



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique

Papua New Guinea

statement

1. CLIMATE CHANGE

What national climate change activities or initiatives are underway to manage and adapt to the impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture?

Current activities:

- i) Institutional strengthening by restoring focus on core functions of NFA by strengthening Fisheries Management, **MCS tools & infrastructure and Competent Authority role and functions.**
- ii) Modernising the fishery management plans, including streamlining climate change into fisheries management through the review of Fishery Management Plans for all fisheries of national importance.
- iii) **Review and development of Inshore and Coastal Fisheries Roadmap.**
- iv) Continuing the coastal fisheries programmes - seaweed farming, inshore FAD, Trap Net Fishery, to increase fish production for communities, but at the same time decreasing effort on the reef systems and ultimately increasing food security.
- v) Research initiatives for new fishery trialling - sea cucumber farming (*Holothuria scabra*) at Nago Island Research facility for restocking and introduction of sea ranching of BDM, and hatchery production of giant freshwater prawns, milkfish culture, optimising production of hinterland species.
- vi) Roll out integrated coastal management programmes - EBFM Plans for large marine ecosystems (Fly-Kikori Delta, Coral reef rehabilitation, Mangrove Reforestation, provincial resource profiling)

Cont.

Planned activities:

- i) National Tuna Management Advisory Committee to provide strategic advice, including impacts of climate change on tuna industry for the National Fisheries Board.
- ii) Fisheries Scientific Research Committee to strengthen scientific advice, including climate change impacts, at the national level.
- iii) Review National Aquaculture Development Plan 2010 & develop a new PNG Aquaculture Strategy, as part of the fishery management modernisation theme.
- iv) Following the successful MSC certification of PNG skipjack and yellowfin tuna fishery, NFA will further support MSC certification for all the fishery products in Papua New Guinea, including prawn, lobster, and crab, amongst others.
- v) Research into the population structures of tuna stocks in PNG to delineate migrating versus non-migrating populations. The objective of this activity is to understand the response of the tuna stocks toward climate perturbations / climate change, within the EEZ of PNG.
- vi) Roll out of small craft monitoring system for coastal artisanal fisheries sector.
- vii) Building strategic partnerships with research partners to initiate blue/green carbon, and reef finfish biology/ecology research initiatives.
- viii) Partnering with Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies on blue economy initiatives.
- ix) Finalising and submission of legislative amendments to Fisheries Act to incorporate aquaculture and other important provisions.

2. COVID-19 IMPACTS

What are your national fisheries and aquaculture current and planned activities to reduce the residual impacts of COVID-19 on food security, livelihoods, and economic growth?

Current activities:

- i) Policy on fisheries observer utilization and management (national and regional).
- ii) Research into the economic impacts of COVID 19 on the fisheries processing, fishing and the associated business and how this has affected the contribution of the fisheries sector to the PNG economy.
- iii) Value-adding of fisheries products through SME support.
- iv) Nationwide aquaculture database survey aimed at understanding the impacts of COVID 19 to fish farmers.
- v) Nationwide tilapia & carp satellite hatchery establishments to increase food security of rural communities.

Cont.

Planned activities:

- i) Development research for new fisheries including prawn, deep sea snappers, multi-species finfish, squid.
- ii) Developing value-adding strategies, post-harvest handling and market for fisheries products for commercially viable species so as to diversity the national market potential and improve post COVID 19 economic recovery.
- iii) Conducting fisheries and aquaculture resource assessment (biology, ecology, socio-economics) to evaluate impact of COVID 19 on coastal fisheries and aquaculture.
- iv) Conducting value chain studies/analysis on semi-commercial aquaculture products (Tilapia cage farming & trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) farming to improve community economic recovery.
- v) Conducting a feasibility study and economic viability assessment of local fish feed mill development to address the logistical impediments for fish feed access emerging from COVID 19.



Tenkyu tru