Mid-Term Evaluation

APFNet Project on " Capacity Building Towards Effective Implementation of Sustainable Forest Management Practices in Fiji, Tonga & Niue"

Project ID: 2015P3-SPC

Executing Agency: Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Implementing Agencies: Forestry Department of Fiji,

Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forests and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Tonga, &

Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries of Niue

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Executive summary

The mid-term evaluation (MTE) has assessed the relevance, performance, management arrangements and success of the project in its midterm. No major issues have emerged other than some delays in conducting activities due to the impact of severe tropical cyclones and to changes in internal leadership. Project progress to date against objectives and indicators as defined in the Project Document has been satisfactory and remaining project activities and outputs are expected to be completed within Y3 of implementation. Initial project goals and objectives are expected to be accomplished fully by project completion, and future impacts and sustainability of the project are expected to be positive. Overall, the project was given a rating of 3 (satisfactory), as it embodies strong performance according to relevant indicators to a *good* extent.

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has, over the years, supported its member economies in building their capacities to better manage their forests and tree resources, which are mostly managed by small family groups under customary land ownership. SPC has assisted several economies in the formulation and/or revision of their code of logging practices and organized preliminary training in the implementation of the codes to reduce negative impacts of logging in their environments.

Many of the components for sustainable forest management are present within each economy. However, additional support and assistance will be needed to ensure effective capacity-building for the ongoing implementation of sound practices within each economy's unique forests and tree resources.

To address this, the SPC has supported the inception of the Capacity Building Towards Effective Implementation of Sustainable Forest Management Practices in Fiji, Tonga and Niue. The project targets the enhancement and capacity-building of Fiji, the Kingdom of Tonga and Niue in terms of sustainable forest management. Project objectives are as follows:

1. To develop a national forest management plan (FMP) for Tonga and to complete the national FMP for Niue.

2. To develop strategies and mechanisms for effective implementation of the FMPs and Codes of Forest Practices in Tonga, Fiji and Niue.

3. To develop mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the FMPs and codes of forest practices in Tonga, Fiji and Niue.

1.2 Purpose of the Evaluation

The mid-term evaluation (MTE) is intended to assess the relevance, performance, management arrangements and success of the project in its midterm. It specifically seeks to address the following three objectives:

1. Assess project progress to date against objectives and indicators as defined in the Project Document as well as the likelihood of achieving project goals and objectives.

2. Identify problems/challenges and required corrective actions and provide recommendations related to remaining project activities to ensure initial goal(s) and objectives of the projects are achieved.

3. Share evaluation findings among stakeholders to inform necessary adjustments in remaining project activities.

2. Evaluation Design

2.1 Scope of the Evaluation

The MTE covers the following project components:

1. Development of the background review report on the current status of forests and forest management in Tonga (Output 1.1);

2. Development of Forest Management Plan (FMP) for Tonga and Government of Niue (Output 1.2);

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3. Development of the background review reports on the current legal and policy framework, institutional arrangements and mechanisms for implementing FMPs and codes of practices in Tonga, Fiji and Niue (Output 2.1);

4. Development of the implementation strategies for government's decision making (Output 2.2);

5. Development of training and education packages for promoting the implementation of the FMPs and codes of practices (Output 2.3);

6. Development of enforcement strategies in the project sites (Output 2.4);

7. Institutional arrangements regarding monitoring of the implementation of the FMPs and codes of practices (Output 3.1);

8. Project dissemination and policy briefs.

2.2. Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria were assessed:

Relevance

Project design was reviewed to assess general relevance and to identify whether project design is logically reasonable and practically operational against actual planning and implementation of project activities during the first two years of implementation. The following points were considered:

- **Feasibility.** Strong linkages between initial project design and annual planning throughout project implementation period ensure that project activities, outputs and objectives are closely inter-related and remain feasible in relation to the project's scope, budget and timeline.

  Documentation required: Project Document, Annual Working Plans and Annual Project Progress Reports for the first two years of implementation.

- **Indicator selection.** The indicators that have been set to monitor and evaluate the achievement of project outputs, objectives and overall goals are relevant and measurable.

  Documentation required: Project Document.

- **Risk management.** Overall project design includes flexibility to adapt to changes related to unexpected problems or changes in political, economic, social and cultural context. Documentation required: Project Document.

Efficiency

The MTE assesses the efficiency of project activities. The following points were considered:

- **Financial management:** Project actual expenditure is in-line with pre-approved budgets and monitoring and auditing activities have been conducted in a transparent manner by project management and implementation bodies (e.g. SPC and Implementing Agencies).

  Documentation required: Meeting with Project Programme Assistant, Account of Project Expenditures, Financial Statements, Internal Audit Reports.

- **Cost-effectiveness:** Resource management related to project interventions (e.g. of project staff and consultant performance, procurement procedures, equipment purchases) is timely and relevant to project objectives.

  Documentation required: Meeting with Project Team, APFNet Procurement Guidelines, Inventory of Goods & Assets for Implementing Agencies.

- **Monitoring and reporting:** Transparency and relevance of monitoring and reporting activities related to project activities will be assessed.

  Documentation required: Meeting with Project Team, Annual Working Plans and Annual Project Progress Reports for the first two years of implementation.

- **Performance of project management and implementation bodies:** Project management activities have been conducted in a timely and transparent manner by project management and implementation bodies (e.g. SPC and Implementing Agencies).

  Documentation required: Meeting with Project Team, Annual Working Plans and Annual Project Progress Reports for the first two years of implementation.

- **Stakeholder participation and public awareness:** Stakeholder participation and public awareness of project activities and objectives have been effectively made public.

  Documentation required: Annual Working Plans & Annual Project Progress Reports for the first two years of implementation, Supporting Documents (e.g. websites, consultation reports, deliverables, press releases and other publications).

Effectiveness

The MTE assesses the effectiveness of the projects' strategy and approaches for the achievement of project objectives by evaluating the status of projected outputs and activities. The following points were addressed:

- **Project Activity Status:** Implementation status (% completion) of projected activities will be obtained by comparing current progress with baseline data. Final ratings will consider the relevance of activities for the achievement of broader project objectives, outputs and desired outcomes.

  Documentation required: Annual Working Plans & Annual Project Progress Reports for the first two years of implementation, Supporting Documents (e.g. workshop minutes, deliverable reports etc.).

- **Project Output Status:** Implementation status (% completion) of project outputs will be obtained by comparing current progress with baseline data. Final ratings will additional consider the relevance of outputs for the achievement of broader project objectives and desired outcomes.

  Documentation required: Annual Working Plans & Annual Project Progress Reports for the first two years of implementation, Supporting Documents (e.g. workshop minutes, deliverable reports, etc.).

Impacts

The MTE assesses positive and negative impacts to date of project activities and focuses on the following points:

- **Stakeholder benefits:** Beneficiaries have gained expected economic benefits and improved their capacity to sustainably manage forests as a result of being trained/involved in the project.

  Documentation required: Annual Working Plans & Annual Project Progress Reports for the first two years of implementation, Meetings with Stakeholders, Supporting Documents (e.g. workshop minutes, deliverable reports etc.).

- **Sustainable Forest Management:** Project activities have increased public awareness regarding environmental conservation and sustainable forest management.

  Documentation required: Meeting with Stakeholders, Supporting Documents (e.g. workshop minutes, deliverable reports, press releases etc.).

Sustainability & Duplicability

The MTE assesses the sustainability & duplicability of project activities based on progress to date, and will focus on the following points:

- **Continuation:** Positive impacts related to project activities and outcomes can be expected to continue after project termination.

  Documentation required: Project Document, Meeting with Project Team & Stakeholders.

- **Scalability:** Positive impacts related to project activities and outcomes can be scaled up to a larger area with similar political, economic, social and cultural situation.

  Documentation required: Project Document, Meeting with Project Team & Stakeholders.

- **Financial sustainability:** Project activities can self-sustain or are able to generate other funding resources for project-related follow-ups.

  Documentation required: Project Document, Meeting with Project Team & Stakeholders.

- **Duplicability:** Project outputs have the potential of being replicated larger audience at the provincial, regional or international level, especially relating to best models and best practices.

  Documentation required: Project Document, Meeting with Project Team & Stakeholders.

2.3. Methodology

The external consultant conducted a thorough desk review of project documentation (see Annex A for a full list). For the desk review, the consultant collected, organized and synthesized information regarding projected activities and outputs and determine the progress and quality of implementation to-date according to the criteria defined above. The obtained information was supplemented through on-site meetings and interviews with relevant stakeholders (see Annex B for a full list).

A summary of the methodology used to assess specific project components included in the MTE scope is given in the following table:

Task	Project Component	Description	Information required	Information source	Methodology
1	Output 1.1.	Development of the background review report on the current status of forests and forest management in Tonga	• Background report • Stakeholder participation • Reported issues	• Background report • Consultation report	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team
2	Output 1.2	Development of the Forest Management Plan (FMP) for Tonga and Niue	• FMPs • Implementation plans • Stakeholder participation • Reported issues	• FMPs • Implementation plans • Consultation reports • Websites	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team
3	Output 2.1	Development of the background review reports on the current legal and policy frameworks, institutional arrangements and mechanisms for implementing FMPs and Codes of Forest Practice in Tonga, Fiji and Niue	• Background report • Stakeholder participation • Study tour report • Reported issues	• Background report • Consultation reports • Study tour report	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team
4	Output 2.2	Development of implementation strategies for governments' decision making	• Implementation strategies report • Reported issues	• Implementation strategies report • Consultation reports	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team & government stakeholders
5	Output 2.3	Development of training and education packages for promoting the implementation of the FMPs and Codes of Forest Practice	• FMP and Forest Code dissemination • Training packages • Training activity participation • Training needs analysis • Reported issues	• Training packages • FMP and Forest Code dissemination material • Training activity reports • Consultation reports • Training needs analysis report • Websites	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team • Field-visits
6	Output 2.4	Development of enforcement strategies in the project sites	• Enforcement strategy report • Enforcement protocols • Training packages • Reported issues	• Enforcement strategy report • Enforcement protocols • Consultation reports • Training packages	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team • Field-visits
7	Output 3.1	Institutional arrangements for monitoring and reporting (M&R) activities of the implementation of FMPs and Codes of Forest Practice	• M&R activities • Institutional arrangements • Reported issues	• M&R protocols • Institutional arrangements • Consultation reports & action plan	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team
8	General	Project dissemination and policy briefs.	• Dissemination documentation • Policy briefs released	• Dissemination documentation • Policy briefs released • Project documents	• Desk review • Meetings with Project team

3. Analysis & Findings

3.1 General Findings

• The Capacity Building Towards Effective Implementation of Sustainable Forest Management Practices in Fiji, Tonga & Niue Project has progressed well to date against the approved Project Document and annual working plans for the first two years of implementation (AWP1 and AWP2). No significant issues have emerged during the first two reporting periods of project implementation (March 2016 – March 2018).

• As documented in the annual progress reports for the first two years of implementation (APR1 and APR2), project Objective 1 (establishment of national forest management plans for Tonga and Niue) is nearly completed, and progress under Objective 2 (development of implementation strategies for Tonga, Fiji and Niue) is well underway. Activities under

Objective 3 (develop monitoring and reporting mechanisms in Tonga, Fiji and Niue) have advanced and are expected to be completed within year 3 of implementation.

- There has been a high staffing turnover reported within the Project Team at the Executing Agency since project inception - the Project Director and the Project Coordinator have retired and been replaced in 2017 and 2018, respectively (see documentation in APR1 & APR2). The lack of consistency in project leadership, as well as the project team's limited staffing and resources, have been identified as a significant challenge for project management.

- In Fiji, the launch and progress of project activities was delayed due to category 5 cyclones which struck the Economy in 2016, and again in 2018. In addition, Fiji's Head of the Forestry Department has changed twice since original project inception in 2015. Nevertheless, project activities are now well underway and have focused on the implementation of the Code of Forest Practices and on the development of a streamlined monitoring and reporting framework. Project activities have already contributed to address some of the current challenges in Fiji and are expected to further strengthen the sustainability of forest and tree management by targeting bureaucratic weaknesses, providing training for forestry officials, and raising awareness about sustainability within the logging community and the general population.

- In Tonga, project activities to date have been successful, with the official launch in 2017 of the Forest Management Plan and of the Sandalwood Regulations 2016 (see Outputs 1.1 and 1.2). Implementation strategies have been developed successfully and training and education activities are ongoing. Current challenges in Tonga are related to enforcement as well as monitoring and reporting. The Head of the Forestry Division in Tonga has recently been replaced due to retirement. Additionally, the Forestry Division has reported significant resource constraints related to budget and staffing availabilities as well as issues related to limited implementation power. These limitations have delayed the progress of project activities and addressing them would greatly improve the impact and sustainability of project activities in Tonga. Future needs identified included increased capacity building within the Forestry Division as well as a national forestry inventory.

- In Niue, project activities have been progressing and the FMP generated under the project's scope is expected to provide a safety net for future sandalwood logging operations. There has been some disruption in Project leadership as the Head of the Forestry Division was recently replaced following a resignation, and there are significant staffing limitations (the one trained forester active on the island has recently left). Addressing these issues may improve progress and quality of project-related activities. Nevertheless, the SPC project team has regularly traveled to Niue for workshops and consultations and representatives from Niue have regularly participated in project activities, including PSC meetings held in 2015 and 2017, as well as the study tour to Tasmania held in May 2018 (see Output 2.1). Following the cessation of native forest logging operations in Niue it was determined by Niue's National Working Committee that the focus of these items should be directed towards strengthening the regulatory framework for the management and regulation of sandalwood.

- Project dissemination included numerous stakeholder consultations, as well as the release of news stories and publication of feature stories (see APR1 & APR2). All project documentation has been made available to the public on a temporary website (https://sites.google.com/view/apfnetreports/home).

3.2 Detailed Summary of Project Progress

Background Report for Tonga (Output 1.1)

- A review of project documentation, supplemented by on-site visits with the Executing Agency team and Tonga's Forestry Division verified that the review of background information to inform a background report on Tonga's forest and tree resources was completed as planned and documented in *report T1*, which was prepared in January 2016. The background information report was prepared by the project's Chief Technical Advisor and was compiled through desk review and consultations with key forestry officers and stakeholders in the sector. A review of the final report confirms that it provides a comprehensive overview of the institutional arrangements for the management of forest and tree resources in the Tonga islands and summarizes the values and benefits provided by forest and trees, as well as potential threats.

- The findings included in the background report were subsequently presented to beneficiaries during awareness raising workshops held in April 2016, as documented in *report T4*. During MTE field-visit interviews, the Executing Agency team clarified that the implementing agency in Tonga re-distributed stakeholder consultation groups from 4 major island groups to 3 island groups with the goal of minimizing travel expenses incurred by the CTA and SPC team, who were present at all consultations. This change was then adopted for all consultations in Tonga going forward. Awareness-raising workshops were well-attended by representatives from government agencies, private sector entities, NGOs and local landowners.

Forest Management Plans (FMPs) for Tonga and Niue (Output 1.2)

- In Tonga, the MTE confirmed that the Forest Management Plan (FMP) was completed as planned, as was documented in *report T5*. Through interviews with the Executing Agency team and Tonga Forestry Division teams the MTE team confirmed that the draft FMP for Tonga was compiled in a timely manner and in close consultation with relevant stakeholders. Awareness-raising workshops were further held to review the draft version of the FMP before submission to the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forests and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Tonga for final approval, as documented in *report T9*. The workshops were held in September 2016 and the contents of the draft FMP were well-received by participants and stakeholders. Tonga's FMP was officially submitted to the government and launched in April 2017. Site-visits to the Forestry Division offices in Tonga verified that the FMP was been printed and circulated among forestry officials and logging practitioners, and that there are currently discussions to additionally disseminate the FMP on the official government website although this activity remains pending.

- Discussions with the Executing Agency team verified that the Forest Management Plan (FMP) for Niue already existed in draft format before Project inception, as documented in *report N0* which is dated March 2013. A review of Niue's draft FMP confirms that it was compiled in close consultation with relevant stakeholders, although further documentation

fell outside of this Project's scope and was not reviewed by the Evaluation Team. Niue's FMP contents include a section on background information regarding the forestry sector, and another on management prescriptions (including an implementation plan and templates for reporting and permit documents). During MTE field visits the Executing Agency team verified that Niue's FMP has been officially submitted to the Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries of Niue. It was further confirmed that document approval is currently being finalized and is expected shortly. Circulation of the FMP in hard copy and web-format is pending final approval and official launch by the government.

Background Report on FMP and Codes of Forest Practice Implementation for Tonga, Niue and Fiji (Output 2.1)

- Document review and stakeholder interviews held during field visits conducted by the MTE team in July 2018 indicated that background reports for this output were completed as planned. The background report on current regulations for the implementation of the FMP and Codes of Forest Practice for Tonga was completed in February 2016, as documented in *report T2*. The background report on current regulations for the implementation of the FMP and Codes of Forest Practice for Niue was completed in October 2016, as documented in *report N1*. The background report on current regulations for the implementation of the FMP and Codes of Forest Practice for Fiji was completed in July 2017, as documented in *report F4*.

- A review of the three reports indicated that they provide comprehensive overviews of the context and regulatory frameworks in place for the management of forest and tree resources in Tonga, Niue and Fiji and identify challenges and areas that require improvements for each economy. The reports were compiled through desk review and consultations with relevant stakeholders in the forestry sectors of the three economies and were prepared by the Project's Chief Technical Advisor.

- Tentative findings presented in the reports were reviewed by beneficiaries through consultations which were well-attended by representatives from government agencies, private sector entities, NGOs and local landowners. This was confirmed by the Executing Agency as well as by Implementing Agencies during stakeholder interviews with the MTE team in July 2018. In Tonga, consultations were held in September 2016, as documented in *report T9*, and included a discussion of current regulatory framework and needs for improvement. In Niue, consultations were held in December 2016. They were documented in *report N3* and discussions specifically addressed the regulatory framework for forest management. In Fiji, consultations were held in July 2017. They were documented in *report F3* and discussions specifically addressed the regulatory framework for forest and tree resource management.

- The study tour was postponed to May 2018 but was then completed successfully, as documented in *report P3*. A review of the study tour report, supplemented by stakeholder interviews, confirmed that the study tour took place in Tasmania and was attended by 15 forestry officers representing Tonga, Niue, Fiji, as well as Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. The Executing Agency team confirmed that participants were nominated directly by the Project's implementing agencies. The program of the tour focused on the planning and regulation of forest practices, including the conservation of non-wood values on public and private land. The study tour report indicated that all participants gave highly positive

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feedback regarding the contents of the study tour as well as the relevance of lessons-learned for the continuation of project activities, and more generally for the successful management of forestry resources in each of the three Project economies. This was further confirmed by MTE stakeholder interviews held in Fiji and Tonga. Major takeaways included the successful implementation of co-regulation practices in Tasmania as well as close collaboration between public and private entities in Tasmania's forestry sector.

Implementation Strategies for Tonga, Niue and Fiji (Output 2.2)

- A review of project documentation, supplemented by interviews with Executing Agency and Implementing Agency representatives, verified the successful development of implementation strategies based on background information on current regulatory frameworks and including specific options for strengthening the implementation of the FMP and Codes of Forest Practice. Implementation strategies for Tonga were completed in February 2016, as documented in *report T2*. Implementation strategies for Niue were completed in October 2016, as documented in *report N1*. Implementation strategies for Fiji were completed in July 2017, as documented in *report F4*.

- A review of all three reports indicated that they were integrated with background reports generated under Output 2.1 and include analyses of potential options for the regulation of forest and tree resources in Tonga, Niue and Fiji respectively. This was confirmed during meetings with the Executing Agency team. Each report recommends the adoption of an "enhanced co-regulation" approach tailored to local institutional contexts and suggest a list of potential actions that could be taken to implement the proposed regulatory framework.

- The implementation strategies were prepared by the Project's Chief Technical Advisor in consultation with relevant stakeholders in the forestry sectors of the three economies. A review of consultation reports, supplemented by interviews with the Executing Agency team, verified that the options for strengthening the implementation of forest and tree resource management regulations were reviewed by stakeholders through consultations as required in the Project Document. In Tonga, consultations were held in September 2016, as documented in *report T9*, and included a discussion of current regulatory framework and needs for improvement. In Niue, consultations were held in December 2016. They were documented in *report N3* and discussions specifically discussed options for strengthening sustainable forest management. In Fiji, consultations were held in July 2017. They were documented in *report F3* and discussions specifically addressed options for strengthened implementation of sustainable forest and tree resource management. Discussions further included potential actions for the harvesting and trade of sandalwood.

- It was confirmed during the MTE field visit that implementation strategies have been officially submitted in Tonga and Niue and submission is pending in Fiji. Specific documentation of this process was not yet available for review by the MTE team at the time of this evaluation.

Training and Education Packages for Tonga, Niue and Fiji (Output 2.3)

- A review of current progress reports indicated that the publication of shortened field guides and FMP and Code of Practice summaries has been delayed. This was confirmed during the MTE field visit. To date, no field guides have been developed and summaries have been produced only in Tonga, where they have not yet been translated into local language (see *report T6*).

- A review of consultation reports, supplemented by interviews with the Executing Agency team, verified that awareness-raising workshops have been held successfully in all three economies. In Tonga, awareness-raising workshops were held in April 2017, following the official launch of Tonga's FMP and Sandalwood Regulations, as documented in *report T10*. Consultations were primarily focused on disseminating the information contained in Tonga's FMP and Sandalwood Regulations and on informing the design of training and enforcement strategies. In Niue, awareness-raising workshops were held in July 2017, as documented in *report N4*. Consultations were primarily focused on discussing proposed actions relating to the potential development of a native forest harvesting and processing sector, as well as the potential of developing sandalwood resources. Following the cessation of native forest logging operations in Niue it was determined by Niue's National Working Committee that the focus of these items should be directed towards strengthening the regulatory framework for the management and regulation of sandalwood. In Fiji, awareness-raising workshops were held in July 2017 as documented in *report F3* and were combined with consultations for review of options for strengthening the implementation of forest and tree resource management regulations in Fiji, as detailed under Output 2.3.

- A review of consultation reports, supplemented by interviews with the Executing Agency team, verified the current status of training needs assessments. In Tonga, an analysis of training needs was commenced as documented in *report T10*. In Niue, discussions of training needs have similarly been commenced, but no documentation was available for review by the MTE team. In Fiji, the analysis of training needs has been delayed due to a category 5 cyclone which struck in 2016. The development and submission of training packages remains pending for Tonga and Fiji. Due to the previously described shift in priorities in Niue due to a cessation of all logging activities on the island, training material for Niue will focus primarily on the establishment of a sustainable sandalwood production sector.

- Discussions with the Executing Agency team during July 2018 interviews indicated that the development of educational and training material to support the implementation of sustainable forestry regulations in all three economies was projected to be consulted out by the Executing Agency. The progress for related activities has been slowed down due to an increase in consultant rates since project inception and budget development, which has delayed the selection and hiring process for the relevant consultant. Reallocation of remaining project funds may be necessary to address this issue.

Enforcement Strategies for Tonga, Niue and Fiji (Output 2.4)

- A review of project reports indicated that draft enforcement protocols for the sustainable management of forest and tree resources have been developed by the law enforcement consultant, as documented in *report F7*. This was confirmed by the Executing Agency team, which further verified that consultations regarding this draft enforcement protocols are currently pending in Tonga and Fiji. As previously described, this activity was determined to no longer constitute a priority for Niue due to the cessation of logging activities on the island.

- As detailed above, an analysis of training needs was commenced in Tonga. To support the analysis the Executing Agency indicated that an introductory training course on forest law enforcement was conducted in April 2017 and documented in *report T10*. Participants included forestry officers, agricultural extension officers, governmental officers and one

landowner. The introductory training workshop was conducted by a law enforcement consultant, Mr. Dyson, and supported by the Chief Technical Advisor. Contents focused on the enforcement of forest law in Tonga, with particular reference to the Sandalwood Regulations 2016.

- The Executing Agency indicated that in Fiji, both the analysis of training needs as well as the start of law enforcement training activities have been delayed due to tropical cyclones. Introductory training activities on forest law enforcement were nevertheless conducted in April 2018 in Fiji as documented in *report F6*. The 56 participants included forestry officers, forestry wardens, private sector representatives and representatives from other forestry projects. The introductory training workshop was conducted by a law enforcement consultant, Mr. Dyson, and supported by the Chief Technical Advisor. Contents focused on key elements of forest law enforcement in Fiji as well as on the role of forestry officers in enforcing forest law.

Institutional Arrangements for Monitoring and Reporting for Tonga, Niue and Fiji (Output 3.1)

- Activities under Output 3.1 are still pending, and no supporting documentation is available to date.

3.3 Project Progress Table

Project Objective / Outputs / Activities (in line with PD)	Indicators (in line with PD)	Baseline of activities	Projected Timeline			Progress made by end of Y2 (% completion of activities and degree of output / objective achievement)	Evaluator's rating	Evaluator's comments
			Y1	Y2	Y3			
Output A: Transparent, accountable, effective & efficient management						100%	4	All activities projected for Y1 and Y2 have been completed or are progressing as planned.
Activity A.1: Regional inception workshop	N/A	No project inception workshop has been held at the regional level.				100%	4	The activity was completed as planned. The regional inception meeting was held on 15-16 June 2015, as documented in report P1. Participants from Niue were not able to attend due to logistical issues. Both Tonga and Fiji were represented, and the workshop was successful.
Activity A.2: Local inception workshops	N/A	No project inception workshops have been held at the local level.				100%	4	The activity was completed as planned. Local inception meetings were held in September 2015, as documented in reports N2, F1 and T3. All three inception meetings had good attendance and participants expressed strong support for the project.
Activity A.3: PSC meetings	N/A	No PSC meetings have been held.				100%	4	By the end of year 2 the activity was completed as planned. The first PSC

								meeting was held in June 2015 and the second PSC meeting was held in September 2017, as documented in reports P1 and P2. Discussions during both workshops were productive and well documented.
Activity A.4: WC quarterly meetings	N/A	No WC quarterly meetings have been held.				100%	3	By the end of year 2 the activity was mostly completed as planned. Meetings were held annually or semi-annually but not on a quarterly basis, although they are also supplemented by regular email and phone communication. The change in frequency of the WC meetings is due to a preference on the part of the 3 economies to meet when SPC implementation team is present and should be addressed in future project design.
Activity A.5: External project monitoring	N/A	N/A				N/A	N/A	N/A
Activity A.6: Local completion workshops	N/A	N/A				N/A	N/A	N/A
Output 1.1: Background report for Tonga	Background report is obtained together with relevant documentation from consultations					100%	4	The background report for Tonga was completed.

Activity 1.1.1: Background information reviews & workshops compiled into report	Background report is accepted by stakeholders and government as an accurate account of current status and issues.	No background report has been written.				100%	4	The activity was completed as planned and documented in report T1. The background information was prepared by the project's chief technical advisor – it is comprehensive and well-written. The information was compiled using information from desk review and consultations with key forestry officers and stakeholders in the sector.
Activity 1.1.2: Awareness raising workshops	One workshop in each of the 4 major island groups is conducted. Workshops are well attended with good representation of stakeholders.	No workshop has been held.				100%	4	The activity was completed as planned and documented in report T4. While initially project design called for 4 workshops, the Head of Forestry in Tonga decided to change this to 3 workshops. This model was used throughout later project activities. The consultations were held in April 2016.Participation was high and the objectives were well met.
Output 1.2: FMPs for Tonga & Niue	FMPs are approved by government					90%	4	FMP for Tonga were officially approved by government. FMP for Niue has been submitted and is expected to be approved by government before project completion.

Activity								
Activity 1.2.1: Draft FMP for Tonga	Draft FMP is completed with evidence of consultations with stakeholders.	No FMP exists for Tonga.				100%	4	The activity was completed as planned and documented in report T5. The Forest Management Plan was compiled in a timely manner and in close consultation with relevant stakeholders.
Activity 1.2.2: Workshops to review draft FMP for Tonga	Three workshops are conducted across major island groups and are well attended with good representation of stakeholders.	No workshops have been held in Tonga.				100%	4	The activity was completed as planned and documented in report T9. Workshops were held in September 2016 and the contents of the draft FMP were well-received by participants and stakeholders.
Activity 1.2.3: Workshops to review draft FMP for Niue	One workshop is conducted and is well attended with good representation of stakeholders.	No workshops have been held in Niue.				D/I	D/I	The FMP draft for Niue has already been drafted in consultation with stakeholders before the beginning of the funding period of the project (in 2013). The documentation of this activity therefore pre-dates project reports and could not be included in the MTE.
Activity 1.2.4: Submission of revised FMPs	FMPs & implementation plans are submitted to governments for approval by end of Y2.	FMPs and implementation plans have not been submitted to governments for approval.				80%	3	The FMP for Tonga, which also includes implementation plans, has been submitted and formally approved by the government. The FMP for Niue, which also includes implementation plans, is currently in the final

							stages of approval at the governmental level. Final approval is therefore pending and expected soon.
Activity 1.2.5: Publication of FMPs (hard copies & website)	FMP copies are available in hard copy & on websites.	FMPs are not available in web-format or hard copies.			50%	2	The FMP for Tonga has been printed and circulated in hard copy. This documentation is available on the temporary SPC website, but not yet on the governmental website of the Forestry Division of Tonga. The FMP for Niue is not yet printed as formal approval from the government is required first. The draft FMP is also available on the temporary SPC website, but not yet on the governmental website of the Forestry Division of Niue.
Output 2.1: Background reports for FMP and Codes of Practice implementation in Tonga, Fiji & Niue	Background report accepted by stakeholders & government				100%	4	Background reports for FMP and Codes of Practice implementation have been completed.
Activity 2.1.1: Compilation of background information	Background report is reviewed by stakeholders and government officers to check for accuracy and comprehensiveness.	No background report has been written.			100%	4	The activity was delayed but is now completed. The report for Tonga (T2) was completed in February 2016, the report for Niue (N1) was completed in October 2016 and the report for Fiji (F4) was completed

							in July 2017. All reports are comprehensive and meet project objectives.
Activity 2.1.2: Review of background information	Background report is reviewed by stakeholders and government officers to check for accuracy and comprehensiveness.	Background report has not been reviewed.			100%	4	The activity was delayed but is now completed. The background information compiled under Activity 2.1.1 underwent comprehensive review by relevant stakeholders, as documented in reports N3, F3 and T9).
Activity 2.1.3: Study tour	A study tour is completed in year 2 with good representation of relevant persons from Pacific Island economies.	Study tour was not completed.			100%	4	The study tour was postponed but took place in June 2018. Due to unforeseen budgetary restrictions in the prospective host economy, the scope of the study tour was amended to include only Tasmania. The study tour was completed successfully. Participants reported positive feedback which is likely to have a lasting impact in forestry sector management of all three economies.
Output 2.2: Development of implementation strategies developed & submitted for government approval	Report on implementation strategies accepted by stakeholders & government				100%		Implementation strategies have been developed and submitted to governments and are expected to be accepted before project completion.
Activity 2.2.1: Options to improve & strengthen	Report on implementation	No report has been written.			100%	4	The activity was postponed from Year 1 to

implementation FMP & Codes	strategies contains options to improve regulatory frameworks.								Year 2 of the project but was completed successfully. Implementation strategies and options to improve regulatory frameworks were compiled as documented in reports N1, T2 and F4.
Activity 2.2.2: Consultations to review options	All key stakeholders are identified and consulted.	No stakeholder consultations have taken place.				100%		2	The activity was completed successfully. Options for implementation strategies were reviewed by relevant stakeholders, as documented in reports N3, F3 and T9 – consultations were conducted in conjunction with the ones held under Output 2.1 to maximize resources. While the reports for Fiji and Niue contain evidence of discussions regarding implementation options, this information is not reflected in the report for Tonga.
Activity 2.2.3: Submission of implementation strategies	Implementation strategies submitted by end of Y2.	No implementation strategies have been submitted				100%		2	The activity was reported to be completed successfully by the executing agency. However, supporting documentation from project implementing agencies remains pending.

						%	Score	Comments
Output 2.3: Development of training & education packages	Training packages accepted by government & stakeholders					50%	2	Project activities are underway. While there have been delays and missing documentation, activities are expected to be completed successfully by Y3.
Activity 2.3.1: Publication of hard copy & web-based formats of information on FMPs and Codes of Forest Practice	Information is available in hard copy & via websites.	FMPs and Codes of Practice are not available in web-format or hard copies.				50%	2	See Activity 1.2.5
Activity 2.3.2: Publication of shortened field guides in English & local languages	Shortened field guides are available to field operators & forest owners.	Shortened field guides are not available.				0%	D/I	Activity is still pending.
Activity 2.3.3: Awareness workshops	Workshops are conducted (3 in Tonga, 2 in Fiji, 1 in Niue).	Workshops have not been conducted.				100%	2	The activity was completed successfully, and awareness workshops have been held in all three economies, as documented in reports N4, F3 and T10. Attendance of workshops was satisfactory. Due to lack of clarity of objectives for awareness workshops as defined in the PD, the scope of the workshops differed across the three economies.
Activity 2.3.4: Publication of FMPs and Codes summaries in English & local languages	Publications are produced.	Publications have not been produced.				10%	D/I	The activity was only completed in Tonga to date, and only in English.
Activity 2.3.5: Analyses of training needs	Report on training needs is produced.	No report has been produced.				25%	D/I	Activity has commenced but documentation is still pending.

Activity 2.3.6: Development & implementation of train-the-trainer programs	Training packages accepted by government & stakeholders.	Training packages have not been accepted.			80%	3	See Activity 2.4.3.
Output 2.4: Placement of enforcement strategies	Report on enforcement strategies accepted by stakeholders & government				80%	3	The establishment of enforcement strategies is currently underway and is expected to be completed successfully.
Activity 2.4.1: Draft enforcement protocols	Draft enforcement protocols are produced.	No draft enforcement protocols have been written.			80%	2	The activity has been conducted successfully and a training handbook on forest law enforcement for the three economies was published. However, protocols were not specifically established for each of the three economies.
Activity 2.4.2: Consultations on draft protocol	Consultations held with key regulators & stakeholders.	No consultations have been held.			D/I	D/I	Activity still pending.
Activity 2.4.3: Implementation of training programs for enforcement officers	Training packages accepted by government & stakeholders.	Training packages have not been accepted or implemented.			80%	3	Introductory training activities were conducted successfully in Tonga in April 2017, and in Fiji in April 2018. The development of subsequent train-the-trainers programs is expected.
Output 3.1: Placement of institution arrangements for M&R	Institutional arrangements for M&R published and approved by government				D/I	D/I	Project activity is still pending.

Activity 3.1.1: Consultations to clarify roles & responsibilities	Consultation meetings are held with government & relevant stakeholders.	Consultation meetings have not been held.				D/I	D/I	Activity has commenced but documentation is still pending.
Activity 3.1.2: Development of action plans for M&R arrangements	Action plans are developed and accepted by stakeholders & government.	Action plans have not been developed or accepted.				D/I	D/I	Activity has commenced but documentation is still pending.

4. Evaluation Results & Conclusions

4.1 Relevance

- Overall, the project demonstrated excellent design and feasibility. Activities and outputs were closely linked to the project's objectives and were appropriately selected based on the project's scope, budget and timeline. The development of annual workplans (AWP1 & AWP2) closely followed the content and timeline of initial project design. More generally, the implementation of project activities was feasible within local political, economic, social and cultural context and addressed relevant needs, as indicated by strong participation and support for output achievement from stakeholders in the three economies.

- Indicator selection under this output and related activities was mostly relevant and measurable. There was some redundancy between different outputs and activities, for example between Activity 2.3.6 and Activity 2.4.3. This was particularly the case for stakeholder consultations and awareness-raising workshops. At times, terminology for different expected deliverables lacked clarity - for instance there is mention of an "implementation plan" in Output 1.2 and of "implementation strategies" in Output 2.2, and it is unclear whether both terms refer to the same deliverable. This created some confusion for documentation and reporting.

- The project design and APFNet management approach were flexible enough to allow for reasonable risk management. Despite some unforeseen challenges (e.g. changes in project management teams in the Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies, natural disasters), to date the majority of project activities were completed without significant issues. Though the completion of some activities is currently delayed compared to initial project design and AWP2 (see APR2), it can be reasonably expected that all project outputs will be completed within the project timeline and that the project's objectives and overall goals will be reached successfully.

4.2 Efficiency

- Overall financial management of the project appears to be in-line with pre-approved budgets. Expenditures as reported in received Financial Reports are significantly lower than budget projects as outlined in the initial Project Document. This has led to a delay in second year disbursements. Nevertheless, project activities have been ongoing and have not been delayed significantly for financial reasons. The completion of internal financial reports and audits at the SPC level has been delayed due to institutional arrangements within the Executing Agency.

- Project resources were managed in a cost-effective manner. Due to the geography of the project area, travel between project divisions is expensive and time-consuming, and this was a major constraint for budget management. To address this, certain project activities - particularly consultations and workshops with stakeholders - were arranged in combination with other events with the goal of minimizing staffing and resource costs.

- Monitoring and reporting of project activities was transparent, and annual workplans and progress reports were received for the first two years of project implementation (Year 1: March 2016 – 2017 and Year 2: March 2017 – March 2018). However, reporting of the completion of project activities at times lacked clarity. Specifically, some reports were

named and organized in an inconsistent and confusing manner, and the links between deliverables and relevant project activities and indicators as described in the initial Project Document were not always clear.

- Communication between the Executing Agency and APFNet was conducted on a regular basis and in a satisfactory manner, and no specific issues have been reported by either party. Communication between the Executing Agency and the three Implementing Agencies was satisfactory although sometimes delayed.

- The project demonstrated strong stakeholder participation and public awareness of project activities. These elements were accounted for in the design of this output and were documented in a satisfactory manner.

4.3 Effectiveness

- The project's strategy and approaches for the achievement of project objectives have been highly effective, particularly in light of the contextual challenges presented in Section 3.1 of this report. Progress on the project's activities and outputs has been satisfactory to date (see Section 3.3). Most activities have been completed within projected timelines from the Project Document and the annual working plans for years 1 and 2, with the exception of a few activities which have been delayed (see APR1 & APR2). Remaining activities and outputs can reasonably be expected to be completed by the end of the project lifespan, and the delays are not expected to impede the full achievement of project objectives.

4.4 Impacts

- Deliverables for project activities (e.g. FMPs, implementation strategies) have been developed in close consultation with forestry stakeholders and beneficiaries through a series of consultations and workshops across the three economies. Stakeholder events have been well-attended by representatives from government agencies, private sector entities, NGOs and local landowners and have generated open discussions that have informed the implementation of further project activities. Participants of consultations, workshops and training events have reported highly positive feedback and project activities have been reported as useful and relevant for beneficiaries.

- Project activities led to the successful development and strengthening of regulatory frameworks for sustainable forest and tree resource management in Tonga, Niue and Fiji, and this has already contributed to the improved success of local enforcement activities. The project has also directly supported capacity building for beneficiaries through a study tour to Tasmania and through training activities for forestry enforcement officers. The project has provided support to the development of biomass harvesting regulations in Fiji. It has also raised awareness about the significant positive economic and environmental impacts of building a sustainable sandalwood sector. This has resulted in increased sandalwood plantings in Tonga and has generated heightened interest in developing a sustainable Pacific Standard for sandalwood harvesting and trade across the three economies.

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- To date, the project has successfully fostered awareness regarding the risks of poor environmental management decisions in the logging community as well as in the general population of the three project economies. The project has further increased awareness of the benefits of sustainable forest and tree management and environmental conservation in Tonga, Niue and Fiji.

4.5 Sustainability & Duplicability

- Project outputs are very likely to have long-lasting positive impacts following project termination, as they were developed in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders and will be incorporated into formal forest and tree resource management processes by the governments of Tonga, Niue and Fiji.

- The design of the project's outputs and activities are considered duplicable and scalable to larger areas. This would require appropriate background research and review by stakeholders and government officers to tailor approaches and best-practices to other contexts, as well as streamlined monitoring and reporting of project activities.

- To date project activities are not able to self-sustain financially. A lack of funding and staff resources has been identified as one of the main challenges for successful project completion (see Section 3.1). Nevertheless, the project has contributed to significantly increased awareness and interest in sustainable forest and tree resource management. This is particularly the case for biomass harvesting in Fiji, and for sandalwood harvesting and trade in Fiji, Tonga and Niue. It can be expected that by the time the project has been completed, increased recognition of the economic potential of sustainable forest resource management will support the generation of other funding resources for project-related follow-ups.

4.6 Overall Rating Table

Criterion	Description of Strong Performance	Description of Poor Performance	Evaluator's rating	Evaluator's Brief Justification
Relevance of Project Design	The project scope is relevant to local context and addresses local priorities. Project design and evaluation framework is closely linked to project objectives.	The project scope is not relevant to local context and does not address local priorities. Project design and evaluation framework are not closely linked to project objectives.	3	The project scope was relevant and appropriate to local context. There was some redundancy and lack of clarity in the formulation of outputs, activities and indicators. Nevertheless, project design and evaluation frameworks were closely linked to project objectives.
Efficiency	Project activities were conducted in an efficient and transparent manner in terms of financial management, cost-effectiveness, monitoring and reporting, stakeholder participation and	Project activities were inefficient and were not reported transparently in terms of financial management, cost-effectiveness, monitoring and reporting, stakeholder participation and	2	Project activities were conducted in a cost-effective manner, and stakeholder participation was highly satisfactory. Overall performance of project management and implementation bodies was subject to internal delays but was

	overall performance of project management and implementation bodies.	overall performance of project management and implementation bodies.		satisfactory. Financial management and monitoring and reporting of project activities was conducted transparently but at times lacked timeliness and clarity.
Effectiveness	Implementation and progress of project activities and outputs has been highly effective and will lead to the full achievement of project objectives.	Implementation and progress of project activities and outputs has been highly ineffective and full achievement of project objectives is unlikely.	3	Implementation and progress of project activities and outputs has been highly effective. The completion of some activities has been delayed but the full achievement of project objectives is expected by the end of Y3.
Impacts	Project activities have had a positive impact in terms of stakeholder benefits and capacity building. Project activities have increased public awareness regarding sustainable forest management.	Project activities have had a negative impact in terms of stakeholder benefits and have not contributed to capacity building. Project activities have fostered negative perceptions regarding sustainable forest management.	4	Project activities have included high stakeholder involvement and have had a positive impact for capacity building and economic benefits. Project activities have further increased public awareness regarding the benefits of sustainable forest management.
Sustainability & Duplicability	Project impacts are expected to continue following project completion and are financially sustainable. The project can successfully be duplicated and scaled up in other regions.	Project impacts are not likely to be sustained following project completion and are not financially sustainable. The project cannot be expected to be duplicated or scaled up in other regions.	3	Project impacts are expected to continue following project completion. Financial sustainability is unclear to date. The project can successfully be duplicated and scaled up in other regions.
Overall Score	The project embodies the description of strong overall performance according to the indicators outlined above to a *very good* extent.	The project embodies the description of a strong overall performance according to the indicators outlined above to a *poor* extent.	3	The project embodies the description of a strong overall performance according to the indicators outlined above to a *good* extent.

5. Lessons Learned & Recommendations

5.1. Lessons Learned

Overall the project has progressed successfully in its first two years of implementation and has been met with support and enthusiasm by stakeholders in Fiji, Tonga and Niue. Results to date are expected to have long-lasting positive impacts, as project outputs are being fully integrated into the Economies' national regulatory frameworks for forest and tree resource management.

Notably, the project has been successful despite several significant challenges that have arisen over the course of the project's implementation period to date, including a general lack of

resources (staff and financial) across the three Economies, significant shifts in leadership and agendas both within the Executing Agency team and within the Implementing Agency teams since project inception, as well as recent natural disasters in both Fiji and Tonga.

This success can likely be attributed to relevant and flexible project design and implementation approaches. The project importantly accounts for priorities of and local contexts in the Project Economies and has successfully communicated trade-offs and potential benefits of improved forest and tree resource management to stakeholders through awareness-raising activities and campaigns. This has been particularly successful in the case of sandalwood.

Limited staffing and funding resources and complex institutional contexts within the Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies have contributed to the delay of some project activities. Project management has responded relatively well by maximizing resource-use efficiency (for instance by combining project activities with other regional events) and adapting project timelines. Project success to date underscores the importance of a dedicated Executing Agency team, as well as of the selection of a qualified Chief Technical Adviser who has contributed to the high quality of project outputs.

Additional limitations for project progress are principally related to a lack of efficiency in terms of project management. While project management has been transparent, there have been notable delays both in the implementation and reporting of project activities. Similarly, there have been delays in the reporting of project financial statements. Redundancy and a lack of clearly defined outputs and terminology in initial project design are reflected in project reporting, which is at time inconsistent and confusing. These limitations are not expected to impede the successful achievement of all project objectives by project completion. Still, addressing them through streamlined processes and capacity building would increase the success of future APFNet activities in the Project Economies.

5.2. Recommendations

Based on the mid-term evaluation for the Capacity Building Towards Effective Implementation of Sustainable Forest Management Practices in Fiji, Tonga & Niue Project, the following recommendations are proposed to improve current project management and to facilitate the development of future programs.

1. Improve the documentation and reporting process for project activities and outputs by a) using consistent terminology; and b) establishing clear links between activity indicators and deliverables.

2. Clarify the formulation of outputs and activities to minimize redundancies in their scope. Ensure that indicators are measurable and define the expected deliverables under each activity and output in a checklist to be included and updated in the Project Document, Annual Working Plans and Annual Progress Reports.

3. Ensure that changes in output or activity scope are reflected in Annual Progress Report documentation. For instance, if activities are combined or if their contents are modified to reflect changes in context, management approach or beneficiary priorities, changes should be officially approved by APFNet. The reformulation of original outputs, activities and/or indicators may then be documented in an amendment to the relevant Annual Progress Report.

4. Include capacity-building and training regarding APFNet Project Management processes and expectations for the Executing and Implementing Agency Teams, for instance through local or regional workshops.

5. Improve APFNet project management guidelines for Project Economies, for instance through the development and dissemination of guidelines and templates for streamlined project monitoring and technical and financial reporting of APFNet projects.

Annex A. List of Documents consulted

General Project Documentation

- Project Agreement
- Project Document
- Annual Work Plan #1 Mar 2016 – Mar 2017 (AWP1)
- Annual Work Plan #2 Mar 2017 – Mar 2018 (AWP2)
- Annual Project Progress Report #1 Mar 2016 – Mar 2017 (APR1)
- Draft Annual Project Progress Report #2 Mar 2017 – Mar 2018 (APR2)
- Financial Report Apr 2016 – Mar 2017
- Financial Report Apr 2017 – Sep 2017

Output A

Activity A.1
- Report P1 *"Regional Inception Workshop & 1st PSC Meeting Minutes"*

Activity A.2
- Report T3 *"Inception Workshop Tonga"*
- Report F1 *"Inception Workshop Fiji"*
- Report N2 *"Inception Workshop Niue"*

Activity A.3
- Report P2 "*Minutes of the 2nd PSC Meeting*"

Activity A.4
- Report T3wc *"Tonga Working Committee - Minutes of Inaugural Meeting"*
- Report T9wc *"Tonga Working Committee – Minutes"*

Output 1.1

Activity 1.1.1
- Report T1*"Background Report for the Formulation of a Management Plan for the Forest and Tree Resources of Tonga, Feb. 2016"*

Activity 1.1.2
- Report T4 "*Report on the Consultations for the Formulation of a Management Plan for the Forests and Tree Resources of Tonga, 18-29 April 2016*"

Output 1.2

Activities 1.2.1 & 1.2.2
- Report T5 *"FMP for Tonga, 2017"*
- Report T9 *"Report on the Consultation with Stakeholders and Training for Forestry Officers on the draft Management Plan for the Forests and Tree Resources of Tonga and the Sandalwood Regulations"*

Activities 1.2.3 & 1.2.4
- Report N0 *"FMP for Niue, 2013"*

Outputs 2.1 & 2.2

Activity 2.1.1 & Activity 2.2.1
- Report T2 *"Options for strengthening the regulatory framework for the sustainable management of the forest and tree resources of Tonga"*

- Report N1 *"Options for strengthening the regulatory framework for sustainable forest management in Niue"*
- Report F4 *"Options for strengthening the regulatory framework for the implementation of the Fiji Forest Harvesting Code of Practice and the harvesting and trade of sandalwood"*

Activity 2.1.2 & Activity 2.2.2
- Report T9 *"Report on the Consultation with Stakeholders and Training for Forestry Officers on the draft Management Plan for the Forests and Tree Resources of Tonga and the Sandalwood Regulations"*
- Report N3 *"Report on consultations for the implementation of the forest management plan for Niue"*
- Report F3 *"Report on consultations to discuss potential actions to strengthen the regulatory framework for the implementation of the Fiji Forest Harvesting Code of Practice and the harvesting and trade of sandalwood in Fiji"*

<u>*Activity 2.1.3*</u>
- Report P3 *"Study Tour of SFM in Tasmania"*

Output 2.3

<u>*Activity 2.3.2*</u>
- Report T6 *"Summary of the Management Plan 2016 for the Forests and Tree Resources of Tonga"*

<u>*Activity 2.3.3*</u>
- Report T10 *"Report on the mission to conduct consultations and training for forestry officers on forest law enforcement in Tonga"*
- Report N4 *"Report on consultations in Niue for the potential development of a native forest harvesting and processing sector and potential planting of sandalwood"*
- Report F3 *"Report on consultations to discuss potential actions to strengthen the regulatory framework for the implementation of the Fiji Forest Harvesting Code of Practice and the harvesting and trade of sandalwood in Fiji"*

<u>*Activity 2.3.5*</u>
- Report F6 *"Report on training in forest law enforcement for forestry*
- *officers in Fiji"*
- Report T10 *"Report on the mission to conduct consultations and training for forestry officers on forest law enforcement in Tonga"*

Output 2.4

<u>*Activity 2.4.1*</u>
- Report F7 *"Training handbook on forest law enforcement"*

<u>*Activity 2.4.3*</u>
- Report F6 *"Report on training in forest law enforcement for forestry officers in Fiji"*
- Report T10 *"Report on the mission to conduct consultations and training for forestry officers on forest law enforcement in Tonga"*

Results Dissemination
- Report T11 *"Newsletter on Tonga's Forest values"*

Annex B. Field Mission Itinerary (July 22-28, 2018)

Date/Time	Activity	Place	Responsible person
Monday 23 July	Travelling to Fiji from California and Beijing		APFNet
Tuesday 24ᵗʰ July			
12.00 noon	Pick up from Nausori Airport	Nausori/Suva	Jalesi
2.00pm	Travel to SPC LRD office	Narere	Jalesi
2.30pm	Meeting with the SPC project team	Narere	Evaluation team
5.00pm	Travel back to the hotel	Narere/Suva	Jalesi
Wednesday 25ᵗʰ July			
9.15am	Travel to Ministry of Forest HQ	Suva	Jalesi
9.30am	Meeting with Forestry officials	MoF HQ, Suva	Evaluation team
11.30am	Travel to Eltech Ltd	Suva/Nabou	Jalesi
3.00pm	Meeting with Eltech Ltd	Nabou	Evaluation team
4.15pm	Travel to Nadi	Nabou/Nadi	Jalesi
Thursday 26ᵗʰ July			
PM	Travel to Tonga		
Friday 27ᵗʰ July			
9.00am	Meeting with Forestry officials	Tongamalolo	
11.00am – 3.00pm	Field visit	Tongatapu	
Saturday 28ᵗʰJuly	AM: Debrief the tentative Mid-term Evaluation results PM: Depart for Nadi FJ210 Tonga/Nadi (1650 1720) Departure of Consultant FJ870 Nadi/San Francisco (2215 1345)		
Sunday 29ᵗʰJuly	Return to China FJ391 Nadi/Hongkong 0820 1450 CA110 Hongkong/Beijing 1730 2115		

Annex C. APFNet Midterm Evaluation Meetings – Participant List

July 24th, SPC Meeting
Mr. Jalesi Mateboto – Natural Resource Management Advisor (Acting)
Ms. Bale Wilikibau – PA (Sustainable Forest and Landscape Management Programme)
Ms. Loraini Baleilomaloma – Forestry Technician
Ms. Elina Young – Tree Seed Technician

July 25th, Forestry Division Fiji Meeting
Mr. Semi Dranibaka – Director Research and Development (Deputy Conservator of Forests)
Mr. Manasa Luvunakoro – Principal, Forestry Training Center (APFNet Focal Point)
Mr. Jale Tauraga – Principal Silviculturist (Silviculture Research Division)
Mr. Tevita Bulai – Principal Utilisation Officer (Wood Utilisation Division)
Mr. Apisai Rinamalo – Acting Principal Forestry Officer, (Divisional Forestry Office Central/Eastern)

July 25th, Eltech Ltd. Meeting
Mr. George Vuki – General Manager, Biomass Division

July 27th, Forestry Division Tonga Meeting
Mr. Sione Fifita – Agriculture Teacher, Tupou College
Mr. Steven Hamani – Senior Forestry Officer, Tongatapu
Mr. Viliami K. Kato – Acting Head of Forestry.

July 27th, former Head of Forestry Division Tonga Meeting
Mr. Tevita Faka' Osi – Project Advisor, GEF/FAO Projec