

2004

SPC/2nd Pacific Community Fish. Mgmt. Workshop/BP 17
12 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

SECOND PACIFIC COMMUNITY
FISHERIES MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 12–16 October 1998)

STRATEGIES FOR AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT

By

The University of the South Pacific
Marine Studies Programme

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC
MARINE STUDIES PROGRAMME



STRATEGIES FOR AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT

A. GENERAL

The MSP is committed to the proposed three-way agreement between the Secretariat for the Pacific Community and ICLARM in the development of a regional strategy in aquaculture

B. UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

1. MSP will develop a third-year level course in aquaculture. This course will be a core course in the B.Sc. in Marine Science degree. In support of this, MSP has requested funding for a Lecturer in Aquaculture for the 2000-2002 triennium.
2. The new MSP facilities at the USP Laucala Campus in Suva, Fiji include wet-laboratories where aquaculture experiments can be carried out.
3. Interim technical support has been acquired in support of aquaculture teaching and research, and a core-funded technical assistant in aquaculture position has been requested under the 2000 - 2002 triennium.
4. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is committed to provide a short-term (3-6 months) Japanese expert in aquaculture. This individual will strengthen the links between MSP, and the Government of Fiji. The expert will also be assisting in the development of undergraduate course materials, will assist in the longer-term planning for aquaculture development at the MSP, and will work towards the strengthening of R&D links between the MSP and Japan.

C. POSTGRADUATE TEACHING AND RESEARCH

1. MSP will create a post-graduate course in aquaculture in support of the development of post-graduate studies in aquaculture.
2. The creation of a research capability in aquaculture is a priority within the MSP, both in terms of post-graduate student training and of staff research and development activities. Funds will be requested through the Canada-South Pacific Ocean Development Program, Phase II in support of aquaculture development at the USP.
3. The Institute of Marine Resources in Aruligo, Solomon Islands will have a strong focus in aquaculture research and will work in close collaboration with ICLARM.
4. Links with other regional and international aquaculture R&D institutions will be encouraged.
5. Aquaculture research will focus on priority areas identified by USP and SPC member countries, and under the new aquaculture regional strategy.
6. Links with the Fiji Fisheries Division will be strengthened in the area of aquaculture and the feasibility of developing one or more aquaculture teaching and demonstration sites.
7. The MSP Post-harvest Fisheries Laboratory will provide opportunities for aquaculture product enhancement and for R&D and technology transfer activities.

D. TRAINING

1. MSPTRAIN, the training unit of the Marine Studies Programme, will assist in the facilitation and offering of aquaculture-related workshops, as and when requested.
2. The IMR (Solomon Islands) and the Atoll Research Unit (Tarawa, Kiribati) will assist in the offering of aquaculture training programmes, whenever appropriate.

E PUBLIC AWARENESS

1. MSP, through the International Ocean Institute Operational Centre for the South Pacific (IOI-South Pacific) will assist wherever possible in raising public awareness about the importance of aquaculture in the sustainable use of inshore marine resources.
2. Where appropriate, IOI-South Pacific will include aquaculture issues in its marine awareness workshop series.

3. The actual and potential role of women and minority groups will be targeted in marine awareness programmes conducted by the MSP.

USPMarStud 1998-10-01