

Tonga Stock Assessment and Harvest Strategy Workshop

3rd -5th March 2020

Ministry of Fisheries, Science Division held a 3 days Workshop for Tonga Stock Assessment and Harvest Strategy on the 3rd of March until the 5th of March 2020. This Training was conducted by **Mr Sam McKechnie** and **Mr Finlay Scott** from the Pacific Community (SPC).



The purpose of this workshop is for SPC to present and train fisheries staff some of the basic harvest strategy ideas and concepts in related to Tonga's level of fish stock in our EEZ. Not only that but how to interpret our Tonga's stock assessment results and where we fits into the region and the management of the region's fisheries.

The workshop contents was a mix of presentations, discussions and activities, practical exercises through interactive software tools that have been developed to help explain the harvest control rules, performance indicators and also to explore the initial results. Few essential elements that they have been discussed, such as:



- Harvest strategy objectives
- The stock assessment process and how the WCPFC works
- Some theory behind harvesting a fish stock
- Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) and Management Procedures
- Performance Indicators
- Monitoring Strategy
- WCPFC and the harvest strategy approach
- An example of stock assessment (Albacore assessment in Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) presented at the scientific committee 2017.

This workshop brings more knowledges to the fisheries staff in building their capacities and better understanding of stock assessment and harvest strategy.

This training was attended by the Fisheries Science Division staff and few other fisheries staff from other division.