

# **INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES TECHNOLOGY OF PERU**

## **The Institute of Fisheries Technology of Peru and the International Cooperation for the Transfer of Fisheries Technology**

by

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As the representative of the Government of Peru, I extend to you the greetings from your brother country from the Pacific Basin and the reaffirmation of our willingness and desire to support inter-regional cooperation as shown through our active participation in the Trans-Pacific Fisheries Consultative Committee (TPFCC).

As such I am privileged to accept the invitation to participate as a Latin American observer in this very important event of the member countries of the Western Pacific Fisheries Consultative Committee (WPFCC) to assess and plan its collaborative work in Fisheries Training and Education.

Since the Lima Conference in 1988, our country's significant contribution has been through the Institute of Fisheries Technology (ITP) of Peru, the organisation tasked with the conduct of research, training and development in the areas of fishery processing technology.

ITP is well-known to the various organisations in the region which are tasked with addressing fisheries concerns.

We have strongly noted the proposal of the representative from SPC to prepare for a study tour for the fisheries scientists from the Pacific Island Nations (PINs), with the objective of identifying possible areas of cooperation along technology transfer, identifying human resource requirements for training and data banking which may be useful to each country.

The proposal was included in the Program of Activities of the TPFCC, was presented/discussed during the 1990 meeting in Papua New Guinea and favorably considered at the 5th Meeting of the Fisheries Task Force of the PECC in Vancouver in 1990.

It was in April 1991 that 5 fisheries scientists from PINs arrived at ITP, as part of their visit to the various fisheries institutions in Mexico, Ecuador and Chile where they participated in short technical and practical programs, geared primarily at developing artisanal techniques for fish processing, salted, dried and smoked, in addition to the other means of processing such as freezing, sausages, fish paste and conserves.

Because of being able to plan ahead for this study tour, ITP was able to meet the expectations of the Pacific Island scientists.

This event was without precedent, however, it was a very significant experience for ITP. Notwithstanding the language barrier, the participants were able to comprehend the work being done in the plants and laboratories, visit fisheries processing plants and take part in technical meetings, fully appreciative of the knowledge and information provided them and the strengthening of this in the future after this preliminary technical contact, was expected.

At this time, a specialist of ITP Mr Miguel Gallo, is participating as a visiting instructor on the invitation of the South Pacific Commission (SPC) in a Regional Workshop in Post-harvest Processing in Suva, Fiji, which started last March. He will eventually be visiting the various island nations to conduct seminars and participate in technical meetings with the fisheries scientists.

It is envisaged that through our collaborative efforts and the invaluable assistance of CIDA, we will eventually realise the desired goal of opening the avenue towards effective South-South cooperation.

This is no longer just wishful thinking on our part since we are actually beginning to recognize that individual country growth, as much as it depends on its internal efforts, also needs to harness and make use of the experiences of other countries, which in the process, bring about desired cooperation and the transfer of knowledge and technology.

These logical and viable concerns are sensitive elements which can serve as a vital link, in this case represented by the Trans-Pacific Fisheries Consultative Committee which has sought to effectively demonstrate the reality of this tri-regional cooperation.

The common denomination of our regions is the fishery sector, since it has the greatest potential for production of food of animal origin intended for direct human consumption both for local and foreign markets. As such, efforts should be directed towards the promotion of technology transfer in handling, preservation and processing of marine resources of the Pacific Basin.

Allow me to briefly present the existing facilities as well as the concrete proposal of ITP for cooperative works in the transfer of technology for fish processing.

ITP is an attached institution of the Ministry of Fisheries, devoted to research and development of new fisheries products and the promotion of technology transfer through technical assistance and training.

It has adequate facilities and equipment for the conduct of its activities in addition to the highly qualified staff in the areas of fish processing. For its basic research needs, its laboratories, both bio-chemical and nutritional, and industrial microbiology and bio-technology it is more than at par with its counterparts in Latin and Central America.

The training and technology transfer courses learned from developed countries such as Japan, Great Britain and Germany had given the ITP professional staff enough basis to adapt techniques and procedures suitable to existing natural resources and conditions.

Its adequate facilities and high level of technical capacity has enabled it to realise its training and education goals at national and international levels which include, among others :

- practical program for undergraduates and college students specialising in fisheries and related skills;
- advising and extension of technical assistance in the public and private enterprises of the fishery sector;
- publication and dissemination of research outputs;
- education and training courses at different levels, at both national and international scopes.

Since 1985, we have undertaken 8 international courses in fish processing technologies held for a duration of 45 days each under the auspices of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). This programme is geared towards training the professionals of the fishery sector from 18 Latin and Central American countries and will last until 1993 according to the Agreement.

We also undertook the training of Colombian fisheries technicians under the Technical Cooperative Project on Fisheries with PEC (Peru, Ecuador, Colombia) and the European Community in 1991, and, in 1980 with FAO/DANIDA/ITP the International Course on Technology Control for Fisheries Products was held in Peru.

At the national level, we have developed training courses for various targets, the most important of which was the 1991 programme undertaken for PEC of the EC project with 5 courses for handling and preservation aboard artisanal vessels and artisanal fish processing techniques for the small artisanal fishermen and their families in the Northern region of Peru.

Our staff has also done consultancy work in Honduras, Colombia, Bolivia and other Latin American countries.

From these varied experiences, Peru therefore recommends the following:

- 1) To organise and undertake a training course on fish processing for the PINs in order to provide them with theoretical and technical knowledge on simple technologies. The course will be for a duration of 20-30 days which will be conducted by specialists from both regions with the aim also of strengthening the working relationship of the fisheries scientists of both regions.
- 2) To accept professionals from the fishery sector for individual courses of short duration with specific objectives.
- 3) To facilitate the provision of technical assistance and training by various specialists for the PINs with such needs.

I hope that our proposal is acceptable as a means of realising our goal for the Trans-Pacific cooperation.

Thank you.

  
  

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