

Terminal Evaluation

Middle East

1. Outline of the Project

Country:

United Arab Emirates

Project title:

The Third Country training in the Field of Fish Stock Assessment and Management in the United Arab Emirates

Issue/Sector:

Education

Cooperation scheme:

Third Country Training Program

Division in charge:

Middle East and Europe Division, Regional Department IV(Africa, Middle East and Europe)

Total cost:

Approximately 468 million yen

Period of Cooperation

(R/D) FY 1999 -2001

Partner Country's Implementing Organization:

Marine Resources Research Center (MRRC)

Supporting Organization in Japan:

Tokyo University of Fisheries

Related Cooperation:

Project-type technical cooperation "Marine Resources Research Center (MRRC)" in 1984

1-1 Background of the Project

Japan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have a twenty-one year history of technical cooperation in the field of fishery since 1977, with the aims of developing the foundation for aquaculture and fostering fishery workers. Since the establishment of the "Marine Resources Research Center (MRRC)", the government of Japan has technically assisted UAE's fishery, centered at MRRC, not only developing the foundation for aquaculture and fostering fishery workers, but also enhancing aquaculture industry, education and training, environmental conservation and breeding, marine environment assessment, coastal development assessment, research and cooperation activities with overseas institutes and coastal greening activities by mangrove plantation.

In March 1999, the technical cooperation for UAE was terminated and a three-year third country training program was commenced with UAE and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries as a follow-up program for technical cooperation in the fisheries sector from FY 1999, making the MRCC a core organization of the program.

1-2 Project Overview

The participants from Arabian Gulf countries take training course in UAE to acquire the knowledge and techniques on fish stock assessment and management.

(1) Overall Goal Participants execute techniques for fish stock assessment and management suitable for GCC countries. (2) Project Purpose Based on outcomes of the training program, the participants consider techniques for fish stock assessment and management suitable for GCC countries.

(3) Outputs

- 1) Participants acquire basic knowledge and techniques of fish stock assessment and management.
- 2) Participants gain understanding about the status of fish stock assessment and management in other GCC countries.
- 3) Participants understand past experiences of fish stock assessment and management in Japan.

(4) Inputs

Japanese side:

Dispatched lecturers 12 in total

Local Cost 9,938.95 dollars 0.1 million yen in total

UAE Side:

Training Supervisor 3 in total

Land and Facilities :Lecture room, audio-visual equipment, PC, copy machine

Local Cost 4,166.67 dollars
0.05 million yen in total

2. Evaluation Team

Members of Evaluation Team Team Leader/General: Hitoshi SATO, Deputy Director, Training Division, Kanagawa International Fisheries Training Center.
Evaluation Planning: Osamu TANAKA, Staff Member, Middle East and Europe Division, Regional Department IV, JICA
Evaluation Analysis: Naohiko WATANUKI, Overseas Agro-Fisheries Consultants Co., Ltd.

Period of Evaluation 12 April 2002 - 19 April 2002
Type of Evaluation: Terminal Evaluation

3. Results of Evaluation

3-1 Summary of Evaluation Results

(1) Relevance

Fish resources are decreasing due to over-fishing; however, the management of fishery resources in GCC countries has been inadequate because of the lack of human resources in the field of fish stock assessment and management. As GCC countries share and utilize marine resources around the Arabian Gulf together, there is a particular need to introduce co-management schemes to prevent further degradation of the resources. The Japanese government regards the development of the fishery industry and human development in the area will contribute to economic and social development in those countries, and that the project be consistent with the needs of those countries and the aid policy of the Japanese government.

(2) Effectiveness The project achieved its project purpose to train 60 to 90 participants as 67 participants were trained in total. Based on the interview survey of the nine participants at the terminal evaluation research, more than 70% of them answered that they had understood the contents of the training and utilized training outcomes in their respective working places after returning to their home countries. Judging from the above, the project purpose of "based on outcomes of training program, participants study techniques for fish stock assessment and management suitable for GCC countries" was mostly accomplished.

(3) Efficiency The project was implemented as planned and constant efforts were made to improve the contents by utilizing the lessons learned from the former training course throughout all the three training courses. Ex-participants utilized the textbooks, which lecturers prepared, after their return to their home countries as well. Arrangement of personnel and procurement of equipment in the UAE side were appropriate, and the project was managed efficiently in general.

(4) Impact There were two positive impacts observed. One was an institutional development to upgrade the research and administrative capabilities of participant's organizations through explanation of the contents of the training given by the participants to other staff at their respective organizations after returning home countries. The other was that the project raised the interest of the government officials in fisheries resource management in participant countries, and a regional committee was established.

(5) Sustainability Considering the political consensus on the importance of fish stock assessment and management in GCC countries and management capability of the implementing organization, the project has sustainability in UAE. However, considering the fact that most of the lectures were conducted by the short-term experts dispatched from Japan, it will be technically difficult to implement the project by the implementing organization alone. In the case of implementing similar third-country training programs, technical support from Japan will be required.

3-2 Factors that promoted realization of effects

(1) Factors Concerning the Planning Process Based on the results of the preliminary survey, both the Japanese and UAE sides agreed the plan for the necessary training contents, which contributed to the effectiveness and efficiency of the project.

(2) Factors Concerning the Implementation Process The lessons learned from the previous year's course were well reflected in the next year's courses, and those efforts contributed to the effectiveness and efficiency of the course.

3-3 Factors that impeded realization of effects

(1) Factors Concerning the Planning Process N/A.

(2) Factors Concerning the Implementation Process Lectures themselves depended on the Japanese lecturers, and the UAE side, the implementing country of the project, was entirely focused on the management of the project, which made it difficult for the UAE side to attain technical sustainability after the termination of the project. However, through implementing the three-year cooperation, the UAE side improved its capability and will contribute to the regional efforts in the fisheries industry in the future.

3-4 Conclusion

Judging from the above, the objectives of the project were accomplished. However, the contents of the third-country training this time were specialized in the basics. Therefore, it is necessary to improve technical capability and to build up know-how according to the specialty of each person.

3-5 Recommendations

It requires a wide range of techniques and know-how for the ex-participants to implement fish stock assessment and management in their respective countries. It will be more effective for the implementation of a higher level training program to target various different layers of personnel such as researchers, engineers, public officials, and so on and so forth.

3-6 Lessons Learned

The following are the keys for a successful third-country training program: to understand the needs and the issues of participant countries exactly through a preliminary survey; to take a firm initiative for implementing a project by an implementing country, and to share the training issue as a common regional issue among participant countries.

3-7 Follow-up Situation

N/A.