16.67	16.90
Giant clam	16.85	17.22
Mix holothuria	13.34	17.37
Mix shellfish	25.00	25.00
Octopus	13.47	16.00

Other bivalve	5.61	5.34
Other mollusc	11.07	11.66
Other pelagic fish	8.01	6.45
Pelagic fish	9.07	9.30
Sea anemone	12.97	15.13
Sea Hare	8.94	8.23
Sea weed	7.50	3.82
Tuna	5.06	10.71
Turtle	18.82	21.33
Urchin	13.93	11.74

**Figure 6: Total volume and Value of marine product sold in domestic market as of July 2017 – June 2018.**



#### Launched of National Strategy on Aquatic Biosecurity for Tonga 2018 – 2022



## 2.2.5 Fisheries Science Division

### TSDF II Outcomes

**A:** A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic, knowledge-based economy.

**D:** More inclusive, sustainable and responsive good governance with strengthened rule of law.

**F:** A more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Targets	Achievements (based on the targets and KPIs.)	Beneficiaries	Cross cutting implications	Future plans
<b>Output 11:</b> Aquaculture Research, Planning and Development					
Number of hatcheries spawning events conducted successfully	10	14 The spawning events include: 5 Giant clams spawning, 2 Pearl Oysters spawning and 7 sea cucumber spawning	15 Pearl farmers  41 Special Management Areas (SMAs) communities  1 Sea cucumber farmers	Sustainable economic development  Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change  Sustainable and good governance	1) Preparedness for next cyclone seasonal. 2) To expand the hatchery and improve the laboratory equipment 3) To recruit aquaculture staff
Number of new aquaculture permit/licences issued	3	3 -One sea cucumber farm;  -2 pearl farm licenses in progress.	3 Farmers (2 pearl farmers, one sea cucumber,	Sustainable economic development  Sustainable and good governance	1) To improve the system and process for processing of the license

Number of SMA communities/farmers supported with spat/seedling/juveniles	4	20 15 Pearl farmers were provided with pearl oyster spat 5 Special Management Areas communities provided with juvenile giant clams	15 Pearl farmers were provided with pearl oyster spat 5 Special Management Areas communities provided with juvenile giant clams	Sustainable economic development Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change Sustainable and good governance	1) Provide support to community and improve their capacity and commitments 2) Improve the communication with the airlines
<b>Output 12: Special Management Areas (SMAs), Community Development and Advisory Services</b>					
Number of new SMAs established during the year	16	12 New SMAs include Holeva, Kapa, (Vava'u) Mo'unga'one, 'Uiha, Ha'ano, Fakakai, Pukotala, Muihoa, Faleloa, Lofanga (Ha'apai) and Tufuvai, Houma. ('Eua)	12 SMAs communities throughout Tonga	Sustainable economic development Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change Sustainable and good governance, Food Security	1) Recruit more staff to the SMA section and outer island. 2) Improve working together with the communities. 3) Work closely with the AG office
Number of existing SMAs implemented and monitored	27	28 Vava'u (11), Ha'apai (8), Tongatapu (9).	28 SMA communities in Tonga	Sustainable economic development Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate	1) Recruit more staff.to the SMA section and outer island 3) Improve working together with the communities

				change Sustainable and good governance, Food Security	
<b>Output 13: Training and Capacity Development</b>					
Number of training events successfully conducted for SMA and Coastal Communities	12	12 These training events included compliance and fish catch data training to the SMAs in Vava'u and Tongatapu.	12 SMA communities in Tongatapu and Vava'u	Sustainable economic development Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change Sustainable and good governance	1) Recruit more staff.to the SMA section and outer island 2) Improve working together with the communities.
Number of training events successfully conducted for fishery value – adding	12	12 The 12 training include: 6 seafood quality and preservation training for Niua, Vava'u, Ha'apai, Tongatapu and 'Eua; 6 aquaculture product development. Comple	Communities in the two Niua, Vava'u, Ha'apai, Tongatapu and 'Eua;	Food security Sustainable economic development in community level	1) To improve technical skills and capacity of the Fisheries staff in particular with proper pearl harvesting, grading and carving through further training events with the ACIAR project consultant in order to assist he pearl farmers to do the work on their own successfully. 2) To improve equipment's and facilities in order the assist pearl activities. 3) Need to improve financial supports from government in

					order to assist smoke fish activities throughout the islands in Tonga.
Number of training events successfully conducted for inshore and offshore	3	15 Training events include: 11 inshore on data catch data collection at community level; and 4 Offshore on data collection logsheet, (TAILS)	Ministry of Fisheries staff, SMA communities, Fishermen	Sustainable economic development Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change Sustainable and good governance	1) Strengthening and enhance the fisheries data at all level needed. 2) Recruit data collection staff
<b>Output 14: Extension and Outer Island Services</b>					
Number of farmers, communities and fisheries stakeholders engaged by extension services	60	150 Engagement with communities and farmers include meetings, workshops, training, consultations,	SMA communities and fishers	Sustainable economic development Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change Sustainable and good governance	1) Recruit staff 2) Continue the engagement and improve on engagement planning.
Number of technical assistances to	5	17 Technical assistance to fishermen includes	SMA communities and fishers	Sustainable economic development Sustainable	1) Develop a technical assistance and training plan to fishermen and farmers

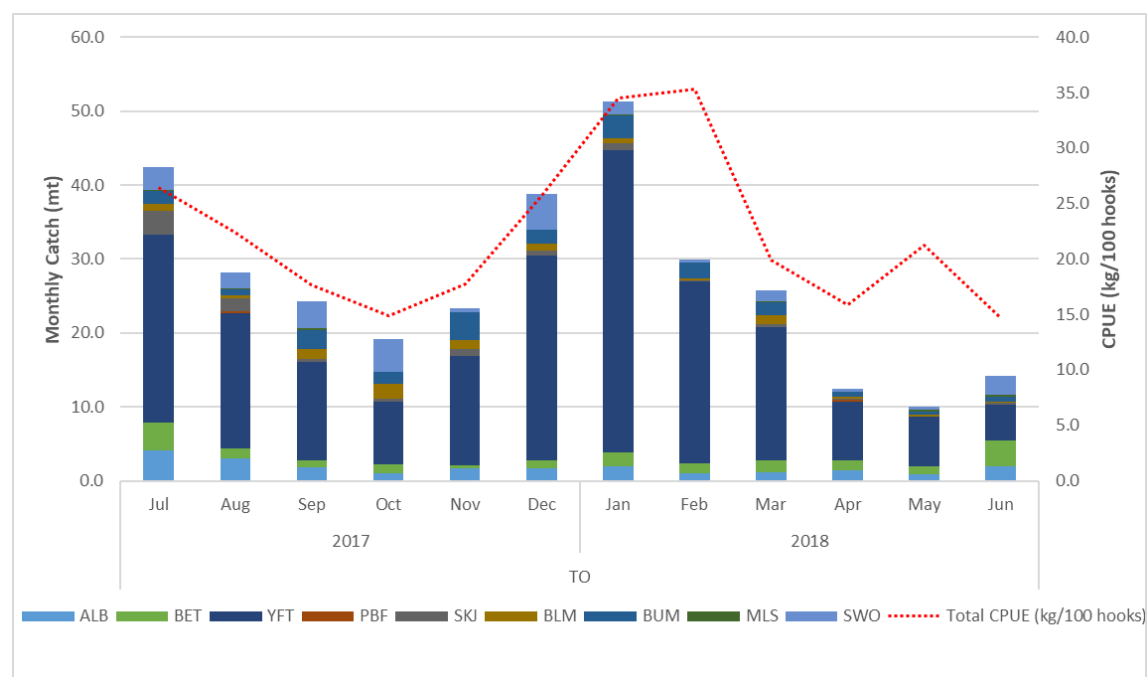
support fishermen		boats building and repairs, small outboard engine repair, fishing gear include gill nets, Deploying FADs and fishing around FADs, pearl farmers, Special Management Areas communities, and fish postharvest.		environment management and resilience to climate change  Sustainable and good governance	2)Capacity building and preparedness  3)Upgrading of Workshop Building
<b>Output 15:</b> Fisheries resources research, monitoring and assessment					
Number of SMA communities baseline survey conducted	3	2  Only two SMA baseline surveys completed (Holeva and Koloa).	SMA Communities, Ministry of Fisheries	Sustainable economic development  Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change  Sustainable and good governance	1) Recruit more staff; 2) Time management.
Data collected for agreed number key indicator species for inshore fisheries	1	4  Data collections were made in four quarters during the FY 2017-18 at Fanga'uta lagoon.	Ministry of Fisheries, Fishermen	Sustainable economic development  Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change  Sustainable and good	1)Recruit more staff;

				governance, Food Security	
Data collected from offshore species (tuna, snappers, and by catch)	25	25 100% log sheets coverage of vessels.	Ministry of Fisheries,  Offshore fisheries (Tuna, Deep Water Snapper,)  Government of Tonga	Sustainable economic development  Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change  Sustainable and good governance, Food Security	1) Recruit more port samplers.
Scientific reports and information submitted to regional and international bodies in accordance with deadlines	100%	100%  All data and reports requirement were due before due dates. These data are mostly tuna catch data and Tonga Annual Fisheries Report - part 1	Tuna fisheries worldwide (Tuna Commission, FFA and SPC),  Tonga Tuna Fisheries,	Sustainable economic development  Sustainable environment management and resilience to climate change  Sustainable and good governance, Food Security	1) Recruit a stock assessment officer

**Table 2: The total catch (mt) and effort (hooks, no. of vessels and no. of trips) estimates for the National Fleets (Tonga flagged longline vessels), by primary species for the period July 2017 to June 2018. (Source: Dorado –Tufman Database Reports)**

Flag	Year	Month	Vessels	Trips	Fishing Days	100s of Hooks	Tuna species					Marlin species				Monthly Total	Total CPUE (kg/100 hooks)
							ALB	BET	YFT	PBF	SKJ	BLM	BUM	MLS	SWO		
Tonga	2017	Jul	6	20	98	1604	4.1	3.8	25.4	-	3.2	0.8	1.8	0.1	3.0	42.4	26.4
		Aug	4	16	71	1257	3.0	1.3	18.4	0.2	1.8	0.4	0.8	0.1	2.1	28.1	22.4
		Sep	5	18	80	1377	1.8	0.9	13.4	-	0.4	1.3	2.6	0.3	3.6	24.3	17.7
		Oct	5	20	76	1290	1.1	1.1	8.5	-	0.4	2.1	1.5	-	4.5	19.2	14.9
		Nov	5	19	80	1311	1.7	0.4	14.8	-	0.9	1.3	3.7	-	0.5	23.3	17.8
		Dec	5	18	95	1505	1.6	1.2	27.7	-	0.6	1.0	1.9	-	4.8	38.8	25.8
	2018	Jan	5	20	91	1486	1.9	2.0	40.8	-	1.0	0.8	3.1	0.2	1.7	51.3	34.5
		Feb	4	12	51	847	1.0	1.3	24.7	-	0.1	0.3	2.1	-	0.4	29.9	35.3
		Mar	4	15	79	1295	1.1	1.7	18.1	-	0.4	1.2	1.8	0.1	1.5	25.8	19.9
		Apr	4	11	52	789	1.5	1.4	7.9	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.7	-	0.5	12.5	15.8
		May	3	8	38	473	0.8	1.1	6.7	-	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.5	10.1	21.2
		Jun	4	10	65	970	2.0	3.5	4.8	-	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.2	2.6	14.2	14.7
2017 - 2018 TOTAL				187	876	14204	21.6	19.6	211.0	0.4	9.2	9.9	21.0	1.3	25.7	319.8	

**Figure 7: Historical catch (mt) and effort (kg in 100 hooks), by primary species for Tonga flagged vessels active in Tonga EEZ for the period of July 2017 – June 2018**



**Table 3: The estimated catches (mt) of non-target and by-catch species, including sharks, by the National longline Fleets, in the Tonga EEZ, for years 2017/18 FY (Source: Dorado reporting tool, report 12)**

Non-Target Species	2017						2018						Total
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Shortbill spearfish	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	3.7
Mahimahi	6.6	5.4	13.1	19.1	22	17	7.8	3.8	5.7	2.3	1.3	4.9	108.8
Sailfish	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	5.8
Wahoo	0.2	0.2	1.4	1.0	1.8	1.8	1.6	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4	9.7
Mako Sharks	2.8	1.9	2	1.3	0.8	1.5	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	1	12.2
Barracuda	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.7	1.6	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	-	6.3
Otherfish	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	0.3
Monthly Total	10.5	8.2	18.1	22.7	27.4	22.4	11.6	5.8	7.6	3.3	2.0	7.2	146.8

**Table 4: Catches (metric tonnes) and effort (hooks) of the primary species for Foreign Fishing Vessels during the period of July 2017 – June 2018. (Source: Dorado –Tufman Database Reports)**

Flag	Year	Month	Vessels	Trips	Fishing Days	100s of Hooks	Tuna species					Marlin species				Monthly Total	Total CPUE (kg/100 hooks)
							ALB	BET	YFT	PBF	SKJ	BLM	BUM	MLS	SWO		
TW	2017	Jul	7	11	165	4534	171.5	16	86.9	-	6.9	-	3.7	1.4	1.9	288.3	63.6
		Aug	6	8	136	3545	121.8	7.5	60.8	-	16.0	-	2.0	0.7	1.3	210.0	59.2
		Sep	5	6	128	3517	81.5	8.9	16.6	-	1.7	0.1	3.9	0.8	2.0	115.5	32.8
		Oct	4	5	66	1809	37.5	3.6	10.8	-	1.0	-	2.1	1.6	0.7	57.5	31.8
		Nov	1	1	27	636	14.6	1.3	5.8	-	0.4	-	0.8	1.9	1.1	25.9	40.7
		Dec	1	1	31	783	19.2	2.7	8.4	-	0.7	-	2.4	1.9	1.0	36.3	46.3
	2018	Jan	1	2	27	702	16.9	0.8	8.5	-	0.5	-	1.5	0.1	0.5	28.7	40.9
		Feb	1	1	28	702	19.0	1.8	13.1	-	0.4	-	1.4	-	0.7	36.5	52.0
		Mar	1	2	25	668	15.2	1.8	9.6	-	0.2	-	1.6	-	0.4	28.8	43.1
		Apr	2	2	39	855	34.2	3.0	17	-	0.3	0.5	1.3	0.1	0.2	56.8	66.4
		May	3	4	66	1463	47.4	4.5	33.9	-	1.9	0.1	2.5	0.6	0.1	91.0	62.2
		Jun	3	3	86	1965	89.1	6.6	19.5	-	0.4	0.1	3.3	1.3	1.1	121.5	61.9
2017-2018 TOTAL				46	824	21179	667.9	58.5	291.1	-	30.4	0.8	26.6	10.5	11.0	1096.9	

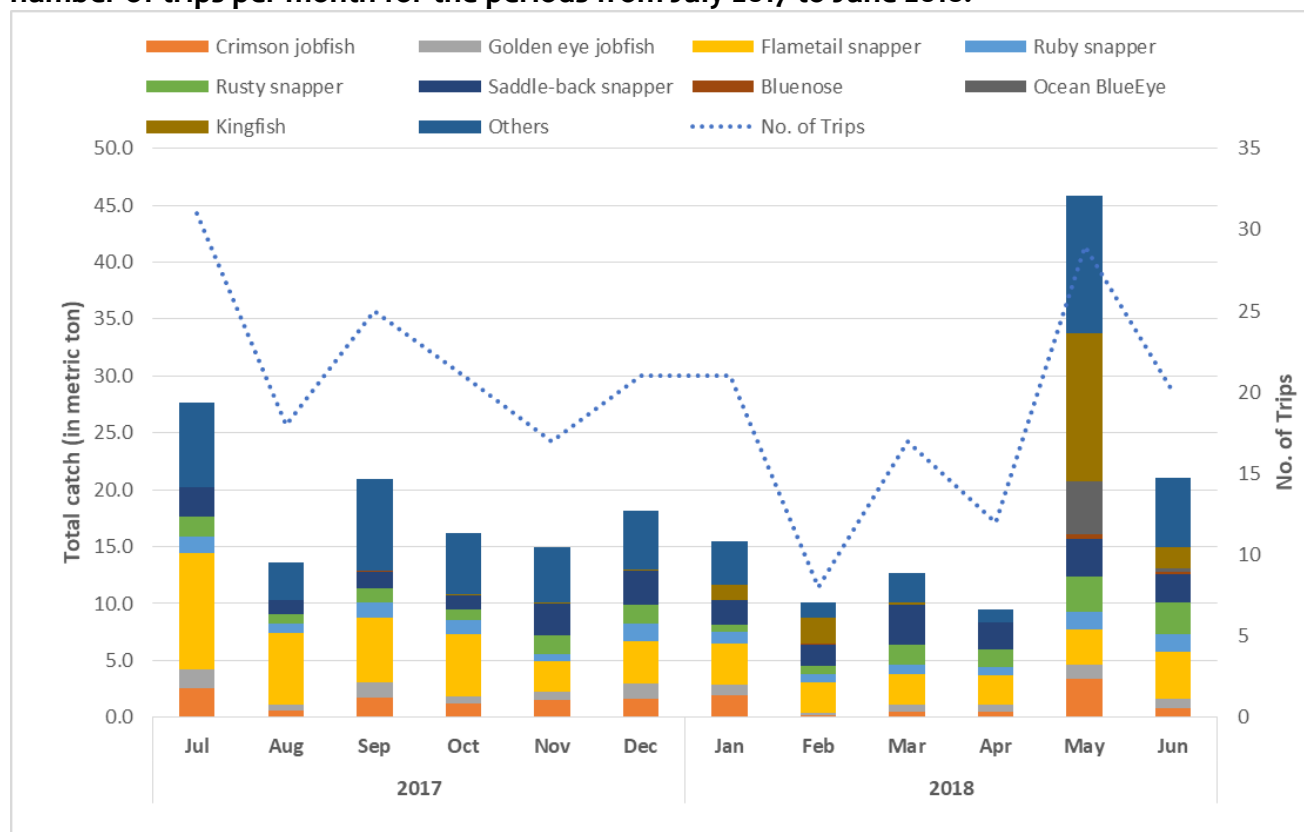
**Table 5: Catches (metric tonnes) for non-target species for the Foreign Fishing Vessels for the period of July 2017 – June 2018**

Non-Target Species	2017						2018						Katoa
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Shortbill spearfish	0.6	-	-	0.1	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.4	1.6
Mahimahi	2.4	2.1	4.3	3.2	1.4	0.6	0.3	-	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	15.3
Sailfish	1.2	0.8	1.7	0.6	-	0.4	-	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.9	7.8
Wahoo	3.9	0.8	5.1	3.9	1.2	1.8	1.7	0.9	1.1	0.7	1.3	2.5	24.8
Mako Sharks	2.8	2.3	2.2	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.3	-	0.1	0.1	1.1	0.8	11.2
Barracuda	0.3	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6
Blue Sharks	5.2	5.2	4.5	1.8	2.0	2.3	1.8	0.7	2.2	0.4	1.6	2.2	29.8
Moonfish	-	0.4	-	1.6	-	-	0.6	-	0.3	-	0.4	-	3.3
Otherfish	3.7	2.2	5.1	2.8	1.4	1.9	0.9	0.4	0.8	0.5	1.5	1.8	22.9
Monthly Total	20.1	13.8	22.9	14.9	7.2	7.1	5.6	2.3	4.9	2.1	6.7	9.9	117.4

**Table 6: Total monthly catches main Deepwater snapper species and bycatch, for the period of July 2017 – June 2018. (Source: Deepwater Snapper Database)**

Year	Month	No. of Trips	Crimson jobfish	Golden eye jobfish	Flametail snapper	Ruby snapper	Rusty snapper	Saddle-back snapper	Bluenose	Ocean BlueEye	Kingfish	Others	Monthly Catch Total
2017	Jul	31	2.5	1.7	10.3	1.4	1.8	2.6	0.0	-	-	7.4	27.6
	Aug	18	0.6	0.5	6.3	0.9	0.8	1.2	0.0	-	-	3.3	13.6
	Sep	25	1.8	1.4	5.6	1.4	1.2	1.5	0.1	-	0.0	8.0	20.9
	Oct	21	1.2	0.6	5.5	1.2	0.9	1.3	-	-	0.0	5.4	16.2
	Nov	17	1.5	0.7	2.7	0.7	1.7	2.8	-	-	0.0	4.9	15.0
	Dec	21	1.7	1.3	3.7	1.6	1.6	3.1	-	-	0.0	5.2	18.1
2018	Jan	21	1.9	1.0	3.6	1.0	0.6	2.2	-	-	1.3	3.9	15.5
	Feb	8	0.2	0.2	2.7	0.7	0.8	1.9	0.1	-	2.2	1.4	10.1
	Mar	17	0.5	0.6	2.7	0.8	1.8	3.5	0.0	-	0.2	2.5	12.6
	Apr	12	0.5	0.6	2.6	0.7	1.6	2.3	0.0	-	0.0	1.1	9.5
	May	29	3.4	1.3	3.1	1.5	3.1	3.3	0.4	4.7	13.0	12.1	45.8
	Jun	20	0.8	0.9	4.1	1.6	2.7	2.5	0.2	0.3	1.9	6.1	21.1
Species Total			16.5	10.8	52.7	13.5	18.6	28.1	0.8	5.0	18.8	61.3	226.1

**Figure 8: Monthly total catches (in metric tons) for main deep-water snapper species and number of trips per month for the periods from July 2017 to June 2018.**



## Royal Agriculture Show (RAS)

Royal Agriculture Show 2017 with the aim of “In a well-stocked farm still stands a teve” (‘Api fa’a toe tu’u ai ‘a e teve) commenced in Vava’u, Ha’apai, Niuatoputapu, Niuafo’ou, ‘Eua and Tongatapu. In addition, the cerebation of His Majesty’s Birthda y was also held in Neiafu, Vava’u.



Royal Agriculture Show 2018 with the aim of “good hope for something despite uncertainty of the circumstances” (Kina ‘umu tali ki tahi) commenced in Ha’apai, Vava’u, Niutoputapu, Niuafo’ou, ‘Eua and Tongatapu. In addition, the celebration of His Majesty’s Birthday was also held in Pangai, Ha’apai.



### Aquaculture sea cucumber spawning



### **Trial for squid fishery**

The squid trial was conducted in June 2018 and funded by the NIWA Project. The trial was very successful and good catch rates were obtained. Two species were caught are Diamondback and Neon Squids.



## 2.2.6 Fisheries Compliance Division

### TSDF II Outcomes

**A:** A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic, knowledge-based economy.

**D:** More inclusive, sustainable and responsive good governance with strengthened rule of law.

**F:** A more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Targets	Achievements (based on the targets and KPIs.)	Beneficiaries	Cross cutting implications	Future plans
<b>Output 16:</b> Enforcement and licensing					
Operational Compliance Strategy reviewed and updated each year	1	1	Ministry of Fisheries	- Shortage of staffs to provide accurate and timely information hence keeping good records on activities being done and what is left to be done and improved.	-Gap analysis based on challenges faced throughout the year for review of OCS.
Number of inspections and patrols conducted in accordance with definition of a “standard quality enforcement action”	50	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- Ministry of Police</li> <li>- Vessels masters</li> <li>- Tonga Navy</li> </ul>	-More vessels had been boarding by Patrol boat during regional operation at Tonga EEZ included Deepwater and Tuna fishing Licensed that	-Every case brought into the attention of the division will be considered and prioritise whether it is a low/medium risk or high-risk offence, so that decision and enforcement act apply to the case is reasonable and managed accordingly in terms

				causes increasing the target.	prosecution or official warning.
Process and issue license and permit within 3 working days of application receipt	100%	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- Vessels masters</li> <li>- Exporters</li> <li>- Researchers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Some license holders (fishing) demand to issue their license on the same date they submit their license for renewal or request to process license in less than 24hrs.</li> <li>-Shortage of staff available specifically for processing of the license.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Regular consultation with license holders to be aware of this action and the duration it takes prior to issuing proper license.</li> <li>-Staff from other sections to be trained well with assistances relevant to this task so that work is still done when licensing officer is away on health problem or work trip or some other reasons.</li> </ul>
Process and issue certificate for consumption tax exemption within 3 working days	100%	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- Aquaculture</li> <li>- Vessels Masters</li> <li>- Fishermen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Some vessels owners apply for fuel tax exemption not fully comply with terms and conditions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-A week before the expiration date of certificate, reminder should be sent in to certificate holders in a way they can comply with terms and conditions of the fuel exemption duty.</li> <li>-Local fishers' consultation should conduct to ensure that they are strictly complying with the rules and regulations</li> </ul>

					provided under tax exemption for fishing gears.
Licence terms and conditions reviewed annually to support Act and regulations, and updates to regional minimum terms and conditions, and provide briefing for the vessel's masters.	95%	90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- Vessels masters</li> <li>- Exporters</li> <li>- Researchers</li> </ul>	-Terms and conditions were not fully brief for all vessels Masters due to the two Tuna local vessels not operating.	-Monthly meeting with one or more individual vessel masters to share and update information with the Division and what can be done to solve issues prior to the next fishing trip, when breach term and conditions.
<b>Output 17: Monitoring and Surveillance</b>					
Observers deployed in accordance with national and international obligations	80%	75%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- Vessels masters</li> <li>- Observers</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Most of senior observers attending regional and national training as a result, some vessels left without observers.</li> <li>-Local Tuna licensed operators need to confirm Insurance coverage for the observer before deploy an observer.</li> </ul>	-Recruitment training of new observer is very encouragement.
Observer debriefings in accordance with procedures	35	>35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- Observers</li> </ul>	-Incomplete information during debriefing sessions for some observers	-Ensure safety a procedure is well followed by every licensed vessel during inspections to ensure the

				<p>because they did not complete the fishing trip due to personal reasons or vessels problem</p> <p>- (i.e. improper set of equipment in the vessels that lead to safety concerns)</p>	safety of observers and people working in the vessel during the trip.
Vessel monitoring system snapshot for each vessel within 72 hours of end of each fishing trip (port entry or exit EEZ)	100%	95%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- His Majesty Army Force</li> <li>- Vessels masters</li> <li>- Observers</li> </ul>	-few target vessels especially the foreign vessels (3) left the fishing zone due to low catches per trip	-Keeping good records is highly recommended on this action for future reference when a vessel encountered any difficulties during the fishing trip.
Number of observers who have participated in approved regional and sub-regional observer training	7	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> <li>- Observers</li> </ul>	- Training was assisted to improve performance for better data collection during fishing trip.	<p>-The career paths of the observer need to develop from trainee level up to trainer trainee level.</p> <p>-The current observer programme needs to extend to other programme (i.e. MSC for PNA Groups) for job opportunity.</p>
Observer data entered accurately and in accordance	100%	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Fisheries</li> </ul>	-Currently, only one staff under this section conducted	-Request for assistance from SPC or host trainings for other staffs on data entry.

with agreed deadlines (2018 data) .			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vessels masters</li> <li>- Observers</li> </ul>	<p>data entry for the observer data.</p> <p>-Delay of the debriefing of the observer data also contributed to the late data entry of the observer data.</p>	<p>-Consistent reminder to observers about the importance of the data they are collecting during the trip.</p>
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## 2.3 Financial Management

### 2.3.1 Budget

The total Budget for Expenditure increased from **\$2,808,000** in 2016/17 to **\$3,667,300** in 2017/18. Revenue collected from target sources decreased **\$64,819**, from **\$2,721,795** in 2016/17 to **\$2,656,976** in 2017/18.

The salary allocation accounted for FY 2017/18 is the largest share of the budget accounting for 49.6% of the approved budget; the operating budget accounted for the remaining portion i.e. 50.4%. The details of the budget allocation are provided in Table below.

#### Fund Comparison by major component for FY 2016/17 – FY 2017/18

Expenditure by Major Component	2016/17 (T\$)	2017/18 (T\$)	Variance
Established staff (10)	1,553,600	1,819,300	265,700
Un-established staff (11)	38,000	-	-38,000
Travel and Communication (12)	280,800	541,500	260,700
Maintenance and Operations (13)	356,800	387,000	30,200
Purchase of Goods and Services (14)	439,300	628,700	189,400
Grants and Transfers (15)	58,500	116,300	57,800
Assets (20)	81,000	174,500	93,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,808,000</b>	<b>3,667,300</b>	<b>859,300</b>

### 2.3.2 Revenue Performance

Total revenue reported was **\$2,823,542**, of which **\$2,034,586 (72.2%)** was received as proceeds from the Multilateral Treaty on Fisheries with the USA; **\$129,632 (4.7%)** was received from Fishing Licenses, **\$433,955 (15.4%)** received from Rental and the remaining **7.6%** from the sale of produces and products.

#### Revenue Performance for Target sources

Sources	Budget 2017/18	Collecting as at 30 June 2018	Plus/minus balance	Percentage (%)
FFA treaty	920,100	2,034,586	1,114,486	221%
Sales of produces & products	75,000	215,369	140,369	287%
Rental	500,000	433,955	- 66,045	87%

License	210,900	129,632	- 81,268	62%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,706,000</b>	<b>2,823,542</b>	<b>944,215</b>	<b>165%</b>

**Revenue Performance from non- target sources and development projects**

Sources	Revote from 16/17	New Fund 2017/18	Budget Revised	Actual	Collecting	Remain balance	Percentage (%)
CT					79,929	-	
Fish bond					1,300	-	
Development project	741,059	353,659	1,094,719	58,155	1,036,564	1,036,564	95%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>741,059</b>	<b>353,659</b>	<b>1,094,719</b>	<b>58,155</b>	<b>1,117,793</b>	<b>1,036,564</b>	<b>95%</b>

**Comparison of Budget and Actual Amount collected FY2016/17 and FY2017/18**

Revenue Sources	FY 2016/17	FY2017/18	Variances
Target Sources	1,706,000	1,706,000	-
Sales of produce and product	49,711	215,369	165,658
FFA (US Treaty)	1,626,542	2,034,586	408,044
Rentals	830,221	443,955	-386,266
Licences	215,321	129,632	-85,689
S/Total	2,721,795	2,823,542	101,747
Non-Target Sources			
Consumption Tax	138,576	79,929	-58,647
Fish Bond	2,100	1,300	-800
Development projects	399,721	1,036,564	636,843
<b>S/Total</b>	<b>540,397</b>	<b>1,117,793</b>	<b>577,396</b>
<b>G/Total</b>	<b>3,262,192</b>	<b>3,941,335</b>	<b>679,143</b>

## 2.4 Procurement

Financial Year	No. of Received Proposals	No. of Endorsed Proposals	No. of Compliance	No. of Non-compliance	% of Compliance	% of Non-Compliance
2016 - 2017	5	4	0	0	100%	0%
2017 - 2018	19	14	14	0	100%	0%

Method of Procurement	2016 – 2017 FY	2017 – 2018 FY
Request for Quotation (RFQ)	4	10
Limited Bidding	0	3
Single Source	0	0
Restricted Bidding	0	0

## 2.5 Assets Management

### Ministry of Fisheries Asset Registry as of 30 June 2018

Fixed Asset Registry Items	FY 2016/17 Cost	FY 2017/18 Cost	Notes
<b>Building and Infrastructure</b>	\$11,202,894.33	\$12,971,125.29	The Fisheries Main Office was Renovate due to Wall Cracking and also Tu'imatamoana Fish Market was also renovated 16%
<b>Vehicles</b>	\$275,752.74	\$325,561.36	Increase by 18% due to the procurement of New Vehicle resulting in four (4) in total.
<b>Computer Software</b>	-	-	Not Applicable
<b>Computer Hardware</b>	\$81,098.37	\$103,429.00	This is a result of increased staffing and the related cost of acquisition of computers required together with the ICT infrastructure upgrade.27.7%
<b>Other Plant and Equipment (i.e. Printers, Scanners, Office equipment)</b>	\$62,870.72	\$140,373.70	This is a result of increased staffing and the related cost of acquisition of computers required together with the ICT infrastructure upgrade

			12.32%
<b>Furniture &amp; Fittings (i.e. Desk, Shelves)</b>	\$27,238.20	\$36,140.27	Result of growing number of staff and Desk, Chair are broken 0.32%
<b>Equipment</b>	\$25,351.02	\$140,373.70	The number of staffs are growing 4.53%
<b>Total Cost</b>			<b>Increase by 78.87</b>

### 3. Significant issues/challenges

#### 3.1 Issues/Challenges

Division	Challenges	Way forward
<b>Cross cutting issue</b>	Implementation of the current Performance Management System	Seek consultation with PSC
	Shortage of staff	Fill in vacant post Prepare and submit of MoF staff proposal
	Budget limitation	Increase Budget in Budget preparation Dialog with MFNP regarding budget preparation Strong justification for the increasing of the budget
	Lack of quality technical equipment (boat and vehicle)	Seeking fund to fund equipment
	Lack of Project Development and Management skills/experience	Provide training on project development and management
	Lack of effective collaboration with another Ministry Department Agency (MDAs)	Close collaboration with relevant MDA's/ Agencies
	Lack of capacity building training (short-term and long-term)	Provide Annual Training needs for MoF and follow up opportunity for staff with relevant MDA
	Lack of infrastructure such as office buildings in outer islands	Seek donor fund for the project Include in the budget
<b>CEO office</b>	Technical equipment for media	Contact more suppliers

	Updated computer for CEO Secretary	Follow up with the ICT section
	Training techniques that is proper for communities	Develop more training techniques
<b>Fisheries Science Division (FSD)</b>	Effective legislation for SMAs and commercial fisheries.	Revised the SMA Regulation
	Expand hatchery facilities including Vava'u to accommodate two species per hatchery run at a time.	Need funding and land space
	Improving live algae production for better larval survival rate.	Building capacity of staff and improve laboratory equipment for algal culture.
	Increasing giant clam production to accommodate demand from aquarium markets.	Need more staff for aquaculture section
	Monitoring the progress of SMA communities with regular meetings.	Need more staff for SMA section and extension services and Outer island
	Continue commitment to the establishment of new SMAs.	Need more staff for SMA section
	Ensuring quality of fisheries data collected.	Improve skills and conduct training to Science Division for fisheries data collection.
	Expanding the FAD network.	Improve human capacity of the Ministry
	Improved support for pearl oyster production, development and marketing.	Need to conduct more training on pearl design and marketing
	Improved support for seaweed aquaculture including for seedlings.	Liaise with SPC for technical assistance
	Identify potential for training and capacity building for stakeholders in co-management, fish handling, fisheries management, and business management.	Need a training analysis for the fisheries sector and Ministry of Fisheries
	Low percentage of data coverage for scientific data collection both for tuna and snapper fisheries.	Recruit more port samplers
	Low levels of data on artisanal and other coastal fisheries	Recruit port samplers
	Lack of biological samples (gonads and otoliths) from snapper species to enhance stock assessments	Improve the collaboration between MoF with the snapper vessel owner. Need more fund to buy the fish samples
	No update survey of seamounts within Tonga EEZ.	Need fund to hire expertise to map out the seamounts in Tongan waters
<b>Fisheries Compliance Division (FCD)</b>	Infrastructure is a key challenge in terms of monitoring coastal areas (i.e. vessels for enforcement) especially target illegal fishing (i.e.	More emphasis towards conducting the enforcement duties, that is carry out accordingly despite challenges faced when dealing with illegal fishing and

dynamite fishing, using SCUBA and hookah diving air apparatus, etc).	breaching of the regulations guided by the FCD to the public.
Need to certify inspection and boarding officers for High Seas.	Providing training to Compliance officer
Need more effective enforcement procedures for coastal areas.	Request for more Technical Assistance trainings to help in the review and development of the SOP
Seeking public support for reporting of illegal fishing activities.	Increasing the number of consultations with communities and encourage the public awareness on illegal fishing activities, maybe incorporate in the school syllabus for effective learning of students hence keeping in mind that every information given by an individual involved on voluntary compliance is strictly confidential.
Ensuring authorised officers have capacity in enforcement and prosecution.	Staff also needs to be trained well for more advance knowledge not only what's stated on their job descriptions but to other sections too hence in perfecting and build up alternative career paths for themselves too when improving their performances. This way the FCD division is well developed and achieve excellent performance thus, better accomplishment for the Ministry's goals also.
Established task force for implementing the Port State Measures Agreement.	Regular meeting with the Task Force to advance their capacity on MCS
Develop National Plan of Action (NPOA) for Illegal Unreported Unregulated fishing (IUU).	A work plan should be made when monitoring all license fishing vessels activities within Tonga EEZ by using satellite base system (VMS), so that the office is well updated and record the data beforehand then cross check it when the observer's data comes in makes it easier and save time.
Enforcement of licensing terms and conditions for fishing vessels, fish fences, exporters of tuna, and snapper and aquarium.	License and Term conditions should continue to make known to public in a more effective ways to ensure that is followed the right protocol and avoid breaching the policy and regulation guided by the Ministry of Fisheries
Expanding the VMS network to more vessels.	Seeking fund for more IDP unit
Ensuring standard operating procedures are reviewed and up to date.	Monitoring Tonga EEZ and ensure clear processing and issue of license, SOP for compliance

	Need to build up collaboration with other Ministries with a mandate to conduct enforcement as a way forward for more effective compliance activities.	There is also a need for more technical assistance skills to capture by the team in enhancing more effective cooperation when working with the Line Ministries such as Tonga Navy for patrolling in Tonga Water and air surveillance provided by NZ and Australia Defence, Police Maritime Rescue Division in term of conducting operation activities to enforce Fisheries Acts & Regulations.
<b>Observer</b>	SPC TUBs system and OPM system down for a significant period resulting in the late update of observer data into the system.	Updated TUBs and OPM system to TUFMAN 2
	To recruit and train more certified observers to accommodate all license fishing vessels in Tonga's waters.	Train newer certify observers
	Train observers to be certified MSC observers.	Seeking fund to conduct the training for the senior observer

### 3.2 Risks and risk management

Ministry of Fisheries Strategic Output	Risk	Risk Management
All divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural disaster such as cyclone, tsunami, flooding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure staff are aware of risks and disaster management plan in place and practiced.</li> </ul>
All divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Duty travel accident, injury, stranding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure staff are aware of risks and what to do in and emergency, carry insurance, and know not to take risks</li> </ul>
All divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local travel such as vehicle travel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure vehicles well maintained and operated at speed limit</li> </ul>
All divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illness - tropical disease, infection, and illness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage vaccinations, seriously ill staff to not attend work, good practice hygiene at work</li> </ul>
All divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunburn and exposure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear sunscreen and protective clothing, carry fresh water</li> </ul>
Fisheries operations (science, compliance and extension)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vessel use, diving, and maintenance and repair</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure staff are properly trained and safety equipment carried</li> <li>Good practice of diving</li> </ul>

		procedures
Fisheries science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of chemicals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure staff are properly trained and safety equipment used</li> </ul>
Fisheries Science (Port sampler)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trips, slips and falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure proper foot ware and risks assessed of slippery or loose surfaces such as fish markets, rocks, and steps</li> </ul>
Fisheries compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attack or injury</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training, patrol planning, never working alone</li> </ul>

## 4 Disclosures and legal compliance

### 4.1 Audit statements

The last audit report covered the period of June 2014 to June 2016.

### 4.2 Ministerial and Cabinet directives

Decision date	Cabinet Decision number	Purpose
11.08.2017	No.850 ORG 16/3 V7	Establishment of the Ministry of Fisheries as an independent Ministry
18.08.2017	No.873 IB 9/3/1/10	Re: Tonga's delegation to the 1st High Level Blue Economy Conference, 23 - 24 August 2017 in Suva, Fiji.
	No.875 IB 8/9/1 V6	Re: Report of the Tonga Delegation to the High - Level United Nations Conference to Support The implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and Sustainably Use the Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development, United Nations, New York, USA, 5 - 9 June 2017
02.02.2018	No.58 FI 3/1/3	Request to exempt duty and consumption tax on materials and equipment imported by Vast Ocean (Tonga) Aquaculture Limited for the purpose of aquaculture development.
	No.306 LSR 10/1 V3	Submission to the United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf the Partial Submission of Data and information on the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf of the Kingdom of Tonga in respect of the eastern portion of the Kermadec Ridge Pursuant to Part VI of and Annex

		II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the sea.
<b>06.06.2018</b>	No.325 9/3/10/3/3	ORG 2018 Annual Ministerial Forum Fisheries Committee Meeting (FFCMIN15), Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 4 - 5 July 2018
	No.324	PUB FI 1/1/14 Submission of the Ministry of Fisheries Annual Report for financial year 2016/2017

<b>Ministerial Decision</b>
54 overseas travelled approved
50 number of overseas trip report submitted and approved
2 number of Management Plan approved
20 number of daily paid contract approved

## 4.3 Governance disclosures

### International Agreements and Treaties

Tonga is a party to, and has obligations under, a range of international agreements and treaties that support the sustainable harvest of our fisheries resources.

- FFA** Tonga is a member of the Honiara, Solomon Islands based Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), as a signatory to the 1979 Convention. The FFA supports its 17-member countries to manage, conserve and use the tuna resource through enhancing national capacity and strengthening regional solidarity.
- SPC** Tonga is a member of the Noumea, New Caledonia based Pacific Community (PC) (formerly the Secretariat to the Pacific Community (SPC)) which aims to develop the technical, professional, scientific, research, planning and management capability of Pacific Island people and directly provide information and advice, to enable them to make informed decisions about their future development and well-being.
- WCPFC** The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention aims to ensure, through effective management, the long-term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific.
- UNCLOS** The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (UNCLOS), is an international agreement that defines the rights and responsibilities of nations with respect to their use of the world's oceans, establishing guidelines for businesses, the environment, and the management of marine natural resources.

- UNFSA** The United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) (relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks) sets out principles for the conservation and management of those fish stocks and establishes that such management must be based on the precautionary approach and the best available scientific information. Signatory States should cooperate to ensure conservation and promote the objective of the optimum utilization of fisheries resources both within and beyond the exclusive economic zone.
- CODE OF CONDUCT** the Code of Conduct for Sustainable Fisheries is a non-binding though internationally agreed instrument that states fisheries management rules should be based on the precautionary approach which it prescribes is typically implemented in concrete management rules through such provisions as minimum spawning biomass, and maximum fishing mortality rates.
- CITES** the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), is a multilateral treaty to protect endangered plants and animals. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species in the wild. It provides varying degrees of protection to more than 35,000 species of animals and plants.
- US Treaty** the Multilateral Treaty on Fisheries between Certain Governments of the Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States of America (US Treaty) provides for multilateral access by USA-flagged tuna purse-seine fishing vessels to Pacific Island Parties Waters the US Treaty was agreed in 1987 and has moved through several phases.
- Niue Treaty** The “Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement ratified in 2015 as a regional effort to strengthen our current surveillance and enforcement mechanisms to fight against Illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IUU fishing) as an ongoing global challenge.
- OIE** the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The OIE is the intergovernmental organisation responsible for improving animal health worldwide. The need to fight animal diseases at global level led to the creation of the Office International des Epizooties through the international Agreement signed on January 25th 1924. In May 2003 the Office became the World Organisation for Animal Health but kept its historical acronym OIE. Tonga is not a signatory but as a member of SPC follows the policies and practices of OIE with respect to aquatic species.
- Port State Measures Agreement** Port States Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing, ratified by the Government of Tonga in early 2016.

#### 4.4 Government policy requirements

The Ministry fully support and promote the public service code of conduct under the Public Service Act 2002.

The Ministry has an obligation under the Western and Central Fisheries Pacific Convention (promulgated under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea) to submit reports

to the tuna Commission. The Ministry can report that both its reports were in full compliance for the reporting period.

The Ministry has been progressively reviewing its policies and procedures since becoming a stand-alone Ministry after its separation from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Food and Fisheries.

A significant effort has been made to comply with the government's new policies for corporate planning and for staff performance management.

A range of training events have been held (mentioned above) with the aim of improving effectiveness and efficiency.

The Ministry of Fisheries is supporting the Forum Fisheries Agencies (FFA) Gender Equity Framework 2016 was adopted and approved by the FFC Ministers to promote equality in the work place and to help removed barriers to women's involvement in all aspects of Fisheries sector.

#### 4.5 Board and Committee Remuneration

Fisheries Management Act 2002 section 8, The Minister shall establish a Fisheries Management Advisory Committee which shall advise him on such matters relating to the conservation, management, sustainable utilization and development of fisheries in the Kingdom.

The committee shall comprise the following members listed below. The members other than ex officio members shall be appointed for a period of 3 years.

##### Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (FMAC)

Position	Name
Chair	CEO for Fisheries
Member	Secretary for Lands or his nominee
Member	Secretary for Labour, Commerce and Industry or his nominee
Member	One member representing commercial fisheries interest nominated by Tongan Fish Exports Association
Member	One member representing women's interests nominated by the Minister
Member	Two members representing local fishermen nominated by the Minister
Member	One member representing Coastal communities nominated by the Prime Minister
Member	Such other persons not exceeding two whom the Secretary may think fit to appoint

## Ministry of Fisheries Internal Committee

- Technical Management Committee
- Data Working Group
- Tuna Management Committee
- Deep Water Snapper Management Committee
- TFSP Committee
- Project Management Group (New Zealand funded project for Deep water snapper fisheries)
- Aquarium Management Committee

## Chapter 5 Conclusion

The financial year in question was a significant year for what was then a new stand-alone Ministry. The staff rose to the challenge and dealt with the transition to a new structure and a new CEO without any reduction in services to stakeholders or outputs. If anything, our work rate and success levels increased and improved.

Our fisheries resources are under constant pressure from the risks of overfishing, climate change, ocean acidification, sea level rise and warming. We are still very much in the dark about how these things will affect our fisheries resources and ecology and the work of the Ministry with our key stakeholders remains of paramount importance to ensuring we strive for our vision to achieve economically, socially and environmentally sustainable fisheries that contribute to better living standards for all Tongans.

The big challenge faced by the Ministry moving forward was securing funding for the full implementation of the Tonga Fisheries Sector Plan and at the time this reporting year was winding up, a submission was being prepared for a World Bank grant of US\$10 million.

We thank our Minister for his support and relentless commitment to improving fisheries, and all our stakeholders for their support, hard work, and commitment.