



Photo: Myron Williams, OurFish OurFuture

OURFISH OURFUTURE FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

Coastal fisheries and coastal communities in the Pacific Islands are threatened by illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, unsustainable fishing, climate change, and the degradation of critical habitat. Through OurFish OurFuture (OFOF), USAID is promoting healthy, secure, and sustainable coastal fisheries in the Pacific Islands.

OurFish OurFuture is a five-year (2021-2026), \$15 million project that addresses the social and ecological drivers of IUU fishing including overfishing, the inability to monitor illegal fishing, and weak compliance with fisheries regulations. By addressing these problems, OFOF protects biodiversity and supports local livelihoods, food security, and maritime security in the Pacific.

OurFish OurFuture partners with fishing organizations, women's associations, the private sector, and government agencies to share information, tools, and best practices as part of a holistic, community-driven approach that balances ecological considerations and economic benefits.

The OFOF team is a partnership between the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Center, Locally- Managed Marine Area Network, World Wildlife Fund, and the University of the South Pacific. OFOF also collaborates closely with the Pacific Community (SPC), other regional fishery organizations, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, and relevant government authorities.

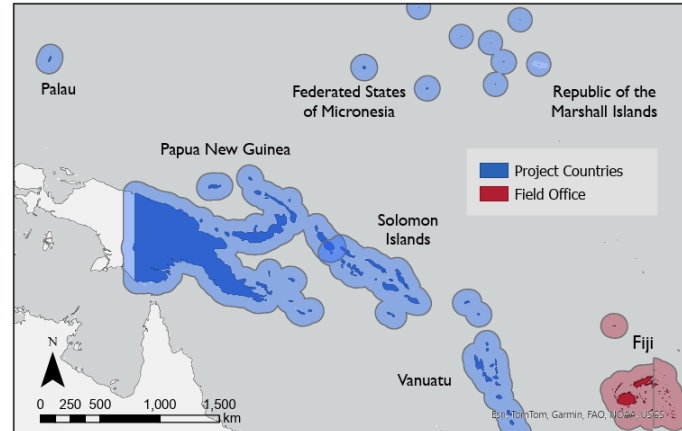
GOALS

- i. Inclusive, transparent decision-making processes for community-based fisheries management (CBFM) that are informed by traditional knowledge and science.
- ii. Increasing stakeholder partnerships with community organizations, government agencies, and private businesses to address IUU fishing that impacts marine biodiversity in the Pacific.

ACTIVITY SITES

OFOF is implemented in six countries.
The project's field office is in Fiji.

- Federated States of Micronesia
- Palau
- Papua New Guinea
- Republic of the Marshall Islands
- Solomon Islands
- Vanuatu



RESULTS

- **500,000** hectares of biologically significant areas under improved natural resource management.
- **18** laws, policies, or regulations on biodiversity conservation and environmental protection.
- **60** agreements signed between communities, government agencies, and private businesses for resilient community-based fisheries management.
- **5** Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) fisheries models developed, and pilot tested.
- Over **200** champions and enablers trained to influence policy, development processes, and behaviors to advance resilient community-based fisheries management.
- **30** stakeholder partnerships formed among community organizations, government agencies, and private businesses to conserve fisheries and habitats, leverage financial resources, and improve capacities on natural resource management.
- **\$165,000** mobilized or leveraged in biodiversity conservation and climate.
- **300** people trained in the integration of gender perspective in fisheries.
- **170** people trained in community-based fisheries monitoring and compliance.
- **200** people trained in climate change and resilience.
- **1,200** people receiving economic benefits derived from marine biodiversity conservation.

PROJECT DETAILS

Implementing Partner: University of Rhode Island
Coastal Resource Center

Implementation Period: 2021-2026

Total Estimated Investment: \$15 million

Geographic scope: Nationwide

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