

### MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT TUNA FISHING IN THE PACIFIC — WCPFC FACT SHEETS

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Ever wondered how countries negotiate the rules on tuna fishing? Do you know how international decisions between Pacific Islands countries and the world's biggest fishing countries are made? Do you know what the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) is, or what it is doing to control fishing and illegal fishing activities?

These questions and more are answered in a set of WCPFC fact sheets produced by the GEF-funded Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (OFMP). Written for non-governmental organisations and fishing industry association as well as high schools, universities, government department staff, media and others interested in fishing issues, the WCPFC fact sheets are presented with photos, diagrams and easy-to-read explanations of the technical and political decisions made at the WCPFC.

WCPFC is the central decision-making body for managing tuna fisheries in the western and central Pacific Ocean. WCPFC's

conservation and management measures (CMMs) are legally binding and apply to all WCPFC members and the Convention Area. Whereas members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) are from the Pacific Islands region, WCPFC members are FFA members and members of distant-water fishing nations.

WCPFC's current members include Australia, China, Canada, Cook Islands, European Community, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Chinese Taipei, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America and Vanuatu. Out of a total of 32 participating territories and members of WCPFC, over half (17) are FFA members, forming a significant voting bloc (although to date, WCPFC decisions have been made by consensus).

The western and central Pacific Ocean accounted for 54% of the world's tuna catch in 2007,

making tuna a key economic resource. Increasingly, industry, environmental organisations and the international community are closely monitoring the outcomes of WCPFC annual meetings.

Fact sheet 1: Managing a global food resource: A Fisheries Commission and Convention for the Pacific

Fact sheet 2: Members of the WCPFC

Fact sheet 3: How does the WCPFC make decisions?

Fact sheet 4: What has WCPFC done so far?

Fact sheet 5: How WCPFC enforces the rules

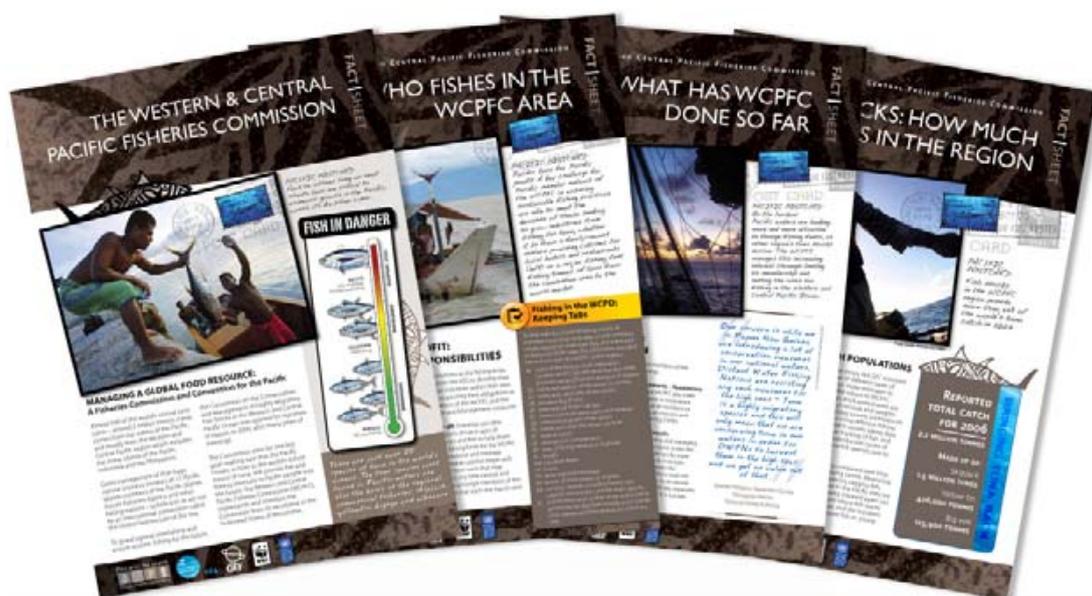
Fact sheet 6: What Pacific islands are doing to manage tuna fishing

Fact sheet 7: Tuna stocks: how much tuna is in the region?

Fact sheet 8: How tuna is fished in the WCPFC area

Fact sheet 9: Who fishes in the WCPFC area?

Fact sheet 10: What happened at WCPFC 5?



All fact sheets can be freely downloaded in PDF format, from:  
<http://www.ffa.int/gef/factsheets>