

Terminal Evaluation

Oceania

1. Outline of the Project

Country:

Tonga

Project title:

Sustainable Use of Coral Reef Fisheries Resources

Issue/Sector:

Fisheries

Cooperation scheme:

Third-Country Training Program

Division in charge:

JICA Fiji office

Total cost:

Period of Cooperation Fiscal Year 1999 - 2001

Partner Country's Implementing Organization:

Mariculture Center, the Ministry of Fisheries, the Kingdom of Tonga
Marine Studies Programme of the University of the South Pacific

Supporting Organization in Japan:**Related Cooperation:**

Project-type Technical Cooperation; "Aquaculture Research and Development Project"(1991- 1998)

1 Long-term expert dispatch; "Promotion of shellfish aquaculture" 2000 - 2002

1 Short-term expert dispatch; "Fisheries Resources Management" 1999 - 2000

Grant Aid Project; "Project for Renovation of Seawater Supply System" (1999, 240 Million Yen)

1-1 Background of the Project

Marine products are the major source of protein for the people of Tonga. However, recent overexploitation of the coral-reef has caused a decline in coral-reef resources. Under these circumstances, the Government of Japan had implemented the Project-type Technical Cooperation on fisheries and shellfish aquafarming and management of resources survey at the Mariculture Center, the Ministry of Fisheries of Tonga. As a result, Tonga became able to produce and release the shellfish seed. Afterwards, the Ministry of Fisheries of Tonga, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, requested the Government of Japan to provide a Third-Country Training Program on shellfish seed production and release, in order to rehabilitate coral reef resources of South Pacific area countries.

1-2 Project Overview

JICA, together with the Mariculture Center of the Ministry of Fisheries of the Kingdom of Tonga as the implementing organization, implemented the Training to the participants from the South Pacific countries on shellfish seed production and release, in order to rehabilitate coral reef fisheries resources.

(1) Overall Goal

Sustainable use of coral reef fisheries resources is promoted.

(2) Project Purpose

Participants can manage the shellfish seed production facilities and release them.

(3) Outputs

Participants acquire the knowledge and skills on following shellfish seed production and release:

1) Water quality management

2) seed production

3) ecological survey

4) release skills

(4) Inputs

Japanese side:

Long-term Expert 1

Local Cost

Tongan side:

Counterparts

Coordinator

(5) Participant Countries

Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa, Cook Islands, Tonga.

2. Evaluation Team

Members of Evaluation Team JICA Fiji office
(Commissioned to Marine Affairs Programme, International Ocean Institute, University of the South Pacific)

Period of Evaluation 6 March 2002 - 31 March 2002

Type of Evaluation:

Terminal Evaluation by Overseas Office

3. Results of Evaluation

3-1 Summary of Evaluation Results

(1) Relevance

The Training was relevant to the participating countries, because aquafarming has been one of the major issues of those countries. The target level of the purpose was appropriate in terms of the knowledge and skills necessary for shellfish seed production and release.

(2) Effectiveness

The Training was useful and in line with the needs of the participants, because 20 out of 24 participants mentioned that the coverage of the training was appropriate. The lecturers transferred the knowledge and skills of coral reef marine resources, shellfish seed production and release, and ecological surveying to the participants. The participants shared the acquired knowledge with their colleagues and applied it in their coral reef rehabilitation program after the completion of the Training.

(3) Efficiency

The training course produced maximum results for the following reasons. The level of the techniques used was appropriate for the purpose, the equipment and its management were appropriate for the Project, and the capability and cooperation of lecturers from Japan and Tonga were sufficient. Fourteen (14) out of 24 participants evaluated the teaching methods of the lecturers as "good" and the remaining 10 said that the methods were "very good". The three shellfish including giant clams targeted in the training were important resources throughout the region where shellfish are an important source of food and income. The use of these resources in the rehabilitation of the coral reefs is also significant because that made the Training more practical to cope with their problems.

On the other hand, some participants mentioned that they could not acquire shellfish seed production and release sufficiently, because they could not observe the breeding process of shellfish because of the short period of training.

(4) Impact

In Tonga, the ex-participants working at the Mariculture Centre were performing main seeding and release tasks utilizing their attained knowledge and techniques. Also the Ministry of Fisheries of Tonga has extended awareness programmes to fishing communities in the country and promoted the export of shellfish utilizing the acquired techniques.

(5) Sustainability

The Mariculture Centre is well-staffed. Furthermore, a New Fisheries Act and the Aquaculture Act have been established in Tonga and policy support is ensured. There was no problem concerning the implementing organization in Tonga; however external financial assistance was still needed for it could not sustain its financial capacity in the long run. On the other hand, sustainability was observed among the ex-participants who applied the attained knowledge and techniques in the Training to their respective countries' shellfish production plan.

3-2 Factors that promoted realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning Planning

The project focused on the three of the most important shellfish in the South Pacific Ocean region, which contributed to the fruitful effects of the project.

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

It was appreciated that the contents of the training course had been announced in advance and the Participants had sufficient time to prepare.

3-3 Factors that impeded realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning Planning

N/A

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

N/A

3-4 Recommendations

JICA should continue support for the rehabilitation of coral reef ecosystems in the South Pacific Ocean region in order to ensure a healthy food supply and provide products for export.

3-5 Lessons Learned

JICA should carry out training programmes based on the intended needs of third countries, because each country may have different priorities.

3-6 Follow-up Situation

N/A