

Pacific islands and FAO

Achievements and success stories

FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific Islands
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Introduction

In recent years, the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) have taken a number of positive steps in trying to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of reducing the percentage of their peoples living in hunger and poverty by half by 2015. However, despite some areas of improvement, these countries are some of the most disadvantaged in the Asia-Pacific region when it comes to agriculture.

Declining investment, climate change – including more frequent natural disasters – and deterioration of land and water for agriculture and fisheries, have all contributed to the growing erosion of the region's capacity to sustain local food production. A growing reliance on food imports has heightened vulnerability to food and fuel price rises. Real food prices are on average 19 percent higher than they were two years ago, even after accounting for inflation.

The FAO Subregional Office for the Pacific Islands (SAP) was established in 1996, initially with seven member countries (Cook Islands, Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu). It now serves fourteen countries (Kiribati, Niue, Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands joined in 1999, Nauru in 2001 and the Federated States of Micronesia and Tuvalu joined in 2003).

The main function of FAO in the Pacific is to ensure that FAO assistance is readily available to improve people's well being through sustainable agriculture, natural resources management and rural development. FAO collects, analyses and disseminates information relating to nutrition, food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. It provides technical advice and essential information to support rational decisions on planning, investment, marketing, research and trainings.

In general, FAO has contributed significantly towards the objective of achieving regional and national food security in the Pacific. It has also increased partnerships and effective collaboration at national, sub-regional and regional levels to achieve sustainable development, enhance the transfer of technology and knowledge, and build effective partnerships between local governments, civil society, NGOs and other organizations in development projects.

FAO programmes and projects in the Pacific are largely regional, such as the *Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods Programme in the Pacific Island Countries (FSSLP)* – an umbrella programme that responds to food security threats through the rehabilitation and sustainable development of agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture. Other projects help by enabling international trade in agricultural commodities and promoting better nutrition.

The total volume of FAO assistance to the Pacific over the last 15 years amounts to US\$25.5 million, provided through more than 300 inter-country and national projects, excluding the ongoing flagship *Food security and sustainable livelihood programme in Pacific Island countries* estimated at US\$41.8 million.

1. Analytical summary

1.1 Building up food security across 14 Pacific Islands

With food prices rising steeply for the second time since 2007, governments everywhere are concerned about the negative impact of food inflation, particularly on the poor. Malnutrition continues to haunt all of the 14 Pacific Island Countries to some degree. While there is no out-right hunger in the Pacific, health problems caused by poor diet are constant threats and will cause more problems in the future if they are not dealt with now. As traditional balanced diets are replaced by unhealthy imported foods, diseases such as diabetes and heart problems have become more common, putting a heavy burden on families, communities and whole economies.

A series of complementary regional programmes has been carried out in the last 12 years aimed at reaching the poorest and most malnourished people across the Pacific. FAO initiatives such as the *Regional Programme for Food Security (RPFS)* and its follow-on effort, the *Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods Programme in the Pacific Island Countries* have helped reduce malnutrition as well as the growing and dangerous urban-rural divide by producing less costly yet healthy local food while creating jobs in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, especially in rural areas.

1.2 Increasing healthy local food and fish production

The *Food Security and Sustainable Livelihood Programme in the Pacific Island Countries* builds on the successes of FAO's *Regional Programme for Food Security in the Pacific*. It was developed by FAO with the assistance of the organization's Investment Centre, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and relevant members of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP).

In 2010, the FSSLP began working to increase food availability and greater access to nutritious food, especially for poor and vulnerable households. The initiative plans to accomplish this by engineering a

sustainable expansion in crop and livestock production, as well as by boosting the availability of food products from the fisheries and forestry sectors. The programme is being implemented as a strategic investment programme with funding of about US\$42 million. It has two country-project components – one directly addressing community needs, the other strengthening services in support of the most vulnerable communities. A third component will support multi-country food security initiatives that address capacity building, trade, food safety and climate change among other issues.

1.3 Initiative on Soaring Food Prices (ISFP)

The *Initiative on Soaring Food Prices (ISFP)* was launched in December 2007 to cushion the impacts of worldwide increases in food prices, particularly on poor and vulnerable communities. By supplying basic agricultural inputs to vulnerable farmers, the initiative increased total food production and income through semi-commercial production during the 2008-2009 cropping season. ISFP had a total budget of \$2.5 million to supply agricultural inputs to 14 Pacific Island Countries.

1.4 Making international food and agriculture trade a reality for the Pacific islands

Pacific Island farmers face many difficult challenges when it comes to developing a viable trade sector. The poor quality and limited availability of planting materials, the lack of efficient pest control, and high post-harvest losses caused by poor agro-processing techniques combine to make them uncompetitive with more advanced countries in trade. Poor animal health, high feed costs and underdeveloped domestic and export industries all work against them. To compete on world markets they need to master the latest agro-technologies, and that will require better, faster and cheaper information systems.

By far the greatest roadblock to increased trade is the lack of capacity to meet international food quality and safety standards. Weak and ineffective food quality and safety systems are a formidable trade barrier for Pacific Island Countries, preventing them from reaping the economic and employment benefits of international trade in agricultural goods and products.

To improve opportunities for global trade, FAO coordinates regional training courses on food quality and safety and in international trade. The training helps farmers, food traders and government officials to see the way food is managed in relation to international trade and the requirements of the World Trade Organization.

1.5 The growing need for healthier and more nutritious local foods

Pacific Islanders have faced many food security problems over the years, which may explain their modern eating habits and the love many have for imported and often unhealthy food products. They have grown to like *fast food and junk food* mainly because of its convenience and low cost. But, they have paid a kind of value added tax with their health.

While fast, cheap, imported food may be credited with reducing hunger in the Pacific, the health problems resulting from poor diets continues to grow and will lead eventually to serious problems in if islanders do not rekindle their taste and appreciation for more healthy, locally grown fruits and vegetables. As traditional balanced diets have given way to imported foods, diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and arterial problems are becoming commonplace. The cost in



individual lives will be heavy, and the cost to society will also be great. More and more money will be needed to treat those who have grown ill because of the food they eat.

This why FAO is leading nutrition initiatives to help people grow and eat healthier food and decrease the amount of cheap imported food they eat. These programmes and projects take direct aim at poor nutrition and unhealthy eating habits by providing better access to healthy foods so island people will have the opportunity to make the right food choices.

2. Selected successful FAO programmes

2.1 The Regional Programme for Food Security in the Pacific and the Food Security and Sustainable Livelihood Programme in the Pacific Island Countries

The Regional Programme for Food Security in the Pacific Island Countries was initiated in 2004 and supported by a \$4.5 million contribution from the Italian Government. Additional support was provided by FAO through its regular programme, including the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) and the South-South Cooperation (SSC) programme. Each member country participating in the project contributed manpower and financial resources.

The regional programme had two related components: (1) improving productivity and production in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and livestock; and, (2) strengthening regional and national capacity in trade facilitation and agriculture policy. During the implementation of the programme, efforts were made to ensure that clear linkages between the two components were realised.

In 2006, the Tri-Partite Mid-Term Review of the regional programme noted the positive progress in the implementation of national activities under component 1, and the need for activities to support agriculture policies and development under component 2. The meeting recommended an extension phase of the regional programme to implement additional activities. The Government of Italy announced the allocation of an additional \$2.5 million to support the extension of the regional programme until December 2008.

The preparation of the regional programme's extension led to the formulation of *the Food Security and Sustainable Livelihood Programme* in the Pacific Island Countries, prepared by FAO with the assistance of the FAO Investment Centre (TCI), the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

The goal of *the Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods Programme* is to contribute to improving food security for poor and vulnerable populations, in particular women and youth. Its specific objectives are:

- (i) improved availability of and access to nutritious food for poor and vulnerable households, through a sustainable increase in crop and livestock production and productivity, including fisheries and (agro)-forestry, other livelihood activities, and enhanced dietary practices;
- (ii) (better access of vulnerable communities, especially households in remote locations and women, to sustainable agricultural services, inputs and markets, through improved infrastructure and delivery systems; and
- (iii) strengthened capacities, enhanced policies, and strategic actions at country and regional level to address immediate and long term food security challenges.

The programme has been designed to ensure that proposed country and multi-country projects will have direct outcomes in terms of increased local food availability, better access to food (both physically and from improved incomes), increased consumption of nutritious local foods, and greater resilience and stability in production and food systems.

2.2 Initiative on Soaring Food Prices (ISFP)

FAO launched the *Initiative on Soaring Food Prices* (ISFP) in December 2007 in an effort to cushion the impact of the worldwide rise in food prices. Rising food prices have hit the poor and vulnerable particularly hard. The initiative aimed to increase food production and provide income through semi-commercial production during the 2008-



2009 cropping season by supplying basic agricultural inputs to vulnerable farmers. In the Pacific, the ISFP had a total budget of \$2.5 million.

Later, a beneficiary satisfaction and impact assessment showed a high level of satisfaction among 14 FAO member countries that benefited from assistance under

the Initiative. Despite the limited resources, high costs of transportation and short duration of the project, in most cases the ISFP projects were able to reach the poor, vulnerable and marginalized households. Positive impacts were reported for increased production, improved accessibility to food and better ability to sell agricultural produce.

List of projects under the FAO Initiative on Soaring Food Prices

Country	Supplies	Budget (US\$)
Fiji	Rice Seeds, Production Inputs, Power Tiller, Milling Equipment.	250 000
Kiribati	Vegetable Seeds, Production Inputs, Planting Materials, Breeding Boars and Materials for Pig Pen.	250 000
Samoa	Vegetable Seeds, Fertilizers, Planting Materials, Breeding Sows and Boars, Materials for Pig Pen.	250 000
Solomon Islands	Rice Seeds, Production Inputs, Power Tiller, Milling Equipment	250 000
Tonga	Breeding Sows, Boars, Vegetable Seeds, Fertilizers of Equipment for Processing Cassava Flour.	250 000
Vanuatu	Vegetable Seeds and Root Crop Planting Materials	250 000
Papua New Guinea	Rice Seeds, Inputs, Rice Processing Equipment.	500 000
Cook Islands	Vegetable Seeds and Root Crop, Planting Materials	500 000
Marshall Islands	Vegetables, Permaculture Chicken Production.	
Niue		
Tuvalu		
Nauru		
FSM	Banana, Cassava, Planting Materials, Equipment for Cassava Flour.	
Palau	Vegetable Seeds, Banana and Sweet Potato Cuttings	

2.3 Trade facilitation, WTO and Regional Trade Agreement and Provisions

The main achievements and impacts of FAO in this area are:

- The technical and financial support to establish an internationally accredited regional food control laboratory at the Institute of Applied Science, University of the South Pacific
- A study on the implications of WTO membership for Pacific Island Countries on the food, agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors.

FAO has also been convening an annual Round Table Meeting (RTM) for Pacific Island Countries on the WTO

and Regional Trade Agreement and Provisions since 1997. These meetings have received financial and in-kind support from the New Zealand, Italy, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, the Forum Fisheries Agency and the Pacific Islands Trade and Investment Commission.

The overall aim of the RTM series is to increase awareness and understanding of multilateral, regional and bilateral trade agreements and provisions relating to agriculture and fisheries, and to enhance the capacity of the Pacific islands to plan and formulate informed and appropriate agriculture, fisheries and trade policies. Topics of discussion include WTO rules, Pacific Island Countries

Trade Agreement, Pacific Association of Closer Economic Relations, Regional Trade Agreement and Pacific ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements.

In addition, the agenda of the RTM has evolved to include case studies on specific topics of interest to PICs,

such as organic agriculture and new initiatives on food security in the region. Several reviews of the RTM series have been undertaken and all have recommend that the RTM continue as an informal forum for policy makers to share information and knowledge.

Success stories

1. SPFS: projects that made a difference – The road to food security

Cook Islands

A fruit tree development project increased fruit production, substituting imports and providing a greater variety of fruit for Cook Islanders to eat. The project imported about 57 varieties of assorted fruit trees and seeds from Australia and distributed 6 478 trees of various fruits to the islands of Rarotonga, Aitutaki and Atiu.

Fiji

A rice revitalization project trained some 372 farmers and 64 extension staff in rice farming. The adoption of improved rice technology boosted yields from 2.5 tonnes per hectare to 7 tonnes per hectare.



A milk and beef development project trained 90 dairy farmers and 20 government officials to set up and manage forage plots. Milk yield increased from 3 to 5 litres per cow a day.

The poultry and duck production project trained 200 farmers and agriculture students in all aspects of poultry production and management.

Federated States of Micronesia

A banana rehabilitation project trained 40 farmers, who received acclimatized planting materials. An acclimatization unit was set up in Chuuk to provide hands on training for agriculture staff and farmers to help them raise disease free banana plantlets to the transplanting stage.

Kiribati

A home gardening and root crop nurseries project set up 13 community nurseries on each island. A total of 975 community representatives were trained in composting, irrigation, general husbandry and pest and disease management.



Marshall Islands

The atoll food production project trained 154 farmers and three ministry staff in all aspects of pig husbandry. Each of the multiplication centres has been trained in compost production and how to incorporate pig manure to improve soil fertility in home gardens.

A home gardening project trained 876 farmers and extension staff, including women and students. A total of 95 household plots of various sizes were established. Community know-how and skills in the production of vegetables, root crops and fruit trees were greatly improved, leading to opportunities for greater household income and better nutrition.



Nauru

A household food garden project established seven garden plots and trained more than 240 people in the community on how to tend the gardens.



Niue

Under a poultry production project, five chicken coops were built and stocked. Some 35 farmers participated in two national training sessions on chicken permaculture. A training manual was written and published in English and Niuean to help increase farmer expertise.

A smallholder pig farm project trained 25 farmers during two training sessions on pig husbandry and pig farm management. Ten people, including three women, also



attended meat processing and food safety training courses. Two officers of the Ministry of Agriculture attended a training course in Fiji on artificial insemination in pigs.

Palau

Some 43 people attended a national training course on value adding, which established a core “processing” training team. The course also developed a processing manual – now under review by FAO. The project helped local food processors to improve their products.

Papua New Guinea

A fruit tree project established two nurseries – one in Erap and the other in Rabaul. Twenty village-based rural service providers were recruited for extension support to farmers. A training manual in fruit tree production was published. A rice production project distributed 2 tonnes of rice seeds to about 350 farmers from three rice centres at Erap, Goroka and Central Province. The project trained 68 farmers and 12 staff members from the centres, as well as publishing technical pamphlets and introducing extension visits in support of farmer activities.

Samoa

A poultry production project established eight permaculture units for chicken production. The units were spread equally between the two main islands of Upolu and Savaii. Sixty-eight farmers benefited from training courses on poultry management.



A sheep-farming project distributed sheep from a breeding flock of 44 Fijian Fantastic Sheep, with four rams, to four sites selected by the Samoan government. An aggregate flock of 320 sheep has so far been produced. Four training sessions for 28 farmers and four government officials were conducted, covering all aspects of sheep production and management. The project met the 100-ewe target level and has started distributing sheep to qualified farmers. At the end of the project, 15 farmers were holding a total of 92 rams and ewes for distribution. Those farmers will also provide technical support through farm visits.

A project on value adding in Samoa helped local processors develop 25 value-added products in two training courses. The local processors learned to improve process flow lines and adopted Codex Alimentarius Commission and HACCP guidelines for their production activities. The Codex Alimentarius Commission is the joint FAO/WHO body that sets international food quality and safety standards. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) is a systematic preventive approach to food safety and pharmaceutical safety that addresses physical, chemical, and biological hazards as a means of prevention rather than finished product inspection.

Solomon Islands

A food-processing project built an abattoir and a fruit and vegetable processing unit to improve local meat, fruit and vegetable processing. A Post Entry Quarantine (PEQ) facility was set up to allow for the safe introduction into the country of improved planting materials. Also, a pest survey was conducted to assist the export of local crops.

Officials attended a training workshop focusing on how to protect the Solomon Islands from agriculture pests and diseases.

Tonga

A breeding flock of 40 ewes and 4 rams of Fijian Fantastic Sheep were acquired to establish a breeding herd of 100 ewes. Training on sheep husbandry was conducted for the 22 farmers and 8 government officials. Sheep multiplication sites were established in Tupou College in Toloa, Tongatapu Island and in the islands of Vava'u and 'Eua.



Under a honey bee project in Tonga farmers were trained to improve the technical capacity of the Agriculture Ministry to support fledgling honey and horticulture producers.

Tuvalu

A piggery was set up in Vaitupu, Tuvalu to breed improved pigs for distribution to farmers. The piggery received 20 young sows and three boars from Fiji. The project supported training on artificial insemination in pigs, which was hosted by Fiji. Officials from Tuvalu, Niue and the Marshall Islands also attended.

Community nurseries were constructed to support home gardening under the Development of Nurseries in Support of Home Gardens Project. Training sessions were held across the nine islands of the group. The project also produced a video to promote production and consumption of local foods.

According to Itaia Lausaveve, Tuvalu's director of agriculture: "It is sometimes difficult to sustain development projects when they finish, but with Tuvalu's eight crop nurseries on the out-islands – projects that were part of the Regional Programme – we had island councils take over and continue operating the nurseries."

Mr Lausaveve explains: "This has been so successful that they have expanded the use of the nurseries to begin commercial vegetable production for local marketing. It has really made a big difference in people's diets and improved local nutrition. At the same time, the nurseries are maintaining their primary function of providing local gardening material to home gardeners."

Vanuatu

A rural butcheries project set up three butcheries in Vanuatu.



Five nurseries to distribute saplings throughout the community were set up by an agro-forestry project, which also provided training for each community group involved.

A dehydrated food crops project increased cassava-processing activities by training producers to make dried cassava chips. Partnerships were set up with the private sector to link producer-processors to markets for the processed chips. Two training courses on quality cassava chip production were conducted for 40 participants, including six women.

2. South-South Cooperation introduces new technologies in Papua New Guinea

One of the largest nations in the Pacific, Papua New Guinea (PNG) is a country with great geographical, cultural and linguistic diversity. PNG consists of a mainland (85 percent of the land mass), which is the eastern half of the island of New Guinea and some 600 smaller islands. Despite its wealth of natural resources and exports of gold, copper, oil and timber, most of PNG's people still survive by subsistence agriculture. 80 percent of people live in rural and often inaccessible areas.

In 2004 the Government of Papua New Guinea, the Government of Philippines and the FAO, signed a South-South cooperation (SSC) agreement. This two year programme was designed to complement the efforts of a pilot SPFS conducted from 1996 to 2000 in 2 districts of the Morobe province (Markham and Huon) as part of FAO's global approach towards food security.

The programme aimed to provide technical assistance to strengthen the implementation of water control systems and crop intensification, livestock and aquaculture development and post-harvest processing.

The Philippines sent 5 experts and 6 field technicians to PNG, provided financial assistance and minor agricultural equipment. Five technology demonstration sites were established, focusing on the development of low cost water control structures and crop intensification, benefiting 153 households.

Diversion dams were constructed in 3 villages, and irrigated rice production and improved cultural management practices in field crops and horticultural crop were introduced. A seed production demonstration project was established to produce good quality seeds for distribution to the farmers and to show the proper techniques in producing and selecting seeds for planting.

To help farmers move into semi-commercial crop production, draft animals were introduced and 6 animals were successfully trained to pull sleds, logs and simple farm implements. Rural development officers received training on soil and water sampling, while farmers were involved in field demonstrations on the practices to be

followed to improve and sustain productivity. Officers and farmers received extension material and technology guides.

This South-South Cooperation Programme proved to be very successful; farmers accepted and adopted the new technologies. Farm families improved their production output, income and living standard through the better use of soil and water resources.

3. Establishment of a Regional reference centre for milk processing and marketing (GCP/SAM/007/FRA)

FAO provided technical support to the project implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Fisheries & Meteorology of Samoa and the Ministry of Labour and Commerce of Tonga). The Government of France provided financial support of US\$270 000 and the Governments of Samoa and Tonga contributed US\$100 000.

Background

The project started in August 1997 in response to the need for promoting local milk production because of the increasing demand for dairy products in Pacific Island Countries, and the increasing cost of imported UHT milk from Australia and New Zealand.

A mixed-farming system based on pasture development under coconut trees for dairy or beef cattle was seen as the most appropriate land use system. High quality dairy breeds were introduced from Australia and distributed to small holders. External support was provided to assist in producing quality dairy products and to set up a model system of dairy organization for countries in the region. The project also provided dairy training in Samoa and Tonga and an itinerant regional workshop organized in Fiji, Tonga and Samoa for 20 participants from five countries.

Results and lessons learnt

The model system incorporates dairy development, processing and marketing. It has increased the income of small farmers, boosted rural ancillary services, and promoted the consumption and use of local milk and

dairy products, such as yogurt and cheese. However, the lack of availability of dairy animals is the main constraint for farmers who are interested in diversifying their production.

The project has demonstrated that milk production in the South Pacific is an excellent economic alternative to meat production. Milk processing at farm level is very profitable for small-scale producers, who can increase their returns even further by simple processing.

4. Samoa Agriculture Census and Statistics (TCP/SAM/8921, US\$244 000)

FAO provided technical support to Samoa's second agriculture census, implemented by Samoa's Department of Statistics (DOS), in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Fisheries and Meteorology (MAFFM). The Government of Samoa contributed WST 300 000 (approx. US\$125 000).

Background

Samoa's first agricultural census was conducted in 1989 and produced a comprehensive set of data on the agricultural sector, but the relevance and usefulness of the data was short lived due to the devastating effects of two cyclones in 1990 and 1991, and the onset of the taro leaf blight in 1993. Both caused major structural changes to the sector. In response to the need for up-to-date agricultural statistics, the Agriculture Census and Statistics project for Samoa began in April 1999 and was completed with the official launch of the census document in November 2000. Conducting the census required external assistance provided by a consultant in agricultural statistics and two specialists in field operations and data processing, and capacity building for users/producers, supervisors and enumerators from both departments involved.

Results and lessons learnt

The 1999 Census of Agriculture provided an up-to-date and complete picture of the changes that had taken place following the external shocks caused by the cyclones and taro leaf blight, and confirmed the importance of agriculture in the traditional life style of Samoa by showing that 80 percent of households are involved in agriculture.

5. Uhotau Pasisi – Model fisher from Niue honoured at the Asia-Pacific World Food Day celebration

Bangkok, 18 October 2004 – Today, the FAO Regional Office in Bangkok has issued an award to a model fisher from the Pacific who received the award from HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn during the 2004 World Food Day celebration in Bangkok.

Uhotau Pasisi, a 64 year old fisherman from the idyllic island of Niue in the South Pacific, has always been a man who stands tall.

For the past 45 years, this father of three and grandfather of six, has set out in his fishing boat four to six hours a day, returning home with about 20 kilograms of a large variety of marine fish. Most of the catch goes to feed his family and friends. Anything that's left over he sells as surplus, allowing him to reel in about 2 000 New Zealand dollars every month.

For Uhotau Pasisi, fishing is more than an occupation. It is a way of life. In 1994, he was elected President of the National Fishing Association. As president he shares ideas with his colleagues on how to preserve and improve their livelihoods, as well as encouraging young men and women to fish as a means to support their families, communities and preserve an important part of their culture and lifestyle.

His commitment to improving the status of the Niuean people has been a central part of his life and career. Based in the capital Alofi, he has been constantly active in public service. For the past 12 years he has worked as a Public Service Commissioner, a post he still holds today. He also served as a Justice of the Peace, presiding over ceremonies and celebrations for his neighbors and adjudicating disputes to help maintain harmony in his community. As a result, FAO is awarding Uhotau Pasisi for outstanding achievement as a Pacific fisher.

List of selected projects

FAO's main country activities and projects in the Pacific Island

Cook Islands

Plant Production and Protection

- Contribution to the Plant and Animal Quarantine Reviews of Legislation (1999-2000)
- technical assistance and documentation of export standard manuals for Cook Islands produce for the New Zealand markets
- Technical assistance on the control of the invasive weed Balloon vine on food crops
- Introduction of plants through tissue culture (golden pineapple and orchids)
- Strengthening Floriculture Development (TCP/CKI/3103, US\$234 000)

Livestock

- Goat Industry Development Programme (TCP/CKI/9065, US\$93 000)
- Assistance in Meat Processing (TCP/CKI/4451, US\$114 000)

Fisheries

- Cook Islands Aquaculture Development Project (TCP/CKI/3201, US\$72 973)

Food and Nutrition

- Production of leaflets on the use of fruits and vegetables
- Survey on the status of the food industry

Forestry

- Assistance in Increasing Forestry Productivity (TCP/CKI/6611, US\$266 000)
- Cook Islands Land Resource Use Manual and Related Training (TCP/CKI/3301, US\$61 498)

Farming System Development and Marketing

- Training sessions and teaching materials in farm management, marketing and agribusiness for young farmers in the Cook Islands under Young Farmers Project (Enhancing the capacity of young farmers in farm management, marketing and agribusiness, TCP/CKI/3102, US\$223 955)

Policy and Statistics

- Assistance in the Agriculture Strategic Plan Formulation in Support of Food Security (TCP/CKI/8921, US\$76 000)
- Agriculture Census and Statistics (TCP/CKI/0066, US\$151 000)
- Assistance in reviewing the National Agricultural Policy (TCP/CKI/3001, US\$21 145)

Gender

- Strengthening Capacity for Gender Responsive Development in Support of Food Security (TCP/CKI/3001, US\$223 955)

Climate Change

- Case study on the impact of climate change on food security

TeleFood

- Establishment of Community Banana Block for Supply of Planting Materials for Women's Groups (TFD-97/CKI/001, US\$7 250)
- Establishment of a Meat and Dairy Goat Parent Stock (TFD-97/CKI/002, US\$9 950)
- Establishment of Rootcrop Nursery on an Atoll to Generate Propagation Planting Materials (TFD-97/CKI/005, US\$6 400)
- Beekeeping Demonstration and Food Substitution (TFD-97/CKI/004, USD 6 640)
- Fish Aggregate Device (TFD-98/CKI/004, US\$1 666)
- Establishment of a Cassava Processing Plant for the Vainetini of Puaikura to enhance Food Security and Household Income (TFD-98/CKI/003, US\$6 560)

- Strengthening Manihiki's Food Security through the Establishment of a Community Nursery and Enhancement of the Atoll's Home Gardening Programme (TFD-99/CKI/001, US\$8 740)
- Establishment of a Food Crop Community Market for the Au Vaine (Women's Group) of Nikao Panama Village (TFD-99/CKI/002, US\$6 371)
- Establishment of a Small Cassava/Starch Processing Plant for the Te Ivi o Kau Women's Group, Aitutaki (TFD-99/CKI/003, US\$5 095)
- Establishment of Home Vegetable Gardens for the Vainetini Women Groups of the Island of Mangaia to Improve Nutrition, Pursuit of Food Security (TFD-99/CKI/004, US\$5 095)
- Establishment of a Home Garden for the Mapu Vaine o Te Ivi o Kau group on Aitutaki islands (TFD-00/CKI/002, US\$3 710)
- Establishment of a Small Cassava Processing Plant for the VANTAU Group to Enhance Food Security Household Income (TFD-00/CKI/001, US\$2 316)
- Establishment of a Pig Breeding Unit for Taao Community Magaia (TFD-00/CKI/003, US\$5 543)
- Establishment of a Rural Community Banana Dryland taro block (TFD-01/CKI/003, US\$6 818)
- Establishment of a Community Cassava Starch-Vaipeka Village (TFD-01/CKI/004, US\$6 712)
- Establishment of a Cassava (Manihot esculenta) Starch Processing Plant for the Saint Bernadette's Women's Group on Mauke Island (TFD-03/CKI/001, US\$9 869)
- Food Security Project for Nikao Catholic Youth (TFD-03/CKI/002, US\$5 000)
- Establishment of a Goat Breeding and Production Unit for Keia District on Mangaia Island (TFD-04/CKI/001, US\$9 775)
- Reviving the Taro (Colocasia esculenta) Producing Areas of Karanga District on Mangaia (TFD-02/CKI/002, US\$8 616)
- Establishment of a Home Vegetable Garden for the Rakeia Rural Community on Magaia Island (TFD-01/CKI/001, US\$5 470)
- Establishment of a Home Vegetable Garden for Women's Group on Atiu Island (TFD-01/CKI/002, US\$3 655)

Federated States of Micronesia

Plant Production and Protection

- Assistance to strengthen capacities in support of food security and agriculture development (TCP/MIC/3101, US\$64 770)

Fisheries

- Risk Assessment in Aquaculture Development in Federated States of Micronesia (TCP/MIC/3201)

Food and Nutrition

- Training on food processing technology and food safety to encourage greater use of local food resources

TeleFood

- Enterpoint Int. Piggery and Agricultural Farm project (TFD-01/MIC/001, US\$9 951)

Fiji

Plant Production and Protection

- Integrated Control of the AfricanTulip Tree (TCP/FIJ/ 8921, US\$120 000)
- Survey of Honeybee Pests and Diseases (TCP/FIJ/ 0065, US\$45 000)
- Training on Rice Integrated Crop Management (TCP/FIJ/2903, US\$282 473)
- Coconut Multipurpose Processing (TCP/FIJ/3101, US\$187 019)
- Enhancing rice productivity in Fiji (TCP/FIJ/3201, US\$46 274)

Livestock

- Smallholder Forage Based Dairy Production (TCP/FIJ/2901, US\$368 000)

Fisheries

- Assistance in national shark fisheries management
- Tilapia marketing study
- Strengthening Management Capability in the Fisheries Division (TCP/FIJ/5611, US\$161 000)
- Enhancement of Customary Marine Fishery Tenure (TCP/FIJ/0167, US\$31 213)

Food and Nutrition

- Contribution to the Plant and Animal Quarantine Review of Legislation and Procedures
- Survey on the status of the food industry
- Feasibility study on whole nut coconut multi-purpose processing centre concept
- Technical assistance to review the food inspection services in Fiji (TCP/FIJ/3201, US\$44 589)

Farming System Development and Marketing

- Agricultural Marketing Improvement and Development of Agricultural Statistics (TCP/FIJ/6712)
- Training of Extension Staff in Post-Harvest Handling and Marketing of Fresh Horticultural Produce (TCP/FIJ/0166, US\$205 000)

Policy and Statistics

- Formulation of the Fruits and Vegetable Strategy
- Development of Agricultural Statistics (TCP/FIJ/6712, US\$324 947)
- Preparation of the Agricultural Census (TCP/FIJ/3101, US\$187 019)
- National Agriculture Census (TCP/FIJ/3203, US\$354 000)
- Opportunities and Requirements to Replicate the Experience of the Tutu Rural Training Centre (TCP/FIJ/3301)

Emergency Assistance

- Urgent Provision Agricultural Basic Inputs to Drought Affected Farmers (TCP/FIJ/8922, US\$267 000)
- Strengthening of National Capacity for Emergency Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation in Agriculture (OSRO/FIJ/901/FIN, US\$45 000)
- Emergency Assistance following Cyclone Ami (TCP/FIJ/2902, US\$380 148)
- Emergency Assistance to Support the Recovery of Agriculture Livelihoods Systems of Tropical Cyclone affected families (TCP/FIJ/3302, US\$373 000)

TeleFood

- Vuo Village Women's Project Small-Scale Commercial Piggery Farm (TFD-97/FIJ/003, US\$9 900)

- Koroivonu Rural Water Utilization Project (TFD-99/FIJ/001, US\$10 000)
- Small-Scale Commercial Beekeeping (TFD-97/SAM/001, US\$9 713)
- Mataqali Veiniumiu sheep project (TFD-99/FIJ/002, US\$7 166)
- Diriniu Horticultural project (TFD-99/FIJ/003, US\$7 224)
- Saint Christopher Home Piggery (TFD-00/FIJ/001, US\$7 134)
- Wainawaga District School Fish Farming Project (TFD-00/FIJ/002, US\$3 114)
- Fencing and Rehabilitation of Community Gardens (TFD-00/FIJ/004, US\$5 895)
- Navolau Village Youth Development (TFD-00/FIJ/005, US\$7 305)
- Masaqali Rokoraite Fish Farming (TFD-01/FIJ/001, US\$6 000)
- Udukula Youth Group Agricultural Project (TFD-01/FIJ/002, US\$6 108)
- Ucuima Piggery Project (TFD-01/FIJ/004, US\$3 671)
- Integrated Crop Farming (TFD-04/FIJ/001, US\$3 636)
- Senibitu Piggery (TFD-02/FIJ/002, US\$5 000)
- Mataqali Vunisea Piggery (TFD-02/FIJ/003, US\$5 270)
- Nakase Youth Piggery (TFD-02/FIJ/004, US\$5 790)
- Nakauvadra High School Honeybee Development (TFD-02/FIJ/005, US\$10 000)
- Income Generation Project for Rural Youth Farmers (TFD-02/FIJ/006, US\$10 000)
- Savurura Rural Water Utilization Project (TFD-05/FIJ/001, US\$10 000)
- Integrated Crop Farming Project (TFD-04/FIJ/001, US\$3 636)
- Pig Farming Qara Youth Group (TFD-04/FIJ/002, US\$4 030)
- Pig Farming Ulunikoro Youth (TFD-04/FIJ/003, US\$4 020)
- Integrated Crop Farming Project (TFD-03/FIJ/001, US\$8 405)

Kiribati

Plant Production and Protection

- Technical assistance on obsolete pesticides stock piles and on the use and application of bio-pesticides (BT) in vegetable gardens for the control of Lepidoptera pests.
- Fruit Fly Survey in the Lines and Phoenix Group
- Reconfirming the non-presence of the Melon Fly on Christmas Island.
- Identification of suitable sites for the narrow pits system for growing root crops
- Management of Rats in Coconut Plantations (TCP/KIR/0165, US\$304 000)
- Assistance to Small-Scale Atoll Farmers Cultivating Sigatoka Disease Free Bananas for Food Security in Kiribati (TCP/KIR/3002, US\$211 323)
- Establishment of Vegetable Garden to provide Supplement to Student's diet in Private Boarding Schools on Outer Islands (TFD-01/KIR/001, US\$7 461)

Fisheries

- Feasibility study on the development of shrimp (*Litopenaeus stylirostris*) farming
- Study on ecological and socio-economic factors in seaweed farming
- NPOA for IUU Fishing in Kiribati (TCP/KIR/3101, US\$56 082)

Food and Nutrition

- Feasibility Study on Food Processing to assess the economic aspects of a planned Agri-Food Processing Project in Kiribati to utilize local crops and create income for rural populations
- Food Processing (TCP/KIR/3101, US\$56 082): technical assistance to develop value added products utilizing a range of local crops and train food processors in food safety/HACCP

TeleFood

- Establishment of root crop nurseries to generate planting materials to assist household food production on selected atoll islands (TFD-99/KIR/001, US\$9 800)

- Dry Sow Pen (TFD-00/KIR/002, US\$5 000)
- Establishment of Vegetable Garden to provide to Student's Diet in private boarding schools on Outer Islands (TFD-00/KIR/003, US\$5 164)

Nauru

Plant Production and Protection

- FAO commissioned a hydroponics expert to visit in response to a government request to conduct a feasibility study on growing local vegetables using hydroponics
- Introduction of plants through tissue culture (banana)
- Strengthening Integrated Pest Management of Coconut Hispid Beetle (*Brontispa Longissima Gestro*) in Nauru (TCP/NAU/2901, US\$91 341)
- Assistance to Small-Scale Atoll Farmers in the Cultivation of Disease-Free Bananas for Food security in Nauru (TCP/NAU/3101, US\$192 000)

Fisheries

- National Plan of Action-IUU for Nauru (TCP/NAU/3201, US\$18 807)
- Milkfish Farming and Environment Impact Assessment in Nauru (TCP/NAU/3201, US\$39 493)

Policy

- Formulation of Nauru Strategic Plan for the Development of Agriculture

TeleFood

- Establishment of duck Farming and Food Subsistence for Aiwo Community (TFD-05/NAU/001, US\$10 000)
- Establishment of Piggery Farming and Food Subsistence for Yaren Community (TFD-05/NAU002, (US\$10 000)
- Establishment of Piggery Farming and Food Subsistence for Dening Community (TFD-05/NAU/003, US\$10 000)
- Establishment of Piggery Farming and Food Subsistence for Ijuw Community (TFD-04/NAU/001, US\$10 000)

Niue

Plant Production and Protection

- Developing an Appropriate Irrigation Scheduling Strategy for the Intensification of Import Substitution Agriculture (TCP/NIU/3001, US\$153 903)

Food and Nutrition

- Training in small-scale meat processing and food safety

Forestry

- Development of Niue Forestry Legislation (TCP/NIU/3101, US\$133 833)

Policy

- Assistance for Niue preparation for the national agriculture census (TCP/NIU/3101, US\$133 833)
- Assistance to the Processing of the Niue National Agricultural Census (TCP/NIU/3301, US\$37 980)

Emergency Assistance

- Emergency Assistance following Tropical Cyclone Heta (TCP/NIU/3003, US\$294 797)

TeleFood

- Icing of Fishing products (TFD-99/NIU/002, US\$9 750)
- Establishment of Taro Cleaning Centres (TFD-99/NIU/003, US\$9 370)
- Re-establishment of Hakupu Marine Conservation Area (TFD-00/NIU/001, US\$6 965)
- Upgrading Pig Production (TFD-01/NIU/001, US\$9 637)
- Constructions of Pig Pens (TFD-04/NIU/001, US\$10 000)

Palau

Fisheries

- Case study on Marine Protected Areas MPA

Food and Nutrition

- Technical assistance to finalize food processing manual

Farming System Development and Marketing

- Capacity Building in Farm Management, Marketing and Value-adding Technologies for Sustainable Livelihoods (TCP/PAL/2801, US\$210 055)
- Central Market Feasibility Study and Post-Harvest Handling Improvements (TCP/PAL/2902, US\$197 108)

TeleFood

- Ngerchelung Gardeners' Association (NGA) Garden (TFD-01/PAL/001, US\$9 850)
- Dirkkemlei Club Extended Value Adding for Improvement Family Security (TFD-01/PAL/002, US\$9 409)
- Buuch Club Income Generation from Food Processing (TFD-01/PAL/003, US\$6 731)
- Family Farm Club-Pigs and Chickens for Profit (TFD-05/PAL/001, US\$3 786)

Papua New Guinea

Plant Production and Protection

- Small-Scale Irrigation Development (TCP/PNG/8821, US\$279 000)

Fisheries

- Study on the formulation of national fisheries management plan for sharks
- Study on stock assessment of Sepik river system
- Sustainable Development of National Fisheries and Support of Food Security (TCP/PNG/6712, US\$283 000)
- Strengthening National Capacity for Fisheries Conservation and Management (TCP/PNG/5611, US\$102 720)
- Development of a national strategy for trawl bycatch management in PNG (TCP/PNG/3301, US\$48 658)

Food and Nutrition

- Special Programme for Food Production in Support of Food Security in Papua New Guinea (SPFP/PNG/4501, US\$1 014 612)

Forestry

- Case study on harvesting practices in natural tropical rainforests in PNG
- Eaglewood Management (TCP/PNG/2901, US\$349 337)

Farming System Development and Marketing

- Capacity Building for Improved Agricultural Marketing and Farm Management (TCP/PNG/0165, US\$143 721 and TCP/PNG/3001, US\$108 251)

Policy and Statistics

- Assistance in Establishing a National Agricultural Research Institute (TCP/PNG/4551, US\$251 000)
- Support for the Formulation of a National Agriculture Development Plan (2006-2010) (TCP/PNG/3003, US\$345 056)
- Formulation of a Framework for Improving the Agricultural Statistical System (TCP/PNG/3202, US\$ 82 247)

TeleFood

- Commercial Poultry Farming at Nainumu, Central Province (TFD-00/PNG/003, US\$1 820)
- Pilot Commercial Farming (TFD-99/PNG/002, US\$1 925)
- Pilot Commercial Poultry Farming (TFD-99/PNG/003, US\$1 910)
- Women involvement in nurseries and village livestock (TFD-99/PNG/004, US\$3 765)
- Fruit tree seedling production and distribution at Eight-mile Port Moresby (TFD-99/PNG/005, US\$8 610)
- Loni poultry project (TFD-07/PNG/001, US\$9 996)
- Breeding layers birds (TFD-07/PNG/002, US\$10 000)
- Aquaculture Development in Malabunga Secondary School (TFD-07/PNG/003, US\$9 060)

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Plant Production and Protection

- Technical assistance to Integrated Pest Management (IPM) on red spider mites in backyard vegetable gardens (capsicum, eggplant and papaya)

- Guidance on international conventions on bio-security
- Assistance to Small-Scale Atoll Farmers Cultivating Sigatoka Disease-Free Bananas for Food Security in the Marshall Islands (TCP/MAS/2903, US\$248 161)

Fisheries

- Seaweed Cultivation in Marshall Islands (TCP/MAS/2801, US\$95 164)
- Risk assessment in aquaculture development in RMI (TCP/MAS/3101, US\$146 167)

Food and Nutrition

- Development of educational material and training on promoting traditional crops (pandanus)
- Assessment of food supply vulnerability at both national and household level

Forestry

- Assistance to Marshall Islands in Looking at Feasibility of Coconut Wood Utilization (TCP/MAS/2901, US\$12 355)

Policy and Statistics

- Strengthening Food and Agricultural Statistics (TCP/MAS/3101, US\$57 000)
- Food supply vulnerability assessment and policy to address soaring food prices (TCP/MAS/3202, US\$52 451)

Climate Change

- Assess the impact of climate change in the Marshall Islands (TCP/MAS/3101, US\$146 167)

TeleFood

- Improving of Local Chicken Production Lomajurok (TFD-00/MAS/002, US\$9 300)
- Nallu Mile Fishing Project (TFD-01/MAS/001, US\$10 000)
- Laura Fish Processing Project (TFD-05/MAS/001, US\$9 206)
- Amea Chicken Farm (TFD-05/MAS/002, US\$7 953)
- Rogelap Piggery Project (TFD-05/MAS/003, US\$9 900)
- Tolojen Piggery Project (TFD-07/MAS/001, US\$9 800)

Samoa

Plant Production and Protection

- Review of Quarantine Legislation to meet WTO requirements in trade and in relation to International Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) framework
- Coordination of fruit piercing moth survey to determine the impact of this pest on fruit production
- Technical assistance on Quarantine Measures for Organic Banana Export to New Zealand
- Promotion of organic growing and restricted use of chemicals
- Activities relating to Pestnet, especially on the awareness of the gall wasps on Erythrina plants
- Crop scheduling for vegetable production during South Pacific Games
- Control of Giant African Snail (TCP/SAM/6612, US\$169 000)
- Fruit Tree Development (SAM/98/002, US\$703 000)
- Re-establishing Samoa's traditional staple food (taro) through rapid propagation of tolerant leaf blight varieties (TCP/SAM/0165, US\$195 200)
- Low-cost Small Scale Irrigation Project in Support of the Special Programme for Food Security (TCP/SAM/2902, US\$201 359)
- Exploring potential of selected agricultural based crops as alternative source of bio-fuel in Samoa (TCP/SAM/3101, US\$72 886)
- Assessment of Options for Collection and Recycling of Pesticide Containers in Samoa

Livestock

- Milk Production and Small Scale Milk Processing (TCP/SAM/6611, US\$282 000)

Fisheries

- Samoa Fish Poster
- Case study on Marine Protected Areas

Food and Nutrition

- Assistance with National Plan of Action on Food and Nutrition

- Video spots to promote better nutritional habits and hygienic food preparation methods in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific Institute for Research Extension and Training in Agriculture (IRETA) and the Nutrition Unit of the Health Department
- Production of a book of traditional Samoan recipes
- Survey on the status of the food industry
- Technical assistance on HACCP and food processing to private sector food processors
- Technical assistance to develop a Meat Hygiene Legislation
- Support to post-harvest research and capacity building at Research and Development Institute of Samoa to improve shelf-life/packaging and product quality of breadfruit and papaya

Forestry

- Assistance with updating data and information on tree and forest resources
- Improvement of conservation and protected area management through GEF-PAS Forestry and Protected Area Management regional project
- Watershed Management and Conservation Education Project (SAM/92/003, US\$786 121)
- Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of Samoa Forestry Division to Effectively Plan and Manage Forest Resources (TCP/SAM/2901, US\$228 807)

Farming System Development and Marketing

- Apiculture Development Strategy (TCP/SAM/4551, US\$99 000)
- Capacity Building in Agribusiness, Marketing of Agricultural Produce and Farm Management for Young Farmer Groups (TCP/SAM/3003, US\$202 455)
- Capacity building in organic farming and processing of organically certified and Fair Trade labelled agricultural produce for local and export niche markets (TCP/SAM/3202, US\$230 000)
- Post-harvest research and technology (TCP/SAM/3101, US\$72 886)

Policy and Statistics

- Formulation of the Fruits and Vegetables Strategy
- Agricultural Census and Statistics (TCP/SAM/8921, US\$244 000)
- Sector Plan for Agriculture in Samoa (TCP/SAM/3201)
- Quality Management Accreditation of the Scientific Research Organization of Samoa (TCP/SAM/3201, US\$32 876)

Integrated Natural Resources Management

- Publication of Organic Agriculture in Samoa
- Water Irrigation (with Samoa Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forests and Meteorology)

Emergency Assistance

- Emergency Assistance following Tropical Cyclone Heta (TCP/SAM/3002, US\$281 497)
- Emergency Assistance to Support the Recovery of Agriculture and Fisheries Livelihoods Systems of Tsunami Affected Families in Samoa (TCP/SAM/3301, US\$259 000)

FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific Islands (cover Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu)

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