

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

QUARTERLY REPORT

JANUARY-MARCH 2021 // PREPARED BY CA TEAM

Table of Contents

Executive Summary: Page 1

- 1.0 Introduction: Page 2
- 2.0 Message from the CA advisor: Page 2
- 3.0 New CA staff: Page 3
- 4.0 Organization of the CA: Page 4
- 5.0 Training: Page 5-7
- 6.0 Official Control Undertakings: Page 8-12
- 7.0 Workshops/Meetings: Page 13-21
- 8.0 Budget: Page 22
- 9.0 Projects: Page 23
- 10.0 First Quarter Review: Page 24-25
- 11.0 Reports: Page 26
- 12.0 Summary of CA undertakings: Page 27
- 13.0 Achievement: Page 28
- 14.0 Challenges: Page 28
- 15.0 Conclusion: Page 29
- 16.0 Recommendation: Page 29



Executive Summary

New Opportunities Arise for the RMI

The inspection and certification services of the RMI seafood exports have been limited to the USA, Pacific, and Asian markets over the years.

Over the last ten years, there have been culminating interests for exports to the European Union (EU) market. As the Republic of the Marshall Islands' Majuro port is one of the major transshipment ports in the Pacific Region, an opportunity for containerization and diversification of seafood export exists. This initiative is envisaged to bring in direct and indirect benefits to the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Furthermore, it provides the opportunity for tuna from qualified EU vessels to be exported to EU-approved countries for further processing, thus ensuring more economic and investment opportunities.

To access the European Union, the RMI is required to establish a Competent Authority to enable such exports. The Competent Authority is a term given by the EU to an entity that provides independent verification to confirm that seafood products are fit for export. The work of the Competent Authority has only really taken off in the last 2- 3 years. Though the intent is to improve products and seafood establishment standards for the EU market, the benefit will be seen in the overall improvement in the RMI seafood export sector.

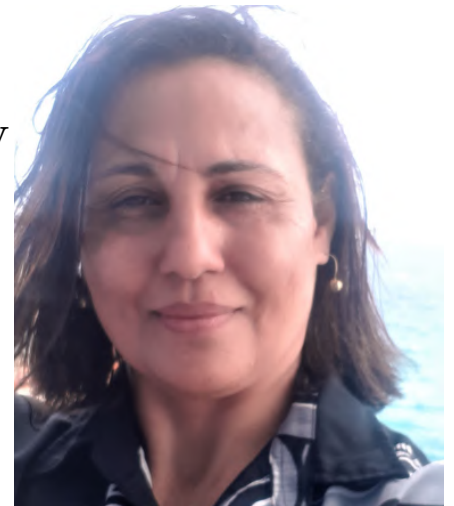


1.0 Introduction

This report is part to a series of quarterly reports that will provide an up-to-date status of the Competent Authority, providing a basis to measure key performance indicators as per its annual work program. This report also provides a mean to track progress and - as necessary - make adjustments or improvements to achieving its key objectives.

2.0 Message from the CA Advisor

The CA market access journey for RMI has only come to fruition in the last 2-3 years, though over the last 5-10 years the talk of establishing an RMI Competent Authority has been a focal point of discussion.



Diversifying to the European Market is a challenge due to the numerous market requirements that must be fulfilled. The benefits of accessing the EU market are seen to outweigh the strict market rules and regulations. Only four (4) Pacific Islands countries - namely PNG, Solomon Islands, Fiji, and Kiribati - have access to the European market and are now enjoying the benefits such as onshore investment and duty-free market access. The experience of those Pacific Island nations that access the EU market, can act as a learning curve for the RMI in moving forward for the development of Competent Authority.



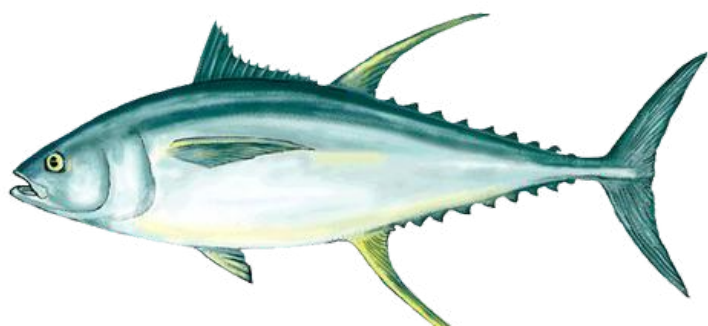
3.0 The new additions to the team.

**The Competent Authority welcomes new team members
Lyla Lemari and Tatiana Shoniber on this pioneering
journey.**



Lyla Lemari

"After transitioning out from Coastal division and starting a new journey as one of the Competent Authority Officers, I will further my skills and knowledge in the fisheries perspective. It's only the beginning and must I say that this is a big step to guide RMI and ensuring all expectations to access the EU market. Looking forward to kicking off this new journey alongside the CA team. *Food safety is our business too!*"

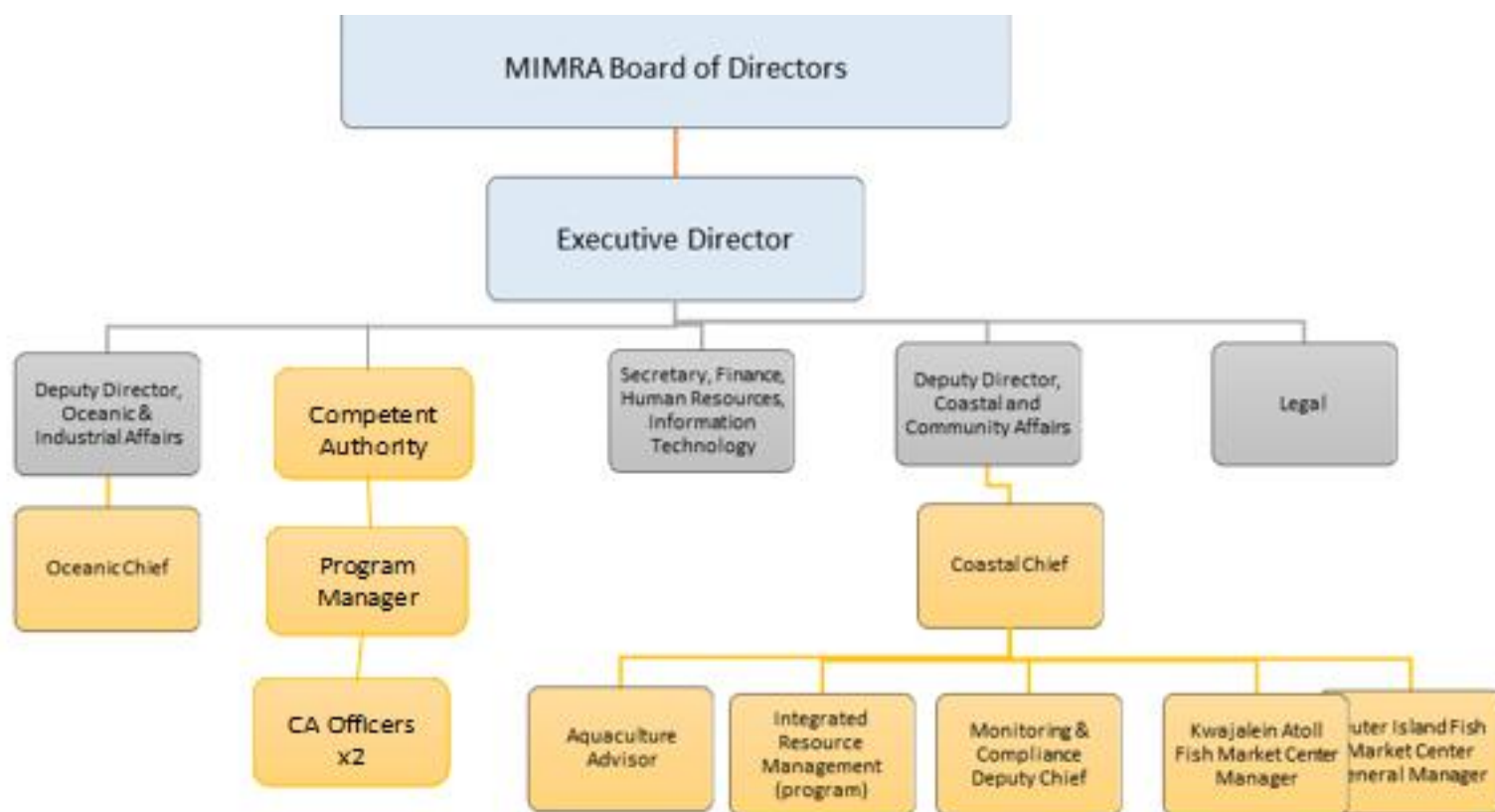


Tatiana Shoniber

"I've recently been recruited to become a CA officer and I must say it is a huge job. I do have some experience within fisheries as I worked as a shipping agent and landing site manager. For this job, you need knowledge of fisheries, food safety, EU regulations, science-based sampling and testing, inspections, etc. to say the least. I'm excited to see the future for the fisheries industry of the Marshall Islands especially as a seafood exporter to the EU, which has the utmost highest standards for food products."



4.0 Organization of the Competent Authority



5.0 Training

With the recruitment of the two new CA team members, in-house training was carried out to provide the CA officers an understanding of the roles of the Competent Authority, including officer's roles and responsibilities. Practical aspects of the operations such as inspection, sampling, and testing were also introduced alongside the procedures involved. Below is a list of some of the training areas and information provided to the CA officers for the first quarter of 2021.

Industry Standards

The RMI Seafood Industry Standards is underpinned by the Fish Processing and Export Regulation 2020 and Title 51 MIRC. The Standards act as a basis for all requirements from plant infrastructure to operational, export certification, and product specifics for the fish business operator to fulfill in order to meet international export standards. This is auditable by the Competent Authority. Specific market requirements are inclusive.

National Control Plan (NCP)

The NCP is a foundation of the Competent Authority. It simplifies and consolidates all the necessary obligations of the CA and is seen as providing a means of equivalency to the EU requirements.



Role of the CA officer/ Fish Safety Inspector

PAGE 06

The CA officers (fish safety officer) must understand their role and obligations that are demanded and required of them as CA officers acting on behalf of the RMI government. Aspects such as the Code of Ethics of the CA officials and approach in carrying out official duties were introduced and re-iterated.

Inspection Procedures and Record Keeping

The core activity of the CA is administering the official controls. This involves theory on inspection and the various elements related to this process, as well as the practical application thereof including the important aspects of timely action on reports on both the part of the CA and the operator and up to date record keeping.

Sampling & Testing

Sampling and testing complement the work of the CA to verify the practices of the operator under which fish is being prepared. Sampling and Testing act as a verification tool also for the CA to target official control activities e.g., monitor environmental monitoring parameters within the establishment and verifying the establishment's sanitation and hygiene control program. At the same time, sampling and testing act as a tool to monitor various contaminants or hazards that are associated with fish and to make sure the products do not contain elevated levels of hazardous substances that can be detrimental to consumers' health.

Officers mentorship

Officers were given the opportunity to make a presentation on HACCP, Sampling and Testing to the industry as part of their training. The challenge was taken up and both CA officers performed exceptionally. More such training mentorship is anticipated as it provides a means and mechanism for fast learning.



Mentoring and Training Presentation

This opportunity is provided to gauge confidence in various aspect of the CA, thus doing presentations on a topic provides that confidence. More such training is anticipated.



Presentation by Tatiana on HACCP during the industry training.



Presentation by Lyla on Testing and Sampling.



6.0 Official Control Undertakings

Inspections

Competent Authority conducted inspections of 4 major stakeholders for Fisheries in the Marshall Islands in February 2021: KMI, PPF, MIFV, PII.



Kendall Micronesia Inc. (KMI)

Kendall Micronesia Inc. (KMI). KMI is a business which utilizes a processing/canning facility. The Competent Authority conducted an inspection on the facility, completed a report, and sent it to the owner, Yen. Yen mentions they have not been able to fully run the facility due to the lack of Fishing Vessels coming into the Marshall Islands due to strict Covid-19 vessel regulations. If under normal operations, the business would be packaging fish noodles and sending them out to suppliers.



Pan Pacific Foods (PPF)

Pacific Pan Foods (PPF) is a processing and loining facility. The CA team inspected the site and layout, processing area, equipment, cool storage, and related aspects of the establishments. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the facility has not been processing any fish for about a year. The restrictions and mandatory quarantining (14 days out at sea with no contact with other vessels and ports) have steered the company's vessels away from the Marshall Islands to Tarawa, Kiribati as their restrictions are less strict.



Marshall Islands Fishing Venture (MIFV)

Marshall Island Fishing Venture (MIFV) is a processing plant that ships out sashimi tuna and vacuum-packed fresh chilled loins. Yellowfin tuna is longline-caught fish from the chartered Chinese vessels. The company's products airships to the US and Japan. The CA team conducted inspections on the processing facility, landing site, and long-line fishing vessels. The long-line fishing vessels fish within the Marshall Islands archipelagic waters and comes back inside the lagoon to make sure Covid-19 quarantining restrictions for vessels do not apply to them, unless contact is made with other vessels (except crew must remain on board and are not allowed to come onto land). The company continues processing fish and airlifting to its final destination. The CA team also conducted inspections on two of their long-line vessels, Clear Water 06 & Shen Lian Cheng 786, to evaluate the state and condition and food safety practices and measures on the vessels from which MIFV sources fish for export.



Pacific International Inc. (PII)

Pacific International Inc. (PII) has a landing site for their containerization. The company offloads fish from the fishing vessels into containers that are sent to a designated buyer. The Competent Authority inspected the dockage area that is being used for the containerization process. The CA Team was able to observe the operations of unloading, stuffing activity taking place. The equipment and hygiene practices and amenities were also observed and inspected respectively, including evaluating five (5) fish as part of the CA organoleptic assessment.



7.0 Workshops & Meetings



Pictured above are the key players in the Fisheries Industry of the Marshall Islands with the Competent Authority.

Fish Processing and Export Regulation Industry Stakeholders Workshop

The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the promulgated *Fish Processing and Export Regulation 2020*, and its Schedules, the *RMI Seafood Standards* and the *National Control Plan*, which reiterate the roles and responsibilities that each stakeholder will play in order to enter the European Union market. Brief presentation about the EU market was provided as information to stakeholders.



Port State Measures

An in-house presentation was carried out to the MIMRA staff where the CA participated to understand the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA).

The **Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA)** is the first binding international agreement to specifically target **illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing**. Its objective is to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing by preventing vessels engaged in IUU fishing from using ports and landing their catches. In this way, the PSMA reduces the incentive of such vessels to continue to operate while it also blocks fishery products derived from IUU fishing from reaching national and international markets. The effective implementation of the PSMA ultimately contributes to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources and marine ecosystems. The provisions of the PSMA apply to fishing vessels seeking entry into a designated port of a State which is different from their flag State.

Did you know?

- The PSMA entered into force in June 2016. By the first year and a half, more than a third of countries were Parties to it.
- The PSMA applies to fishing vessels seeking entry into a port other than those of their own State.
- One in every five fish caught around the world every year is thought to originate from IUU fishing, valued at \$10 - \$23 billion annually. Implementing the PSMA is one of the most cost-effective means to curb IUU fishing.



MCS in House Presentation

A general presentation was made to the CA team and others on MCS roles and functions within MIMRA. This presentation provided understanding to the CA team on MCS, Port State, other regional and sub-regional organizations, and the CDS scheme of things in the fisheries sector. Also showcased were tools employed by MIMRA to combat IUU and monitor and record catches among others. The presentation provided extensive background information to the CA officers' work and operations. The presentation was made by Beau Bigler, Chief Oceanic Fisheries Officer.

Regional Port Monitoring Workshop

The CA team participated in the 3rd meeting of the Regional Port Monitoring Workshop which was scheduled from 2nd to 4th March 2021. The workshop focuses on raising FFA members' awareness on the Fisheries Forum Commission (FFC) adopted Regional Port State Measures Framework (RPSMF). Members were given the opportunity during the workshop to discuss and identify national PSM priorities for FFA Secretariat support. The workshop was held virtually via the Zoom Meeting platform



1st Catch Documentation and Enhancing Compliance Workshop (CDECW1)

The CA Team participated in the above workshop organized by FFA from the 09th -11th March 2021 and provided knowledge of the importance of the CDS in fish traceability, through the verification and validation of pacific caught tuna and the mechanisms and process involved.

In short, “**CDS**” means a system with the primary purpose of determining throughout the supply chain whether fish originate from catches taken consistent with applicable national, regional, and international conservation and management measures, established by relevant international obligations, hereinafter referred to as “CDS”.

In past Technical workshops, FFA members have indicated a commitment to the development of a regional framework and associated standards towards the adoption of a catch documentation scheme (CDS).

In response, the FFA Secretariat is implementing the Catch Documentation and Enhancing Compliance (CDEC) project through funding support from New Zealand to ensure that FFA members' CDS needs and priorities are identified and addressed.

The main purpose of the CDECW1 is to:

- Provide an update to members on the implementation status of the CDEC project
- Table the draft Regional CDS Framework to FFA members for discussions,
- Establish some understanding of what a regional and national CDS will look like and entail
- Agree on an outcome to table to the MCSWG24



Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA)

The CA team was invited to be observers in one of the PNA meetings firsthand to gauge some understanding of the vital role PNA plays in the region.

The Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) controls the world's largest sustainable tuna purse seine fishery. PNA Members are Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu.

Seen as the global leader in tuna conservation and management, PNA controls around 50% of the global supply of skipjack tuna, the most commonly canned tuna.

PNA efforts to sustainably manage tuna is largely based on their Vessel Day Scheme (VDS). Through the VDS, PNA members agree on a limited number of fishing days for the year, based on scientific advice about the status of the tuna stocks. Fishing days are then allocated by country and sold to the highest bidder. This way, Pacific Islanders reap economic benefits from their sustainable management of tuna.



Fish4ACP

The CA team participated in the meeting, organized using virtual platforms (Zoom)

Objectives of the virtual meeting: 1) Introduce the FISH4ACP project, methodology, and the project team to RMI national and local government stakeholders. 2) Initiate a participatory discussion with the stakeholders on the potential upgrading strategies for the value chain, as well as the potential impacts of these strategies. 3) Provide an opportunity to consult the stakeholders on their potential engagement in the implementation of the upgrading strategies. The target participants are the government stakeholders of the purse seine tuna value chain in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

FISH4ACP is an initiative of the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS) contributing to food and nutrition security, economic prosperity, and job creation by ensuring the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture value chains in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. It is implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and partners with funding from the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), in coordination with ongoing developmental initiatives in the fisheries industry by the Government of the RMI and the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority.



Environmental Monitoring

The CA team participated in the virtual presentation of the Framework initiative of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the RMI government.

The Country Programme Framework (CPF) constitutes the framework for the provision of Technical Cooperation (TC) between the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the period 2022–2027. The CPF intends to promote, to the fullest possible extent, the utilization of radiation-based facilities and related expertise to support the socio-economic development of the country as well as to integrate nuclear techniques into the National Strategic Plan. Such integration will enhance the relevance of nuclear sciences and applications, and thereby promote advocacy and potentially build partnerships with various stakeholders, increasing their contribution towards achieving national development goals.

The lead agencies listed below will play a significant role in providing feedback and moving this project forwards,

1. Radiation Safety and Security - lead by EPA
2. Food and Agriculture- Food safety lead by MoHHS/Agriculture lead by NRC
3. Health and Nutrition- lead MoHHS
4. Water and Environment- co-lead by EPA and MIMRA



Sampling and Monitoring Course attended by Lyla Lemari

"The remote training program is part of the IAEA Technical Cooperation Project MHL 7003 to develop national radioactivity monitoring capacity within the Marshall Islands. The objective of the training course is to inform and develop the knowledge and skills of Marshallese trainees to undertake national radiation protection practices and environmental monitoring programs. The training program was developed and delivered by IAEA in collaboration with the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA). The training course contained multiple presentations on Monitoring strategy and basic concepts, Radiation basics, and application to dose, Environmental sampling techniques, Gamma spectrometry, Laboratory quality system, Data assessment, interpretation, and program evaluation." -Lyla

Date	Session	Module	Overview
Tuesday 2 March	2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Welcome to Teams and orientation	An introduction to Microsoft Teams, the collaboration tool that will be used for presenting all training, as a repository for all information with many more ways to interact remotely. Presented by Dr Megan Cook.
Wednesday 3 March	10:00 am – 11:30 am	Monitoring strategy and basic concepts	The importance of baseline characterisation, setting a monitoring strategy and how to successfully plan a radiological monitoring program. Presented by Dr Megan Cook.
Wednesday 3 March	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Radiation basics and application to dose	Types of radiation, how to measure them and what the data means for radiation dose to people. Presented by Dr Stephen Long.
Thursday 4 March	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Environmental sampling techniques	How to determine the radionuclides of interest, the different approaches to sampling and minimising uncertainty in sampling. Presented by Liesel Green.
Thursday 4 March	2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Gamma spectrometry	Basic concepts and an interactive session on the current processes and procedures used by RMI EPA/MIMRA. Presented by Dr Stephen Long.
Friday 5 March	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Laboratory quality system	Why a quality system is important, the documentation and records required and how to get quality data. Presented by Emma Barnes.
Friday 5 March	2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Data assessment, interpretation and program evaluation	How to assess and interpret the data from a monitoring program including the demonstration of compliance with reference levels/doses to the representative person. How to review and evaluate a monitoring program. Presented by Dr Megan Cook.



FFA Business Appraisal and Finance Program Attended by Lyla & Tatiana

"This course is a refresher on business cases, as well as accounting and financial statements for me as I majored in business. We went over income statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements. We had several exercises that dealt with the fisheries industry which was very helpful for our work. We were able to see the effects each factor has on a business, such as if a company didn't meet their daily quota of producing a certain tonnage or tuna prices decreased drastically. This course is an eye-opener to see how fisheries companies deal with the fluctuation of tuna prices. We also learned about risk assessments and how companies deal with the many risks that come with their business and processes in making risk management. Towards the end of our class we developed a business case for a company that wants to open an onshore canning facility on an island in the middle of the Pacific, the island was known for transshipment, but there was a revenue gap for the island as the tuna was going elsewhere to another island with a canning facility. This situation sounded a lot like here in the Marshall Islands as we have the most transshipment in our port, but revenue is lost since the majority of the tuna does not come on land, it was interesting to review the case and see how a company can grasp that opportunity."

-Tatiana

"For someone that does not have much of a business background this course has changed my mindset and better understanding towards the business subject. After a four-week-long course, I have gained knowledge and skills in working with financial statements, preparing budgets, risk management process, developing & assessing business cases, and undertaking risk assessment and developing risk registers. Overall this course was an eye-opening experience for me. I've enjoyed it and not only did I gain skills and knowledge, but this will be beneficial for our organization and the RMI. The way the course was set up and conducted was very relevant to all pacific regions based on activities that not only we are facing but are in place such as transshipment and dealing with fisheries perspective. The course was a great learning experience and it will help with my duty of implementing what I gained in this course into our organization and the RMI."

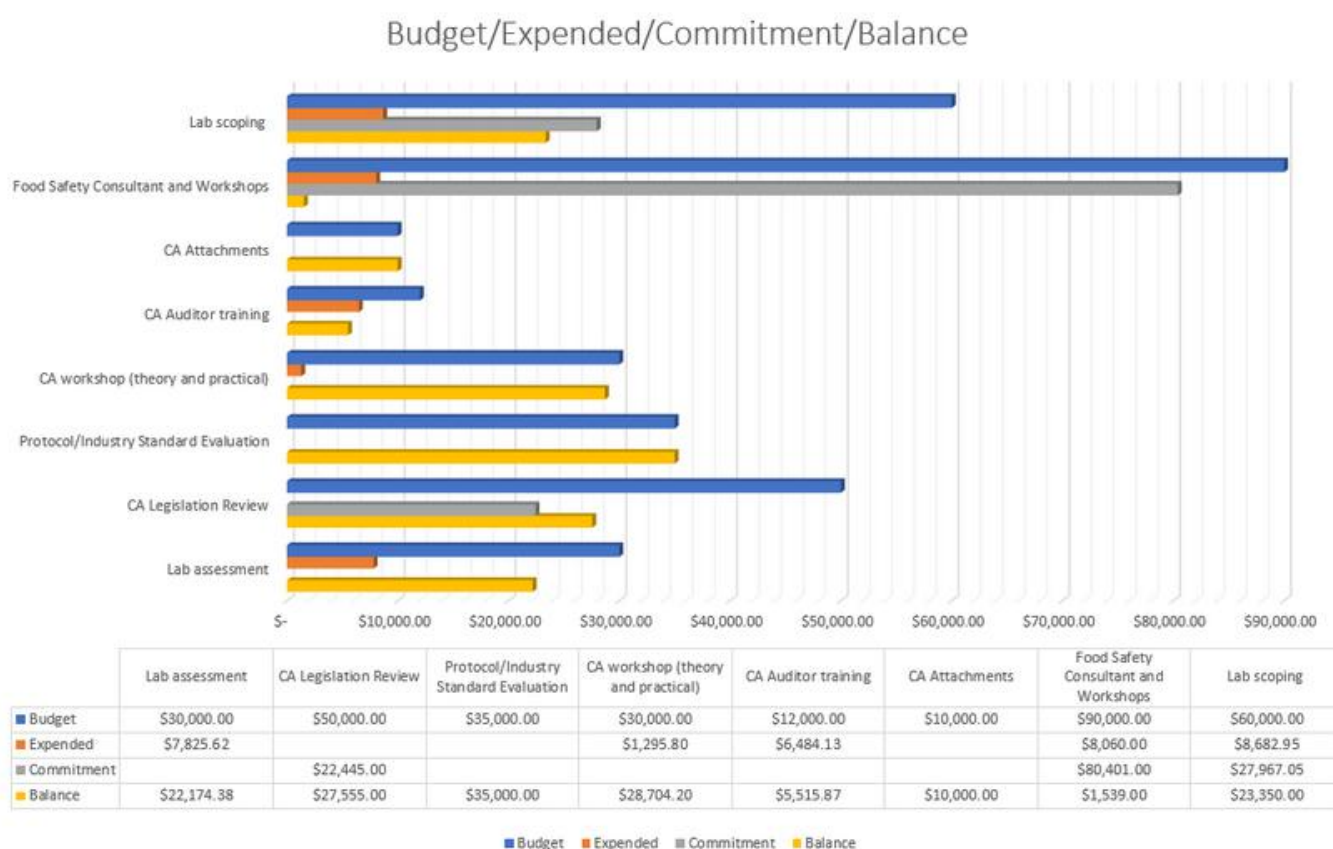
-Lyla

Day No	Date	Brisbane Time	Course Topic
COURSE 1: INTRODUCTION TO FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FOR MANAGERS AND NON-ACCOUNTANTS			
Day 1	Wednesday, 17 th March	8h30-12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course welcome Introduction to the course – setting the workshop context and learning objectives The need and importance of managers to be "financially literate" – a discussion around governance and compliance principles and the statutory and fiduciary requirements of members and managers in organizations Introduction to the basics of accounting terminology and related concepts of recording and reporting Introduction to financial statements – understanding the building blocks of the Income Statement (Profit & Loss), the Balance Sheet, and Statement of Cash Flows
Day 2	Thursday, 18 th March	8h30 -12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to financial statements – understanding the building blocks of the Income Statement (Profit & Loss), the Balance Sheet, and Statement of Cash Flows/continued Understand how to "read" financial statements (Income Statement /Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, and Statement of Cash Flows) to be able to participate in a managerial discussion around financial issues in the organization Introduction to financial management – basic terms and concepts Financial statement analysis and interpretation – using financial ratio analysis tools Cost concepts: Break-even analysis – how much do I need to sell before I start making a profit? Preparing budgets – introduction and purpose of budgeting, developing a cash budget
Day 3	Tuesday, 23 rd March	8h30 -12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing budgets – introduction and purpose of budgeting, developing a cash budget/continued Assumptions, sensitivity analysis - H,M,L budgeting scenarios Making capital investment decisions – tools to help make decisions when to invest in equipment, machinery, vehicles, or other assets investment using time value of money and present value and IRR decision-making rules The facilitators will work with participant teams to apply and integrate the learning from days 1 to 3 through practical exercises
COURSE 2: DEVELOP AND ASSESS A BUSINESS CASE			
Day 4	Wednesday, 24 th March	8h30 -12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to the course; setting the context and learning objectives Part 1: Introduction to Risk Management: What, Why, Where, When, and How? The Risk Management Process (ISO31000:2018) Context and objectives undertaking risk management Risk Identification Risk Assessment Risk Response Risk Reporting Scenario based risk assessment and developing risk register activity
Day 5	Tuesday, 30 th March	8h30 -12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 2: Develop and Assess a Business Case Discuss the need for, and importance of using business cases as part of good corporate governance processes The importance of identifying and aligning business case outcomes with stakeholder strategy Identify and discuss the essential components of a robust business case Identify and discuss strengths and weaknesses of a good business case Introduce the Katsuwon Pacific/Kunda Islands case study as an integrated workshop learning activity
Day 6	Wednesday, 31 st March	8h30 -12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the Katsuwon Pacific Company case study to develop and assess their business case Develop a business case to examine Katsuwon Pacific's two fisheries investment options Identify the expected benefit, cost, and risk of the Kunda Islands option presented in the case study • Apply financial analysis tools and conduct sensitivity analysis
Day 7	Wednesday, 7 th April	8h30 -12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a risk assessment and develop a risk register for the Kunda facility option Assess the business case against key criteria to determine strength of the business case Report on the review process and recommendations; communicate business case outcomes to internal stakeholders
Day 8	Thursday, 8 th April	8h30 -12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switching roles – Katsuwon Pacific's business proposal submission Evaluate and assess JV proposal to Kunda Islands Treasury Corporation Communicate key findings and recommendations to JV/commercial partners Course wrap-up Certificate awards

8.0 Budget

The CA Operational budget is funded by the World Bank (Prop) Projects

"The largest commitment is Food Safety, followed by Lab Scoping and CA Legislation Review"-Aquina as shown in the graph.



The graph shows the different budget lines against the commitments and expendables of the Competent Authority. The largest commitment is Food Safety, followed by Lab Scoping and CA Legislation Review.



The CA is currently being funded by the World Bank (PROP) project.

Three projects are currently running under the world bank and these are;

- Food Safety Training and Materials
- Laboratory Scoping
- Review of Food Safety Regulation and CA operational procedures.

The three projects are currently running with the Lab Scoping report expected to be in by March 31, early April, followed by the Regulation in the 2nd Quarter and Food Safety in the 3rd Quarter. All projects are expected to be completed by June 2021. Below is a sample of the Training Module developed for the Competent Authority under the Project, Food Safety Training.



10.0 First Quarter Review

1.0 Review of first inspection records, follow up, and closing

The review of the documents indicates that all documents are in order as per the inspection procedures, and attachment where necessary if adjustments are made on the procedures. Otherwise, all reports of the 6 facilities/vessel inspection showed, the following;

- Inspection advice notice
- Inspection checklists relevant to the areas under inspection
- Corrective action requests issued by the CA
- Responses by the company (timeline), a notice of reminder by the CA, are the inspection follow-up carried out in a timely manner if not why?
- Organoleptic evaluation attached (for those evaluated),
- All reports and evaluation sheet signed and verified

2.0 Internal review of 1st quarter and % implementation of work plan

The review of the CA quarter work plans is important to monitor the progress in an effort to improve or make the changes needed. It also acts as part of the CA internal verification process.

The overall performance for the CA in the first quarter 2021 is at 74.4%.

The summary of implementation status are listed in the table below with areas of improvements going forward in the second quarter are;

- 1- CA Admin**
- 2. Internal Verification**
- 3. Stakeholder meetings**
- 4. Internal Training and Practical Application**
- 5. CA Lab Scoping and support work**



First Quarter Review

1st Quarter Implementation Status

Items	Implementation Status	Comments
1	100%	Work Program
2	100%	Staff Recruitment
3	57%	Stakeholder meetings
4	62%	Internal Training and Practical application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sampling plan yet to be drawn,, - Practical application yet to be carried out in 2nd Quarter
5	NA at this stage	External Training TBA (not rated)
6	100%	Meeting and Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CA Team participated fully
7	75%	Laboratory Support and Pre-lab Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service level agreement to be completed to formalise arrangements with EPA lab and USP
8	40%	Internal Verification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some areas still in progress
9	100%	Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See specific reports
10	80%	External Training and Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Documents and material review in progress for 2 PROP Packages - Training to be carried out in the 2nd Quarter.
11	30%	CA Admin aspects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To progress and conclude 2nd Quarter
12	74.4%	Overall 1st QTR performance



11.0 Reports

Capturing and reporting on all CA operations is very important in tracking progress and providing to management the information needed for informed decisions. The reports produced so far are;

i) Official control reports of inspections of four (4) facilities inclusive of two (2) vessel inspections. Total of 6 fully completed reports.

ii) 1st Quarter Report on all CA undertakings and a 1st Quarter Newsletter

iii) Specific establishments status report, which will be used by management to provide some mechanism and assistance to industry.

iv) Word Bank Evaluation reports on the three CA projects. (Three (3) reports in total).

v) Board submission of the workshop held on the Fish Processing and Export Regulation to complete the certification process involved in the promulgation of the Regulation.



12.0 Summary of CA Undertakings

In House CA Training	Meeting/ Workshops	Inspections and Follow- up	Reports	Stakeholders Workshop
11	8	8	13	1



13.0 Achievements

- Promulgation of the fish Processing and export Regulation 2020
- Development of the RMI Seafood Industry Standards
- Development of the RMI National Control Plan
- E-Forms for all official controls under works with the IT Team
- Webpage for the CA to provide its update
- New CA Team Members
- Inspection of all facilities
- Training for CA staff of use of the CA processes and procedures and practical undertakings

14.0 Challenges

- Lack of Food Safety Management System that may impede speedy development of EU products certification and exports
- Major structural and hygiene challenges in the factory
- Need for some important stakeholder to be on board the market access journey



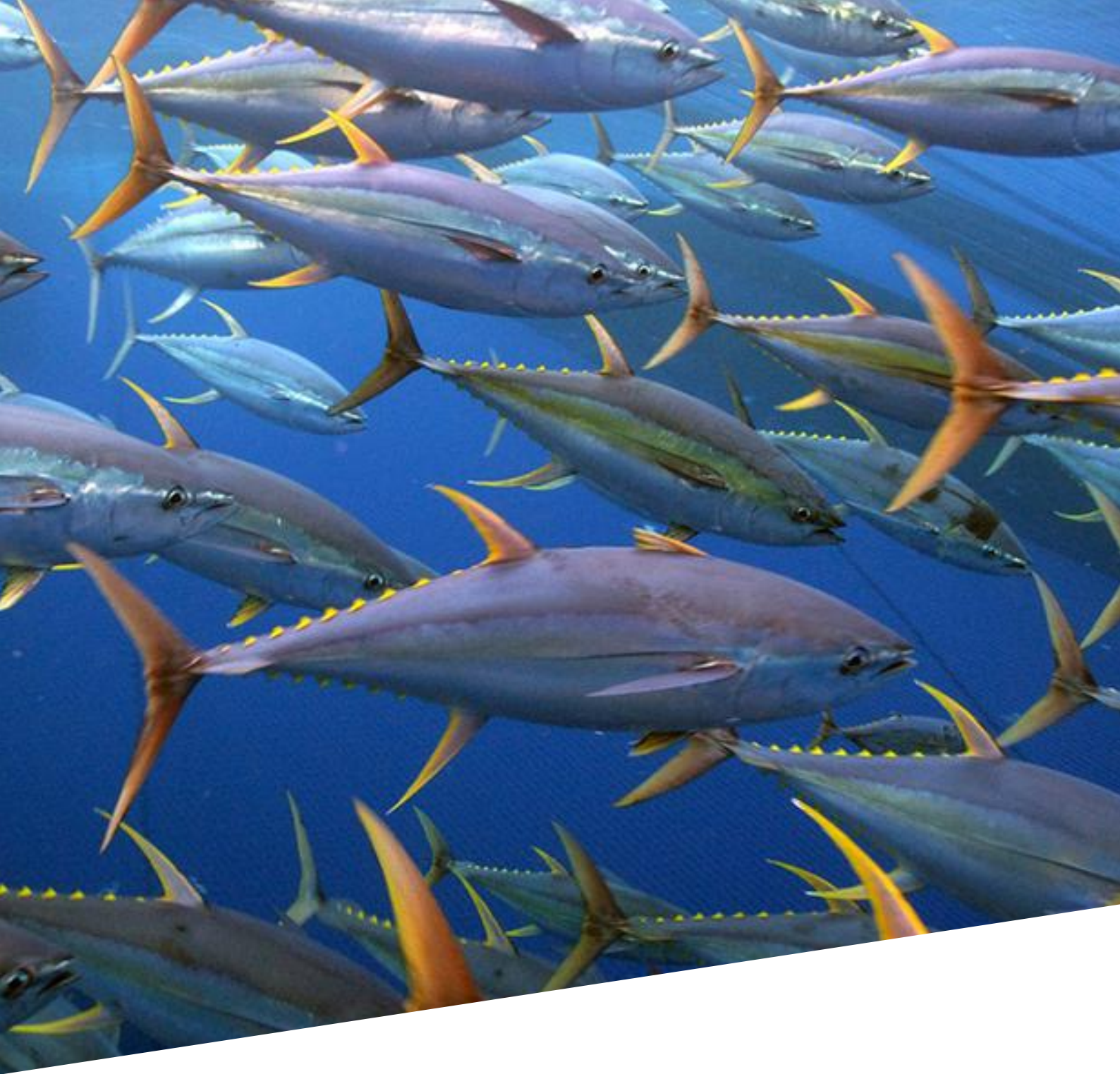
15.0 Conclusions

- The CA has fulfilled major goals and Work Plan for the 1st Quarter 2021 with an overall performance of 74.4%. Priority areas for improvement are listed in 10.
- Four (4) major fisheries establishments and some vessels have been inspected and a status report provided, for management to gauge the assistance in areas of food safety development, plant and vessel infrastructure improvements among others. On the outset, the companies have taken action to make necessary corrections to CA regulatory reports to upgrade the facilities but to the limit and capacity, they are able. Much more is needed.
- There are existing laboratories that can be utilized for product testing by both the CA and the industry, by designation, and through formal arrangements while MIMRA is developing its lab capacity.
- *The Promulgation of the Fish Processing and Export Regulation 2020* and its schedules, is a milestone achievement underpinning the CA operations.

16.0 Recommendations

- **Key Stakeholders to be a part of the market access journey**
- **Assistance to the industry in food safety training and HACCP Development**
- **Assistance to industry to improve infrastructure conditions of factories.**
- **CA to move the program in the next quarter with clear goals and plans for 2021**





End of Report by the CA Team, 5/4/21

Aquina Pyanne, Lyla Lemari, Tatiana Shoniber