

### Development of an innovative training programme: the Fisheries Evidence Training and Investigation Course (FETIC) for Pacific Island Fisheries Officers

This new training course is the result of a joint initiative between the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Australian Fisheries Academy (AFA) and SPC. The FETIC program is customised from the Australian Basic Evidence Training and Investigation Course (BETIC) programme, which is a major component of the nationally accredited Certificate III in the Seafood Industry (Fisheries Compliance).

The project aims at developing a training programme that will enhance Pacific Island fisheries officers' skills in:

- fisheries management principles and legislation;
- monitoring of fish catches;
- patrol operations, including methods and resources; and
- investigation techniques, including evidence gathering, note taking, chain of evidence, interviewing and statement taking, brief preparation, and court procedures.

Early in 2007, the Port-Adelaide-based AFA was contracted by SPC to develop a training curriculum for Pacific Island fisheries compliance officers. AFA liaised with staff of the FFA Fisheries Operations Unit to adapt the Australian BETIC course to the Pacific context and develop lesson plans, learners' materials and assessment guidelines. A complete training package was ready by the end of July, and AFA staff were ready to deliver a three-week pilot course at the PNG National Fisheries College in Kavieng (6—24 August 2007). Sixteen fisheries officers were selected by FFA.

A report on the 2007 FETIC programme will be published in the next Fisheries Newsletter.



### A tailor-made course on the new ISO 22000 standard and its implications

Vincent Talbot, a freelance consultant from the Institut de la Qualité in New Caledonia, was invited by the SPC Nearshore Fisheries Development and Training Section (NFDTS) to develop a tailor-made course for staff from various local institutions dealing with or interested in seafood safety issues, including HACCP principles and the new ISO 22000 standard. Overall, the course was designed to enable participants to gain

a good understanding of the new ISO 22000 standard and its implications. It involves quality management, external and in-house communications, designating responsibility, implementing crisis management, continual improvement, good health practices and differentiating between prerequisite programmes (PRP), operational prerequisite programmes (OPRP) and Critical Control Points (CCP).



*Participants of the one-day course held at SPC*

The one-day course was held at SPC in Noumea on Monday 8 February 2007. Post-course feedback from the trainer and the 10 participants — covering seven government administrations and organisations (including SPC) — was very positive, particularly with regards to the training methodology and resource materials. At the end, participants left with a greater understanding of ISO 22000 standards but many felt that this very intensive course should preferably be delivered in two days.

