

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

TWENTY FIRST REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON FISHERIES  
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 7-11 August 1989)

**THE FUTURE OF FAO/UNDP ASSISTANCE**

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## THE FUTURE OF FAO/UNDP ASSISTANCE

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At the FFC last May, it was made clear by the UNDP Resident Representative that the Regional Fishery Support Programme would be cut from about \$800,000 a year to \$350,000 for the next two years, and implied that it would end as such by the end of 1991.

In spite of his voice to support countries' requests rather than the recommendations of the mid-term survey of the Programme (Pollard/White, 1988), UNDP in New York have made it clear that they will not contemplate a further 'open ended' programme, but want a project or projects with fixed targets.

Financially, UNDP is in a strong position. So much so, that they have added a \$3 million budget for the next two years to a new 'Multi Island IPF' to favour projects particularly for youth, women, rural areas and private enterprise, in addition to asking for recommendations for extension of existing projects. When asked for extension of RFSP however, UNDP made it very clear in the presence of all the other project managers, that it (alone) could not be so extended. However, a new project or projects could be requested from the multi island IPF.

In addition, FAO, through its Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) may support a small sub project or two.

With these options, and the general wishes of Pacific island countries in mind, there appear to be two options : to accept the UNDP statements, or continue to state countries' needs. If the latter, then much stronger representation is required from many countries, through all possible channels, to urge reconsideration by UNDP, and to continue the Programme as it is.

If UNDP requirements are accepted, then the Programme should now consider target-oriented projects. Some of these could be framed and requested now, to operate concurrently with the reduced Programme for 1990 and 1991, thus bringing its activities back towards the present level, and one or some could be prepared to begin as the new UNDP cycle begins in 1992 to continue UNDP assistance to the region's fisheries - as it is quite willing to do, through target-oriented projects.

A list of suggested projects is therefore submitted below for the consideration of this meeting, with the request that delegates may like to indicate their preference for any of these to be prepared and circulated informally during the course of this year, or to propose other possible projects or of course, to indicate the intention to request continuation of the present type of programme.

It is hoped that discussion may bring to light one or more priority projects (or sub projects) of higher priority that could be prepared first, to begin as soon as possible.

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|----|-------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | In association with SPC |   | Albacore Fishing Survey  |
| 2. | "                       | " | Ciguatera Handbook   |
| 3. | "                       | " | Extension Training phase III   |
| 4. | "                       | " | Refrigeration in Fisheries   |
| 5. | "                       | " | Fisheries Management Workshop  |
| 6. | "                       | " | and FFA<br>Alternative Tuna Products   |
| 7. | "                       | " | Field Resource Survey Assessment and Analysis<br>Training                              |
| 8. | "                       | " | and FFA<br>Commercial Feasibility Studies  |
| 9. | "                       | " | and PIMRIS<br>Continuation/Update Bibliographies                                       |
| 10 | On its own              |   | Boatbuilding Development   |
| 11 | "                       |   | Marine Engineering (diesel and petrol engines)   |
| 12 | "                       |   | Promotion of Women's Activities - Fisheries  |
| 13 | "                       |   | Safety at Sea/Codes of Practice and Certification<br>for Fishing Vessels and Crews     |
| 14 | "                       |   | Training Needs Study for Pacific Fisheries<br>(followed perhaps by a Training Project) |