

# Ministry of Fisheries

## March Newsletter



### CEO's OFFICE

Senior Fisheries officer Mrs 'Alisi Funaki attended the Future Leaders' Summit in Papua New Guinea. The event is an initiative of the South Pacific Defence Minister's Meeting. The event focuses on networking and collaboration between the various military, police, and line government agencies is the key to a secure and safer future for everyone. The Future Leaders' Summit was attended by young officers from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga, with representatives from France and Chile.

Legal Officer Ms Salote Koloamatangi on behalf of the Ministry attended the Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement (NTSA) workshop, Person of Interest (POI) and 21st Monitoring Control and Surveillance working group (MCSWG21). NTSA aim to continue the providing guidance to the Parties, which Tonga had signatory, on the steps required for implementation, in particular the operation of share data information among Parties. The POI workshop intended to provide opportunity to consider and discuss the basis of the draft POI strategy developed by the FFA. MCSWG focus on MCS strategies for prevent activities, detection and elimination of IUU fishing with demonstrate a strong and collaborative working relationship with FFA members.

### CORPORATE SERVICE DIVISION (CSD)

Fisheries at Nomuka island was fortunate to have received a boat previously used for Aquaculture activities in Tongatapu to support enforcement activities at Nomuka. In addition to transferring the boat to Nomuka by Fisheries Assistant Mr. Fonuakite Fanua, Mr. Fanua was able to conduct outboard services for fishermen at Nomuka island.

Fisheries in Vava'u will soon have a renovated market and an additional market open to the community. Our Fisheries Officer Mrs. Sioli Pasikala

Ministry of Fisheries market and an additional market open for the Public. We look forward to seeing the work progress on the Vava'u market.

Fisheries Vava'u team was pleased to have its regular ICT in-house training by our Computer Programmer Mrs. Lavinia Vaipuna. The trainings also included installation of new desktops and TAILS training. The TAILS program allows fisheries officers to collect and upload data from remote locations around Tonga, providing timely fisheries data to inform policy and fisheries management decisions.

### FISHERIES MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (FMDD)

Cyclone Gita made landfall in Tonga on 12th February damaging both Tongatapu and 'Eua islands. Fisheries officers Ms. Sisi Mafile'o and Ms. Hulita Fa'anunu completed the Cyclone Gita survey focusing on fisheries activities at 'Eua. The survey and reports contributed to the Ministry's overall reporting from Fisheries sector on Cyclone Gita to the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO).

### FISHERIES SCIENCE DIVISION (FSD)

Deputy CEO-FSD Dr Siola'a Malimali and staffs Mr. Latu 'Aisea, Ms Hulita Fa'anunu, Ms Kilisitina 'Akimeta and ADB consultants Mr Vailala Matoto and Kaione Loumoli completed their SMA visit to Ha'apai. The objective of the visit is to develop Management Plans for six new communities in Ha'apai and preparations for the Royal Tour.

Vava'u and Ha'apai officers in charge Mrs Silika Ngahe and Sosefina Vili completed the SMA inception meetings. The meetings focused on discussions with FAO & SPC on SMA project activi-

Senior Fisheries Assistant Mr. Siao Si Vi facilitated and transferred live juvenile pearl oyster to pearl farmers in Vava'u. This is part of the Aquaculture activities to improve and develop cooperation with the community and contribute to the economic growth of pearl farmers.

### FISHERIES COMPLIANCE DIVISION (FCD)

Deputy CEO-FCD Mr Poasi Ngaluafu attended the Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement (NTSA) workshop, this workshop help to continue on providing guidance to the parties which Tonga had signed in particular the operation of sharing the data information among the parties. He was also attended on Person of Interest (POI), 4th Regional Information Management System workshop (4RIMSW) and the 21st Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCSWG 21). POI aiming to provide an opportunity to consider and discuss the basis of the Draft POI Strategy had been developed by FFA Secretariat., while RIMSW focused on development progress in information System (IMS). The MCSWG 21 focused on MCS strategies for prevention activities, detection and elimination of IUU fishing with demonstrate a strong and collaborative working relationship with FFA members on surveillance issues.

Compliance team Mr. Tevita 'Ahoafi and Mr. Sailosi 'Alofi attended the NTSA and POI workshop while Observer officer's Malakai Faletau joint the 4RIMS workshop.

For more information, visit us on:

[www.tongafish.gov.to](http://www.tongafish.gov.to)

[www.facebook.com/tongafish.gov.to](https://www.facebook.com/tongafish.gov.to)