

**SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION**

**TWENTY-FIFTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON FISHERIES**  
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 14–18 March 1994)

**UPDATE ON AQUACULTURE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES  
CONDUCTED BY THE SPC FISHERIES PROGRAMME**

(Paper prepared by the Secretariat)

## **Introduction**

Following the completion of the first phase of the FAO South Pacific Regional Aquaculture Development Project (SPRADP) in 1992, the Commission's Fisheries Programme was asked to administer an interim fund to support aquaculture development in the region until the second phase of SPRADP was implemented during 1993. The request was made at the 24 th RTMF in August 1982 and endorsed by the meeting.

The amount of money made available was \$US 50,000 and was mainly intended to support those requests for aquaculture development support that had been previously directed to SPRADP. The funds were received by the Commission in the last quarter of 1992 and all fisheries departments in the region were informed that this funding was now available.

The second phase of SPRADP has not yet been implemented and the Commission's Fisheries Programme continued to support requests for aquaculture development projects up to the present. This will only continue, however, as long as there are funds available, and the initial \$ US 50,000 is likely to be exhausted in the near future.

## **Status of aquaculture project support under the interim funding arrangement**

### **1. Western Samoa: Support for development of private sector tilapia culture industry.**

a. Construction of demonstration tilapia ponds at Salani, Upolu. Consultant hired and pond construction completed in September 1992.

b. Training of tilapia pond owner in tilapia farm management at Naduruloulou aquaculture station in Fiji. Second part of this request is currently being planned by Fiji and Western Samoa Fisheries Divisions for implementation later this year.

### **2. PNG Training in trout farming and seed production of an aquaculture extension officer and a PNG trout farmer**

Funding has been set aside for PNG to send the two individuals to Australia during the trout spawning season in June-July 1994. A possible further request to send an individual to Singapore to look at marketing of PNG trout may also be considered.

### **3. Kiribati In-country SCUBA diving course for Kiribati fisheries officers intending to work on pearl oyster cultivation**

SCUBA training course conducted in Tarawa during May 1993.

### **4. Niue Educational video on coconut crab life history and management**

Funds provided Niue Government to cover costs of video production. Project completed in 1993.

**5. Cook Islands                      Purchase and transport of red tilapia fry from Fiji to Rarotonga to improve tilapia aquaculture in Cook Islands**

Shipment made at end of June 1993. Unfortunately most fry perished en-route and a further request is expected once adequate safeguards to ensure low fry mortality have been established.

**6. FSM                                      Training attachment of FSM fisheries officer to the Fiji giant clam mariculture centre at Makogai to study spawning and rearing of clam larvae**

Request received and approved, now waiting for timing of the visit to be arranged between FSM Aquaculture Centre and Fiji Fisheries Division.