Ana and Vili’s Learning Adventure: Illegal, Unreported & Unregulated Fishing
Ana and Vili’s Learning Adventure: Illegal, Unreported & Unregulated Fishing
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
This document has been prepared with the financial support of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) programme, funded by the European Union and the Government of Sweden.

We would like to extend our warm appreciation to the incredible individuals and teams who contributed to the development of this children’s storybook. We would like to thank the Pacific Community’s Educational Quality and Assessment Programme (EQAP), in particular Ms. Mere Vadei and Ms. Doreen Tuala for going through the first draft and making the necessary corrections. Their expertise, guidance, and valuable insights were instrumental in shaping this book. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Waka Moana team at The University of the South Pacific's Institute of Education. We extend our thanks to Ms. Ana Veikune, Mr. Lausi’i Siale, and Ms. Tarai Tabore for their meticulous proofreading, thoughtful amendments, and grading of the book's content.

Their efforts ensured that the storybook is tailored for the reading level of students from eight to nine years old or fourth and fifth graders in schools in Pacific Island countries.

DISCLAIMER
WWF authorises the partial reproduction of this document for scientific, educational or research purposes, provided WWF and the document are correctly acknowledged. Any unauthorised reproduction or distribution of this document is strictly prohibited. Permission to reproduce and distribute this document in whole for profit or non-profit purposes must be requested in writing to WWF. This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union and the Government of Sweden through the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency. Its contents are the sole responsibility of WWF and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union, the Government of Sweden, the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, the Pacific Community and the University of the South Pacific.

We hope that this storybook brings joy, awareness, and understanding to young readers, fostering a sense of responsibility towards our oceans and marine resources.
It's a beautiful weekend for fishing.

Tomasi is the captain of a longline fishing boat and today he is not working. He has taken his two children, Ana and Vili, to fish at the seawall across from Vai harbour. While they are fishing, they see two boats coming into the harbour.
Ana: Daddy, those two boats look different. One is huge. The other one looks like the boat that you work on. What are they doing?

Dad: The grey one is a navy boat and the other is a long-line fishing boat, and yes, it looks like the boat I work on. I think it looks like something bad happened.
Vili: What do you think happened, dad?
Dad: A number of things could have happened. One is that the fishing boat may have been caught fishing illegally.
Ana: Daddy, what does it mean to fish illegally?

Dad: A fishing boat fishes illegally when it does so without a license.

Vili: What is a fishing license, dad?
Dad: It’s something like a driver’s license. If I don’t have one, I would be driving illegally which is not the right thing to do. Just like a car, a fishing boat needs to have a fishing license to allow them to fish.
Ana: So, what would happen to that fishing boat?

Dad: If it is found to be fishing without a license, the company that owns it may have to pay a lot of money. Their catch of fish and fishing gears may also be taken away.

Vili: That’s not good, dad. But what they did was wrong so it’s good to punish them.
Dad: Did you know that some owners of fishing boats do not report the number and type of fish that they catch? That’s called Unreported fishing.

Ana: That’s lying, daddy. You told us that it’s not good to lie.
Vili: What types of fish do they catch?

Ana: Parrot fish?

Dad: No. They catch the fish in deeper parts of the ocean. Usually, it’s different types of tuna.
Ana: I like tuna daddy and I’m glad they don’t catch the parrotfish like that because at school, we learnt about how the parrotfishes help to keep our coral reefs clean. Daddy, are there other types of fish that the fishermen catch?

Dad: Yes. Sometimes they catch sharks and sea turtles too.
Vili: Oh no! I'd be too scared to try and catch a shark. Sharks are my favourite because they are big and strong, and I love the “Baby Shark” song.

Ana: And I like sea turtles. Just like my ninja turtle heroes. That’s not good, daddy, trying to catch more fish than you need.
Dad: Yes, Ana, it’s not good. The sad thing is, these sharks and sea turtles are sometimes caught by accident. They get caught on the longlines together with the other big fish. Sometimes they are reported and sometimes not. I’ll talk to you both about these sharks and sea turtles when we get home.
Vili: Can I tell my friends about this, dad?

Ana: Me too, can I, daddy?

Dad: Yes, of course, if you like, I can come and talk to your class about it. We need to be very careful about this type of fishing.
Dad: Children, do you remember when we went past the wharf, and we saw a flag of a country on a pole at the back of a fishing boat?

Vili: Yes. Like Fiji’s flag we saw the other day.

Ana: Oh yes, there was a flag of another country on another fishing boat. But I don’t know which country it was. Daddy, the boat you work on flies the Fiji flag.

Dad: That’s right! So, when you see Fiji’s flag flying at the back of a fishing boat, it means that that fishing boat belongs to Fiji.
Vili: What does that mean, dad?

Dad: Boats need to be registered so that they operate safely and its owners can be identified. It also means that the boat has a national identity and can travel internationally.

Dad: Some parts of the big ocean out there do not belong to any country. These are called the high seas. So sometimes, fishing boats go and fish without a fishing license, where no one is there to monitor what they are doing. This is called unregulated fishing. They fish whatever they want to catch and they also make lots of money doing that.
Dad: Alright children, the sun is setting and it's time to go home now. I know you both have many more questions. Let's talk some more after our evening prayer.