



Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Program (PHAMA) Six Monthly Progress Report (July–Dec 2011)

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	vii
1 Introduction	1
2 Program Description.....	2
3 Overarching Implementation Strategy	4
4 MAWG Development and Operations.....	6
4.1 MAWG Development.....	6
4.2 MAWG Meeting Schedule.....	7
5 Market Access Development Activities.....	9
5.1 Summary.....	9
5.2 Current 2011–12 Activities	11
5.2.1 Fiji	11
5.2.2 Samoa	14
5.2.3 Solomon Islands	18
5.2.4 Tonga	20
5.2.5 Vanuatu	22
5.2.6 Regional.....	24
5.3 Other Activities Supported Over the Period.....	27
5.4 Additional Activities Proposed for 2011–12	28
5.4.1 Fiji.....	28
5.4.2 Samoa	29
5.4.3 Solomon Islands	29
5.4.4 Tonga	29
5.4.5 Vanuatu	30
5.4.6 Regional.....	30
5.5 Linkage with Other Programs.....	31
6 Regional Support Services – SPC (Component 4)	33
6.1.1 Market Access and Trade Facilitation Support.....	33
6.1.2 International Engagement.....	35
6.1.3 MA–Related Surveillance and Reporting.....	35

7	Program Management and Coordination	36
7.1	Program Coordinating Committee	36
7.2	PMO and Country Office Operations	36
7.2.1	PMO Operational Status.....	36
7.2.2	Country Office Operational Status.....	36
7.2.3	Staff Development	37
7.2.4	Contract Deliverables	38
7.2.5	Program Staffing.....	38
7.2.6	LTA Travel.....	38
7.2.7	STA Inputs	38
7.3	Communications and Coordination	39
7.3.1	Communication/Coordination between the NMACs, the MAWGs and the PMO.....	39
7.3.2	Communication/Coordination with AusAID/ DFAT (in-country)	39
7.3.3	Communication/Coordination with SPC.....	39
7.3.4	Communication/Coordination with Biosecurity Australia and NZ MAF.....	39
7.3.5	Communication/Coordination with Other Projects and Donors	40
7.3.6	Promotion and Media	40
7.4	Cross-Cutting Issues.....	41
7.4.1	Gender.....	41
7.4.2	Capacity Building.....	41
7.4.3	Environment	42
7.5	Risk Management	43
7.5.1	Additional Risks Identified.....	43
7.5.2	Adjusted Risk Ratings.....	43
7.5.3	Major Risks on 'Watchlist'	44
7.6	MERI.....	45
7.6.1	Impact Level Assessment.....	45
7.6.2	Outcome Level Assessment.....	46
7.6.3	Output Level Assessment.....	47
7.7	Sustainability.....	47
7.8	Proposed Variations to the Annual Strategic Plan	49
8	Expenditure	50

8.1	Expenditure to Date	50
8.1.1	Components 1–3	50
8.1.2	Component 4 (SPC)	50
8.2	Projected Expenditure Jan 1 to June 30 2012.....	51
9	Issues	52
9.1	Government Support for the MAWG Process	52
9.2	PMO Staff Resources	52
9.3	Communications with NZ MAF	52
9.4	SPC-Component 4 Performance	53
9.5	NMAC Performance	53
9.6	Transition to Phase 2.....	53
10	Limitations	54

Tables

Table 4-1	Meeting schedule for the first half of 2012.....	7
Table 5-1	Current and proposed MA development activities under the 2011–12 ASP	9
Table 6-1	Current PHAMA team	33
Table 7-1	Completed milestones	38
Table 7-2	STA inputs during reporting period	38
Table 7-3	Risks added to RMP	43
Table 7-4	Adjusted risk ratings.....	43
Table 7-5	Risks requiring close management.....	44
Table 7-6	Summary of proposed major variations to the 2011–12 ASP.....	49
Table 8-1	Components 1–3 Expenditure to date against Budget	50
Table 8-2	Component 4 Expenditure against Budget.....	51
Table 8-3	Projected Expenditure 1 Jan to 30 June 2012.....	51
Table Appendix F-1	By Capacity Measure Table.....	80
Table Appendix F-2	By Country Table	81
Table Appendix F-3	By Quality Measure Table.....	83
Table Appendix F-4	Quality Measure / Person Group Matrix	86

Figures

Figure 3-1	Strategic Framework.....	5
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Appendices

Appendix A	Current and proposed activities under the 2011–12 ASP
Appendix B	“Help Desk” Support Provided by the PMO in Response to Miscellaneous Market Access and Quarantine Enquiries
Appendix C	Activity Summary Sheets for Proposed Additional Activities
Appendix D	PHAMA Technical Report List
Appendix E	Revised Risk Management Matrix
Appendix F	MERI Preliminary Results – December 2011

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
AFAS	Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme
AO	Administrative Officer
APVMA	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
AQIS	Australian Quarantine Inspection Service
ARDP	Agricultural and Rural Development Program (EU)
ARF	Adviser Remuneration Framework (AusAID)
ASP	Annual Strategic Plan
BA	Biosecurity Australia
BATS	Biosecurity and Trade Services Team (Land Resources Division, SPC)
BNZ	Biosecurity New Zealand
CABI	Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux International
CO	Country Office
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Australia)
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
EDF	European Development Fund
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the United Nations)
FMAWG	Fiji Market Access Working Group
FSSLP	Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods Program (FAO/ IFAD)
GAS	Giant African Snail
GoA	Government of Australia
GoF	Government of Fiji
HACCP	Hazard and Critical Control Point Analysis
HTFA	High Temperature Forced Air (quarantine treatment)
IACT	Increasing Agricultural Commodity Trade Program (EU)
ICON	Import Conditions Database (AQIS)
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IHS	Import Health Standards (NZ MAF)
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
ISPM	International Phytosanitary Measure
IRA	Import Risk Analysis
IT	Information Technology
JOA	Joint Organisation Assessment
LRD	Land Resources Division (of SPC)
LTA/ LTP	Long Term Adviser/ Professional
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MA	Market Access
NZ MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry New Zealand
MAL	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
MAWG	Market Access Working Group

Abbreviation	Description
MB	Methyl Bromide
MC	Managing Contractor
MDF	Market Development Facility (AusAID)
MERI	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement Framework
MES	Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist
MORDI	Mainstreaming of Rural Development Initiatives Program (IFAD)
NMAC	National Market Access Coordinator
NZAid	NZ Aid Program
NZ MAF	New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
PARDI	Pacific Agribusiness Research and Development Initiative (ACIAR)
PCC	Program Coordinating Committee
PD	Project Director
PFO	Procurement and Finance Officer
PHAMA	Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Program (AusAID)
PIC	Pacific Island Country
PICTA	Pacific Island Country Trade Agreement
PKE	Palm Kernel Expeller
PM	Project Manager
PMAS	Principal Market Access Specialist
PMO	Program Management Office
PPPO	Pacific Plant Protection Organisation
PPPOExCo	PPPO Executive Committee
PRA	Pest Risk Assessment
QAE	Quality at Entry
QBS	Quarantine and Biosecurity Specialist
R&D	Research and Development
RMP	Risk Management Plan
RPPO	Regional Plant Protection Organisation
RQAC	Regional Quarantine Advisory Committee
SIMAWG	Solomon Islands Market Access Working Group
SMAWG	Samoa Market Access Working Group
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
STA/ STP	Short Term Adviser/ Professional
TA	Technical Assistance
TBA	To Be Advised
TIP	Taro Improvement Program (ACIAR)
TL	Team Leader
TLB	Taro Leaf Blight
TMAWG	Tonga Market Access Working Group
TOR	Terms of Reference
URS	URS Australia Pty Ltd
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
VMAWG	Vanuatu Market Access Working Group

Executive Summary

Key achievements over the reporting period (July to December 2011) are noted below.

Components 1–3 (MC-executed)

MAWG Development

- Two further rounds of quarterly MAWG meetings have been held over the last 6 months, covering all 5 PHAMA countries. Interim meetings also continued to be scheduled without prompting or support of the PMO.
- Most MAWGs are performing well, with active participation from both private and public sector representatives. However there remains some variation in performance between countries, with Fiji and Tonga being the strongest overall performers, Samoa and Vanuatu in the middle, followed by Solomon Islands.
- Membership and leadership roles continue to be refined as and when the need is identified.
- In a few isolated cases the participation of some government representatives has been less than ideal. This situation is being actively managed. In particular, it is critical that the NPPOs are retained as central and strong partners.
- Preliminary results from formal M&E activities designed to monitor the ‘health’ of the MAWGs reinforce that the MAWGs are generally functioning well.
- The working relationship between the MAWGs and the NMACs is generally sound. Ongoing development of this relationship, particularly in relation to communication roles, is critical
- Other areas that require ongoing development include: (i) improved outreach of MAWG members to industry and government stakeholders that are not represented around the MAWG table; (ii) development of MAWG capacity to identify and rationally prioritise MA activities; (iii) development of NMAC capacity to work equally effectively with both government and private sector stakeholders, strengthening the bridge between the two groups; and (iv) development of NMAC capacity to identify, background and screen MA issues prior to submission to the MAWG for consideration.
- With formal endorsement by the Fiji Government in August, the role and function of the MAWGs has now been endorsed by Government in all countries.

Implementation of Market Access Development Activities

- Of the 39 MA development activities approved under the 2011–12 ASP:
 - 6 have been completed;
 - 11 are in progress, several of which are nearing completion;
 - 4 have been cancelled or put on hold as a result of further investigation; and
 - 16 are scheduled to progressively come on-stream over the next 6 months
- Many of these activities already involve, or will involve formal collaboration with other programs and projects.
- 8 additional activities not previously included in the ASP have been prioritised by the MAWGs, to be presented to the Dec 15 PCC for approval.
- In addition to the 39 programmed activities, the PMO continues to be actively involved in responding to a wide range of miscellaneous MA and quarantine-related enquiries from exporting and importing country regulatory authorities and exporters. Managing these ‘background’ enquiries

forms a significant background workload for the PMAS and QBS. Over the July–Dec period there have been a number of issues where the Program has been able to help NPPOs take appropriate measures to avert significant quarantine-related threats to existing trade, including Fiji's HTFA pathway to NZ and Tonga's water melon pathway to NZ.

- Liaison has continued with AQIS to successfully resolve a number of inconsistencies in the import conditions stipulated by Australian authorities for various products.

Major achievements

Major achievements during this 6-month reporting period include:

- PHAMA provided support to three copra mills in the Solomon Islands to help them prepare for accreditation by AQIS, required to maintain access to this market. AQIS advised on 8 December that all three applications had been successful.
- The Program supported bi-lateral discussions between Australia (BA) and Fiji (BAF). Major concessions obtained by Fiji included a reduction in Australia's fresh-fruit sampling regime for papaya exports, and agreement on allowing loose consignments of papaya in aircraft.
- An intercept of live dipteran (fly) larvae on a shipment of HTFA-treated aubergine from Fiji to NZ led to a situation where this pathway could have been closed by NZ MAF. PHAMA was able to help BAF and NWC manage the situation in a way that avoided more drastic measures being taken by NZ MAF.
- PHAMA's preliminary review of the Tongan water melon export pathway to NZ revealed 19 areas of non-compliance. Several of these areas were considered critical non-compliances that would have resulted in closure of the pathway. PHAMA helped TMAWG and quarantine authorities develop an action plan to address the most immediate issues. NZ MAF's audit was subsequently completed and the pathway has remained open.
- Vanuatu MAWG successfully lobbied Government for re-appointment of a replacement Principal Veterinary Officer, essential for underpinning continued operation of the export beef industry.
- Information was provided on import protocol requirements for Samoa honey to New Zealand, resulting in successful trial shipments.
- Clarification of import conditions for pineapples from Fiji into NZ has created interest from Fijian producers to initiate exports to NZ, using a previously unused but existing export protocol.
- Removal of the listing of papaya crown rot disease in Fiji by BA and AQIS.
- Removal of the mandatory requirement for seed sampling conditions for cocoa for all non-Khapra beetle countries (including all PHAMA countries).
- Broadening of the existing frozen cassava import conditions to include all SPC countries.
- Successful participation in the AA Gender, and Environment and Climate Change surveys of rural development projects with positive feedback on our approach to gender, and acknowledgement of our depth of understanding of environmental and CC issues in the sector.

Management and Coordination

- The PMO and Country Offices are now fully operational with core management and administrative systems and procedures operating satisfactorily.
- Formal induction training for the NMACs was held in Suva in early July, and a follow-up coordination workshop held in Honiara in early November. Given the professional isolation of the NMACs, these 6-monthly workshops are regarded as an essential.
- The 3-month end-of-probation assessments have now been completed for all NMACs, the Procurement and Finance Officer and the Administration Officer, with all staff being retained.

- Development of robust communication and coordination links with AusAID Posts, the MAWGs, importing country regulatory authorities (at this stage focussed on Australia and NZ); SPC; and other programs and projects continues to be strongly emphasised.
- Clearly articulated approaches to addressing cross-cutting issues are being implemented. The Program participated in AusAID's 'gender stocktake' of rural development activities, with positive feedback on the approaches being taken.
- Key risks are being routinely updated and actively managed.
- The Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Implementation Plan was completed in mid-August, and implementation of M&E activities has commenced.
- Work is currently underway on development of a website, which will be operational by early next year.
- The final in-country 'launches' (Fiji and Vanuatu) have now been conducted.

Expenditure

Actual and estimated expenditure for the MC-executed Components 1–3 to the end of December 2011 is AUD \$2,681,988 or 26% of total Phase 1 funding. Projected expenditure for the next 6 months (01 Jan to 30 June 2012) is AUD \$2.84 million.

Component 4 (SPC-executed)

Management and Coordination

- Early implementation was adversely affected by slow recruitment of key positions. However, the situation has markedly improved over the last few months, and the BATS PHAMA Team is now almost at full strength, as summarised below:
- In particular, appointment of the BATS Market Access Specialist in November has paved the way for a more coordinated approach to the implementation of Component 1–3 and Component 4 activities.
- Replacement of the BATS Team Leader in October has also resulted in a marked improvement in the working relationship between the PHAMA PMO and the BATS Team.
- As of last month, regular coordination meetings are being held between the BATS Team and PHAMA PMO staff to review current and planned activities and identify areas where cooperation is desirable.

Activities

- A range of activities have been completed or commenced during the reporting period under the three sub-components where SPC is being direct-funded by AusAID to provide regional MA support services:
 - Provision of MA information services to national stakeholders
 - Representation of PICs in relevant international MA bodies such as PPPO
 - Maintenance of MA-related surveillance and reporting in accordance with international standards.
- There is a clear trend towards improving collaboration between the BATS Team and PHAMA PMO staff in the conception and execution of these activities.

- Achieving the full potential that the partnership offers is likely to require a more strategic and planned approach by BATS to defining and addressing core objectives, and allocation of resources in line with these objectives, than has been evident to date.
- There is a high level of goodwill across the Program towards achieving this potential.

Expenditure

Actual expenditure for the SPC-executed Component 4 from start-up to the end of November 2011 was AUD 443,056 or 14.6 % of total available Phase 1 funding. Disbursement has been generally slow, reflecting the delayed appointment of key staff, but is expected to pick up considerably over the next six months.

Introduction

Implementation of the PHAMA Program is being managed in two parts. Components 1–3 of the Program are being implemented through the PMO by URS Australia Pty Ltd as the Managing Contractor (MC), in association with Kalang Consultancy Services Ltd. These components aim to work with the 5 PHAMA countries to identify and address specific market access (MA) issues and opportunities. Component 4 of the Program, implemented by the Biosecurity and Trade Services Team (BATS) of the Land Resources Division, SPC, provides regional MA support services of a more general nature¹.

The contract for implementation of Components 1–3 was signed by URS on 20 January 2011, although mobilisation of the core Team to Suva did not occur until May 1 due to delay in finalising the Subsidiary Agreement between the Governments of Australia and Fiji. A bridging 3-Month Plan was enacted to guide operations from April 1 through to June 30. The ‘Exchange of Letters’ between AusAID and SPC for implementation of Component 4 took place in April 2010, with the first tranche of funds being disbursed in June 2010. Start-up of Component 4 has been relatively slow, affected by coordination and staff recruitment issues.

The 6-Month Progress Reports are a key reporting mechanism which, in addition to providing information for the PCC and AusAID, are designed to provide a basis for communicating with other stakeholders, related programs of assistance and other donors. They are designed to: (i) report on general progress of the Program for the period; (ii) describe the nature and progress of activities being implemented; (iii) report on and update the Risk Management Plan (RMP); (iv) summarise key issues and problems; (v) provide an update on Program staffing; (vi) assess achievements with respect to the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) framework; (vii) highlight major successes; (viii) report on inter-program cooperation and coordination; (ix) provide an update on expenditure; (x) comment on the management of stakeholder relationships; and (xi) detail any variations from the ASP².

This second 6-Month Progress Report describes progress achieved from July 1 to approximately mid-December 2011.

¹ Note that this support is provided directly to SPC by AusAID, not through the PMO. While SPC is solely responsible for planning, implementing and monitoring Component 4 activities, for the purposes of trying to promote coordination between the MC-executed and SPC-executed components, AusAID has requested that all planning and monitoring reports are presented as consolidated reports.

² The first ASP, covering the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 was approved by the PCC on 15 July.

Program Description

Development context: Despite the fact that most Pacific Island Countries (PICs) are primarily agricultural economies, export performance for primary products in general and high-value products in particular has been poor. In contrast, developing countries globally have benefited from increased trade in high-value agricultural and horticultural products over the past 20–30 years. For many developing countries, exports of high-value primary products have become an important means of increasing economic growth, incomes, and employment, thereby reducing poverty.

The relatively poor performance of PICs in this area is particularly disappointing considering: (i) these are agriculture-based economies, often with very limited alternative development opportunities; (ii) the comparative advantage often cited for the region in the production and export of a wide range of agricultural and horticultural products; (iii) the close proximity of some reasonably affluent markets; and (iv) the commonly acknowledged role of economic growth and trade as a mechanism for promoting regional stability.

Difficulties faced by PICs in managing the regulatory processes associated with accessing key markets are a major reason behind this poor performance. Progress in negotiating new or improved access has been slow, resulting in a high level of frustration within industry and wasted export opportunities. New MA agreements have been few and hard won, and trade in some products has stagnated and in some cases declined due to the imposition of more onerous MA protocols for products that were historically traded with relative ease.

Key constraints to improving MA include: (i) poor identification of MA priorities leading to the highly limited resources available within both exporting and importing country regulatory agencies being squandered on submissions that are unlikely to be successful or even if successful unlikely to result in significant trade benefits; (ii) limited capacity of export country regulatory agencies to prepare and progress high-quality MA submissions; (iii) limited capacity of exporting countries to implement measures required to comply with MA agreements and hence maintain MA; (iv) limited capacity to identify and conduct the R&D required to establish, improve or maintain MA; (v) lack of industry consultation and involvement in MA work; and (vi) limited capacity of SPC to support MA development activities at a regional level.

Strategic Framework: PHAMA is designed to address these constraints by providing practical and targeted assistance to help resolve priority MA issues of a technical/ regulatory nature. The Program's strategic framework is summarised in Figure 3-1.

Duration and Geographic Focus: Phase 1 of the Program extends over a 28 month period from early 2011 to June 2013, with a planned 4-year Phase 2 to follow, subject to the performance of Phase 13. For Phase 1, the country-specific activities under Components 1–3 are being implemented in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. Component 4 (SPC-managed regional support services) is being implemented in all PICs in line with SPC's regional mandate.

Governance and management arrangements: A regional Program Coordinating Committee (PCC) is responsible for providing high-level governance oversight of the Program. Day-to-day management of the Program is provided through the PMO, located in Suva. Core PMO staffing includes the Team Leader (TL), the Principal Market Access Specialist (PMAS) and the Quarantine/Biosecurity Specialist

³ The implementation contract was signed on 20 January, with fieldwork commencing on 13 February.

(QBS), supplemented by a team of specialist Short-Term Advisors (STA) that that can be mobilised to address specific issues on an as-required basis.

Note that Components 1–3, which involve addressing country-specific MA issues, are being implemented by the Managing Contractor (MC). Component 4, which involves strengthening regional MA support services, is being separately implemented by Land Resources Division (LRD) of SPC.

MAWGs have been established in each of the five countries where PHAMA is being implemented⁴. The MAWGs include representatives from key government agencies with MA responsibilities and the private sector, and form the cornerstone of implementation arrangements in-country. They have major responsibility for determining MA priorities to be addressed by the Program, and for overseeing the implementation of these activities. Full-time NMACs have been employed in each country, responsible for providing secretariat support to the MAWGs and maintaining an operational linkage between the PMO and the MAWGs. The development of the capacity and the institutionalisation of the MAWG processes are central to the long term sustainability of improved market access.

⁴ Fiji MAWG (FMAWG); Samoa MAWG (SMAWG); Solomon Islands MAWG (SIMAWG); Tonga MAWG (TMAWG); and Vanuatu MAWG (VMAWG)

Overarching Implementation Strategy

The Program adopts a highly strategic approach to addressing technical/regulatory aspects of MA, working with identified highest priority products and MA issues. These could potentially involve: (i) seeking new access for new products into new markets; (ii) improving access arrangements for existing trade (e.g. through negotiation of less onerous quarantine requirements); or (iii) maintaining access by developing capacity of quarantine agencies and industry to meet negotiated access protocols, and assisting with responses to potential breakdowns in trade. Emphasis is placed on achieving early 'wins'. Semi-processed products, and accelerating the progress of MA submissions that are already in progress, will be particularly important in this regard.

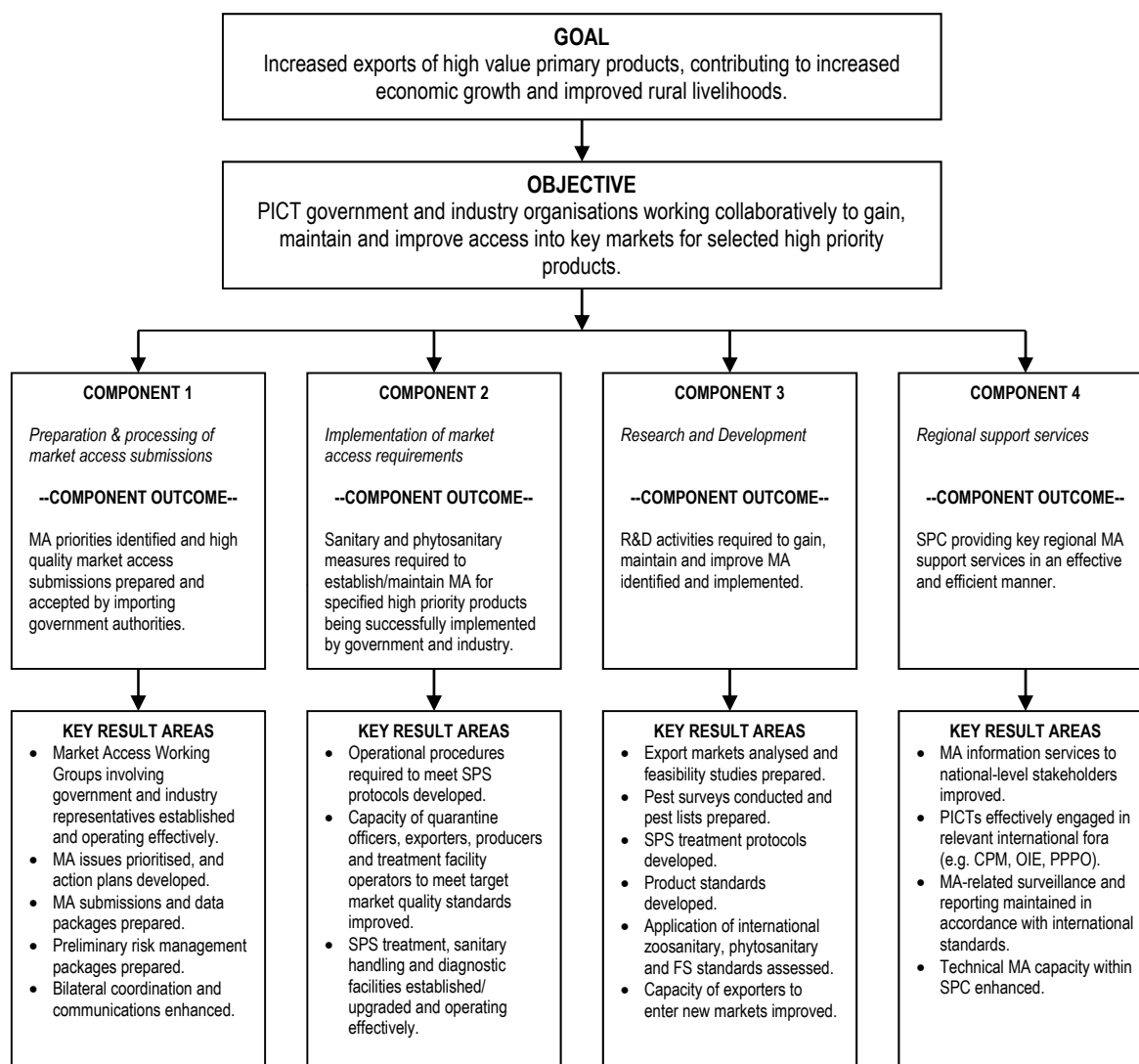
The focus of the Program is on high-value primary products (fresh and processed), particularly agricultural and horticultural but also fish and forest products, where justified. While Australia and NZ will inevitably continue to be major markets of interest, issues and opportunities relating to other markets (e.g. Japan, EU, USA, Canada, intra-Pacific trade) will also be addressed if duly prioritised by the MAWG. Specific MA issues to be addressed will be selected on the basis of (i) potential economic impact; (ii) cost of establishing/improving MA and probability of achieving a successful outcome; and (iii) potential distributional impacts for more marginalised households and women. Contributions will be sought from both government and industry wherever the opportunity and capacity exists.

Major emphasis is placed on developing a strong partnership between industry and relevant national government agencies in the pursuit of improved MA arrangements. The private sector needs to drive the identification of products to be targeted; it should be fully consulted during the development of MA submissions and agreements; it needs to play a major role in determining R&D priorities; and it needs to be an active partner in the implementation of MA protocols. Development of strong and functional MAWGs is central to achieving this partnership.

The Program adopts a 2-pronged approach to capacity building: (i) developing the capacity of national organisations (public and private) to manage MA issues – but at the same time recognising that many of the smaller PICs are likely to remain dependent on facilitation by external service providers in the longer term; and (ii) providing funding to SPC so that it can develop capacity to provide a clearly defined set of generic, higher-level MA-support services in line with its regional mandate. Capacity building will be strongly centred on 'learning by doing' approaches, based on addressing specific MA issues and opportunities.

Management of SPC-implemented activities was deliberately separated from other activities implemented under the Program at design, due to the significant technical and financial constraints currently facing the organisation. Consistent with the Regional Institutional Framework and the mandated role of SPC in providing MA-support services to member countries, it is intended that the MC-managed activities will be progressively integrated into SPC's core Program from the start of Phase 2 (with continuing donor support), with a corresponding phase-out of the MC, subject to demonstration of appropriate capacity by SPC during the course of Phase 1.

Figure 3-1 Strategic Framework



The Program is intended to actively link with other supply chain/value chain development Programs such as the Increasing Agricultural Commodity Trade Program (IACT / EU); the Pacific Agribusiness Research and Development Initiative (PARDI / AusAID-ACIAR); the Agricultural and Rural Development Program (ARDP / EU); the Market Development Facility (AusAID); and the Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods Program (FSSLP / FAO-IFAD). Where Programs of this nature are working with the development of export-oriented supply chains and particular MA issues are identified, PHAMA provides a vehicle for addressing these issues.

The Program adopts a flexible, Programmatic approach that is able to mobilise specialist TA and other resources to address priority MA issues as they are identified on a case-by-case basis. It also provides a longer-term commitment of support, recognising the lengthy timeframes that are required to progress MA issues.

MAWG Development and Operations

4.1 MAWG Development

The MAWGs form the heart of in-country institutional arrangements for PHAMA. They are designed to provide an ongoing partnership between government and private sector interests, and are responsible for defining the MA issues where PHAMA provides assistance and for overseeing the implementation of these activities. They are intended to provide a ‘gateway’ for helping to manage MA issues in each country. Major emphasis is being placed during Phase 1 on getting the MAWGs established and operating to a level where they can competently fill this role.

At this early stage of development, all MAWGs are performing to an acceptable standard, with good cooperation between private and public sector representatives. However, there remains considerable variation in capacity between each country, encompassing meeting management skills, record-keeping skills, communication and coordination roles, and ability to canvass and assimilate the broad range of information required to make sensible decisions on MA issues. Fiji and Tonga are currently the strongest overall performers, Samoa and Vanuatu in the middle, followed by Solomon Islands.

On one or two occasions the interest and participation of some government representatives has been less than ideal. This situation is being actively managed (see section 10.1). In particular, it is critical that the NPPOs are retained as central and strong partners.

Preliminary results from formal M&E activities designed to monitor the ‘health’ of the MAWGs are further reported in section 8.6. These early results reinforce that the MAWGs are, in general, functioning well.

MAWG membership continues to be refined to address weaknesses as and when identified. Major changes over the reporting period have included:

- Solomon Islands: two new private sector representatives have been appointed, both women.
- Samoa: the Director of Quarantine has been appointed Chair, replacing the CEO of MAF (who will remain a member). Representation from the Samoa Research Organisation (SROS) is also being considered.
- Tonga: the new Head of Quarantine has replaced the previous Head; and where the Chair has rotated to the MAFFF Deputy Director.

As provided for in their Service Charters, the MAWGs are starting to bring non-member representatives into meetings to provide briefings on specific issues that are under consideration.

At least one ‘mini-MAWG’ is being held in all countries between the major quarterly meetings, and in some cases two. These ‘mini-MAWGs’ are proving valuable as a means of maintaining momentum, and are actively encouraged.

All MAWG meetings are being conducted in a formal manner, with pre-advised agenda’s, briefing notes (where required) and minuted outcomes. NMAC capacity to support the meeting process has improved markedly over the past 6 months, although considerable guidance is still being provided by the PMAS and QBS.

The working relationship between the MAWGs (and particular the MAWG Chairs) and the NMACs is still developing, but with generally good communication occurring in all cases. Ongoing development of this relationship is critical and is being closely monitored by the PMAS and QBS.

As noted in the previous 6-Month Report, the MAWGs communication and coordination roles (particularly in terms of providing an effective link to a broader range of industry stakeholders than are represented around the MAWG table, and to key government agencies/ officials) are defined and understood but require further development. Similarly, development of MAWG capacity to rationally prioritise MA activities, and to monitor the implementation of these activities, is ongoing. These development needs will continue to be addressed, with emphasis on the role of the NMACs in the process.

The NMACs are steadily developing *their* communication networks with both government and private sector stakeholders, and managing these networks to ensure that PHAMA is widely understood, that current MA issues are identified and brought to the attention of the MAWGs, and that what is being done to address particular issues is adequately publicised. Some NMACs are more comfortable (and better skilled) at working with government stakeholders, others with the private sector. The need to be equally active and effective in dealing with both groups, and to provide a bridge between the two, is being constantly reinforced.

As the NMACs grow into their roles, there is also a need for them to become more proactive in backgrounding and screening possible MA issues for PHAMA support, exercising their own judgement in the process.

With formal endorsement by the Fiji Government in August, the role and function of the MAWGs has now been endorsed by Government in all countries. The level of endorsement ranges from Cabinet endorsement (Tonga) to Ministerial endorsement (Samoa, Solomon Islands) to endorsement by the Permanent Heads of Agriculture (Fiji and Vanuatu).

4.2 MAWG Meeting Schedule

The third round of quarterly MAWG meetings was held over the period 29 August to 2 October, and the fourth round from 31 October to 8 December.

The meeting schedule for the first half of 2012 is as follows:

Table 4-1 Meeting schedule for the first half of 2012

	MAWG5 Week of:	MAWG6 Week of:
Solomon Islands	13/2 – 19/2	7/5 – 13/5
Vanuatu	20/2 – 26/2	14/5 – 20/5
Tonga	27/2 – 4/3	21/5 – 27/5
Samoa	5/3 – 11/3	28/5 – 3/6
Fiji	12/3 – 18/3	4/6 – 10/6

The quarterly MAWG meetings continue to be attended by both the PMAS and QBS to provide guidance and support (to both the MAWGs and the NMACs). The TL is also attending some meetings, providing an opportunity for additional higher-level consultation. This intensive level of direct support is considered essential over the early stages of MAWG development, but is likely to be progressively reduced during the first half of 2012 as NMAC capacity further develops.

In conjunction with their country visits to support the major MAWG meetings, the PMAS and QBS, together with the NMACs, have been visiting a wide range of export enterprises and government support institutions to 'scan' for possible MA issues and opportunities, and to 'ground-truth' some of the ideas being discussed by the MAWGs. As noted previously, the NMACs are being actively encouraged to be more active in this role.

Market Access Development Activities

This section provides a progress update for the 39 MA development activities approved under the 2011–12 ASP; and also presents an outline of eight new activities proposed to commence in the first half of next year, subject to endorsement by the PCC. All activities are referenced to Activity Summary Sheets presented in Appendix C. A number of other un-programmed activities where the PMO or MAWGs have provided support over the reporting period are also noted.

5.1 Summary

A total of 39 major MA development activities are already included under the 2011–12 ASP. These activities are listed in Table 5-1, with progress described in subsequent sections. Proposed additional activities for 2011–12 are also listed for approval by the PCC.

Table 5-1 Current and proposed MA development activities under the 2011–12 ASP

Activity Ref	Country	Activity Title	Status
A. CURRENT APPROVED ACTIVITIES			
FIJI03	Fiji	Investigation of market acceptability of Fiji TLB- resistant taro varieties in Australia and/or NZ.	Cancelled
FIJI04	Fiji	Clarification of the quarantine status of nematodes associated with taro imports.	Active
FIJI05	Fiji	Development of and training on taro production and packhouse standards.	Active
FIJI06	Fiji	Substantiation of Australia's requirement for devitalisation of taro imports.	Planned
FIJI07	Fiji	Scoping study to develop options for the management of a new fruit fly species on Rotuma and Vatoa Islands.	Completed
FIJI08	Fiji	Progression of new market access requests for papaya and breadfruit to the US.	Planned
FIJI09	Fiji	Feasibility studies on eggplant, chilli, breadfruit, jackfruit, gourd/s and pineapple exports to Australia.	Planned
FIJI10	Fiji	New market access submissions for products recommended under Activity FIJI09.	Planned
FIJI11	Fiji	Management of <i>Bactrocera kirki</i> from Rotuma Island.	Planned
FIJI12	Fiji	Trials to confirm fruit fly non-host status for Polynesian plum (Wi).	Active
SAMOA02	Samoa	Determination of the quarantine status of nematodes on Samoan taro exports to (linked to FIJI04).	Planned
SAMOA03	Samoa	Supply chain constraints to developing taro exports to NZ.	Active
SAMOA04	Samoa	Assessment of the profitability of taro exports to Australia.	Cancelled
SAMOA05	Samoa	Development of an alternative to the 'area freedom' approach for managing TLB on exports of taro to Australia.	Cancelled
SAMOA06	Samoa	Development of a risk management measure for mites on organic banana exports to NZ.	Planned
SAMOA07	Samoa	Development of a risk management measure for mites, mealy bugs and scales on lime exports to NZ.	On hold
SAMOA08	Samoa	Assistance with regulatory requirements associated with re-establishing beef and meat product exports to American Samoa.	Planned

Activity Ref	Country	Activity Title	Status
SAMOA09	Samoa	Reaccreditation of copra meal export processing and handling facilities in Samoa.	Planned
SAMOA10	Samoa	Export of personal consignments of heat-treated breadfruit to NZ.	Active
SOLS03	Solomon Islands	Implementation of the Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme.	Revised
SOLS04	Solomon Islands	Review of the potential for cut flower and foliage exports to Australia.	Completed
SOLS05	Solomon Islands	Reaccreditation of copra meal and PKE export processing and handling facilities in Solomon Islands.	Completed
SOLS06	Solomon Islands	Development of national quality standards for the production and testing of cocoa to meet international market requirements.	Planned
SOLS07	Solomon Islands	Scoping study to determine the viability of fresh fruit and vegetable exports from Solomon Islands to nearby PICs including Kiribati, Nauru, and Marshall Islands.	Planned
TONGA03 (i)	Tonga	Review of the watermelon export pathway to NZ, including the delivery of fumigation prior to export.	Completed
TONGA03 (ii)	Tonga	Review of the watermelon pathway to NZ, including the delivery of fumigation prior to export.	Completed
TONGA04	Tonga	Improvements to the watermelon export pathway to NZ and development of a systems approach to replace methyl bromide fumigation for fruit fly management.	Active
TONGA05	Tonga	Development of a 'new access' submission for the export of zucchinis and selected other crops (to be identified) to NZ.	Planned
TONGA06	Tonga	Purchase of a generator as back-up power for Tonga's fumigation facility.	Planned
TONGA07	Tonga	Facilitation of meetings to investigate Tonga-sea freight issues.	Completed
VAN03	Vanuatu	Establishment of diagnostic services for value-added products.	Active
VAN04	Vanuatu	Development of HACCP Plans for key export industries.	Planned
VAN05	Vanuatu	Training of meat inspectors to certify beef export processing facilities.	Planned
VAN06	Vanuatu	Feasibility study on the establishment of a facility for drying fruits and vegetables for export.	Completed
VAN07	Vanuatu	Re-accreditation of BSE free status for Vanuatu beef to Australia.	Active
REGIONAL 01	Regional	Market access database development.	Active
REGIONAL 03	Regional	Initiation of a regional strategy towards managing quarantine and MA issues.	Active
REGIONAL 04	Regional	Funding for bilateral market access negotiations with trading partners.	Active
REGIONAL 05	Regional	Review of quarantine issues surrounding trade in handicraft products.	Active
B. PROPOSED ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2011/12			
FIJI13	Fiji	Review of existing HTFA pathways to NZ	For approval
SAMOA11	Samoa	Bee health survey	For approval
SOLS08	Solomon Islands	Trial shipments of cut flowers and foliage to Australia	For approval
SOLS09	Solomon Islands	Feasibility study on developing bush lime exports to New Zealand	For approval

Activity Ref	Country	Activity Title	Status
VAN08	Vanuatu	Vanilla quality manual	For approval
VAN09	Vanuatu	Kava quality manual	For approval
VAN10	Vanuatu	Bee health survey	For approval
REGIONAL06	Regional	Regional implementation of AFAS	For approval

5.2 Current 2011–12 Activities

5.2.1 Fiji

Investigation of market acceptability of Fiji TLB- resistant taro varieties in Australia and/or NZ (Activity FIJI03)

Background: Although widespread within the Pacific, Fiji does not have taro leaf blight (TLB). As a precautionary measure TLB-tolerant varieties are currently being developed. Based on the Samoan experience of poor consumer acceptability of TLB-tolerant varieties, the objective of this activity is to further assess consumer acceptance of Fiji TLB-tolerant taro varieties in Australia and NZ prior to any further market development work taking place.

Progress: It was agreed at FMAWG3 that further selection and multiplication of TLB-tolerant varieties is necessary before the activity commences. It is unlikely that the activity will commence during the 2011–12 ASP period.

Clarification of the quarantine status of nematodes associated with taro imports (Activity FIJI04)

Background: Nematodes have been detected on shipments of Fijian taro to NZ and declared to be of quarantine concern, requiring fumigation. Fumigation of taro reduces shelf life and increases import costs. The majority of species of nematodes associated with taro are known to be non-pathogenic and therefore should not be considered a problem. This position is supported by the recently-released BA global draft IRA for fresh taro corms. All nematode species that are known to be associated with taro were assessed to be of non-quarantine status for Australia. This assessment, when finalised, could be used as part of the justification for NZ MAF to recognise non-quarantine status of the same species. Removal of or reduction in the need for fumigation of taro, due to the presence of nematodes on arrival in NZ, would represent a significant improvement in MA conditions for the Fijian taro export industry. The objective of this activity is to determine the quarantine status of nematodes associated with Fijian taro imported into NZ.

Progress: STA was mobilised in December and is currently documenting the quarantine status of nematodes commonly associated with taro exports to NZ. Discussions with NZ MAF are ongoing. Outcomes will be formally reported in early 2012.

Development of and training on taro production and packhouse standards (FIJI05)

Background: Fiji taro production and processing is currently not regulated by either industry or government in terms of the minimum quarantine requirements of Australia and NZ. As a result the quality and level of quarantine compliance of consignments presented for on-arrival inspection in Australia has been highly variable. This has resulted in significant volumes of taro being held at ports

for further identification of suspect pests, and destruction and/or re-export of numerous consignments; all at considerable cost to exporters. The objective of this activity is to develop product/ industry standards for the production and processing of taro to meet the phytosanitary requirements of Australia and NZ, and to provide training on the implementation of these standards.

Progress: STA was mobilised during October/ November to develop draft standards in consultation with BAF and industry. This draft is currently going through a review process prior to consideration by the FMAWG in December. Once adopted PHAMA will provide training to packhouse operators and other supply chain participants on implementation of the standards, tentatively scheduled to commence in March 2012. A follow-up training input is planned for May.

Substantiation of Australia's requirement for devitalisation of taro imports (FIJI06)

Background: Import conditions for fresh taro corms from Fiji into Australia require that the corms are devitalised by removal of the main growing points. The devitalisation requirement is justified by Australia on the basis that if imported taro is propagated (rather than being consumed) then viral diseases of quarantine concern might be introduced. Devitalisation exposes taro flesh and increases the risk of post-harvest rots establishing, which then results in further import processing delays, fumigation, re-export and in some situations destruction of the consignment, with considerable cost implications for the exporter.

Surveys of Australian taro stocks have not been conducted to determine whether or not the viruses that are currently used to justify devitalisation are present in Australia. Expert opinion suggests that it is likely that some of the viruses may be present, as current Australian taro germplasm was originally sourced from the Pacific where these viruses are already present. The objective of this activity is to develop the case for Australia to produce evidence that devitalisation of taro corms is justified based on surveys of Australian taro germplasm.

Progress: BA finalised its policy review on the import of fresh taro corms in November 2011. Mandatory devitalisation of fresh taro corms remains as a policy requirement. QBS and PMAS are currently analysing the final report to determine individual import conditions that will apply to each of the PHAMA countries and how Fiji might respond to the mandatory devitalisation requirement.

Scoping study to develop options for the management of a new fruit fly species on Rotuma and Vatoa Islands (FIJI07)

Background: *Bactrocera kirki* is a fruit fly of economic concern in the Pacific. It is already present in Tonga, Samoa and Niue but until recently, not in Fiji. *B. kirki* has recently been detected on the outer Fiji Island of Rotuma. Fiji currently exports a range of fruit fly host products from the main island of Viti Levu using HTFA treatment for the two fruit fly species of economic concern already present elsewhere in Fiji (*B. passiflorae* and *B. xanthodes*). If *B. kirki* should be introduced to the main island of Viti Levu current exports of fruit fly host products would be stopped until it was proven that the HTFA treatment currently used as a treatment for other species of fruit fly is also effective against *B. kirki*.

It is currently not clear if heat tolerance data previously developed by Samoa for *B. kirki* would be acceptable to Australia, and other trading partners, or whether additional heat tolerance trials need to be conducted. In addition, the option of eradicating the species from Fijian territories needs to be investigated. The objective of this activity is to develop the case that *B. kirki* can be effectively treated

using HTFA (which may involve the conduct of additional heat tolerance trials); and to further assess whether it is feasible to eradicate this species from Fiji territory.

Progress: STA was mobilised in Oct/Nov to assess current distribution of *B. kirki* and associated management options (including current availability of heat tolerance data) (PHAMA Technical Report #13). Key findings include:

1. Distribution of *B. kirki* in the Fiji Islands is restricted to Rotuma;
2. *B. obscura*, a non-economic species has been discovered on Vatoa;
3. Evidence indicates that the existing heat treatment for Fijian fruit fly species will kill *B. kirki*;
4. The technical feasibility of an eradication programme for *B. kirki* on Rotuma is questionable given the islands area, terrain, vegetation and lack of infrastructure;
5. An independent audit of all aspects of Fiji's quarantine surveillance system for fruit flies should be undertaken as soon as possible, and any shortcomings corrected in a timely manner; and
6. Fiji's fruit fly host movement regulations/restrictions as they pertain to Rotuma be reviewed, and the appropriate enforcement undertaken at all times.

These recommendations were reviewed and endorsed in full by the FMAWG in early December. Proposed follow-on management activities are described under the revised scope of FIJI11 below.

Progression of new market access requests for papaya and breadfruit to the US (FIJI08)

Background: In 2010 Nature's Way Cooperative (NWC) in consultation with BAF employed consultants to develop and lodge new MA requests with the US for breadfruit and papaya. The risk assessment process has commenced for papaya, leading to a recent request from USDA for additional risk management information relating to the fruit fly *B. kirki* (see FIJI07). Work on the MA request for breadfruit has not yet started. The objective of this activity is to provide ongoing support to progress these new MA requests.

Progress: STA will be mobilised in May to undertake this activity. Some of the relevant background information and correspondence has already been gathered as part of FIJI07.

Feasibility studies on eggplant, chilli, breadfruit, jackfruit, gourd/s and pineapple exports to Australia (FIJI09)

Background: Fiji has had MA requests for eggplant, chilli, breadfruit, jackfruit and gourd/s lodged with Australia for several years although risk analysis work has not yet been initiated by BA. BAF has also recently been asked by industry to formally request access for pineapple to Australia. The objective of this activity is to conduct export feasibility studies for these products before additional resources are spent on pursuing formal MA arrangements.

Progress: STA will be mobilised in late January/ early February to undertake this activity.

New market access submissions for products recommended under Activity FIJI09 (FIJI10)

Background: Activity FIJI09 is concerned with conducting export feasibility studies for eggplant, chilli, breadfruit, jackfruit, gourd/s and pineapple to Australia. Formal MA submissions will need to be developed for those products identified as having best export prospects, including pest lists and possible risk management measures. The objective of this activity is to develop new MA submissions

for products recommended under Activity FIJI09, which will facilitate the timely processing of the formal MA requests by Australian authorities.

Progress: Pending completion of FIJI09. Work is likely to commence in the April/May.

Eradication of *Bactrocera kirki* from Rotuma and Vatoa Islands (FIJI11)

Background: Activity FIJI07 involves investigating the feasibility of eradicating *B. kirki* from Rotuma. If eradication is considered feasible, further support will be provided to assist with the eradication program.

Progress: Activity FIJI07 (PHAMA TR#13) found that an eradication program is probably not feasible, but that alternative management measures should be considered. Relevant recommendations include:

1. An independent audit of all aspects of Fiji's quarantine surveillance system for fruit flies be undertaken as soon as possible, and any shortcomings be corrected; and
2. Fiji's fruit fly host movement regulations/restrictions as they pertain to Rotuma be reviewed, and the appropriate enforcement implemented.

These recommendations were endorsed by the FMAWG in early December. The scope of FIJI11 has been refocussed accordingly, with work due to commence in March. In addition to conducting the audit and reviewing movement regulations, this will also involve providing support to BAF for development of improved surveillance systems.

Trials to confirm fruit fly non-host status for Polynesian plum (Wi) (FIJI12)

Background: NZ MAF is nearing completion of an IHS for Polynesian plum (*Spondias dulcis*) (Wi) from PICs. An initial report conducted by an FAO consultant suggested that in the green form Polynesian plum is not attacked by fruit flies in Fiji, Samoa, Cook Islands or Tonga, but that it is however attacked in Vanuatu. Fiji researchers have since confirmed that Wi is in fact a fruit fly host in Fiji, when the fruit is over ripe. The objective of the activity is to confirm that existing heat treatment temperatures used to kill fruit fly species in Fiji will be effective for Wi.

Progress: Trials will be conducted by MAF's Koronivia Research Station in December/January (corresponding to the main Wi production season), oversighted by the PMAS and Fiji NMAC. It is anticipated that work will be completed and reported by March 2012.

5.2.2 Samoa

Determination of the quarantine status of nematodes on Samoan taro exports to NZ (linked to FIJI04) (SAMOA02)

Background: Samoa has exported several trial shipments of taro to NZ as part of the re-invigoration of the taro export industry. Nematodes have been detected on trial shipments and declared to be of quarantine concern, requiring fumigation. The objective of this activity is to determine the quarantine status of nematodes associated with Samoan taro imported into NZ, possibly eliminating the requirement for fumigation.

Progress: STA will be mobilised in late 2011/early 2012 to undertake this activity, building on the work already completed under Activity FIJI04.

Supply chain constraints to developing taro exports to NZ (SAMOA03)

Background: Samoa initiated the Taro Improvement Program (TIP) in response to the emergence in the 1990s of TLB and the subsequent decline of the export trade to NZ. The program has since developed a range of TLB-tolerant varieties. In an attempt to re-establish the export trade, several trial shipments of these improved varieties have recently been sent to NZ but with very mixed results. SAMOA03 was initially designed to assess the need for market promotion support, as this was initially indicated by Samoan stakeholders to be a major constraint to re-entering the market. However, initial investigations indicated that lack of consumer awareness of the new varieties, and the need for promotion, was only one of a much wider range of issues affecting the development of taro exports, and almost certainly not the most important one. The activity was therefore broadened to assess the full range of factors constraining development of taro exports to NZ, rather than focussing on market promotion work alone.

Progress: STA was mobilised during September/October to review supply-side and demand-side issues associated with re-establishing exports to NZ (PHAMA Technical Report #14). This study identifies a wide range of issues that need to be resolved, only some of which fall within the PHAMA mandate. Findings were presented to the Minister of Agriculture and the CEO of MAFFF in November, who provided strong endorsement. The Minister is currently working on preparation of a Cabinet Paper to provide a roadmap for future development, which the PHAMA recommendations will feed into. There are a number of areas where PHAMA could potentially provide support (e.g. development of and training in packhouse standards; market promotion; consumer preference testing; and quarantine support). However, none of this work should proceed until critical supply-side issues are addressed. Once the Cabinet Paper has been finalised, MAFFF and the SMAWG have requested that PHAMA assist with workshopping the action plan to build a consensus on the way forward. This is likely to take place in February as an end-point of the current Activity.

Assessment of the profitability of taro exports to Australia (SAMOA04)

Background: As well as attempting to re-establish exports to NZ, Samoan government and industry have expressed a desire to re-establish exports to Australia using the new TLB-tolerant varieties, following the cessation of the trade in the late 1990s associated with the introduction of TLB. The financial viability of re-establishing the trade is unclear, given stiff competition in this market from Fiji, freight constraints, and the likely need for considerable promotional investment. At present, sea freight transit times, combined with Australia's present requirement for 'topping', means that sea-freighted product would be at the end of its shelf life by the time it reaches retail outlets in Australia. Air freight might be an option, however, further research is required to establish whether market returns would be sufficient to carry the higher costs involved. The objective of the activity is to assess the financial viability of the proposed trade *before* additional research is undertaken to develop data packages for BA proving that TLB on fresh corms is not a quarantine risk to Australia, or to develop measures for managing this risk (see Activity SAMOA05 below).

Progress: Given that Samoa is presently unable to re-establish exports to the easier-to-access NZ market due to critical supply-side constraints, SAMOA04 has been put on hold. This action is reinforced by the recently-released BA draft IRA for taro which will continue to make it difficult for Samoa to enter this market (see Activity SAMOA05).

Development of an alternative to the ‘area freedom’ approach for managing TLB on exports of taro to Australia (SAMOA05)

Background: The BA final IRA for taro imports concludes that TLB is a significant quarantine risk and that measures are required to manage this risk. The draft document recommends fresh taro corms only be sourced from areas known to be free of TLB.

Meeting the conditions of an ‘area freedom’ risk management measure would not be practicable for Samoa. PHAMA and the Samoan Ministry of Agriculture have provided comment to the draft policy document suggesting that a systems approach to reduce and eliminate spores on fresh taro corms could be developed as an alternative, and equivalent, management measure for TLB. BA has expressed unofficial interest in pursuing this approach. Development of this alternative measure would involve considerable research investment and should only be commenced if it is confirmed that the Australian market is likely to be financially viable (refer Activity SAMOA04). The objective of the activity is to develop an alternative, and equivalent, measure to ‘area freedom’ for managing TLB.

Progress: This activity was discussed at SMAWG 4 and it was agreed that the activity be put on hold until such time as the export pathway to NZ has been successfully re-established.

Development of a risk management measure for mites on organic banana exports to NZ (SAMOA06)

Background: Several trial shipments of organic ladyfinger bananas have been exported to NZ in recent years by the Samoa Women In Business (WIBDI) Program. Early indications in terms of market returns and viability were promising. However, the trade was brought to a halt by the detection of mites on arrival in NZ, requiring fumigation using methyl bromide (MB). Fumigation of bananas with MB greatly reduces shelf life and negates the organic certification of the product, hence reducing returns. Trials using the HTFA machine (an organic treatment) to kill the mites were unsuccessful. The objective of the activity is to conduct trials to determine if there are other available treatments that could kill the mites and hence retain the organic certification of the product.

Progress: Background work on identifying possible treatment methods (e.g. use of sulphur pads, hot water dipping) has commenced. STA will be mobilised in early 2012 to conduct in-country trials and develop a draft protocol for consideration by NZ MAF.

Development of a risk management measure for mites, mealy bugs and scales on lime exports to NZ (SAMOA07)

Background: Several shipments of limes have been exported to NZ with promising returns. However, mites, mealy bugs and scales have been detected on some consignments necessitating fumigation with methyl bromide (MB). Fumigation with MB greatly reduces shelf life and adds additional cost. It was initially reported that trials to remove the mites, mealy bugs and scales by hand scrubbing and heat treatment using the HTFA machine were unsuccessful and exports abandoned. The objective of the activity is to conduct trials to determine if there are other available treatments that could kill these quarantine pests, removing the need for fumigation on arrival in NZ.

Progress: Further investigation has revealed that Apia Bottling (AB) is successfully exporting fresh limes to NZ with no quarantine issues and, to date, no requirement for fumigation. AB has developed robust cleaning (using a mild Chlorine dip) and inspection procedures. Discussions are currently taking place with the other main exporter, Samoa Farmers Association, (who have also exported, but with quarantine issues) to try to encourage them to deal with AB. Whereby SFA looks after production,

collection and grading aspects, providing AB with a guaranteed monthly supply; and with AB looking after cleaning, packaging and export activities. If, following these discussions, SFA persist in their desire to export in their own right, PHAMA may assist with some basic training to improve their cleaning, grading and packing processes.

Assistance with regulatory requirements associated with re-establishing beef and meat product exports to American Samoa (SAMOA08)

Background: Historically, a profitable export pathway for beef and processed meat products has existed between Western Samoa and American Samoa. However, imports are now prohibited by American Samoa. The detailed reasons for this are unclear but it is thought to be related in part to the lack of an accredited abattoir facility. Western Samoa Ministry officials have indicated that an accredited mobile abattoir will be financed under the new World Bank Project (currently going through Appraisal). The objective of the activity is to provide assistance with the regulatory aspects associated with re-establishing exports of beef and meat products, once the new abattoir is established.

Progress: STA will be mobilised in early 2012 for preliminary analysis of the requirements to meet American Samoa's technical requirements. Once the abattoir is established, a second input will be scheduled to provide operational guidance to support compliance with the standards.

Reaccreditation of copra meal export processing and handling facilities in Samoa (SAMOA09)

Background: AQIS have indicated that renewal of import permits for copra meal will be subject to successful completion of an audit of processing and handling facilities for imports from all countries. Facilities in Samoa have not been previously audited by AQIS. The single major copra processor in Samoa has requested assistance to ensure they are fully prepared for the audit. PHAMA will provide advisory support to help the plant get up to standard ready for the audit; and will also cover AQIS audit costs. Training will also be provided to Samoan quarantine staff as an integral part of the activity so that they are able to conduct third party facility audits and provide training to industry on handling and processing standards to ensure that AQIS and other international standards continue to be met in the future.

Progress: STA will be mobilised in February to provide pre-audit advisory support, leading to the AQIS audit in February/March.

Export of personal consignments of heat-treated breadfruit to NZ (SAMOA10)

Background: Breadfruit is a fruit fly host material. NZ MAF requires that *commercial consignments* of breadfruit are treated through the HTFA chamber, although commercial consignments are not currently being exported for various reasons including supply limitations, freight availability and operational issues associated with the HTFA chamber. Samoa would also like to develop a heat treatment protocol for *personal consignments*. Personal consignments of breadfruit have previously been permitted, however, heat treatment was not always correctly applied resulting in the increased risk of introduction of fruit fly, and imports were stopped. The objective of the activity is to help with the development of an accredited heat treatment arrangement (not necessarily using HTFA), accompanied by Samoan phytosanitary certification, for personal consignments of breadfruit into NZ.

Progress: Agreement has been reached on use of a centralised modern commercial cooking facility in Apia, operated by Farmer Joe's Bakery. STA was mobilised to oversight commercial cooking trials

in November, designed to determine required cooking times and temperatures to guarantee effective treatment. Management procedures post-cooking are under development with Samoa Quarantine. A draft protocol is currently being finalised for consideration by BA and NZ MAF, with the aim of having this pathway open as soon as possible. Once the protocol is established for personal consignments, development of a revised protocol for commercial consignments may be considered.

5.2.3 Solomon Islands

Implementation of the Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (SOLS03)

Background: Honiara has two methyl bromide fumigation service providers. Exports of containerised product to Australia must undergo mandatory fumigation with methyl bromide to reduce the risk posed by invasive ant species and GAS. Honiara fumigators are not currently accredited by AQIS and even though containers of sawn timber are fumigated prior to departure in Honiara (as a mandatory requirement) they are re-fumigated on arrival in Australia due to non-accreditation of the providers.

The Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS) is administered by AQIS and is currently in operation in India, Indonesia, Malaysia and several other countries. The scheme provides accreditation to fumigators to safely deliver fumigation treatments of exported and imported consignments to international standards, and is regularly audited by AQIS.

Successful implementation of AFAS in Solomon Islands would not only reduce the current need for double fumigation (and associated costs to exporters) but would also improve OH&S by improving fumigation procedure and reducing risk to operators. The objective of the activity is to improve the standards of methyl bromide fumigation service delivery and facilities in Honiara in order to gain accreditation of fumigation service providers by AQIS, thereby removing the current double fumigation of consignments from Honiara to Australia.

Progress: Following strong interest from other PHAMA country Quarantine Departments and MAWGs, it is proposed that this activity be broadened in scope to include all 5 PHAMA countries, not just the SI. As a first step towards planning this, AQIS will visit Fiji in early December (at their own cost) for initial discussions with the PMO and FMAWG representatives. Subject to approval of the revision in scope by the PCC, an initial training-of-trainers workshop will be held in Suva early in 2011, involving selected personnel from all 5 PHAMA countries. Mutual recognition of AFAS by Australia and NZ is being discussed. The broadened activity is further outlined under Activity REGIONAL06 in section 5.4.

Review of the potential for cut flower and foliage exports to Australia (SOLS04)

Background: Solomon Islands has a diverse range of tropical cut flowers, orchids and foliage with potential export value. Considerable work has been done by the AusAID-funded Agricultural Livelihoods Program in recent years to develop women's groups to supply cut flowers and foliage to the local market. The logical next step is to determine if there is export potential. The objective of the activity is to carry out a preliminary scoping study to assess the feasibility of establishing an export trade in tropical cut flowers, orchids and foliage into key Australian markets, before additional resources are spent on improving formal MA arrangements and possibly supporting initial trial shipments.

Progress: STA was mobilised in October to undertake the initial scoping study, covering both supply potential in the SI and market potential in Australia. Indications for establishing an export trade are promising. Parallel with these investigations, the PMO is liaising closely with BA on re-gaining Ginger and Heliconia access into Australia.

Subject to approval by the PCC, it is proposed to support some trial shipments in the first half of 2012. The scope of support required for this is further outlined under Activity SOLS08 in section 5.4

Reaccreditation of copra meal and PKE export processing and handling facilities in Solomon Islands (SOLS05)

Background: As described under Activity SAMOA09.

Progress: Current import permits for SI copra meal and PKE expired on 17 June 2011. An extension to the 17 June deadline was negotiated, and STA mobilised in Oct/Nov to assist SI Quarantine with a pre-audit inspection of export facilities to identify the need for any improvements, and to complete the required audit paperwork during November. Four exporters initially engaged in the process, although one has since pulled out due to inability to undertake the necessary upgrades to meet export standard. AQIS completed their in-country audit process in early December, with the outcome pending.

Development of national quality standards for the production and testing of cocoa to meet international market requirements (SOLS06)

Background: The SI cocoa industry has undergone significant rejuvenation with investment from government and donor programs. Production and export tonnages are projected to continue to increase strongly over coming years. Testing to determine moisture, fat content and other quality characteristics must be conducted to determine cocoa quality and market price. Production and testing standards, equipment and facilities to conduct these tests are not available in SI and exporters are reliant on buyers to determine quality levels and set prices. The objective of the activity is to: (i) develop national production standards for cocoa for target markets; (ii) develop testing standards (physical characteristics, composition and flavour characters) for cocoa; and (iii) to provide training for laboratory staff for those tests that are able to be done cost effectively in-country. The activity will be implemented in coordination with PARDI (ACIAR) and the Cocoa Livelihoods Investment Program (AusAID).

Progress: STA will be mobilised during the first half of 2012 to initiate this activity.

Scoping study to determine the viability of fresh fruit and vegetable exports from Solomon Islands to nearby PICs including Kiribati, Nauru, and Marshall Islands (SOLS07)

Background: There have been sporadic, small-scale and unregulated exports of vegetables and processed products from the SI to nearby PICs (Kiribati, Nauru and the Marshall Islands) in recent years. Anecdotal evidence suggests that demand is strong, but that the availability of freight space (air and sea) is a key limiting factor. The establishment of increased regional trade within PICs would reduce dependence on more expensive imports from larger countries and contribute to PICs economic livelihoods. The objective of the activity is to conduct a scoping study to determine if the export of various fresh fruit and vegetable products to nearby PICs is commercially viable, as a precursor to

considering further MA-related measures that could be implemented to underpin and expand the trade.

Progress: Preliminary investigations indicate that shipping capacity is not likely to be a constraint. STA will be mobilised in early 2012 to make a more detailed assessment of market potential (products, volumes and prices).

5.2.4 Tonga

Review of the watermelon export pathway to NZ, including the delivery of fumigation prior to export (TONGA03 (i) and (ii))

Background: Tonga has an existing export pathway for watermelons to NZ. Demand for watermelons continues to grow with a market value forecast of \$2.5 million Pa'anga or AUD1.35 million per year. Mandatory fumigation with methyl bromide (MB) is currently required. The TMAWG requested that the pathway be reviewed (including MB fumigation delivery, following incidences with fruit damage last year) in an effort to identify pathway improvements and hence profitability of this potentially important export. The objective of the activity is to review the pathway from the farm gate to on-arrival inspection in NZ to ensure that the most efficient and cost-effective methods are being used to ensure good quality product arrives in NZ, and that export costs for growers and exporters are minimised. Particular emphasis will be placed on reviewing MB fumigation delivery, following incidences last year with fruit damage possibly caused by poor fumigation management.

Progress: STA was mobilised in July to undertake the review of issues at the Tonga end of the pathway (PHAMA Technical Report #12). This provided the basis for refining the focus of Activity TONGA04 (see below). Review of the pathway at the NZ end had not yet been undertaken due to the difficulty of synchronising STA availability with the arrival of a shipment. The report tabled 19 findings which were subsequently reviewed and endorsed by the TMAWG. Key recommendations focussed around fumigation delivery, procedural documentation and record keeping, phytosanitary certification, and integrity and in-field control of target pest species. Some recommendations concerning improved fumigation delivery have already been implemented by Tonga Quarantine. Implementation of other recommendations will be picked up under the revised scope of Activity TONGA04.

Improvements to the watermelon export pathway to NZ and development of a systems approach to replace methyl bromide fumigation for fruit fly management (TONGA04)

This activity was initially focussed towards development of a submission on a 'winter window' approach to managing fruit flies on water melon (and possibly other export crops), but was refined as a result of the findings from TONGA03 together with initial investigations completed under TONGA04. The revised objective is to (i) develop an implementation plan to strengthen the integrity of the existing export pathway based on the recommendations of TONGA03; (ii) to provide oversight and technical input during the planning and delivery of improvements to the existing export protocol; and (iii) to provide oversight and technical input for the conduct of research in Tonga to generate a data package to prove the efficacy of a systems approach based on non-host status for fruit flies for watermelon and other products (to be identified) to NZ.

Progress: TONGA04 is a major activity that will be implemented over a period of 2 years. It will require updating of existing management and fumigation manuals, training of quarantine staff and

growers to meet existing protocol requirements, and detailed field trials over at least one and possibly two production seasons, followed by analysis of data by NZ MAF.

The first step, development of the implementation plan, was undertaken with STA support in September/October. This plan was subsequently workshopped with MAFFF and industry, and has recently been endorsed by the TMAWG paving the way for PHAMA-supported remedial work to proceed.

Subsequent to the development of this implementation plan by PHAMA, NZ MAF completed their own audit of the pathway in October, which reconfirmed the range of issues already identified by PHAMA. The fact that PHAMA is in the process of helping Tonga to address these issues has almost certainly avoided a far more damaging response from NZ MAF, including possible closure of the pathway.

During 2012, PHAMA will work with TMAWG, Tonga quarantine and NZ MAF to provide necessary support addressing issues identified by PHAMA and NZ MAF to ensure that this export pathway remains viable and sustainable. In addition, STAs will commence scoping for the requirements to conduct non host status trials for Tongan fruit fly species on water melons during the coming Tongan water melon production season. It is anticipated that these trials will be conducted in the second half of 2012.

Development of a ‘new access’ submission for the export of zucchinis and selected other crops (to be identified) to NZ (TONGA05)

Background: Tonga originally requested assistance with the development of a technical submission for the use of the ‘winter window’ risk management strategy in place of methyl bromide fumigation, to manage the risk of fruit flies in watermelons (Activity TONGA04). This focus has now been changed to a non-host status systems approach. Other products that could potentially be exported under a similar protocol include those with a reasonably hard skin that resists fruit fly attack. Various cucurbits (such as zucchini), for which there may be some market potential, are considered likely to meet this criterion. Tonga does not currently have formal market access for these other products, and this is likely to take two years to complete. It would therefore be prudent to pursue the systems approach project and new market access requests for other products that may be suitable for export using the winter window, concurrently. The objective of this activity is to develop new market access submissions for the export of zucchinis and selected other crops (to be identified) to NZ that may be suitable for export under a systems approach protocol, once established.

Progress: STA will be mobilised in March/April to develop a market access submission for zucchini into NZ. This will possibly be broadened to also include a second commodity, pending TMAWG notification of an additional commodity.

Purchase of generator/s as back-up power for Tonga’s fumigation facility (TONGA06)

Background: Tonga MAF has recently completed the development of a government-owned post-harvest facility for processing, treating and packaging horticultural exports. A key component of the facility is the MB fumigation chamber. The chamber is used for the treatment of various export products, including watermelons to NZ. Power supply is intermittent in Tonga. When outages occur during a fumigation treatment there is a risk that the entire consignment is treated incorrectly requiring a second treatment with the accompanying risk of damage to the consignment. The objective of the activity is to install a back-up diesel generator for the post-harvest facility. MAF has indicated that the generator is likely to be used for a total of around two weeks per year. The PMO has indicated that

PHAMA funding for the generator would be contingent on the establishment of a formal agreement between industry and government on funding of operating and maintenance costs.

Progress: The tender process has been completed, with a preferred bidder identified. A draft agreement between industry and government specifying O&M responsibilities has been developed. The PMO is waiting on this to be signed before proceeding with procurement.

Facilitation of meetings to investigate Tonga-sea freight issues (TONGA07)

Background: Shipping schedules from Tonga to NZ have recently been reduced by approximately 50%. Tonga industry and government have serious concerns regarding the impact that this will have on Tongan exports including water melons, taro, cassava and coconuts. The objective of this activity is to facilitate meetings between key Tongan government and industry representatives, and shipping companies, if required.

Progress: Extensive discussions were held by the NMAC with shipping lines and industry concerning current and future freight requirements. Since July, there have been more adjustments to shipping routes and schedules, and more are being indicated. An activity was developed for PHAMA funding (and approved under the 'emergency measures' provisions) which would have involved PHAMA, NZAID and Tonga government sharing the cost of underwriting any loss incurred in providing a more regular shipping service over the remainder of the 2011 water melon export season, on a trial basis. This activity was subsequently cancelled due to problems in obtaining an assurance from the shipping line concerned regarding availability of vessels for the additional visits. There is a possibility the activity may be revived for the 2012 export season (under the 2012–13 ASP).

5.2.5 Vanuatu

Establishment of diagnostic services for value-added products (VAN03)

Background: Vanuatu has a range of value-added horticultural industries that require diagnostic services to determine compliance with food quality and/or food safety standards. Based on the recommendations of VAN01, the VMAWG recommended that improved diagnostic services for kava, vanilla and spices, copra, copra meal, cocoa and meat be developed. The required diagnostics include the microbial testing of water, testing for salmonella, E-coli, aflatoxins, vanillin content, free fatty acid content of copra, and moisture content testing for various products; as well as the key quality parameters for cocoa and kava. The objective of this activity is to establish appropriate diagnostic services in-country (including training and accreditation) where it is cost-effective to do so; and to develop reliable and least-cost outsource arrangements for more complex testing requirements with an external service provider.

Progress: Following consultation with a number of possible service providers, AsureQuality NZ has been identified as the preferred provider for developing in-country capacity and possibly also for off-shore service provision. Negotiations are currently in train for them to visit Vanuatu in early 2012 to further review the capacity and capability of in-country service providers; to determine what testing it is realistic to do in-country and what testing should be done off-shore; and to develop a costed action plan for diagnostics service delivery covering facilities, equipment, staffing, training requirements, and verification and accreditation requirements. Subject to endorsement of this action plan by the VMAWG, AsureQuality will then be contracted for implementation. STA is being used to oversight implementation of the activity.

Development of HACCP Plans for key export industries (VAN04)

Background: The implementation, maintenance and verification of HACCP systems for export industries is becoming increasingly important and in some cases mandatory. HACCP is particularly important for value-added products for human consumption. There is need for the development of HACCP systems for a number of value-added export industries in Vanuatu. There is also a need for local capacity to be developed so that HACCP systems can be designed, implemented, audited and managed locally. The objective of this activity is to provide training and accreditation for in-country officer/s to deliver and maintain HACCP systems, and develop HACCP Plans for selected export industries as an integral part of the training process.

Progress: Discussions are progressing with AsureQuality for the provision of HACCP training, in association with VAN03.

Training of additional meat inspectors to certify beef export processing facilities (Activity VAN05)

Background: Vanuatu has a successful international beef export market, processed through the two main export meat works located in Vila and Santo. Some butcher shops within Port Vila also export beef to PICs. Meat inspectors play a critical role in certification of export premises and product. The VMAWG has indicated that there is a shortage of trained meat inspectors and that there is no succession plan to replace current meat inspectors nearing retirement. The objective of this activity is to ascertain current training needs and to train a sufficient number of new meat inspectors for certification of beef exports and processing premises to meet Vanuatu's projected certification requirements for the next five years. There is a possibility that the NZ Aid Program may be able to assist with this training.

Progress: STA will be mobilised in May to undertake a training needs assessment, to develop a training plan and identified preferred training providers.

Feasibility study on the establishment of a facility for drying fruits and vegetables for export (VAN06)

Background: Vanuatu Direct Ltd, an established Vila-based export company currently exporting fresh fruit and vegetables, is developing a proposal to establish a fruit and vegetable drying facility for the export of high quality dried product using the latest drying processes. Development of an export pathway for dried product would provide significant advantages over fresh product exports: (i) the weight of product is reduced to one fifth; (ii) up to five times more product can be shipped using the same space; and (iii) drying is an alternative treatment for fruit fly host product. Newly developed drying technologies also provide the opportunity to target high-end health food and nutraceutical markets. Note that a previous PHAMA activity (VAN02) found that the resurrection of the HTFA chamber is unlikely to be viable at this point in time, for a range of reasons. Development of a dried product export pathway provides a potential alternative to the use of HTFA for fruit-fly host products. The objective is to determine the most appropriate drying technology to use (of the several options available); to assess the financial viability of the proposed investment; and to assist with installation and commissioning should the investment proceed.

Progress: STA was mobilised in late November to undertake the technical evaluation. Pending the findings of this study, additional STA will be mobilised in February to undertake the financial evaluation.

Re-accreditation of BSE free status for Vanuatu beef to Australia (VAN07)

Background: Vanuatu currently has formal access for beef into Australia. One of the quarantine requirements for this trade is freedom from the serious cattle disease BSE. BSE-free status is based on herd testing and accreditation of testing results on a regular basis by Australian authorities. Submission of re-accreditation documentation to Australia was required by the end of June 2011. Vanuatu authorities do not currently have a Principle Veterinary Officer in place and this has delayed the re-accreditation process. Although Vanuatu is currently exporting very limited quantities of beef to Australia, loss of BSE-free status would potentially have an adverse impact on the export trade to other important markets. The objective of the activity is to help gain re-accreditation of BSE-free status for Vanuatu beef to Australia and hence help maintain access to other major markets.

Progress: PHAMA mobilised STA in June to assist MAL with the preparation of the submission documentation required by Australian authorities, which was lodged on June 30 (PHAMA Technical Report #11). The follow-up in-country audit by FSANZ, required to complete the accreditation process, has been scheduled for next April. In the absence of a PVO the Program has helped MAL liaise with FSANZ regarding the timing and process of the audit, and will provide advisory support to MAL prior to and during the process.

5.2.6 Regional

Market access database development (REGIONAL01)

Background: The ability of producers, exporters and in some cases government agencies to access existing import conditions for products exported, or potentially exportable, to Australia, NZ and other target markets is highly constrained. This is due to limited/sporadic internet access and limited understanding on how to obtain information on processed/ semi-processed products from relevant importing country websites (e.g. AQIS's ICON and NZ MAF's IHS database). In addition, there is limited ability by industry to access existing bilateral export protocols and workplans for fresh products from the exporting country Quarantine Departments, usually caused by poorly organised file management and retrieval arrangements. The objective of this activity is (i) to develop a market access database as a 'quick link' to import conditions for Australia, New Zealand and other key markets for fresh, processed and semi-processed products; and (ii) for fresh products, to compile bilateral export protocols and workplans into a central file held by each country (electronically and in hard copy).

Progress: During the Inception Phase, PHAMA consolidated summary information on fresh, processed and semi-processed products from AQIS's ICON and NZ MAF's IHS databases. This initial analysis was then demonstrated to the MAWGs in each country to ascertain their interest in further development of an easy-to-access information resource, and met with an enthusiastic response. As a result of this response, a computerised database platform for reporting this information has been developed sufficient to serve as a demonstration utilising 'real' data, before committing to full implementation. This demonstration version will be further evaluated with potential users over the first half of 2012, prior to committing to full development. Full implementation would involve completing the analysis and data entry covering permitted import conditions for Australia and NZ, then expanding the system to include countries other than Australia and NZ. The issue of who would be responsible for system management and maintenance in the longer term will also need to be resolved prior to committing to full implementation.

The activity is resulting in two important secondary benefits: (i) it is highlighting to each country the products that *neighbouring* countries already have access for; and (ii) it is also highlighting a range of anomalies in import conditions within and between countries that the Program is following-up with importing country regulatory agencies.

Compilation of bilateral export protocols and workplans into a central file held by each country by NMACs in consultation with quarantine authorities is ongoing. Preliminary work has confirmed initial concerns that records have not been managed well historically. Files and folders have either been lost or sit with individuals, some of whom have left the public service. This work will continue as records are slowly tracked down, retrieved and catalogued.

Compilation of a response to Biosecurity Australia's draft Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) on taro imports from all countries (Activity REGIONAL02)

Background: This activity was designed to: (i) develop a response to the BA draft PRA after analysis of the PIC pest and disease lists and proposed risk mitigation measures; (ii) propose alternative risk mitigation measures if the measures proposed in the draft document were considered to be overly restrictive; and (iii) provide this information to country Quarantine Departments and others for use in their development of submissions to BA on the PRA.

Progress: As reported in the last 6-Month Report, a detailed response to the PRA was developed by PHAMA with additional support from Pacific taro experts (PHAMA Technical Report #10), and assistance was then provided to various stakeholders to engage in the submission process. Since then, PHAMA has maintained dialogue with BA as the draft import policy moved towards finalisation, reporting back to PICs on progress and measures likely to be imposed, to provide as much advance notice as possible. The final IRA has now been released with, unfortunately, little change in import conditions. The Program is now focussing on helping exporting countries address some of the risk management measures imposed. For example, in Fiji, quality standards and manuals for production and processing of taro are being developed and assistance will be provided to quarantine authorities for implementation of these standards. In Samoa, discussions are now underway to consider exports of frozen or processed taro that do not pose a quarantine threat to Australia and which would enable Samoa to comply with TLB-related import conditions.

Initiation of a regional strategy towards managing quarantine and MA issues (REGIONAL03)

Background: Regional quarantine and MA issues are a significant obstacle to increased regional trade. There is currently no regional mechanism for: (i) managing technical MA issues between PICs and (ii) developing and facilitating regional quarantine issues and standards with other non-PIC countries. The objective of this activity is to develop a PHAMA Heads of Quarantine group (HOQ) to facilitate a regional approach to quarantine and MA issues. More specifically, the HOQ Group would be responsible for (i) prioritising and working on regional MA issues raised by the MAWGs, quarantine departments and industry of each PIC; (ii) setting work programs to address other international/ regional standards (e.g. standardised approaches) related to MA as they arise; (iii) developing and seeking to progress with relevant importing country regulatory authorities regional strategies related to technical MA; and (iv) representing PHAMA PICs in relevant international MA fora.

Progress: PHAMA convened a meeting of the HOQ from PHAMA countries immediately prior to the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation Executive Committee (PPPO ExCo) meeting held in Nadi in late

November to further discuss the concept of a Heads of Quarantine Group, and to develop a draft Service Charter. The concept was strongly supported by all present. The following day at the PPPO ExCo meeting, the concept was again presented for discussion, with particular focus on the relationship of such a group to the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation. PPPO ExCo endorsed the concept. It was agreed that the proposed group would provide a valuable forum for resolving operational market access and quarantine issues, but should be subordinate to PPPO and the MAWGs.

Focus areas over the coming 6 months include: (i) further consultation with regional and national stakeholders on the proposed role, structure and operation of the group; (ii) finalisation of the Service Charter; (iii) finalisation of membership and initial leadership (Chair/ Vice Chair) positions; (iv) coordination of an initial meeting to establish a work program addressing current regional issues; (v) finalisation of arrangements for coordinator/ secretariat support; and (vi) development of an agreed funding model, with potential contributors being PIC Ministries, the Forum Secretariat, SPC and PHAMA, with an emphasis on sustainable funding from PICs over time.

Assistance for bilateral market access negotiations with trading partners (REGIONAL04)

Background: PHAMA countries have traditionally had insufficient resources to actively engage in bilateral technical MA discussions with other PICs or major trading partners such as Australia and NZ. Routine, programmed engagement at the bilateral level is an essential part of managing trade issues and also maintaining the focus of trading partners on the longer-term MA priorities of a particular country. The objective of this activity is to provide technical support and training for PHAMA countries to improve their capacity to conduct bilateral MA discussions with nominated trading partners, and to provide initial logistical support. Emphasis is placed on raising the awareness of PIC governments so that they fully recognise the need for these discussions to take place and to match this with budget allocations to help offset travel costs.

Progress: The Program supported bi-lateral discussions between Australia (BA) and Fiji (BAF) in mid-November, held in Fiji. In addition to formal talks the program involved field-trips to Taveuni to allow BA to review first-hand the taro export pathway (where PHAMA and ACIAR are currently working to address quarantine and non-quarantine issues), and to the Yasawa Islands to review fruit fly surveillance operations. While PHAMA staff did not directly participate in the discussions, it helped with the preparation of briefing papers, with pre-visit coaching on how to conduct negotiations, and with logistical support. A major gain from the discussions was a reduction in Australia's fresh-fruit sampling regime for papaya exports, and agreement on allowing loose consignments of papaya in aircraft. Both of these concessions will result in significant cost-savings for Fijian exporters. The most important achievement is that, after a pause of more the five years, Fiji has reinitiated the process of engaging in bilateral consultations, and is already actively considering who they will meet with next (possibly Samoa or Tonga) and what the agenda might be.

Support will be provided for the remaining 4 PHAMA countries to also hold bilateral discussions with a country of their choice over the first half of 2012.

Review of quarantine issues surrounding trade in handicraft products (REGIONAL05)

Background: In all PHAMA countries, production of handicrafts for the tourist market produces substantial additional income for villages that often have few alternative production opportunities. In

many cases these handicrafts are high quality, and have considerable unrealised export market potential. Manufacture is often based around women's groups, such as those developed under the MORDI Program in Tonga (IFAD-funded). Sales are often constrained by use of raw materials (such as some seeds) that are prohibited by potential importing countries. The objective of this activity is to promote tourist sales of local handicrafts by providing clear guidelines to village groups on suitability of various raw materials in relation to quarantine requirements of key tourist markets, and appropriate labelling to help promote sales. The first step, initiated under the 2011–12 workplan, is to review the raw materials currently being used in commonly manufactured handicrafts and to identify possible quarantine issues in relation to the requirements of major tourist markets. The second step of the activity will be to seek support from AQIS and NZ MAF Public Relations on a possible awareness program. It is anticipated that the awareness program would focus on:

- Quarantine officers at the border to ensure that they are aware of permitted items
- Cruise ship passengers to ensure that they are aware of both permitted and non-permitted items
- Producers of handicrafts to ensure the use quarantine-compliant materials.

Progress: PMAS and QBS are currently seeking to engage with Australia and NZ quarantine authorities on their potential support for this activity.

5.3 Other Activities Supported Over the Period

In addition to the programmed activities outlined in section 5.2, PHAMA has provided major support over the reporting period in the following areas:

Major interventions

- An intercept of live dipteran (fly) larvae on a shipment of HTFA-treated aubergine from Fiji to NZ led to a situation where this pathway could have been closed by NZ MAF pending audit, halting the trade in all products being treated through the HTFA chamber including Fiji's multi-million papaya export industry. PHAMA was able to directly support BAF and NWC to ensure that the situation was managed in a way that avoided more drastic measures being taken by NZ MAF.
- PHAMA's preliminary review of the Tongan water melon export pathway to NZ (TONGA03) revealed 19 areas of non-compliance. Several of these areas were considered critical non-compliances that would have resulted in closure of the export pathway if not rectified prior to a scheduled audit of the pathway by NZ MAF. PHAMA worked with the TMAWG to request that NZ MAF postpone their audit until major identified issues could be addressed. It then supported TMAWG and quarantine authorities to form a review committee, identify priority action areas, and develop an action plan to address the most immediate issues. NZ MAF's audit was subsequently completed in late November, and the pathway has remained open.
- Assistance was provided to the Vanuatu MAWG to lobby Government for appointment of a replacement Principal Veterinary Officer. This position is regarded as critical to maintenance of Vanuatu's major beef export industry. After being vacant for many years, the position is now in the final stages of recruitment.
- Information was provided by the PMO on import protocol requirements for Samoa honey to New Zealand. This resulted in successful trial shipments of honey to New Zealand in November.
- Clarification of import conditions for pineapples from Fiji into NZ. Clarification by NZ MAF on specific harvest requirements relating to physiological maturity and hence fruit fly host status (non

colour break) has created interest from Fijian producers to initiate exports to NZ, using a previously unused but existing export protocol.

Liaison with importing country quarantine authorities to address inconsistencies in existing quarantine protocols

As noted in the last 6-Month Report, review of AQIS's ICON and NZ MAF's IHS database, carried out as part of initial development of the MA database (REGIONAL01), highlighted a number of inconsistencies in the import conditions stipulated by Australian authorities for various products. The Program initiated discussion with AQIS to seek clarification on, and where possible removal of, these anomalies, with the following outcomes:

- Review of import conditions for cutflower exports (heliconia and ginger varieties), reflecting that PICs are free from Moko disease (a disease of bananas and possibly transmitted on heliconia and gingers from areas where the disease is present). Pacific surveys for disease symptoms have been obtained from SPC and submitted to BA for consideration. (Resolution is ongoing).
- Request for the removal of the listing of papaya crown rot disease as present in Fiji by BA and AQIS (Completed).
- Removal of the mandatory requirement for seed sampling conditions for cocoa (*Theobroma cacao*) for all non-Khapra beetle countries (including all PHAMA countries). This has now been completed.
- Broadening of the existing frozen cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) import conditions to include all SPC countries (Completed).
- Removal of the requirement for fresh cabbage (*Brassica oleracea* cv *capitata*) to be free of cabbage butterflies (*Pieris* spp.), on the basis that *Pieris* spp. is already widespread in Australia (Completed).

'Help-Desk' support by the PMO team in response to miscellaneous market access and quarantine enquiries

PMO staff continue to be actively involved in responding to a wide range of MA and quarantine-related enquiries from exporting and importing country regulatory authorities and exporters. Managing these 'background' enquiries forms a significant background workload for the QBS. The volume and nature of enquiries indicates a real need for this kind of 'help desk' support and highlights the historical lack of access by PICs to practical advice relating to management of quarantine and MA issues. Specific examples of where the PMO has provided advice/ support over the past six months are summarised in Appendix B.

5.4 Additional Activities Proposed for 2011–12

Additional new activities proposed to commence in the first half of 2012, not already included in the ASP, are as follows. These activities remain subject to endorsement by the PCC.

5.4.1 Fiji

Improvements to commodity export pathways associated with HTFA treatment for export to NZ (FIJ13)

NZ MAF has recently detected live fly larvae within a consignment of eggplant that had been treated (for fruit fly) at the HTFA facility. It has indicated that if any further detections occur all export pathways

associated with the HTFA treatment will be suspended until corrective measures are taken, directly threatening the multi-million dollar export trade that relies on effective delivery of HTFA treatment. BAF have requested that PHAMA work with its staff to help conduct an independent review of these pathways, as a matter of urgency. BAF's request was endorsed by FMAWG 4 on 8 December. The objective of this activity is to review the export pathways for fruit fly host commodities associated with HTFA treatment (eggplant, mango, papaya and breadfruit) for export to NZ, clearly identifying current or potential non-compliance issues; and to communicate review findings and provide training and resource manuals to address any identified areas that may be non-compliant.

5.4.2 Samoa

Survey of Samoan honey bee health status (SAMOA11)

Samoa has a small but developing honey bee industry. The bulk of honey produced is consumed by the local market but export opportunities have been identified in Australia, China, Fiji and New Zealand. Trial shipments have recently been sent to NZ. Surveys of honey bees to determine the health status of hives must be conducted as an export market requirement for several of these destination markets. The SMAWG has requested PHAMA assistance to facilitate this survey work. The objective of the activity is to conduct a survey of bee hives in Samoa to determine the health status of the industry, with particular emphasis on exotic pests and diseases.

5.4.3 Solomon Islands

Trial shipments of cut flowers and foliage to Australia (SOLS08)

Activity SOLS04 undertook a preliminary scoping study to assess the feasibility of establishing an export trade in tropical cut flowers, orchids and foliage into key Australian markets. The study is just being finalised, but indications for establishing an export trade are promising. Subject to final recommendations, it is proposed to initiate some trial shipments in the first half of 2012. The full proposal is yet to be developed, but is likely to include technical support to help organise trial shipments and document results; and provision of limited logistical support in critical areas such as supply of packaging and establishing access to cool-down facilities.

Feasibility study for the export of bush limes to NZ (SOLS09)

A Honiara exporter has requested assistance from the SIMAWG to help open up an export pathway for fresh limes to New Zealand. Anecdotal information suggests that there is demand in NZ and some local supply around Honiara. However, the potential profitability of the pathway needs to be further assessed. The objective of the activity is to conduct a feasibility study on the potential export pathway for limes to New Zealand. Issues to be considered include local supply potential, demand in NZ, likely profitability and quarantine issues that would need to be addressed.

5.4.4 Tonga

No additional activities are planned.

5.4.5 Vanuatu

Development of a vanilla quality manual (VAN08)

The Vanuatu vanilla industry works closely with small-scale farmers on remote outer islands to continue to develop production potential. Venui Vanilla is the key Vanuatu industry representative, based on Santo. Venui Vanilla specialises in the sale and export of high quality vanilla products. The objective of this activity is to assist the industry develop a vanilla export production field guide, with emphasis on aspects of production, handling and processing that are necessary to obtain high quality export product.

Development of a kava quality manual (VAN09)

The Vanuatu kava industry currently exports to Fiji, New Caledonia, US, and China (small volumes). There are currently no quality guidelines in place and the export of poor quality kava due to inappropriate and unhygienic production and processing methods is undermining existing markets. Government and industry representatives have highlighted the need for the development of quality guidelines that set out recommended production, processing and handling techniques necessary to ensure good quality. The VMAWG has requested PHAMA assistance with the development of the manual, and possibly with follow-on training and extension activities to promote the guidelines to growers and processors/ exporters.

Survey of Vanuatu honey bee health status (VAN10)

Vanuatu has a small but developing honey bee industry. The bulk of honey produced is consumed by the local market but export opportunities have been identified in Australia, and New Zealand. Surveys of honey bees to determine the health status of hives must be conducted as an export market requirement for several of these destination markets. In addition, Vanuatu industry is seeking regulation of imports of honey and other items that may introduce exotic pests or diseases that may affect the industry. Surveys are required to justify these requested import restrictions. The objective of this activity is to conduct a survey of bee hives in major production areas in Vanuatu to determine the health status of the industry, with particular emphasis on exotic pests and diseases of honeybees.

5.4.6 Regional

Implementation of the Australian Fumigation accreditation Scheme within PHAMA countries (REGIONAL06)

Methyl bromide (MB) fumigation is widely used as a quarantine treatment for a range of pests and diseases. Whilst there are few PHAMA country export protocols (to Australia or NZ) that directly specify mandatory MB fumigation as a mandatory treatment, a large percentage of container contents are fumigated due to quarantine concerns (especially Giant African Snail and invasive ants). In addition, a large number of containers are fumigated on arrival in PHAMA countries due to pests and disease concerns.

Surveys of PHAMA countries have indicated that training levels for safe and effective delivery of MB fumigation are extremely variable. The condition of facilities and equipment is also extremely variable. There is currently no certification of staff and facilities to any standard and as a result the efficacy of fumigation practices is routinely questioned by other PHAMA countries, Australia and NZ.

The development of accreditation, audit and review standards for treatments within the PHAMA countries is seen as an essential component of both sustainable market access and biosecurity strategies.

The objectives of this major activity are to:

1. To improve the technical fumigation expertise of PHAMA country fumigators and quarantine regulators whilst ensuring that fumigation treatments are effectively performed to the importing standards required by AQIS including OH&S issues;
2. To seek NZ MAF accreditation of the scheme;
3. To improve the capacity of participating PHAMA country fumigators and quarantine regulators to manage a regulatory system;
4. To develop an AQIS audit and review regulatory presence within PHAMA countries; and
5. To facilitate trade by reducing delays in the international movement of cargo caused by poor quarantine treatment practices

5.5 Linkage with Other Programs

At a general level, the Program (at both PMO and national levels) is actively working to identify and network with organisations and supply chain development programs (both donor and government funded) where there may be the possibility for joint activity.

This has already resulted in the identification of a range of activities being implemented under the 2011–12 ASP which involve a coordinated/ combined approach. Examples include:

- The taro export pathway work in Fiji and Samoa directly links with several ACIAR activities (the Pacific Agribusiness and Research Development Initiative (PARDI); the Developing Cleaner Export Pathways Project; and the Soil Health Project).
- The cocoa quality standards work in Solomon Islands links with supply chain development work being undertaken by the Cocoa Livelihoods Improvement Program (CLIP/ AusAID) and the Pacific Agribusiness and Research Development Initiative (PARDI/ ACIAR).
- The cut flower work in Solomon Islands builds on previous work carried out by the Agricultural Livelihoods Program (ALP/ AusAID).
- The training of meat inspectors for Vanuatu will possibly include training support provided by the NZAID Program (still under investigation).
- The work on confirming the fruit fly status of Polynesian plum in Fiji builds directly on earlier MA development work supported by FAO.
- The work in Samoa on establishing an organic treatment for ladyfinger bananas collaborates directly with Samoan Women in Business (WIBDI).
- The work in Fiji on establishing access to the US for papaya and breadfruit collaborates with Nature's Way Cooperative.
- The work in Solomon Islands (and possibly other countries) on implementing the Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme will work with and build on the international efforts of AQIS to improve off-shore fumigation capacity.
- The support for strengthened bilateral MA negotiations with trading partners directly links with BA's and NZ MAF's efforts to more actively engage with PICs.
- The Review of quarantine issues surrounding the trade in handicraft products will work with the Enterprise Challenge Funds 'Carnival Cruises' activity, as well as with numerous small community

development projects such as the Mainstreaming of Rural Development Initiatives (MORDI/ IFAD) which support the development of handicraft manufacture.

Regional Support Services – SPC (Component 4)

SPC is being direct-funded by AusAID through PHAMA to provide regional MA support services in the following areas⁵:

- Provision of MA information services to national stakeholders
- Representation of PICs in relevant international MA bodies such as PPPO and OIE
- Maintenance of MA-related surveillance and reporting in accordance with international standards

To support this work, PHAMA is funding of two key long-term professional positions (an Entomologist and a Market Access Specialist) and up to five technician positions.

Early implementation has been adversely affected by slow recruitment of these positions. However, the situation has markedly improved over the last few months, and the Team is now almost at full strength, as summarised below:

Table 6-1 Current PHAMA team

Position	Name	Date commenced (with PHAMA funding)
Market Access Specialist	Josua Waniqolo	14 November 2011
Entomologist	MacLean Vaqalo	October 2011
Information/Helpdesk Technician	Luisa Korodrau	April 2011
Animal Health Information Technician	Anju Mangal	June 2011
Trade Statistics Database Technician	Rajhnael Deo	April 2011 (Resigned Sept 2011) (Currently re-advertised)
Pacific Pest List Database Technician		Currently advertised
Biosecurity Technician	Feroz Kan	14 November 2011

Appointment of the SPC Market Access Specialist in November, who is intended to be the key liaison point for the PHAMA Principal Market Access Specialist, has paved the way for a more coordinated approach to the implementation of Component 1–3 and Component 4 activities.

Replacement of the BATS Team Leader⁶ in October has also resulted in a marked improvement in the working relationship between the PHAMA PMO and the BATS Team.

As of last month, regular (whenever possible weekly) coordination meetings are being held between the BATS Team and PHAMA PMO staff to review current and planned activities and identify areas where cooperation is desirable.

Activities supported over the past 6 months include the following:

6.1.1 Market Access and Trade Facilitation Support

- Supported conduct of a joint IRA by MAFNZ & BA on imports of island cabbage and Polynesian plum from Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands and Vanuatu. Information on pest occurrences on island cabbage and Polynesian plum were provided to NZ MAF Biosecurity. The IRA on island

⁵ Further elaborated in the Component 4 design.

⁶ Roy Masamdu has been appointed Acting BATS Leader, replacing Viliami Fakava.

cabbage is also being considered by Australia. The final risk analysis reports are yet to be made available.

- Technical assistance provided to Niue for preparation of a PRA on plantain and cured vanilla. Information on pest occurrences for plantain from Niue was provided to a short term consultant who compiled the MA submission. For cured vanilla the same short term consultant provided training and advice on curing good quality vanilla for the export market. Development of the plantain pathway is the next step envisaged.
- Technical assistance provided to Fiji and Tuvalu for export of root crops and fresh fruits and vegetables from Rotuma to Tuvalu. Technical advice provided to Fiji (Rotuma) on establishing export facilities on Rotuma and development of a systems approach for export of fresh taro, cassava and sweet potato to Tuvalu. Assisted Tuvalu to conduct a PRA and develop import health standards. Facilitated one quarantine staff to travel to Rotuma and visit facilities and discuss import health standards.
- Advice provided to various PICs on import regulations for mats and tapa to NZ. Consultations held with NZ MAF Biosecurity on inspection procedures and possible treatments for mats and tapa from PICs.
- Advice provided to Samoa on the export of misluki organic banana, organic coffee and fresh taro to the NZ market. Discussions held with Samoa MAF and information on pathway development provided. MAF Samoa has now progressed activities through the ACIAR cleaner export pathways project for fresh taro and through the Samoa Organic growers association.
- Technical assistance provided to Tuvalu on MA for 'utano' coconut seedlings to NZ (semi processed). Preparation and packaging trials were carried out. High shipping costs and irregularities of shipping between Tuvalu and NZ has delayed the progress of any commercial shipping trials.
- Advice provided to Samoa and Tonga on the cooked breadfruit pathway to NZ. Discussions were held with Samoa and Tonga Quarantine on methods of developing a pathway for cooked breadfruit. This activity has now been handed over to PHAMA Components 1–3.
- Technical assistance provided to the Marshall Islands on accreditation of processing facilities for copra exports to Australia. Biosecurity officer from BATS team visited the Tolobar Copra processing mill in Majuro in July while a coconut quality control and marketing officer also visited the mill and the production sites. A draft Total Quality Management document was produced. A submission was made to AQIS to conduct a desk-top evaluation in October. AQIS has completed the evaluation and have requested further information on the operations of the mill. The management of the Tolobar mill have been requested to provide this information. A training manual is being developed to train mill staff and other stakeholders in the copra meal production pathway.
- Funding provided to the Cook Islands for refurbishment of the high temperature forced air (HTFA) plant for fruit fly host commodities. First commercial shipment is likely to commence in February 2012 and an audit of the facility will be done at this time by NZ MAF Biosecurity.
- Currently supporting a market access request from Papua New Guinea for the export of fresh vegetables to Solomon Islands. The Market Access Officer is helping carry out the pest risk analysis for Solomon Islands. A draft report will be provided by the end of December for discussions between PNG and Solomon Islands Biosecurity officials.

6.1.2 International Engagement

- Hosted of the PPPO Executive Meeting in Nadi, Fiji (30/11–2/12/ 2011). This meeting is held annually for committee members of the PPPO to discuss the annual work plan and support provided by the PPPO to member countries to strengthen Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine capacity in the region and facilitate safer trade.
- Participated in the RPPO Technical Consultation in Hanoi, Vietnam (29/8 – 2/9/2011). The PPPO Secretariat attended the 23rd Technical consultation of the Regional Plant Protection Organisations in Hanoi, Vietnam which was hosted by the Asia Pacific Plant Protection Organisation. The meeting discussed various issues in which Regional Plant Protection Organisation can assist in information exchange, building capacities of National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) to ensure safe trade. It also discussed cooperation among RPPOs to implement IPPC strategic framework. The next meeting is to be held in Fiji in August 27–31, 2012
- Organised a consultation workshop on draft ISPMs in Fiji (5–9 Sept 2011) to discuss and comment on the draft International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). There were seven draft changes discussed during the workshop which was attended by 17 countries and territories. Comments were sent to the IPPC Secretariat for consideration in the adoption of the standards.
- Participated in the International Plant Protection Association Conference in Honolulu Hawaii (6–9 Aug, 2011). In collaboration with the organisers a session was dedicated to Pacific Island plant protection activities. Two papers were presented by the Biosecurity Officer who attended the conference on biological control of weeds and taro beetle distribution and management strategies in the Pacific Islands.

6.1.3 MA–Related Surveillance and Reporting

- Ongoing support provided to update and report PICs animal health information. Information on animal disease outbreaks, management and responses is being continually exchanged with PICs. This is an ongoing activity to update National Animal Health and Production Authorities on animal disease status in the region and the world.
- Technical assistance provided for the plant pest and disease survey for Fiji.
- Technical assistance and equipment provided for the fruit fly surveillance trapping network in Fiji and Pitcairn Island. Traps and lures were provided to BAF to monitor fruit flies. Discussions are also being held with Pitcairn Islands on fruit fly area wide management and possible export of fresh vegetables to French Polynesia
- Micronesia Biosecurity Plan implementation. In joint collaboration with the University of Guam, an expression of interest (EOI) was submitted to the United States Department of Navy to conduct a peer review of the Micronesia biosecurity plan and develop a Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP). This EOI was accepted and a peer review will be conducted in early 2012 and the SIP later.
- Provision of 3,000 copies of public awareness posters on coffee berry borer incursion in Papua New Guinea, requested through the PNG Coffee Industry Corporation and the National Agriculture Quarantine Inspection Authority. Posters were developed, printed and sent by express mail to PNG Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) and the National Agriculture and Quarantine Inspection Authority.

Program Management and Coordination

7.1 Program Coordinating Committee

The first meeting of the PCC, was held in Suva on 15 July 2011, coinciding with the Fiji/Regional Launch event. The 2011/12 ASP was reviewed and endorsed by the meeting, without change. The meeting also provided the opportunity to bring the MAWG Chairs together for the first time⁷. The value gained from doing this was unanticipated and considerable. The Chairs gained considerable benefit from being able to discuss with each other how PHAMA is unfolding in their respective countries. The opportunity was also taken to provide the Chairs with a few ‘formal’ sessions on aspects such as risk management and M&E, which was highly appreciated.

The second PCC meeting is planned to be held in Canberra on December 15, to be preceded by a meeting of key institutional stakeholders (AusAID, SPC, BA, NZ MAF, NZAID).

The PMO continues to provide secretariat support for the PCC, including organisation of meetings, provision of key documents and recording of minutes.

7.2 PMO and Country Office Operations

7.2.1 PMO Operational Status

The PMO is now fully operational with core management systems and procedures well-established. With the purchase of an office vehicle in November, all major procurement has now been completed.

Following a number of unavoidable delays, the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Implementation Plan was finally completed in mid-August and subsequently accepted by AusAID.

Systems for identifying, tasking, recruiting and managing STAs have been established and are being progressively refined. Management of multiple STAs on multiple assignments across five countries is at times stretching the capacity of the PMO.

Work is currently underway on development of a website, which will be operational by early next year. Additional promotional materials will also be developed over coming months.

Email access, currently hosted by a Fiji provider, continues to be problematic. This is seriously impacting on the ability of LTAs to continue functioning in an effective manner during their prolonged periods of travel outside Fiji. The possibility of using an Australian-based provider is being investigated, but will be more expensive.

7.2.2 Country Office Operational Status

All five country offices are operational with core systems and procedures in place.

Formal induction training for the NMACs was held in Suva in early July, and a follow-up workshop held in Honiara in early November (see section 7.2.3). Ongoing support and guidance has been provided by the LTAs throughout the reporting period, including two personal visits to each country.

⁷ Who are all members of the PCC.

The high level of governance under which URS operates requires ongoing support and capacity building to the NMACs, especially those that have not previously been involved with the management requirements of an AusAID project. Recognising this, the PMO Administration Officer (AO) has recently commenced a round of visits to the Country Offices, providing further support to build capacity and improve core competencies across a range of financial and administrative procedures to the NMACs – this support, as a process of continual improvement, will be sustained throughout the program.

Some of the NMACs have requested and are currently receiving additional IT training from local in-country trainers.

7.2.3 Staff Development

NMACs. As reported in the last 6-Month Progress Report a one-week Induction Course was held in Suva from July 4–9. Formal assessment by participants at the end of the week indicated the course was well received, not just for the formal training content but especially for its team building aspects and the opportunity for the NMACs to interact with one another in-person and share country experiences.

The 3-month end-of-probation assessments were completed for all NMACs while they were in Suva for the Induction Course. This involved formal assessment by the PMAS and TL, including consideration of written comments from the MAWG Chairs against pre-specified assessment criteria, together with self-assessment by the NMACs. Assessment outcomes were subsequently discussed with each of the NMACs, highlighting areas of strength and weakness. All NMAC appointments have been confirmed.

On the basis of the value derived from bringing the NMACs together as a group for the Induction Course, and recognising the professional isolation of the NMACs operating from 1-person Country Offices, a second NMAC Coordination Meeting was held in Honiara from November 2–6. This meeting was timed to coincide with a SIMAWG meeting, allowing the NMACs to observe how the process is conducted in another country. This was followed by 4 days of formal team building and development activities including sessions on risk management, the MA activity prioritisation process, M&E8, communications, administration and IT support. One-on-one sessions were also held with each of the NMACs to again review individual performance strengths and weaknesses.

In general, the NMACs are performing to an adequate standard, but with considerable variation in terms of individual strengths and weaknesses.

Procurement/ Finance Officer and Administration Officer. The PFO and AO continue to receive significant remote support by phone and email from URS Head Office staff. Both the PFO and AO also participated in the July Induction Course, and had the opportunity over this period to spend considerable one-on-one time with the Program Manager to sort out more specific issues. The PFO has successfully completed additional formal training in the use of MYOB, conducted by USP, over the past few months.

End-of-probation assessments for administrative staff have been completed and both appointments have been confirmed.

⁸ The workshop was also attended by the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, providing him with the opportunity to interact with the NMACs as a group in relation to their role in the implementation of MERI processes.

7.2.4 Contract Deliverables

Milestones completed over the reporting period are detailed in Table 7-1. All milestones with the exception of this 6-Month Report have been accepted by AusAID.

Table 7-1 Completed milestones

Milestone	Due date
6 Month Progress Report #1 (to end June 2011)	31 July
Quarterly Exception Report #2 (to end Sept 2011)	30 Sept
Implementation Plan for MERI Framework	15 Aug
6 Month Progress Report #2 (to mid Dec 2011)	15 Dec

7.2.5 Program Staffing

There have been no changes to program staffing over the reporting period.

7.2.6 LTA Travel

LTA international travel over the period is summarised below:

- Travel by the PMAS and QBS to all countries for the third round of MAWG meetings, combined with the in-country launch in Vanuatu, over the period 29 Aug to 2 Oct.
- Travel by the PMAS and QBS to all countries for the fourth round of MAWG meetings, combined with the NMAC coordination meeting, over the period 31 Oct to 8 Dec.
- Travel by the TL to Vanuatu to participate in the MAWG meeting and the Vanuatu launch, over the period 5–11 Sept.
- Travel by the TL to the SI, Vanuatu and Samoa over the over the period 31 Oct to 8 Dec to participate in MAWG meetings and the NMAC coordination meeting.
- Travel by the PMAS to Canberra and Wellington to discuss program activities with BA, NZ MAF, and NZAid, over the period 9–13 October.

7.2.7 STA Inputs

STA inputs over the period are summarised in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2 STA inputs during reporting period

Person	Position	Activity	Person-days
Gavin Edwards	Crop Management and Control Systems Specialist	FIJI05; TONGA03 (i); TONGA04	15; 20; 16
Ruth Frampton	Entomologist	FIJI07;	21;
Bronwyn Wiseman	Plant Pathologist and Generalist Quarantine Specialist	SAMOA10; VAN03	15; 13
Dale Hamilton	Generalist Quarantine Specialist	SOLS05, VAN07	25; 18
Steve Day	Fumigation Delivery Specialist	TONGA03 (ii)	7
Bruce Shepherd	Trade Development Specialist	SAMOA03	20
Richard Beyer	Food Technologist	VAN6.1	12
Grant Vinning	Value Chain Development Specialist	SOLS04	20

Person	Position	Activity	Person-days
Lyndon Voight	M&E/ IT Specialist		28; 49

In total, 14 STA assignments have been undertaken over the period, involving a total of 236 days.

7.3 Communications and Coordination

7.3.1 Communication/Coordination between the NMACs, the MAWG and the PMO

Effective communication and coordination between the NMACs, the MAWGs, the NPPOs, private sector partners and the PMO is critical to Program operations and is being constantly emphasised by the PMO. The NMACs are pivotal to ensuring that regular and effective communication takes place. Performance in this role continues to strengthen, but with considerable variation between countries.

NMACs are being encouraged to routinely visit exporters and export producers to gain a better understanding of major industries and possible MA issues where PHAMA could help.

The importance of the NMACs maintaining regular dialogue with the NPPOs is also being strongly emphasised by the PMO, given the central role of the NPPOs in the negotiation and management of MA protocols.

7.3.2 Communication/Coordination with AusAID/ DFAT (in-country)

Following the major quarterly MAWG meetings, AusAID (and where there is interest, DFAT) country staff are being routinely briefed on MA priorities identified for each country and the nature and progress of PHAMA activities to address these issues,

These briefings will continue on a regular basis whenever LTAs are in-country. All Posts are being copied in on key MAWG meeting outcome documents. The Team is also endeavouring to keep NZAid Country staff informed of any activities that have a NZ focus.

7.3.3 Communication/Coordination with SPC

As noted in section 6, communication and coordination with the BATS Team has improved markedly since October now that BATS staffing is at close to full strength. As of last month, regular (whenever possible weekly) coordination meetings are being held between the BATS Team and PHAMA PMO staff to review current and planned activities and identify areas where cooperation is desirable. These meetings are being formally conducted with prepared agendas and minuted outcomes.

7.3.4 Communication/Coordination with Biosecurity Australia and NZ MAF

The PMAS and QBS intend to meet formally with representatives of BA/AQIS and NZ MAF at least four times each year. During the past six months the PMAS visited Canberra and Wellington for consultations in mid-October. Every opportunity is also being taken to meet with BA, AQIS and NZ MAF staff when they are visiting the Pacific, and regular phone and email contact is being maintained across a wide range of issues. This level of communication is slowly resulting in increased collaboration in a number of areas.

7.3.5 Communication/Coordination with Other Projects and Donors

The TL and the PMAS are actively liaising through various channels with a range of donor projects and Programs (such as Increasing Agricultural Commodity Trade (IACT/ EU); Pacific Agribusiness Research and Development Initiative (PARDI/ ACIAR); Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods Program (FSSLP/ IFAD-FAO); Agricultural and Rural Development Program (ARDP/ EDF 10); and the Market Development Facility (MDF/ AusAID)). These programs have the potential to provide support for the development of export supply chains, thus complementing the use of PHAMA resources to address technical/ regulatory MA issues. Cross-program linkages are already being developed for a number of activities, as outlined in section 5.5.

Information on other programs is being routinely passed on to the NMACs and through the NMACS to the MAWGs. The MAWGs can then work to forge operational linkages at national level (with PHAMA facilitation if required) in order to develop a more integrated approach to addressing technical and non-technical MA issues, broader supply chain issues and cross-cutting issues such as gender equality and social inclusion.

Other programs are being offered the opportunity to use the NMACs and MAWGs as a key in-country contact point. Most have limited in-country presence and welcome the opportunity. PARDI is considering formally adopting the MAWGs as a focal point for in-country consultation.

The TL and/or PMAS are participating in structured higher-level coordination arrangements with relevant projects such as PARDI and IACT. The first of these coordination meetings was held in mid-April at SPC in Suva, with a second planned for early 2012.

7.3.6 Promotion and Media

In general, the PHAMA 'brand' is reasonably well established, both regionally and nationally. Considering the complex conceptual basis of the Program, there is already a reasonably strong (and progressively developing) awareness of what the Program is all about.

With the completion of official 'launches' in Fiji on July 15 and Vanuatu on Sept 9, these events have now been conducted in all PHAMA countries. All launches have been officiated by government Ministers and the Australian High Commissioner or Acting High Commissioner, and have attracted considerable media coverage (TV, press and radio).

Media coverage is also starting to emerge around specific activities that PHAMA is supporting. For example, the cooked breadfruit trials in Samoa were well reported on both TV and in the press; as was PHAMA's support for bilateral discussions between BA and BAF in Fiji.

Basic promotional materials have been developed (brochure/ banners/ signage/ press releases etc.). These materials will be expanded and modified over the coming year to increasingly reflect what PHAMA *is* doing rather than what it *will* be doing.

The NMACs are now getting into a routine of producing a quarterly newsletter following a coordinated schedule, summarising current PHAMA activities, progress and indicating possible 'pipeline' activities.

Initial development of the PHAMA website is nearing completion and will go 'live' early next year.

7.4 Cross-Cutting Issues

7.4.1 Gender

Activity Selection

The MAWGs, the NMACs, and the PMO continue to actively seek activities that will provide particular benefits for poorer households and women. As previously reported, three such activities are already included under the 2011–12 ASP, as follows:

- Investigation of the feasibility of cut-flower and foliage exports from Solomon Islands to Australia (Activity SOLS04)
- Development of a treatment for mites on exports of organic bananas from Samoa to NZ (Activity SAMOA06)
- Review of quarantine issues affecting trade in handicrafts (Activity REGIONAL05)

MAWG Composition

Of the total 45 members involved in the 5 MAWGs, 9 are women, including 1 female Chair. This is an increase of 2 in the number of female members from last July. 'Women in Business' in Samoa is formally represented on the Samoa MAWG. As and when other women's groups that are actively involved in primary sector exports or have a clear interest in becoming involved are identified, they will also be brought into the MAWG process.

Review of PHAMA's treatment of gender

PHAMA was selected to participate in AusAID's gender 'stock-take' of rural development programs in early September. Although the report has not been finalised, feedback provided by the assessment panel indicated a generally high level of satisfaction with the Program's understanding of gender equality issues and more specifically with the way in which these issues are being addressed at an operational level.

It was proposed earlier in the year that the Program's Pathologist/ Quarantine and Biosecurity Specialist⁹, who also assisted AusAID with its gender stocktake, could conduct a dedicated review of PHAMA's approach to gender during her proposed technical inputs to the Program, providing a more systematic review of PHAMA's gender entry points, issues and responses and an opportunity for PHAMA to benefit from 'lessons learned' from the stocktake. This activity has been put on hold until the final report from the gender stocktake exercise has been released.

7.4.2 Capacity Building

As noted in Section 3, the broader PHAMA Program (incorporating MC-executed and SPC-executed components) adopts a 2-pronged approach to capacity building: (i) developing the capacity of national organisations (public and private) to manage MA issues – but at the same time recognising that many of the smaller PICs are likely to remain dependent on facilitation by external service providers in the longer term; and (ii) providing funding to SPC so that it can continue to develop capacity to provide a clearly defined set of generic, higher-level MA-support services in line with its regional mandate.

⁹ Bronwyn Wiseman.

In relation to the MC-executed components, the primary focus is on developing the capacity of the MAWG to *manage* MA opportunities and issues. It is this overarching *management capacity*, based on input from both government and private sector interests, which has particularly constrained the development of new MA agreements, as well as the management of issues associated with maintaining access, once gained. As detailed in sections 4.1 and 7.6, considerable progress has been achieved over the last 6 months in building the capacity of the MAWG to fill this role.

Defining appropriate MA opportunities, developing data packages to support MA submissions, and developing appropriate risk management measures often requires reasonably sophisticated R&D efforts. Even in far better resourced countries such as Australia and NZ, these activities are often ‘outsourced’ to third party providers, and it makes even more sense for a similar approach to be followed for far smaller PICs. Where PHAMA is helping to resolve a particular R&D issue, and there is a logical local R&D partner with an appropriate mandate and baseline capacity, the Program will of course directly involve this organisation in order to develop local capacity as part of the process. However, the reality is that in most cases there is no local capacity, and developing such capacity is simply not a viable option.

Implementation of the day-to-day measures required to comply with the terms and conditions of MA protocols agreed with importing countries (e.g. implementation of product quality standards, inspection, treatment etc.) must however, by definition, be implemented locally. Roles and responsibilities in this area are generally spread across both government and private sector stakeholders. Wherever PHAMA is involved in an activity that is related to implementation of MA requirements, working with appropriate local stakeholders to develop *their* capacity to do the job, better, is always a central part of the activity design.

Note that management of SPC-executed activities was deliberately separated from other activities implemented under the Program at design, due to the significant technical and financial constraints confronting the organisation. Consistent with the mandated role of SPC in providing MA-support services to member countries, it is intended that the MC-executed activities will be progressively integrated into SPC’s core Program from the start of Phase 2 (with continuing donor support), with a corresponding phase-out of the MC, subject to demonstration of appropriate capacity by SPC during the course of Phase 1 to manage this type of targeted and reasonably technical form of assistance.

7.4.3 Environment

Pursuit of improved environmental outcomes is implicit in what PHAMA is trying to achieve. Improved operational capacity of government quarantine services, and improved awareness by industry of quality standards and pest and disease issues and ability to meet those standards, should result in longer-term benefits related to protection of both exporting and importing countries from incursion threats due to breakdown of quarantine systems.

Regardless of the above, the MAWG and NMACs are actively encouraged to be mindful of possible adverse environmental impacts associated with increased output of products with which PHAMA is working. No such impacts have been identified to date. It should be noted that PHAMA will in general *not* be dealing with MA issues related to commodity or industrial crops. Most products and production systems with which PHAMA is involved are smallholder-based and dispersed, and are therefore typically low-input or even organic in nature. In some cases pursuit of organic status may in fact be the basis of the perceived market opportunity and MA request (e.g. ladyfinger bananas from Samoa into NZ).

Where potential adverse environmental impacts associated with increased production are identified, PHAMA will ensure that relevant government agencies (which in all countries are already represented on the MAWGs) are made aware of these concerns. The Program is also actively working to forge linkages with supply chain projects that may be able to assist with production issues, including the mitigation of possible environmental impacts, as and when they arise.

PHAMA was selected to participate in AusAID's environmental and climate change 'stock-take' of rural development programs in late November, which provided the opportunity to explain how environmental issues are perceived and treated by the Program. Feedback is pending.

7.5 Risk Management

Current risk status was formally reviewed in early December, incorporating input from the PD, PMO staff including the NMACs. The updated Risk Management Matrix (RMM) is presented in Appendix E.

7.5.1 Additional Risks Identified

Two additional risks have been added to the original RMM, as detailed in Table 7-3.

Table 7-3 Risks added to RMP

Ref	Risk Area	Mitigation Strategy
29	Excessive travel and work demands placed on the 3 professional PMO staff, associated with intensively servicing a heavily decentralised 5-country program from a regional office, leads to burn-out.	Increased delegation of work to the NMACs. Increased differentiation of LTA roles and optimisation of travel schedules. Consideration of increased core resourcing for Phase 2.
30	PIC Governments and/or political priorities change (currently especially relevant to the SI).	Continue to lobby at senior levels on how PHAMA works and the benefits it offers.

7.5.2 Adjusted Risk Ratings

The ratings of 11 risks have been revised (8 downwards, 3 upwards), as detailed in Table 7-6.

Table 7-4 Adjusted risk ratings

Ref.	Risk Area	Previous Total Score	Revised Total Score
2	The short duration of Phase 1 in relation to the objectives of the program, compounded by significant delays during mobilisation, constrains the nature and duration of activities that can be supported and ultimately limits the results able to be demonstrated during Phase 1.	6	7
5	Inability to recruit suitable STAs (qualifications, experience, approach and motivation) at the fee rates stipulated by AusAID.	6	5
6	STAs do not perform to an adequate standard.	6	5
9	The prioritisation process is skewed towards selection of MA priorities that have gender or social inclusion benefits, at the cost of priorities more likely to result in substantial trade benefits.	6	5
10	Mentoring engagement between PMO and SPC is compromised by Component 4 management and funding arrangements i.e. SPC has no contractual obligation to effectively engage with the MC/PMO.	7	6

Ref.	Risk Area	Previous Total Score	Revised Total Score
14	Function of the MAWG is undermined by higher-level or political agendas, against industry wishes and commercial reality.	6	5
16	MAWGs are unable to agree on MA priorities and strategies, and/or identify unrealistic priorities.	7	5
17	Unable to attract and retain sufficient suitably qualified MAWG members, both government and industry.	5	6
20	Improved MA arrangements fail to result in increased (or in the case of existing trade, protection of) export revenues.	6	5
22	PHAMA is seen as part of foreign efforts to promote a trade policy agenda (e.g. PACER+).	4	3
26	Insufficient commitment from or resources allocated by PIC governments to support effective quarantine/ biosecurity services, affecting ability to manage MA protocols.	5	6

7.5.3 Major Risks on 'Watchlist'

Of the risks described in the RMP, 9 are currently regarded as requiring particularly close management¹⁰, as detailed in Table 7-5.

Table 7-5 Risks requiring close management

Ref	Risk Area	Mitigation Strategy
2	The short duration of Phase 1 in relation to the objectives of the program, compounded by significant delays during mobilisation, constrains the nature and duration of activities that can be supported and ultimately limits the results able to be demonstrated during Phase 1.	Encourage MAWGs to select MA activities with quicker pay-offs wherever possible, especially those related to maintaining trade or improving MA protocols. Maintain a 'mix' of activities for each country to minimise the risk of failure of any one activity. Continue to emphasise to AusAID and other stakeholders that gaining new MA is a long term process that requires long term commitment, and that MA maintenance activities will always be an essential and highly justifiable part of the mix.
10	Mentoring engagement between PMO and SPC is compromised by Component 4 management and funding arrangements i.e. SPC has no contractual obligation to effectively engage with the MC/PMO.	Hold regular cross-program coordination meetings. Closely monitor implementation performance. If no improvement, move early to identify alternatives for Phase 2.
12	SPC-managed Component 4 activities are poorly coordinated with MC-managed Component 1–3 activities.	Undertake JOA to help SPC identify their project management and coordination weaknesses. Preparation of consolidated planning and monitoring reports, led by the MC. Adoption of seamless planning and budget approval processes, as far as possible. Conduct of monthly (or more frequent) coordination meetings. Use of the NMACs as a focal point for both PMO and SPC MA-related activities in-country.
15	MA priorities are overly focussed on gaining new access into Australia and NZ, with limited capacity of Australia and NZ to process requests.	Encourage MAWGs to spread efforts across other countries (including intra-regional trade opportunities). Identify priorities related to maintaining existing access, as well as gaining new access. Lobby BA and NZ MAF to allocate more resources to Pacific work.

¹⁰ Defined as having an overall score (Probability plus Consequence) of greater than 5 out of 10.

Ref	Risk Area	Mitigation Strategy
17	Unable to attract and retain sufficient suitably qualified MAWG members, both government and industry.	Seek formal endorsement of the MAWG process by govt. Actively promote the Program to senior government reps. Focus on candidates that have active interest/ responsibility for MA. Ensure strong NPPO engagement and representation. Identify and include industry and government champions. Select industry reps that have cross-sectoral responsibilities. Payment of direct expenses. Aim for quick wins to develop and retain interest. Actively promote successes to government and industry. Constantly scout for additional/ replacement members, and be prepared to change if necessary.
18	Failure to develop a constructive working relationship between industry and government within the MAWG.	Seek formal endorsement of the MAWG process by govt. Actively promote the Program to senior government reps. Active facilitation by NMACs, assisted by LTAs. Reinforce/ review the MAWG service charter and dispute resolution procedures. Conduct JOA to identify specific issues to be addressed immediately. Be prepared to change members if necessary. Downgrade activities that are not fully agreed.
19	SPC's structural funding issues result in Component 4 resources being excessively diluted and uncoordinated, with suboptimal delivery.	Revisit JOA, lessons learned and failures, and agree on actions to address as required. Closely monitor implementation performance. Promote development of a more sustainable, long term funding mechanism for BATS. If no improvement, move early to identify alternatives for Phase 2.
25	Importing countries fail to respond positively to improved management of MA issues by target PICs.	Use experienced international TA to help facilitate the process. Proactively engage with importing agencies from the outset. Be prepared to change priorities if too difficult.
26	Insufficient commitment from or resources allocated by PIC governments to support effective quarantine/ biosecurity services, affecting ability to manage MA protocols.	Use the MAWG as a key forum to get cross-party agreement on priorities and exert some influence on government resource allocation. Lobby directly with government at senior levels. Provide direct operational support for key government activities and services related to priority products during early years, if necessary. Promote successes.

7.6 MERI

The Implementation Plan for the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Framework was finalised following an input from the M&E Specialist (MES) in July/ August, and approved by AusAID in September. A subsequent input by the MES in November/December initiated implementation of some of the key assessment tools to be utilised.

The key M&E assessment tools that will be deployed by PHAMA are briefly summarised below, together with progress-to-date in implementing these tools. Preliminary results from M&E activities carried out over the last month are presented in Appendix F. Finalised results will be included in the first M&E Report, scheduled for early 2012.

7.6.1 Impact Level Assessment

Quantitative impact assessment

This involves assessing the impact on trade performance for a sample of activities where PHAMA has a focussed intervention. Indicators will be tailored according to the nature of the activity, based on common themes of export volumes, export values, export losses and prices achieved. For Phase 1,

data will be collated from secondary sources for four selected activities per country, with impacts assessed annually.

Initial activities to be assessed and relevant indicators are currently being finalised, leading to collation of baseline data early in 2012.

Impact case studies

Supplementing the quantitative impact assessments, qualitative impact case studies will be carried out by the MES to assess change in the economic circumstances of selected exporters and producers as a result of PHAMA activities. Case studies will focus on one producer and one exporter for each country, who will be re-interviewed every three years to assess changed circumstances.

Baseline case studies for Tonga have just been completed.

7.6.2 Outcome Level Assessment

MAWG capacity health status assessments

The capacity 'health' of each of the MAWGs will be assessed using a structured questionnaire designed to assess prioritisation capacity; submission coordination capacity; SPS coordination capacity; R&D coordination capacity; and communication capacity. This survey will be completed annually for each MAWG by the PMAS in consultation with the NMAC.

The first assessment has just been completed. Although there is some variation between MAWGs, results indicate that the MAWGs are performing reasonably well across most areas.

MAWG case studies

Supplementing the annual MAWG capacity health status assessments by the PMAS, more detailed case studies will be carried out by the MES using a semi-structured interview process, allowing a more nuanced and independent assessment of MAWG capacity. These case studies are also designed to separately capture the views of public versus private sector members. Case studies are scheduled for two countries (Fiji and Tonga) under Phase 1, with a baseline assessment (just completed) and a follow-up assessment scheduled for mid-2013.

Preliminary results from the baseline assessment indicate particularly strong support for the MAWG process, across both public and private sector members, and a high level of functionality. While it is acknowledged that Fiji and Tonga are currently the two strongest performing MAWGs, this does however provide a very encouraging indication of what can be achieved when the conditions are right.

SPC self-assessment

Using a structured questionnaire, BATS will undertake a self-assessment on an annual basis of its performance in relation to managing specified regional market access support services. The first of these self-assessments will be completed this December.

7.6.3 Output Level Assessment

PMO Quality performance assessments

PMO performance in delivering the Program will be assessed using a structured questionnaire designed to assess the relevance, quality, and timeliness of services provided; communication effectiveness; and progress achieved towards development of a transition strategy. This survey will be completed annually by the MAWG Chair and the NMAC regarding country-level operations; and by the PMAS and TL from an overall perspective.

The first assessment has just been completed, indicating general satisfaction with performance across most areas with the exception of communication performance which ranked slightly lower. In relation to development of a transition strategy, it is apparent that this is being actively considered across the Program, but as yet there is no clear picture emerging of how the MAWGs might be funded post-PHAMA.

7.7 Sustainability

PHAMA seeks to improve the sustainability of export pathways and thereby export performance for high-value agricultural and horticultural products by addressing technical MA issues. Establishing the MAWGs as sustainable institutions capable of effectively managing MA issues is a key part of the approach being pursued. Critical to the sustainability of these groups is representation and buy-in from government and private sector interests. The private sector cannot manage MA issues on its own as agreement and assurances are required at a bilateral, government-to-government level; but equally, government cannot operate in isolation of commercial reality. The first step in the process is therefore to develop a *management mechanism* incorporating effective government/ private sector partnership. If the private sector can see value in the approach (i.e. increased profits) they will be strong advocates and supporters of the process. The second (and longer-term) step is to develop a mechanism so that the operations of the MAWG (including the cost of the NMAC) are financed by benefiting stakeholders, eliminating the need for ongoing external subsidy.

The sustainability of the MAWG process is already being actively discussed with the MAWGs and the NMACs. Despite the fact that it is still very early days in terms of achieving the MA 'wins' that will be an essential part of gaining the level of commitment (including financial commitment) necessary for development of a fully sustainable process, the reaction to the idea of progressively moving towards a longer-term goal of industry/ government financing of MAWG operations has been positive.

Quite apart from sustainability of the MAWG management process, some of the MA development activities already identified for assistance under Phase 1 such as phytosanitary inspection, treatment, implementation of product quality standards etc. will require significant ongoing support from both the private sector (commitment, funding) as well as from government (commitment, funding and in some cases regulation). On this front, the Program is actively promoting discussion with government and industry partners, through the MAWGs, on possible funding models, the need (in some situations) for regulatory change, and the need for improved industry representative processes. These issues will be increasingly emphasised as implementation proceeds, existing markets are stabilised and additional markets established.

Directly addressing some of the higher-level issues is outside the scope of PHAMA Phase 1. However, gaining a better understanding of the issues, and initiating discussion with government and

industry partners on possible solutions is designed to lay a foundation for possibly broadened assistance under PHAMA Phase 2.

7.8 Proposed Variations to the Annual Strategic Plan

Proposed major adjustments to the 2011–12 ASP are summarised in Table 7-6 for approval by the PCC. The additional cost associated with these activities is substantially offset by four activities that are unlikely to proceed following further investigation (FIJI03, SAMOA04, SAMOA05, SAMOA07).

In addition to proposed additions summarised below, the scope of a number of other activities has been further refined, with a reduction of STA inputs in many cases.

Table 7-6 Summary of proposed major variations to the 2011–12 ASP

Ref	Description	Estimated Cost (AUD)
	New Market Access Activities	
1	Review of existing HTFA pathways to NZ (FIJI13)	113,000
2	Bee health survey (SAMOA11)	30,000
3	Trial shipments cut flowers and foliage to Australia (SOLS08)	50,000
4	Feasibility study on developing bush lime exports to Australia (SOLS09)	25,000
4	Vanilla quality field guide (VAN08)	42,000
5	Kava quality field guide (VAN09)	58,000
6	Bee health survey (VAN10)	30,000
7	Regional implementation of AFAS (REGIONAL06)	107,000
	Other	
1	Mentoring support for SI NMAC	31,000
	TOTAL	486,000

Expenditure

8.1 Expenditure to Date

8.1.1 Components 1–3

Actual expenditure for the MC-executed Components 1–3 to the end of June 2011 is AUD 1,261,031 or 12.3% of total Phase 1 funding. The breakdown of expenditure by budget category is shown in Table 8-1.

Table 8-1 Components 1–3 Expenditure to date against Budget

Budget Category	Contract – Budgets	ACTUAL Jan–Jun 2011	July – December 2011			TOTAL – Actual & Estimated to date	Cumulative	
			Actual Jul–Nov 11	Estimate Dec 11	TOTAL Jul–Dec 11		Remaining Budget	% Contract Budgets remaining
Milestone claims	1,976,059	573,057	217,366		217,366	790,423	1,185,636	60
Long term personnel costs	2,988,308	456,714	495,697	95,367	591,064	1,047,778	1,940,530	65
Short term personnel costs	2,198,370	118,072	213,290	93,285	306,575	424,647	1,773,723	81
PMO Set Up Costs	79,000	9,025	43,378	500	43,878	52,903	26,097	33
National Secretariats - Set Up Costs	48,000	21,524	10,596	10,000	20,596	42,120	5,880	12
Operating Costs	122,000	5,468	23,725	5,903	29,628	35,096	86,904	71
Activity costs	2,888,263	77,171	178,450	33,400	211,850	289,021	2,599,242	90
TOTAL:	10,300,000	1,261,031	1,182,502	238,455	1,420,957	2,681,988	7,618,012	74%

Note: The project has been running for 11 months of the available 29 months, ie we are 38% of the way through the project, with 62% of the project time remaining and 74% of the budget remaining.

8.1.2 Component 4 (SPC)

Actual expenditure for the SPC-executed Component 4 from start-up in mid-2010 to the end of November 2011 was AUD 443,056 or 14.6 % of total available Phase 1 funding. The breakdown of expenditure by budget category is shown in Table 8-2. Disbursement has been generally slow, reflecting the delayed appointment of key staff, but is expected to pick up considerably over the next six months.

Table 8-2 Component 4 Expenditure against Budget

Budget category	Phase 1 Budget (AUD)	Actual 1/01/10 to 30/11/11 (AUD)	% of total (%)
MA Information Services	819,000	115,682	14%
International Engagement	810,000	194,547	24%
MA-related Surveillance & Reporting	754,000	21,236	3%
Technical Assistance	448,000	84,292	19%
Management fee	198,000	27,300	
TOTAL	3,029,000	443,056	15%

8.2 Projected Expenditure Jan 1 to June 30 2012

Projected expenditure for the period Jan 1 to June 30 2012 is as detailed in Table 8-3. For Components 1–3 this is based on a re-projection of the cashflow estimates provided in the ASP, assuming that the major changes proposed to the PCC in December are approved.

Table 8-3 Projected Expenditure 1 Jan to 30 June 2012

COMPONENTS 1–3 (Thousand AUD)		COMPONENT 4 (Thousand AUD)	
LTP costs	570.6	MA Information Services	213
Admin, equipment & operational costs	40.5	International Engagement	211
Activity costs (including STA)	1,736.5	MA Surveillance & Reporting	157
Total Management Fee	494.0	Technical Assistance	112
		SPC Costs	48.5
TOTAL	2,841.6	TOTAL	741.5

Issues

9.1 Government Support for the MAWG Process

In a few instances the interest and involvement of government MAWG representatives is possibly lessening. This is not entirely unexpected, falling in the gap between initial enthusiasm for the process and getting some concrete and visible ‘runs on the board’ to carry the enthusiasm forwards. This lessening interest is despite formal (and reasonably high-level) government endorsement of the MAWG process having been obtained and considerable PR work having been undertaken during the start-up phase. There are a number of possible factors at play, including: (i) inter-departmental rivalries; (ii) exposure of government officials to uncomfortable ‘pressure’ from the private sector through the MAWG process; and (iii) desire from some for remuneration in the form of ‘sitting fees’¹¹. At this point the issue is not affecting program operations, but needs to be actively managed.

Management responses include: (i) reinvigorating direct contact with senior Ministry staff and relevant Government Ministers to continue to ‘sell’ the PHAMA story; (ii) promoting Program successes resulting from private sector/ public sector cooperation at every opportunity, and managing this publicity so that government looks good; and (iii) ensuring that the MAWGs, NMACs and STAs operate in a manner that acknowledges and respects the statutory roles and functions of the NPPOs.

9.2 PMO Staff Resources

Given the number of MA activities being implemented, and the number of countries, stakeholders and STAs involved, managing the workload in a manner that maintains both technical quality and essential communication processes is becoming an increasing challenge for the core PMO Team. The challenge is set to increase as the work program expands further.

Management responses include: (i) reduced direct participation by the PMAS and QBS in the quarterly MAWG meetings as the capacity of NMACs to take a prominent role increases (e.g. move towards one rather than both LTAs attending at least some of these meetings); (ii) increased differentiation of LTA roles; (iii) use of STAs to help oversight larger and more complex activities (already happening for some activities e.g. VAN03); and (iv) direct management of some activities by the Team Leader (TL) (already happening for some activities). Any future phase of PHAMA should revisit the number and function of LTAs deployed.

9.3 Communications with NZ MAF

Communication and coordination with BA and AQIS has been good, at both formal and informal levels. Communication channels with NZ MAF are less well developed. Given the volume of PHAMA work that relates to NZ market access issues, this needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Management responses include: (i) seek further clarification from NZ MAF on formal communication channels and schedules; (ii) seek a commitment to structured, high-level dialogue at least twice per year¹²; (iii) create additional availability of PMAS and QBS, through 9.2 above, to focus on higher level communication of technical issues to key stakeholders; (iv) place stronger emphasis on using NPPOs as a conduit to convey PHAMA-related issues to NZ MAF; (v) pursue joint BA/AQIS/NZ MAF initiatives, such as Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS), as a means of facilitating

¹¹ At present MAWG members participate on a purely voluntary basis.

¹² With operational staff, outside of the PCC process.

engagement; (vi) actively seek co-financing opportunities on specified activities with the NZAid Program, hence using Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) involvement to help facilitate the dialogue.

9.4 SPC-Component 4 Performance

Slow recruitment of staff by SPC has resulted in a slow start for Component 4. Staffing issues have recently been largely resolved, offering the promise of improved performance. Achieving this will however require a far more strategic and planned approach to defining and addressing core objectives, and allocation of resources in line with these objectives, than has been evident to date.

Due to the deliberately ‘compartmentalised’ nature of the design, these issues do not directly affect the performance of Component 1–3 activities. However, the PMO will be making particular efforts over the next six months to try and work alongside BATS to improve the overall direction of Component 4.

It needs to be emphasised that the PMO’s relationship with SPC/BATS regarding the implementation of Component 4 is primarily a ‘mentoring’ relationship. Funding for Component 4 activities is disbursed directly by AusAID to SPC; and the PMO has no direct ‘in-line’ role in relation to either the planning, management or monitoring of Component 4 activities.

9.5 NMAC Performance

In general, the NMACs are performing satisfactorily at this early stage of implementation, but with considerable variation in terms of individual strengths and weaknesses. As they grow into their roles, there is a need for them to become more proactive in identifying, backgrounding and screening possible MA issues for PHAMA support, applying their own judgement and skills during this process; and in developing communication networks that span both the private sector and government.

Acknowledging the particular difficulties experienced in Solomon Islands, a small amount of additional STA support is proposed for the remainder of the 2011–12 FY to support and mentor the SI NMAC in his role¹³.

9.6 Transition to Phase 2

There is now only slightly over 18 months of Phase 1 remaining. A clear transition strategy to Phase 2 needs to be developed and agreed within the next 6 months if implementation is to proceed without interruption from Phase 1 to Phase 2. Key elements of this strategy need to include the process and timeline for: (i) review of Phase 1 performance (covering both Components 1–3 and Component 4); (iii) design revision; and (iii) approval.

¹³ 5 days per month, which would be provided by one of the Program’s STAs who works regularly in Honiara and is already working with the Program on a number of other activities.

Limitations

URS Corporation Pty Ltd (URS) has prepared this report in accordance with the usual care and thoroughness of the consulting profession for the use of AusAID and only those third parties who have been authorised in writing by URS to rely on the report. It is based on generally accepted practices and standards at the time it was prepared. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this report. It is prepared in accordance with the scope of work and for the purpose outlined in the Contract dated 20 January 2011.

The methodology adopted and sources of information used by URS are outlined in this report. URS has made no independent verification of this information beyond the agreed scope of works and URS assumes no responsibility for any inaccuracies or omissions. No indications were found during our investigations that information contained in this report as provided to URS was false.

This report was prepared during December 2011 and is based on the conditions encountered and information reviewed at the time of preparation. URS disclaims responsibility for any changes that may have occurred after this time.

This report should be read in full. No responsibility is accepted for use of any part of this report in any other context or for any other purpose or by third parties.

Appendix A

Appendix A Current and proposed activities under the 2011–12 ASP

Activity Ref	Country	Activity Title	Status
A. CURRENT APPROVED ACTIVITIES			
FIJI03	Fiji	Investigation of market acceptability of Fiji TLB- resistant taro varieties in Australia and/or NZ.	Cancelled
FIJI04	Fiji	Clarification of the quarantine status of nematodes associated with taro imports.	Active
FIJI05	Fiji	Development of and training on taro production and packhouse standards.	Active
FIJI06	Fiji	Substantiation of Australia's requirement for devitalisation of taro imports.	Planned
FIJI07	Fiji	Scoping study to develop options for the management of a new fruit fly species on Rotuma and Vatoa Islands.	Completed
FIJI08	Fiji	Progression of new market access requests for papaya and breadfruit to the US.	Planned
FIJI09	Fiji	Feasibility studies on eggplant, chilli, breadfruit, jackfruit, gourd/s and pineapple exports to Australia.	Planned
FIJI10	Fiji	New market access submissions for products recommended under Activity FIJI09.	Planned
FIJI11	Fiji	Management of <i>Bactrocera kirki</i> from Rotuma Island.	Planned
FIJI12	Fiji	Trials to confirm fruit fly non-host status for Polynesian plum (Wi).	Active
SAMOA02	Samoa	Determination of the quarantine status of nematodes on Samoan taro exports to (linked to FIJI04).	Planned
SAMOA03	Samoa	Supply chain constraints to developing taro exports to NZ.	Active
SAMOA04	Samoa	Assessment of the profitability of taro exports to Australia.	Cancelled
SAMOA05	Samoa	Development of an alternative to the 'area freedom' approach for managing TLB on exports of taro to Australia.	Cancelled
SAMOA06	Samoa	Development of a risk management measure for mites on organic banana exports to NZ.	Planned
SAMOA07	Samoa	Development of a risk management measure for mites, mealy bugs and scales on lime exports to NZ.	On hold
SAMOA08	Samoa	Assistance with regulatory requirements associated with re-establishing beef and meat product exports to American Samoa.	Planned
SAMOA09	Samoa	Reaccreditation of copra meal export processing and handling facilities in Samoa.	Planned
SAMOA10	Samoa	Export of personal consignments of heat-treated breadfruit to NZ.	Active
SOLS03	Solomon Islands	Implementation of the Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme.	Revised
SOLS04	Solomon Islands	Review of the potential for cut flower and foliage exports to Australia.	Completed
SOLS05	Solomon Islands	Reaccreditation of copra meal and PKE export processing and handling facilities in Solomon Islands.	Completed
SOLS06	Solomon Islands	Development of national quality standards for the production and testing of cocoa to meet international market requirements.	Planned

Appendix A

SOLS07	Solomon Islands	Scoping study to determine the viability of fresh fruit and vegetable exports from Solomon Islands to nearby PICs including Kiribati, Nauru, and Marshall Islands.	Planned
TONGA03 (i)	Tonga	Review of the watermelon export pathway to NZ, including the delivery of fumigation prior to export.	Completed
TONGA03 (ii)	Tonga	Review of the watermelon pathway to NZ, including the delivery of fumigation prior to export.	Completed
TONGA04	Tonga	Improvements to the watermelon export pathway to NZ and development of a systems approach to replace methyl bromide fumigation for fruit fly management.	Active
TONGA05	Tonga	Development of a 'new access' submission for the export of zucchinis and selected other crops (to be identified) to NZ.	Planned
TONGA06	Tonga	Purchase of a generator as back-up power for Tonga's fumigation facility.	Planned
TONGA07	Tonga	Facilitation of meetings to investigate Tonga-sea freight issues.	Completed
VAN03	Vanuatu	Establishment of diagnostic services for value-added products.	Active
VAN04	Vanuatu	Development of HACCP Plans for key export industries.	Planned
VAN05	Vanuatu	Training of meat inspectors to certify beef export processing facilities.	Planned
VAN06	Vanuatu	Feasibility study on the establishment of a facility for drying fruits and vegetables for export.	Completed
VAN07	Vanuatu	Re-accreditation of BSE free status for Vanuatu beef to Australia.	Active
REGIONAL 01	Regional	Market access database development.	Active
REGIONAL 03	Regional	Initiation of a regional strategy towards managing quarantine and MA issues.	Active
REGIONAL 04	Regional	Funding for bilateral market access negotiations with trading partners.	Active
REGIONAL 05	Regional	Review of quarantine issues surrounding trade in handicraft products.	
B. PROPOSED ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2011/12			
FIJI13	Fiji	Review of existing HTFA pathways to NZ	For approval
SAMOA11	Samoa	Bee health survey	For approval
SOLS08	Solomon Islands	Trial shipments of cut flowers and foliage to Australia	For approval
SOLS09	Solomon Islands	Feasibility study on developing bush lime exports to New Zealand	For approval
VAN08	Vanuatu	Vanilla quality manual	For approval
VAN09	Vanuatu	Kava quality manual	For approval
VAN10	Vanuatu	Bee health survey	For approval
REGIONAL06	Regional	Regional implementation of AFAS	For approval

Appendix B

Appendix B “Help Desk” Support Provided by the PMO in Response to Miscellaneous Market Access and Quarantine Enquiries

1. Jul 11; request by Samoan exporter for import conditions for vanilla into Australia (resolved – requirements communicated).
2. Aug 11; request by Samoa regarding frozen taro export conditions (resolved – requirements for Australia and NZ communicated).
3. Aug 11; request by vanilla exporter from Vanuatu regarding AQIS fees/inspection charges (information provided).
4. Aug 11; request from Samoan exporter to facilitate a consignment of honey from Samoa into NZ due to varying information by NZ shipping companies regarding New Zealand's import conditions for honey (resolved – information provided).
5. Aug 11; request by BSG, Australia for information on coconut apple to establish import conditions into Australia (information provided).
6. Aug 11; clarification on import conditions for *Cordyline* spp. from Samoa into NZ and Australia (resolved – requirements communicated).
7. Aug 11; NZ importer request for frozen & chilled conditions of a herb based semi-processed product from Fiji into NZ and Australia (resolved – requirements for Australia and NZ communicated).
8. Aug 11; Provision of information sources to potential exporter regarding equipment etc. (input provided).
9. Sep 11; Enquiry from Samoan exporter for frozen and dried foodstuffs into NZ (resolved – requirements communicated).
10. Sep 11; Enquiry by Fijian exporter for clarification of export conditions for pineapples from Fiji into NZ (resolved – import conditions clarified).
11. Sep 11; Enquiry from a Vanuatu coffee grower group seeking export opportunities for green coffee beans (resolved – contact details for PIT&I forwarded).
12. Sep 11; Enquiry from a potential exporter in Samoa wanting to export virgin coconut oil (resolved – contact details for PIT&I forwarded).
13. Oct 11; Tongan consignment of fresh coconuts for human consumption held up at an Australian port (enquiry facilitated through AQIS).
14. Oct 11 Solomon Islands enquiry for export conditions for coconut for human consumption into Australia and New Zealand (resolved – requirements communicated).
15. Nov 11; earlier request (from Aug 11) from Samoan exporter for import conditions of honey into NZ (has resulted in a trial shipment of honey from Samoa to NZ during this month).
16. Nov 11; Enquiry on cut flower export conditions to Australia and New Zealand by a potential exporter in Vanuatu (resolved – requirements communicated).
17. Nov 11; hold up of a non-commercial frozen fruit consignment accompanying air traveller to NZ (resolved by following up with MAF NZ). Product released subject to re-treatment. NZMAF to get back to PHAMA with regards to improving the wording on Phytosanitary Declarations to omit future hold-ups.
18. Nov 11; facilitation of a personal consignment of cocoa beans from Solomon Islands to Australia for quality testing and potential sales.

Appendix B

19.Nov 11; Enquiry on cut flower/foilage export conditions to Australia by a potential exporter in Solomon Islands (resolved – requirements communicated).

Appendix C

Appendix C Activity Summary Sheets for Proposed Additional Activities

Activity Ref:	FIJI13	
Activity Title:	Improvements to commodity export pathways associated with HTFA treatment for export to NZ	
Country:	Fiji.	
Status:	New activity.	
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To review the export pathways for fruit fly host commodities associated with HTFA treatment (eggplant, mango, papaya and breadfruit) for export to NZ, clearly identifying current or potential non-compliance issues. 2. To communicate review findings and provide training and resource manuals to address any identified areas that may be non-compliant. 	
Background/Justification:	<p>NZ MAF has recently detected live fly larvae within a consignment of eggplant that had been treated (for fruit fly) at the HTFA facility. It has indicated that if any further detections occur all export pathways associated with the HTFA treatment will be suspended until corrective measures are taken, directly threatening the multi-million dollar export trade that relies on effective delivery of HTFA treatment. BAF have requested that PHAMA work with its staff to help conduct an independent review of these pathways, as a matter of urgency. BAF's request was endorsed by FMAWG 4 on 8 December.</p>	
Scope of work:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a review of eggplant, papaya, mango and breadfruit export pathways from in-field production to phytosanitary certification for export, clearly identifying current or potential non-compliance issues. 2. Provide recommendations for the improvement of these pathways to ensure that they are compliant with NZ MAF import protocols for these commodities. 3. Conduct workshops with BAF and industry to communicate the findings of the reviews 4. Provide training and assist with improved manuals (where required) to ensure compliance with NZ import requirements for these commodities. 	
Implementation arrangements:	STA subcontract.	
Linkage with other projects:		
Component relationship:	Component 2: Implementation of market access requirements.	
Cost estimate:		
Progress review:	Date	Summary of progress achieved
	8/12/2011	Activity approved by FMAWG

Appendix C

Activity Ref:	SAMOA11	
Activity Title:	Survey of Samoan honey bee health status	
Country:	Samoa	
Status:	New activity.	
Objectives:	To conduct a survey of bee hives in Samoa to determine the health status of the industry, with particular emphasis on exotic pests and diseases.	
Background/ Justification:	Samoa has a small but developing honey bee industry. The bulk of honey produced is consumed by the local market but export opportunities have been identified in Australia, China, Fiji and New Zealand. Trial shipments have recently been sent to NZ. Surveys of honey bees to determine the health status of hives must be conducted as an export market requirement for several of these destination markets. The SMAWG has requested PHAMA assistance to facilitate this survey work.	
Scope of work:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct surveys of bee hives on the main Samoan islands to determine the health status of the industry. 2. Provide a report to the SMAWG on the health status of the Vanuatu honey bee industry. 	
Implementation arrangements:	STA subcontract.	
Linkage with other projects:		
Component relationship:	Component 2: Implementation of market access requirements.	
Cost estimate:		
Progress review:	Date	Summary of progress achieved
		Activity approved by SMAWG

Appendix C

Activity Ref:	SOLS09	
Activity Title:	Feasibility study for the export of bush limes to NZ	
Country:	Solomon Islands	
Status:	New activity.	
Objectives:	To conduct a feasibility study to determine if a proposal to export bush limes from Honiara to Auckland would be a financially sustainable export pathway.	
Background/ Justification:	A Honiara business man with import and export experience for a range of products to and from New Zealand has requested assistance from the SIMAWG to help open up an export pathway for fresh limes to New Zealand. Anecdotal information suggests that there is demand in NZ and some local supply. However, the potential profitability of the pathway needs to be further assessed.	
Scope of work:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a feasibility study on the potential export pathway for limes to New Zealand. Issues to be considered include local supply potential, demand in NZ, likely profitability and quarantine issues that would need to be addressed. 2. Provide a report to the SIMAWG on the feasibility of establishing this pathway. 	
Implementation arrangements:	STA subcontract.	
Linkage with other projects:		
Component relationship:	Component 3: Research and development.	
Cost estimate:		
Progress review:	Date	Summary of progress achieved
		Activity approved by SIMAWG

Appendix C

Activity Ref:	VAN08	
Activity Title:	Development of a vanilla quality manual	
Country:	Vanuatu	
Status:	New activity.	
Objectives:	To assist Vanuatu vanilla industry representatives develop a vanilla export production field guide, with emphasis on aspects of production, handling and processing that are necessary to obtain high quality export product.	
Background/ Justification:	The Vanuatu vanilla industry works closely with small-scale farmers on remote outer islands to continue to develop production potential. Venui Vanilla is the key Vanuatu industry representative, based on Santo. Venui Vanilla specialises in the sale and export of high quality vanilla products. To continue to lift quality standards and educate growers the VMAWG has requested PHAMA assistance with the development of a field guide for vanilla growers, emphasising aspects of production, handling and first stage processing that are necessary to obtain top quality product.	
Scope of work:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working with Venui Vanilla and grower representatives, provide guidance on manual content and layout. 2. Develop a draft manual and field test this with growers and other industry participants. 3. Arrange for printing and distribution to growers. 	
Implementation arrangements:	STA subcontract.	
Linkage with other projects:		
Component relationship:	Component 2: Implementation of market access requirements.	
Cost estimate:		
Progress review:	Date	Summary of progress achieved
		Activity approved by VMAWG

Appendix C

Activity Ref:	VAN09	
Activity Title:	Development of a kava quality manual	
Country:	Vanuatu	
Status:	New activity.	
Objectives:	To assist Vanuatu kava industry representatives develop a kava export production field guide, with emphasis on aspects of production, processing and handling that are necessary to obtain good quality export product.	
Background/ Justification:	The Vanuatu kava industry currently exports to Fiji, New Caledonia, US, and China (small volumes). There are currently no quality guidelines in place and the export of poor quality kava due to inappropriate and unhygienic production and processing methods threatens existing markets. Government and industry representatives have highlighted the need for the development of quality guidelines that set out recommended production, processing and handling techniques necessary to ensure good quality. The VMAWG has requested PHAMA assistance with the development of the manual, and possibly with follow-on training and extension activities to promote the guidelines to growers and processors/ exporters.	
Scope of work:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with Vanuatu government and industry to develop a kava export production field guide, with emphasis on aspects of production, processing and handling that are necessary to obtain good quality export product. 2. Develop a draft manual and field test this with growers and other industry participants. 3. Arrange for printing and distribution to industry participants. 4. Assess the need for follow-on training/ extension activities, and if considered necessary develop a training/ extension plan for separate funding. 	
Implementation arrangements:	STA subcontract.	
Linkage with other projects:		
Component relationship:	Component 2: Implementation of market access requirements.	
Cost estimate:		
Progress review:	Date	Summary of progress achieved
		Activity approved by VMAWG

Appendix C

Activity Ref:	VAN10	
Activity Title:	Survey of Vanuatu honey bee health status	
Country:	Vanuatu	
Status:	New activity.	
Objectives:	To conduct a survey of bee hives in major production areas in Vanuatu to determine the health status of the industry, with particular emphasis on exotic pests and diseases of honeybees.	
Background/ Justification:	Vanuatu has a small but developing honey bee industry. The bulk of honey produced is consumed on the local market but export opportunities have been identified in Australia, and New Zealand. Surveys of honey bees to determine the health status of hives must be conducted as an export market requirement for several of these destination markets. In addition, Vanuatu industry is seeking regulation of imports of honey and other items that may introduce exotic pests or diseases that may affect the industry. Surveys are required to justify these requested import restrictions. The VMAWG has requested PHAMA assistance to facilitate bee health surveys.	
Scope of work:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct surveys of bee hives on the main Vanuatu islands to determine the health status of the industry. 2. Provide a report to the VMAWG on the health status of the Vanuatu honey bee industry 	
Implementation arrangements:	STA subcontract.	
Linkage with other projects:		
Component relationship:	Component 2: Implementation of market access requirements.	
Cost estimate:		
Progress review:	Date	Summary of progress achieved

Appendix C

Activity Ref:	REGIONAL06	
Activity Title:	Implementation of the Australian Fumigation accreditation Scheme within PHAMA countries	
Country:	Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu	
Status:	New activity	
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To improve the technical fumigation expertise of PHAMA country fumigators and quarantine regulators whilst ensuring that fumigation treatments are effectively performed to the importing standards required by AQIS including OH&S issues; 2. To seek NZ MAF accreditation of the scheme; 3. To improve the capacity of participating PHAMA country fumigators and quarantine regulators to manage a regulatory system; 4. To develop an AQIS audit and review regulatory presence within PHAMA countries; and 5. To facilitate trade by reducing delays in the international movement of cargo caused by poor quarantine treatment practices. 	
Background/ Justification:	<p>Methyl bromide (MB) fumigation is widely used as a quarantine treatment for a range of pests and diseases. Whilst there are few PHAMA country export protocols (to Australia or NZ) that directly specify mandatory MB fumigation as a mandatory treatment, a large percentage of container contents are fumigated due to quarantine concerns (especially Giant African Snail and invasive ants). In addition, a large volume of containers are fumigated on arrival in PHAMA countries due to pests and disease concerns.</p> <p>Surveys of PHAMA countries have indicated that training levels for safe and effective delivery of MB fumigation are extremely variable. The condition of facilities and equipment is also extremely variable. There is currently no certification of staff and facilities to any standard and as a result the efficacy of fumigation practices is routinely questioned by other PHAMA countries, Australia and NZ.</p> <p>It is intended that the AFAS scheme will seek to provide MB accreditation in the first instance. However, the scope of AFAS is sufficient to provide accreditation of other treatments (such as HTFA or alternative gases) should they be required in the future.</p> <p>The development of accreditation, audit and review standards for treatments within the PHAMA countries is seen as an essential component of both sustainable market access and biosecurity strategies.</p>	
Scope of work:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a scoping visit to selected PHAMA member countries to assess their current fumigation practices and regulatory controls for methyl bromide treatment providers; 2. Provide technical training in 'world's best practice' fumigation procedures to government officers and industry fumigators from the five PHAMA member countries. 3. Provide audit and Train-the-Trainer training to government officers from the five PHAMA member countries to ensure the long term sustainability and effectiveness of the AFAS program in the Pacific. 4. Assist PHAMA countries to deliver the first round of fumigation training to ensure that the training is consistent with AFAS requirements. 5. Provide all training material in an easily accessible form to maximise the program's effectiveness and sustainability. 	
Implementation arrangements:	To be implemented by AQIS International Arrangements Program (IAP) in association with PHAMA and SPC	
Linkage with other projects:	Standalone project	
Component relationship:	Component 2: Implementation of market access requirements.	
Cost estimate:		
Progress review:	Date	Summary of progress achieved

Appendix D

Appendix D PHAMA Technical Report List

Report No.	Date	Title
1.	28 May 2011	Export Issues for Taro to Australia and New Zealand
2.	11 June 2011	Assessment of Potential Ginger Export Issues to Australia
3.	26 May 2011	Export Issues for Taro to Australia and New Zealand
4.	11 May 2011	Review of the Diagnostic Requirements to Ascertain Cocoa and Copra Meal Quality Standards
5.	19 May 2011	Report on Giant African Snail
6.	14 May 2011	Feasibility of Winter Window Export Conditions for Watermelons to New Zealand
7.	23 May 2011	Feasibility Study of Dimethoate Dip Treatment to Facilitate the Export of Fruit Fly Host Commodities to Fiji
8.	23 May 2011	Investigation of Diagnostic Requirements to Service Various Value-added Industries
9.	15 May 2011	Investigation of the Viability of the High Temperature Forced Air (HTFA) Facility as a Treatment Option for the Export of Fruit Fly Host Commodities to New Zealand
10.	15 May 2011	Response to Biosecurity Australia – Draft Review of Import Conditions for Fresh Taro Corms
11.	30 June 2011	Reaccreditation of BSE-free Status for Vanuatu Beef to Australia
12.	14 Sept 2011	Review of the watermelon export pathway to NZ, including the delivery of fumigation prior to export
13.	8 Dec 2011	Scoping study to develop options for the management of a new fruit fly species on Rotuma and Vatoa Islands
14.	20 Dec 2011	Supply chain constraints to developing taro exports to NZ

Appendix E

Appendix E Revised Risk Management Matrix

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
MANAGEMENT RISKS									
1	The nature of the URS/ Kalang Association and the relative size and expectations of the respective partners adversely affects efficient service delivery.	Internal frustration. Implementation delays.	3	3	6	Routine structured meetings at management level to openly discuss and resolve issues as they arise.	2	2	4
2	The short duration of Phase 1 in relation to the objectives of the program, compounded by significant delays during mobilisation, constrains the nature and duration of activities that can be supported and ultimately limits the results able to be demonstrated during Phase 1.	Constrained capacity to produce the degree of evidence desirable as a basis for justifying Phase 2 investment. Forced bias during Phase 1 towards activities that have a quick pay-off, in particular a bias towards MA priorities related to <i>maintaining</i> trade, rather than <i>gaining</i> new trade.	5	4	9	Encourage MAWGs to select MA activities with quicker pay-offs wherever possible, especially those related to maintaining trade or improving MA protocols. Maintain a ‘mix’ of activities for each country to minimise the risk of failure of any one activity. Continue to emphasise to AusAID and other stakeholders that gaining new MA is a long term process that requires long term commitment, and that MA maintenance activities will always be an essential and highly justifiable part of the mix	3	3	6
							4	3	7 ¹⁴
3	NMACs are ineffective in their intended role.	Ineffective MAWGs. Poorly developed government/ industry linkages. Weak linkage of MAWGs with the PMO.	3	5	8	Rigorous selection. Three month probation. Provide clear position description and output plan. On-going support from LTPs. Routine bi-annual workshops. Do everything possible to minimise time required for administrative duties. Monitor performance against agreed outputs quarterly. Involve MAWG in performance assessments. Provide remedial training in identified weaknesses. If no improvement, replace NMAC after appropriate process is implemented and recorded.	1	3	4

¹⁴ Revised Dec 2011 for PCC2

Appendix E

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
4	PHAMA advisers are ineffective.	Poor strategic direction. Ineffective technical oversight. Sub-optimal skills transfer.	3	5	8	Provide proactive management support. Include stakeholder feedback in annual performance reviews. Identify any issues with adviser, implement corrective action, mentor and counsel. If no improvement, replace after appropriate process is implemented and recorded.	1	3	4
5	Inability to recruit suitable STAs (qualifications, experience, approach and motivation) at the fee rates stipulated by AusAID.	Appropriate skill sets cannot be obtained. Advisers give preference to better-paying domestic work, leading to slippage in implementation schedules.	3	5	8	Recruit lower-cost (and less specialised/ experienced STAs). Re-schedule work to when advisers are available.	3 2	3 3	6 5 ¹⁴
6	STAs do not perform to an adequate standard.	Identified MA priorities not satisfactorily addressed. Weak relationship developed between STAs and in-country stakeholders. Sub-optimal skills transfer.	3	5	8	Maintain a database of possible ST providers and availability. Develop 'rules of engagement' and provide proactive management support for contracted STAs. Identify any issues with adviser, implement corrective action, mentor and counsel. If no improvement, replace after appropriate process is implemented and recorded.	2 1	4 4	6 5 ¹⁴
7	Difficulty of managing and ensuring integrity of a geographically distributed team	NMACs operate in 'silos'. Minimal transfer of experiences between countries. NMACs receive suboptimal mentoring and technical support. Motivation decreases. The PHAMA 'Team' fails to gel.	3	4	7	Ensure robust internal communication protocols. Adequately resource communication equipment. Regular support visits to NMACs by LTAs. Bring NMACs together 2 times/year. Routinely seek NMAC views on the level of support being provided and how this needs to improve.	2	3	5
8	A higher proportion of funds are allocated to better performing PICs than to others.	Disproportionate allocations may drive frustration and resentment from government and industry.	3	3	6	Establish and publicise clear allocation rules, processes, and ceilings. Ensure all countries have at least 1–2 high priority MA issues being addressed at any time.	1	2	3
9	The prioritisation process is	Efforts to gain or improve MA are	3	4	7	Actively communicate the higher-level technical (versus	3	3	6

Appendix E

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
	skewed towards selection of MA priorities that have gender or social inclusion benefits, at the cost of priorities more likely to result in substantial trade benefits.	not focused in areas most likely to be successful or where economic impact is likely to be greatest.				community development) nature of the Program to all stakeholders. Wherever gender/ social inclusion issues <i>can</i> be meaningfully addressed, make sure they are e.g. ensure that where women's groups are involved in export activity, they are represented on the MAWG.	2	3	5 ¹⁴
10	Mentoring engagement between PMO and SPC is compromised by Component 4 management and funding arrangements, i.e. SPC has no contractual obligation to effectively engage with the MC/PMO.	Working relationship between the PMO and C4 fails to develop. Capacity of SPC to manage regional MA activities remains weak. SPC not sufficiently strong to assume a broadened role under Phase 2.	5	3	8	Hold regular cross-program coordination meetings. Closely monitor implementation performance. If no improvement, move early to identify alternatives for Phase 2.	4 3	3 3	7 6 ¹⁴
29	Excessive travel and work demands placed on the 3 professional PMO staff, associated with intensively servicing a heavily decentralised 5-country program from a regional office, leads to burn-out.	Implementation performance suffers.	3	4	7	Increased delegation of work to the NMACs. Increased differentiation of LTA roles and optimisation of travel schedules. Consideration of increased core resourcing for Phase 2.	2	3	5 ¹⁵
INTERVENTION RISKS									
11	Private sector is reluctant to engage.	Significant program benefits from working with the private sector are not realised. MA priorities addressed by PHAMA are not based in commercial reality. PS is not fully involved in development and implementation of required quarantine protocols.	4	4	8	Ensure strong representation of the private sector on the MAWG. Encourage the NMACs to develop a strong relationship with the PS. Ensure PHAMA support for maintaining MA is oriented towards PS/ industry activities as well as government activities. Actively promote successes.	2	2	4

¹⁵ Added Dec 2011 for PCC2

Appendix E

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
12	SPC-managed Component 4 activities are poorly coordinated with MC-managed Component 1–3 activities.	Limited synergy achieved across activities. SPC fails to capitalise on the opportunity to improve core functions available through association with PHAMA.	5	3	8	Undertake JOA to help SPC identify their project management and coordination weaknesses. Preparation of consolidated planning and monitoring reports, led by the MC. Adoption of seamless planning and budget approval processes, as far as possible. Conduct of monthly (or more frequent) coordination meetings. Use of the NMACs as a focal point for both PMO and SPC MA-related activities in-country.	3	3	6
13	Linkage with export-oriented supply chain development projects fail to develop as anticipated.	Opportunities for a cooperative and more integrated approach involving supply chain development and export market development not fully realised.	5	3	8	Actively network with supply chain development projects. Ensure info on these projects is provided to the MAWGs, and foster their role in creating the linkages. Foster the role of the NMACs as a gateway to the MAWGs for all relevant programs. Maintain a flexible approach, able to address additional MA priorities as the MAWGs make the links and identify the needs.	2	2	4
14	Function of the MAWGs is undermined by higher-level or political agendas, against industry wishes and commercial reality.	Prioritisation process becomes politicised. Unrealistic priorities identified. Implementation stalls.	3	5	8	Actively publicise the role of the MAWG, and the process and criteria used for identifying priorities. Ensure this process is transparent. Gain formal government endorsement of the process. In the event of interference, seek high-level meetings to remediate situation. Don't fund disputed activities. Seek support from AusAID Post/ DFAT.	2	4	6
							2	3	5 ¹⁴
15	MA priorities are overly focussed on gaining new access into Australia and NZ, with limited capacity of Australia and NZ to process requests.	Number of 'wins' over the duration of Phase 1 is limited by the amount of time Australia and NZ agencies are prepared to allocate to PIC requests.	4	4	8	Encourage MAWGs to spread efforts across other countries (including intra-regional trade opportunities). Identify priorities related to maintaining existing access, as well as gaining new access. Lobby BA and NZMAF to allocate more resources to Pacific work.	4	3	7

Appendix E

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
16	MAWGs are unable to agree on MA priorities and strategies, and/ or identify unrealistic priorities.	Unrealistic priorities/ action plans are identified. Opportunity to gain/maintain MA in most critical areas wasted. Implementation stalls.	5	5	10	Reinforce the criteria and process for determining priorities. Ensure this process is transparent. Promote sense of working for the national good. Measure and report comparison of performance between MAWGs. Mentor and pro-actively support the chair and vice chair. Reinforce the role of the NMAC in active pre-screening and ground-truthing of proposed activities. If MAWG still unable to make decisions, undertake JOA to identify weaknesses and reasons why dysfunctional (political/ social/ cultural/ personal conflict/ government versus private conflict). Agree communications and training plan to address. Mediation by the NMACs/ LTAs. Review performance of NMAC. Be prepared to change MAWG members if necessary. Don't fund activities until differences are resolved.	2 2	5 3	7 5 ¹⁴
17	Unable to attract and retain sufficient suitably qualified MAWG members, both government and industry.	MAWG becomes dysfunctional. Decisions are skewed towards particular perceptions and agendas.	4	5	9	Seek formal endorsement of the MAWG process by govt. Actively promote the Program to senior government reps. Focus on candidates that have active interest/ responsibility for MA. Ensure strong NPPO engagement and representation. Identify and include industry and government champions. Select industry reps that have cross-sectoral responsibilities. Payment of direct expenses. Aim for quick wins to develop and retain interest. Actively promote successes to government and industry. Constantly scout for additional/ replacement members, and be prepared to change if necessary.	2 3	3 3	5 6 ¹⁴
18	Failure to develop a constructive working relationship between industry and government within the MAWG.	Industry loses faith in the process. Government fails to mobilise its resources behind identified priorities.	4	5	9	Seek formal endorsement of the MAWG process by govt. Actively promote the Program to senior government reps. Active facilitation by NMACs, assisted by LTAs. Reinforce/ review the MAWG service charter and dispute resolution procedures. Conduct JOA to identify specific issues to be addressed immediately. Be prepared to change members if necessary. Downgrade activities that are not fully agreed.	2	4	6

Appendix E

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
19	SPC’s structural funding issues result in Component 4 resources being excessively diluted and uncoordinated, with suboptimal delivery.	Capacity of SPC to manage regional MA activities remains weak. SPC not able to assume a broadened role under Phase 2.	5	3	8	Revisit JOA, lessons learned and failures, and agree on actions to address as required. Closely monitor implementation performance. Promote development of a more sustainable, long term funding mechanism for BATS. If no improvement, move early to identify alternatives for Phase 2.	4	3	7
20	Improved MA arrangements fail to result in increased (or in the case of existing trade, protection of) export revenues.	Rationale for program is undermined.	4	5	9	Careful selection of MA priorities using defined criteria. Strengthen pre-screening of activities by NMACs. Be prepared to spend time to get required data. Focus on ‘export-ready’ industries; and MA issues related to maintaining existing trade. Actively develop linkages with other supply chain projects.	2	4	6
							2	3	5 ¹⁴
DEVELOPMENT RISKS									
21	Stakeholder understanding of what PHAMA has to offer remains limited and/or expectations of the scale of what it can achieve are unrealistic.	Failure to take advantage of what PHAMA has to offer. Program credibility damaged through inability to meet unrealistic expectations. MAWGs become disillusioned with process and progress. Implementation stalls.	5	4	9	Continue to actively promote what PHAMA offers to key stakeholders. Effectively communicate technical info as well as more general messages. Facilitate realistic expectations though the ASP process, and appropriate media/publicity. Focus on the MAWGs as the central decision-making bodies. Define realistic concrete actions and realistic timelines for resolving specific MA priorities. Promote self-monitoring of progress by the MAWGs. Focus on ‘quick wins’ wherever possible, especially activities related to <i>maintaining access</i> rather than <i>gaining new access</i> .	2	1	3
22	PHAMA is seen as part of foreign efforts to promote a trade policy agenda (e.g. PACER+).	PHAMA is subject to unwarranted criticism and is less effective. Vocal criticism may impede acceptance.	4	3	7	Actively promote PHAMA as providing technical operational assistance to develop exports, and not part of a trade policy agenda. Actively publicise MA wins and resulting trade benefits.	2	2	4
							1	2	3 ¹⁴
23	Government (especially NPPO) and/or industry commitment to the PHAMA process is weak.	Key program delivery mechanisms and therefore effectiveness weakened. Local governance and service delivery does not improve.	4	5	9	Support establishment of strong MAWGs. Gain formal government endorsement of the process. Actively promote the Program to senior government reps. Make sure the NPPO is actively involved and has a strong role in the MAWG. Wherever realistic reflect current government development priorities in the work program. Support government and industry stakeholders to resolve priority issues that lead directly to improved MA and service delivery. Promote successes.	2	3	5

Appendix E

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
24	PICs are reluctant to become more proactive in their communication with importing country agencies and management of MA issues.	Passive, 'business-as-usual' approach continues. Resolution of MA issues remains slow.	5	4	9	Increase exposure to issue management and negotiating practices of other countries. Joint regional representations (strength in numbers). Direct use of TA to support more active management of the process and develop capacity through 'learning by doing'.	2	3	5
25	Importing countries fail to respond positively to improved management of MA issues by target PICs.	Even although MA submissions may be more rational, better prepared and better managed, efficiency in progressing/ addressing issues does not improve.	4	5	9	Use experienced international TA to help facilitate the process. Proactively engage with importing agencies from the outset. Be prepared to change priorities if too difficult.	3	3	6
26	Insufficient commitment from or resources allocated by PIC governments to support effective quarantine/ biosecurity services, affecting ability to manage MA protocols.	Inability to competently engage in the development and management of MA protocols. Failure to take advantage of new opportunities. Existing trade is temporarily or even permanently halted in some products.	4	4	8	Use the MAWG as a key forum to get cross-party agreement on priorities and exert some influence on government resource allocation. Lobby directly with government at senior levels. Provide direct operational support for key government activities and services related to priority products during early years, if necessary. Promote successes.	2	3	5
							3	3	6 ¹⁴
27	Key Partners (KPs) become more dependent on donor support for core functions.	KPs fail to drive the MA process and become less independent and competent.	3	4	7	Develop capacity of MAWGs as the key decision-making body. Use the MAWGs to drive and promote sustainability concepts. Work with SPC to develop capacity for third party service provision. Recognise KPs in most PHAMA countries (especially government) are and are likely to remain donor dependent for some time. Emphasise 'doing with' rather than 'doing for'.	2	2	4
28	Importing country regulatory agencies are reluctant to recognise the role of PHAMA is helping PICs deal with MA issues	PHAMA fails to develop credibility as a partner in helping to address issues. Opportunity to use PHAMA resources to advance MA issues and improve communication between importing and exporting regulatory agencies is wasted.	3	5	8	Legitimise the role of PHAMA by obtaining formal endorsement of the MAWG process by govt. Develop and maintain strong direct communication channels between PHAMA team and reps of importing country regulatory agencies. Hold routine formal consultations. Promote advantages (not only to PICs but also to importing countries) of having PHAMA in the mix.	2	3	5

Appendix E

#	Potential Risk	Potential Impact	Risk Before			Risk Mitigation Strategies by Contractor	Risk After		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
30	PIC Governments and/or political priorities change.	PIC Government support for PHAMA reduces and momentum slows.	3	3	6	Continue to lobby at senior levels on how PHAMA works and the benefits it offers.	3	2	5 ¹⁵

Appendix F

Appendix F MERI Preliminary Results – December 2011

F.1 MAWG Case Study Results

F.1.1 Overview

The MAWG Case Study tool is conducted for each MAWG three times with eighteen monthly intervals. It is used to explore a more nuanced investigation into the overarching issues of MAWG capacity. Each process involves interviewing all public sector members of the MAWG as one group, and all private sector members as a second group. A set of four questions are used as guides to the focus group discussions.

F.1.2 Findings

These findings reflect baseline case studies conducted in Fiji and Tonga in November 2011.

Very similar trends in responses to the four guiding questions were seen across both countries in regard to both private and public sector groups. The qualitative responses were categorised per question into the number of i) positive responses, ii) neutral responses and iii) negative responses given. This categorisation process is used for internal comparison at the question level of a single group only and should not be used to extrapolate beyond this.

In both countries and groups, responses were extremely positive in regard to three of the four guiding questions. As expected, more caution was displayed in response to question 4 regarding a post PHAMA setting.

Question 1: Access to technical knowledge¹⁶

Private Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
5	0	0
Tonga		
6	0	0

Public Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
5	0	0
Tonga		
4	0	1

¹⁶ Full question: To what extent is the MAWG able to access required technical knowledge in making MA decisions or coordinating MA activities?

Appendix F

For both countries (especially the private sector groups) had a strong focus on the high value of the PHAMA LTAs:

- (private): "they've been there - on the other side of the table"
- (private): "These guys are mana from heaven"
- (private): "They (PMO LTAs) speak on same level as the guys in Australia"
- (private): "It's critically important to have people that not just talk the action but are able to get the results"
- (private): "Not just have the technical knowledge but be able to articulate it to the right people"
- (private): "I hope they (the public sector) see the value of the technical capacity available"
- (private): "Technical info is used as a political tool so we must have access to it"
- (public): "The ability of PHAMA (PMO) to respond quickly as a project to what the composition of MAWG said was urgent - I think that needs to be acknowledged because it really aligns to the national need"

Tonga (both private and public sectors) expanded on the issue of access to technical knowledge by expanding the concept of access to include other resources/issues:

- Referred positively to progress made in accessing local technical knowledge to complement PMO-supplied expertise through MAWG management and guidance
- Referred repeatedly to PHAMA providing key financial resources to solve critical MA issues

Fiji public sector also mentioned the importance of other local technical resources and the role of the MAWG to access this.

Question 2: Extent MAWG able to provide oversight¹⁷

Private Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
8	0	0
Tonga		
11	0	0

Public Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
6	4	0
Tonga		
17	3	0

¹⁷ Full question: To what extent is the MAWG able to provide/coordinate oversight for government agencies and exporters / industry for MA activities?

Appendix F

Both countries responded very positively to the MAWG actively driving and intervening on MA issues with the private sector expressing it:

- (private): "The MAWG is able to facilitate and get this thing moving - as we need to do it"
- (private): "The MAWG is a mechanism to keep on asking questions until we get the right answers"
- (private): "If we didn't have PHAMA I don't know what would have happened - the pathway would have closed"
- (private): "Australia getting more confidence in us as a direct result of MAWG"
- "In terms of connection with the MAWG, if we failed that audit... that would have been the end of this year"
- (private): "Tendency to be 'yes men' - MAWG able to facilitate and get this thing moving - as we need to do it"
- (private): "Opportunity to engage with them (Australia) and for them to listen"
- (private): "It's so good, we've shown it can work, how about using the same approach across the other economic sectors"

All parties reflected on the importance of having the right people on the MAWG and the vital role of the coordinator:

- (public): "I think what is important is the composition and commitment of the members"
- (private): "Coordinator is a key role"
- (public): "The direction the project is moving - we agree on things and act on them - to me that erases any doubts"
- "Role of coordinator is also very important. Getting a strong coordinator who is able to drive things forward is key to being successful"
- (public): "It's not just MAWG - it's the composition of MAWG and its the appropriateness of the components of PHAMA and its responsiveness"
- (public): "It's not a new modality for government. - but MAWG is peculiar in its own right because you have the right people... very representative "
- (public): "There needs to be some recognition of the appropriateness of the composition of MAWG"

Appendix F

Question 3: Extent MAWG able to collaborate with government and industry¹⁸

Private Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
7	7	2
Tonga		
14	4	1

Public Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
7	4	0
Tonga		
9	2	0

While the overall responses were positive, there was a negative response from each private sector group in both countries. These were concerns about not being given adequate access to participate / assist in high level government-to-government MA related meetings (Fiji) and concerns over inadequate representation of all stakeholders in the MAWG process (Tonga).

Otherwise, the responses across both public and private sectors were very positive:

- (public): "Government needs to trust the industry"
- (public): "Starting to gel"
- (public): "Most important is the frank manner in which the MAWG is able to exchange with the industry - this is not a forum where people are diplomatic"
- (public): "Platform to make responsive decisions that are more accurate"
- (public): "If it wasn't for the PHAMA review, I wouldn't as a new man in the position, I wouldn't have a stepping stone to start from"
- (public): "To put it bluntly, the MAWG evades any misconceptions - because often the private sector say government mishandle things - but when you sit together in a room you explain the process"
- (public): "Highly desirable that decision making is made on a participatory basis"
- (public): "Everything the MAWG agrees on, the MAF cannot say no because we now have a MAF chairman - that itself creates a more successful collaboration"
- (public): "Having priority issues that have been rectified together has led to more acceptance from government because we are fixing things of national priority... if we keep on doing that it will enhance the cooperation"
- (public): "My staff now understand, this is not a PHAMA project, this is a national thing"

¹⁸ Full question: To what extent is the MAWG able to successfully collaborate with both government agencies and exporters / industry in managing MA activities?

Appendix F

Question 4: Future vision post PHAMA¹⁹

Private Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
0	3	5
Tonga		
1	3	0

Public Sector		
Positive Responses	Neutral Responses	Negative Responses
Fiji		
4	2	1
Tonga		
0	6	0

With the exception of the Fiji public sector group, most responses were neutral to negative. Most of the neutral responses were along the lines of 'wait and see' and 'still lots to do':

- (private): "That's why MAWG needs to stay here for quite a while yet"
- (private): "We don't have any people here able to do that"
- (public): "The more we confirm the success of the project, it's an easier task to articulate and communicate... will be premised on success and achievements "
- (public): Connections still need to be made between local people and NZ / Australian stakeholders
- (public): "Training counterparts etc. and systems in place so it doesn't depend on unique set of circumstances now"

The positive responses from Fiji public sector were based on a long term plan evolving to situate a future MAWG entity under a broader primary industry council that has recently been created.

F.2 MAWG Capacity Health Status Survey Results

F.2.1 Overview

The MAWG Capacity Health Status Survey Tool (see Attachment 1) is completed on a yearly basis by the Principal Market Access Specialist (PMAS) in consideration of the current capacity of each MAWG. It contains nineteen Likert-scale questions categorised into five capacity measures.

F.2.2 Findings

These findings come from the initial deployment of the tool in Dec 2011.

Overall, positive responses ('Agree' and 'Strongly Agree') account for 59% of responses.

In all but SPS Coordination Capacity (30%), positive responses contribute 60% or higher of all responses.

¹⁹ Full question: To what extent is the MAWG able to articulate, communicate and progress a vision for future arrangements post the PHAMA program?

Appendix F

In all but Solomon Islands (21%), positive responses contribute 53% or higher of all responses. Of these, Tonga is the highest (89%), followed by Fiji (74%)²⁰, Samoa (58%) and Vanuatu (53%). There is only one ‘Strongly Disagree’²¹ response representing approx. 1% of the responses.

Table Appendix F-1 By Capacity Measure Table

Capacity Measure	% Positive	Chart										
Prioritisation	60%	<div><p>Prioritisation Capacity ...</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>3</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	8	Agree	9	Strongly Agree	3
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	8											
Agree	9											
Strongly Agree	3											
Submission Coordination	70%	<div><p>Submission Coordination Capacity ...</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	6	Agree	14	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	6											
Agree	14											
Strongly Agree	0											
SPS Coordination	30%	<div><p>SPS Coordination Capacity...</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	14	Agree	6	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	14											
Agree	6											
Strongly Agree	0											

²⁰ The findings for Tonga and Fiji align with the positive findings from the MAWG Case Studies conducted in those countries.

²¹ As a response to 'The MAWG is actively developing and communicating a future vision back to the broader constituencies'.

Appendix F

Capacity Measure	% Positive	Chart										
R&D Coordination	60%	<div><p>R&D Coordination Capacity...</p><table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	6	Agree	9	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	6											
Agree	9											
Strongly Agree	0											
Communication	75%	<div><p>Communication Capacity...</p><table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	1	Disagree	4	Agree	15	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	1											
Disagree	4											
Agree	15											
Strongly Agree	0											
All Measures	59%	<div><p>All Measures</p><table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>38</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>52</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>4</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	1	Disagree	38	Agree	52	Strongly Agree	4
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	1											
Disagree	38											
Agree	52											
Strongly Agree	4											

Table Appendix F-2 By Country Table

Country	% Positive	Chart										
Fiji	74%	<div><p>Fiji</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	5	Agree	14	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	5											
Agree	14											
Strongly Agree	0											

Appendix F

Country	% Positive	Chart										
Tonga	89%	<div><p>Tonga</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>3</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	2	Agree	14	Strongly Agree	3
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	2											
Agree	14											
Strongly Agree	3											
Solomon Islands	21%	<div><p>Sol. Islands</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	1	Disagree	14	Agree	4	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	1											
Disagree	14											
Agree	4											
Strongly Agree	0											
Samoa	58%	<div><p>Samoa</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	8	Agree	11	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	8											
Agree	11											
Strongly Agree	0											
Vanuatu	53%	<div><p>Vanuatu</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	9	Agree	10	Strongly Agree	0
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	9											
Agree	10											
Strongly Agree	0											

Appendix F

F.3 PMO Quality Performance Survey Results

F.3.1 Overview

The PMO Quality Performance Survey Tool (see Attachment 2) is completed on a yearly basis for each country by the MAWG Chair, the NMAC and the PMAS. The Team Leader completes a single annual assessment for all five countries. The tool informs PMO quality performance in delivering outputs to the MAWG. It contains twenty Likert scale questions categorised into four quality measures.

F.3.2 Findings

These findings come from the initial deployment of the tool in Dec 2011.

Overall, 79% of all responses were positive ('Agree' and 'Strongly Agree'). MAWG Chairs responded the most positively (92%) while the Team Leader responded positively the least (60%). NMACs and the PMAS both responded positively for 89% of the responses. If the responses to Transition Strategy are excluded, only one instance of 'Strongly Disagree' occurs²². For negative responses, after Transition Strategy (55%), Communication received the highest number of negative responses (22%).

In regard to Relevance & Quality, 87% of all responses were positive. NMACs and the PMAS responded positively to 100% of Relevance and Quality questions while the MAWG Chairs²³ and the Team Leader responded positively 91% and 67% respectively.

In regard to Timeliness, 86% of all responses were positive.

In regard to Communication, 78% of all responses were positive. The Team Leader responded positively significantly less²⁴ (57%) than other groups (89% to 93%).

Transition Strategy is the only category with more negative responses (55%) than positive. There is a clear distinction between positive responses from the MAWG Chairs for Transition Strategy (88%) and those of the combined Suva based and local PMO team (between 30% and 50%).

Table Appendix F-3 By Quality Measure Table

Quality Measure	% Positive	Chart										
Relevance & Quality	87%	<div><p>In regard to relevance and quality...</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response Category</th><th>Percentage (%)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>65</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>5</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response Category	Percentage (%)	Strongly Disagree	15	Disagree	15	Agree	65	Strongly Agree	5
Response Category	Percentage (%)											
Strongly Disagree	15											
Disagree	15											
Agree	65											
Strongly Agree	5											

²² An NMAC in response to 'The MAWG communicates effectively with the NMAC'.

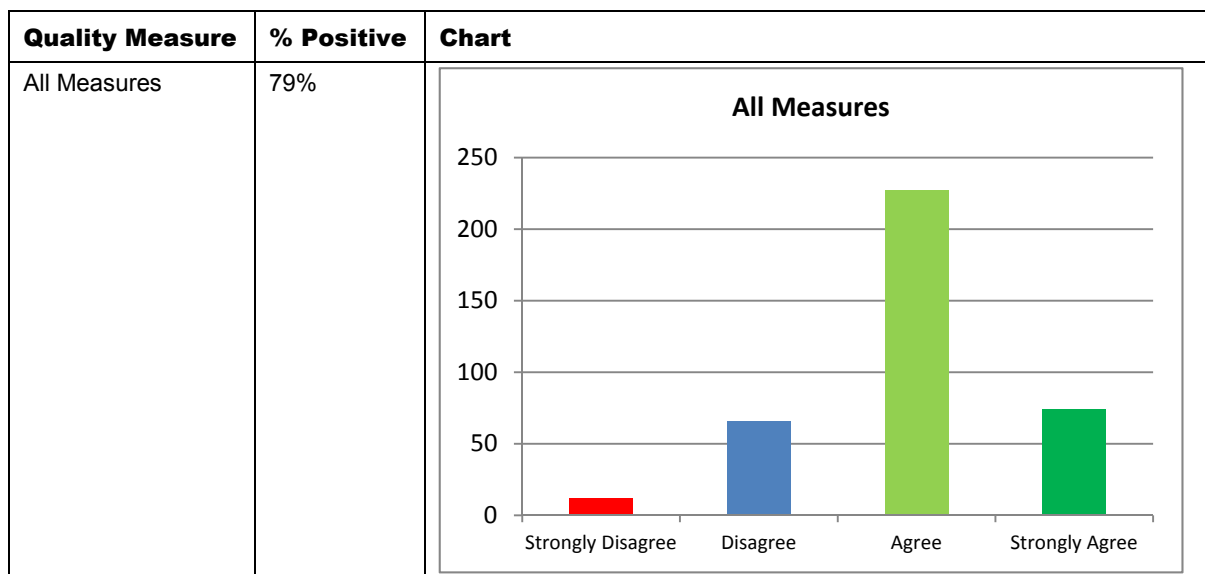
²³ One MAWG Chair had not been returned at the time of analysis

²⁴ Team Leader responses represent the highest level general program overview perspective and are not nuanced at the per country level as they are for all other groups. This provides a valuable 'forest' perspective of overall program settings.

Appendix F

Quality Measure	% Positive	Chart										
Timeliness	86%	<div><p>In regard to timeliness...</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>62</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>20</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	12	Agree	62	Strongly Agree	20
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	0											
Disagree	12											
Agree	62											
Strongly Agree	20											
Communication	78%	<div><p>In regard to communication...</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>28</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>85</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>20</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	1	Disagree	28	Agree	85	Strongly Agree	20
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	1											
Disagree	28											
Agree	85											
Strongly Agree	20											
Transition Strategy	45%	<div><p>In regard to transition strategy...</p><table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>1</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	11	Disagree	10	Agree	16	Strongly Agree	1
Response	Count											
Strongly Disagree	11											
Disagree	10											
Agree	16											
Strongly Agree	1											

Appendix F



Appendix F

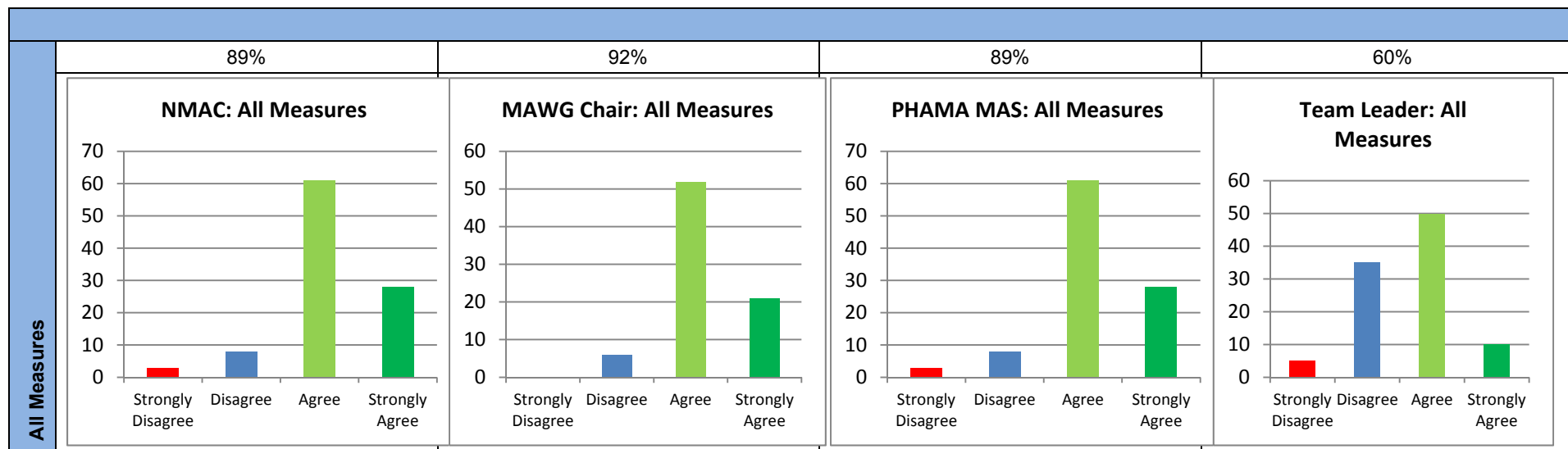
Table Appendix F-4 Quality Measure / Person Group Matrix

	NMACs	MAWG Chairs	PHAMA MAS	Team Leader																																							
Relevance & Quality	100%	91%	100%	67%																																							
	<div>NMAC: In regard to relevance and quality...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>11</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	0	Agree	19	Strongly Agree	11	<div>MAWG Chair: In regard to relevance and quality...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>5</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	2	Agree	16	Strongly Agree	5	<div>PHAMA MAS: In regard to relevance and quality...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>11</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	0	Agree	19	Strongly Agree	11	<div>Team Leader: In regard to relevance and quality...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>10</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	10	Agree	10	Strongly Agree
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	0																																										
Agree	19																																										
Strongly Agree	11																																										
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	2																																										
Agree	16																																										
Strongly Agree	5																																										
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	0																																										
Agree	19																																										
Strongly Agree	11																																										
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	10																																										
Agree	10																																										
Strongly Agree	10																																										
Timeliness	100%	95%	100%	60%																																							
	<div>NMAC: In regard to timeliness...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>7</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	0	Agree	18	Strongly Agree	7	<div>MAWG Chair: In regard to timeliness...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>10</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	1	Agree	9	Strongly Agree	10	<div>PHAMA MAS: In regard to timeliness...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>7</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	0	Agree	18	Strongly Agree	7	<div>Team Leader: In regard to timeliness...</div> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Strongly Disagree</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Disagree</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Agree</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Strongly Agree</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	Response	Count	Strongly Disagree	0	Disagree	10	Agree	15	Strongly Agree
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	0																																										
Agree	18																																										
Strongly Agree	7																																										
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	1																																										
Agree	9																																										
Strongly Agree	10																																										
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	0																																										
Agree	18																																										
Strongly Agree	7																																										
Response	Count																																										
Strongly Disagree	0																																										
Disagree	10																																										
Agree	15																																										
Strongly Agree	0																																										

Appendix F



Appendix F



Appendix F

F.4 Attachment 1: MAWG Capacity Health Status Survey Tool

Date	Day		Month		Year	
Name of Respondent						
Country	<input type="radio"/> Fiji <input type="radio"/> Samoa <input type="radio"/> Solomon Islands <input type="radio"/> Tonga <input type="radio"/> Vanuatu					
Position of Respondent	<input type="radio"/> PMO MA Specialist in consultation with the NMAC					

		1 = Strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Agree 4 = Strongly agree			
Prioritisation Capacity ...		1	2	3	4
1	Public and private sector MAWG members are able to work together constructively in determining MA priorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	The MAWG is able to set priorities and make informed decisions on medium to long term MA issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	The MAWG is able to set priorities and make informed decisions on short term / emergency trade maintenance issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	The MAWG is able to clearly articulate and justify its decisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Submission Coordination Capacity ...					
5	The MAWG is able to identify the need for submissions on MA issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	The MAWG is able to help articulate the content of submissions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	The MAWG is able to drive the creation of required of MA submissions by government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Submissions on MA issues made with MAWG participation are effective	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SPS Coordination Capacity...					
9	The MWAG is able to understand broad SPS protocols and management tools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	The MAWG is able to identify and articulate issues related to meeting SPS requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	The MWAG is able to drive and influence government and industry to solve SPS issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12	Solutions to SPS issues made with MAWG participation are effectively implemented	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
R&D Coordination Capacity...					
13	The MAWG is able to help identify and articulate R&D needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14	The MAWG is able to drive and influence R&D activities conducted by government and industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15	R&D activities decided with MAWG participation are effectively implemented	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Communication Capacity...					
16	MAWG members are effective in bringing views from broader constituencies to the MAWG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Appendix F

17	The MAWG clearly communicates its activities and decisions back to the broader constituencies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18	The MAWG is actively developing and communicating a future vision back to the broader constituencies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19	The MAWG process is resulting in improved public / private sector communication on MA issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Appendix F

F.5 Attachment 2: PMO Quality Performance Survey Tool

Date	Day	Month	Year
Name of Respondent			
Country	<input type="radio"/> Fiji <input type="radio"/> Samoa <input type="radio"/> Solomon Islands <input type="radio"/> Tonga <input type="radio"/> Vanuatu		
Position of Respondent	<input type="radio"/> MAWG Chair <input type="radio"/> NMAC <input type="radio"/> Market Access Specialist <input type="radio"/> Team Leader		
Sector of Respondent (if MAWG)	<input type="radio"/> Private <input type="radio"/> Public		

		1 = Strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Agree 4 = Strongly agree			
In regard to relevance and quality...		1	2	3	4
1	Assistance provided by PHAMA to the MAWG and local partners is relevant to identified needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	The quality of assistance provided is satisfactory	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	Implementation experience is being used to improve the delivery of services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	Implementation arrangements are relevant to the local context	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	Implementation of the program is making a difference	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	Workflows and processes between the PMO, STAs, NMAC and MAWG are well understood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In regard to timeliness...					
7	The PMO provides timely response to requests for information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Approved activities are implemented in an efficient and timely manner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	The NMAC provides timely and effective support to the MAWG and local partners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	The NMAC provides timely and effective support to the PMO and STAs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	Poor response times are discussed, documented and resolved with outcomes well communicated	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In regard to communication...					
12	An adequate communication strategy is in place and is understood by all	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13	Adequate support is provided by the PMO to ensure good communication takes place	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14	The NMAC communicates effectively with the MAWG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15	The MAWG communicates effectively with the NMAC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16	The MAWG and NMAC communicate effectively with the PMO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17	The PMO communicates effectively with the MAWG and NMAC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18	STAs communicate effectively with the MAWG and NMAC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In regard to transition strategy...					
19	The role and sustainability of the MAWG post PHAMA is actively considered	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Appendix F

20	A clear picture of how the MAWG might operate and be funded post-PHAMA is emerging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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