

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION**

**TWENTY-FOURTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON FISHERIES**  
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 3-7 August 1992)

**STATEMENT**

**OVERSEAS FISHERY COOPERATION FOUNDATION (OFCF) OF JAPAN**

The Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) was established in June 1973 as a non-profit organization and conducts its cooperative programmes under the general guidance and with funds contributed by the Japanese Government. OFCF's programmes and activities include:

1. Technical cooperation for the development of overseas fisheries including small-scale test fishing and experimental coastal fisheries development, project finding and evaluation, dispatching experts, and receiving overseas participants for training in Japan.
2. Promotion of exchange visits of senior fishery personnel between Japan and overseas countries.
3. Extending loans to Japanese fishery organizations or Japanese fisheries companies to carry out overseas fishery cooperation projects.
4. Recruiting and training Japanese fisheries experts who will participate in technical cooperation.
5. Fisheries Development Assistance for Pacific Islands Nations (FDAPIN).

The rest of this report will focus on the following cooperation activities that are in progress in the South Pacific countries: 1) project operations; 2) training programmes; 3) Fisheries Development Assistance for Pacific Island Nations Programme (FDAPIN-Suva office operations); and 4) dispatch of fisheries advisors.

### 1. Project operations

The OFCF Coastal Fisheries Development projects have been implemented in four island countries.

Country	Period	Outline	No. of Japanese experts
Republic of the Marshall Islands	10/88 -03/93	In the Government's outer islands development plan, the pilot project focusses on encouragement of fishermen's activities in Arno Atoll, and distribution of their catch in Majuro.	2
Republic of Kiribati	12/88 -03/93	In Kiritimati Island, the project is designed to encourage local fishing activities and to strengthen the management and operations of the Marine Export Division.	3
Solomon Islands	12/89 -03/93	In Northern Malaita Islands, the purpose of the project is to encourage local fishing activities by establishing seven satellite fishing stations in villages.	4

Federated States of Micronesia	12/90 -03/93	The project comprises experimental fishing operations to investigate squid and mackerel scad resources for possible tuna bait in the lagoon and outer reef area of Chuuk State.	4
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## 2. Training programmes

OFCF commenced its training programmes in 1974. The training programmes were seen to be necessary in view of the requests from various Japanese fishing companies, fishing organizations and related foreign nations. As of March 1992, 915 trainees from 44 different countries have participated in OFCF's training programme. Of a total number of trainees, 231 have come from South Pacific nations per the following breakdown:

Country	1974-1990	1991	Total
Solomon Islands	57	8	65
Papua New Guinea	58	2	60
Federated States of Micronesia	29	12	41
Republic of Palau	13	2	15
Republic of Kiribati	11	2	13
Republic of the Marshall Islands	10	3	13
French Polynesia	11	0	11
Tuvalu	5	2	7
New Caledonia	5	0	5
Republic of Fiji	0	1	1
Total	199	32	231

### 2.1 South Pacific Fishery Course

In 1988, OFCF established a specific training programme for the purpose of contributing to the development of coastal fisheries of the South Pacific nations.

Duration	Applicants	Training programme
3.5 months	Fishery experts recommended through South Pacific Governments with which Japan has close fishery relations.	7 weeks: general 9 weeks: technical (coastal fishing, processing, quality control, marketing, etc.)

### 2.2 Fishery Leadership Development Course

This year, OFCF has established a new training programme for the purpose of cooperation with coastal nations for fisheries development, to maintain and enhance good cooperative fisheries relations between Japan and those nations.

Duration	Applicants	Training programme
5 months in 1992 (one year from 1993)	Fisheries administrators and researchers (programme), governments with which Japan has close fishery relations.	Fish processing and utilization, aquaculture, marine products distribution, fisheries management and economics, fisheries co-operative association, etc. at fisheries or research institutions.

### 3. Fisheries Development assistance for Pacific Island nations (FDAPIN-Suva office)

In September 1990, The OFCF Suva Office was established with the full support of the Government of the Republic of Fiji in Suva, Fiji, in order to implement the Fisheries Development Assistance for Pacific Island Nations Programme. The Japanese Resident Representative and two Japanese fisheries advisers are based in Suva, and a foreign fisheries adviser (Mr. B. Onorio, ex-FFA's Multilateral Treaty Manager) was recruited in the Suva Office in April 1992.

By dispatching co-ordinators and engineers and supplying the necessary materials and equipment, the programme is designed to repair and reactivate existing fisheries facilities which has become necessary due to insufficient maintenance, damage caused by natural disasters, etc. The programme is also designed to enhance the working efficiency of the facilities by transferring technologies to counterparts of the recipient nations. The programme serves Kiribati, Solomon Islands, FSM, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands and Palau.

### 4. Dispatch of fisheries experts

At the request of South Pacific countries or the regional organizations, OFCF dispatches fisheries advisors for the purpose of assisting in the further development of their fisheries industries and strengthening the relations between the South Pacific countries and Japan. Advisors have been dispatched to the following organizations.

Organization	Position	Date of dispatch
Forum Fisheries Agency	Tuna Industry Advisor	1/89
National Fisheries Corporation in Federated States of Micronesia	Fisheries Development Advisor	6/89
South Pacific Commission	Fisheries Development Associate	6/90

OFCF continues to be concerned that its cooperative projects truly meet the needs of the recipient nations and that they contribute to the development of the fisheries industry. Through these cooperation projects, OFCF hopes to promote and strengthen the friendly relations it has developed with the South Pacific nations.