



ACTIVITY REPORT

for

FFA/ GEF/ABNJ/FAO/NZMFAT/AFMA supported

CERTIFICATE IV IN FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Honiara, Solomon Islands, 05 – 30 October 2015



FFA



FFA
PACIFIC ISLANDS
FORUM FISHERIES
AGENCY



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Contents

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 1.1 | TITLE OF ACTIVITY..... | 1 |
| 1.2 | IMPLEMENTING UNIT..... | 1 |
| 1.3 | VENUE AND DATE | 1 |
| 1.4 | TYPE OF ACTIVITY | 1 |
| 1.5 | FUNDED BY | 2 |
| 1.6 | ACTUAL COST..... | 2 |
| 1.7 | PARTICIPANTS PROFILE | 2 |
| 2. | ACHIEVEMENTS | 2 |
| 2.1 | OBJECTIVES..... | 2 |
| 2.2 | OUTCOMES..... | 2 |
| 2.3 | DELIVERABLES | 3 |
| 3. | CONCLUSIONS | 4 |
| 3.1 | RESOLUTIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS | 6 |
| APPENDICES | | |
| | APPENDIX 1: TIMETABLE..... | 7 |
| | APPENDIX 2: PARTICIPANTS LIST..... | 11 |
| | APPENDIX 3: TRANSCRIPT and PERSONNEL TRAINING REPORT..... | 14 |
| | APPENDIX 4: TRAINING PERFORMANCE METRICS..... | 16 |

1. INTRODUCTION

Fisheries enforcement and compliance is critical for the management of the regions tuna and oceanic resources. The need for a consolidated MCS study programme was identified by regional stakeholders at the MCS Working Group meetings run by the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA). Since 2012 FFA members have called for greater recognition of MCS and effective fisheries management. It was identified that this could be achieved by an MCS practitioners' introductory training programme. This programme has been developed by FFA in close consultation with the relevant industries. It defines the important relationships between MCS capacity at national and regional levels. It was an identified outcome of a training needs analysis undertaken by FFA within member countries.

The first MCS training programme, which is comprised of four courses was delivered by FFA and Ministry for Primary Industries of New Zealand (MPI) staff with a couple of consultants plus observation and validation by The University of the South Pacific (USP) in 2014. USP accreditation and qualification paperwork was progressing through Senate for Council endorsement during the period of the October 2015 delivery. FFA and partner trainers refined their teaching resources to better align with the curriculum and competency standards for the anticipated Certificate IV in Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance (Cert IV FEC) for delivery of the second edition of these courses.

In his opening address the Director General of FFA, Mr James Movick said, "I want to thank the FAO for their project funding support to this activity, and acknowledge USP's role in formally accrediting this technical skills-based qualification. I also want to thank you all, for taking the time to participate in the course. This training is part of FFA's efforts to increase the professionalization of our Pacific MCS officers. For many years, FFA has conducted ad-hoc training courses then issued a piece of paper and participants go back home. However, in terms of building career potential and broadening that career in other fields, this piece of paper cannot be used. This new accredited process can now help persuade Governments to pay more attention to MCS officers in terms of career options and to build professional positions with properly accredited qualifications".

1.1 TITLE OF ACTIVITY

Certificate IV in Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance Training Course

1.2 IMPLEMENTING UNIT

Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) Fisheries Operations Division

1.3 VENUE AND DATE

The training was held at the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) in Honiara, Solomon Islands from 05 – 30 October 2015. The venue was the FFA's Conference Centre for two weeks followed by the Library Conference Room for the second couple of weeks. Accommodation for the participants was booked and provided by FFA at Honiara Hotel.

1.4 TYPE OF ACTIVITY

This was a training course with competency based assessment conducted against all performance criteria that aligned with elements of the competency standards. The timetable is given in Appendix 1. It was adjusted once as circumstances required by mutual agreement between affected lecturers and students.

All resource material was made available **electronically** for participants. Each participant was provided with the link to the local shared drive containing all resource material to be used, during registration on Monday 05 October followed by minimal handouts during the training course. Prior to attending the training course, participants were urged to access study material online at the link: http://www.ffa.int/mcs_course with Username: **mcscourse** and Password: **mcsp@rticipant\$** where the latest versions of the timetable and student guides were uploaded.

1.5 FUNDED BY

This year, the training was delivered by qualified trainers supported by the Common Oceans/ABNJ Tuna Project coordinated by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand via MPI and the Australia Fisheries Management Authority.

1.6 ACTUAL COST

Total expenses amounted to approximately USD 163,305.88 from a budget of USD 200,000. However a couple of outstanding bills amounting to about USD 38,520.40 will fully utilise the budget with a projected potential overspend of no more than USD 1,826.28.

1.7 PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

In total, 16 fisheries MCS and/or surveillance officers were trained and they came from 8 FFA Member countries, namely Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Six of this total were female trainees. The list of participants is given in Appendix 2. All these fisheries officers were involved in MCS or surveillance work and some were experienced having worked in their respective countries for several years. However, being MCS practitioners and being knowledgeable about their national processes did not necessarily translate into being aware of or technically knowledgeable about regional arrangements and how monitoring, control and surveillance contributed to sustainable fisheries management. Trainee numbers were maintained at an optimum level for individual competency assessments which will be later qualified through USP's recognition of prior learning process.

2. ACHIEVEMENTS

The demonstration of skills through interviewing exercises, a moot court, investigative boarding of a fishing vessel anchored within the port of Honiara and documentation of notes and evidence enabled trainees to participate in real-life scenarios that are directly related to their work. The FFA vessel monitoring system exercise allowed for regional cooperation in tracking IUU fishing and actual analysis of operational data using actual forms and templates that FFA provided in a mock database.

2.1 OBJECTIVES

The objective of the training programme was to deliver a course that provided the technical and practical skills and knowledge expected of competent MCS Officers. The Cert IV FEC programme covers curricula that comply with standards of competency related to demonstrating knowledge of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) Fishery, MCS concepts and legal frameworks. This programme also helps students to apply MCS tools to effective fisheries management and contribute to effective MCS activities as well as operational planning and coordination. Finally students will be able to contribute to regional cooperation in MCS activities and apply occupational health and safety requirements.

2.2 OUTCOMES

The training was successfully delivered by a total of thirteen qualified trainers ten of whom were FFA employees Filimon Manoni, Pole Atanraoi-Reim, Pamela Maru, Ian Freeman, Apolosi Turaganivalu, Peter Graham, Allan Rahari, Ramesh Chand and Kenneth Katafono. FFA Legal Adviser, Tion Nabau and SPC Observer

Coordinator, Timothy Park provided guest lectures while MPI trainer Pete Southen and AFMA trainer Derek Marshall delivered substantial portions of various courses.

All participants were assessed as competent, some after their second or third attempt at demonstrating their knowledge and skills during the various set tasks and exercises. The participants were awarded with a transcript of results (Appendix 3) and their Superiors were sent a single-page personnel training report to assist with future training and succession planning. Certificates will be awarded by USP using the recognition of prior learning process once Council endorses the qualification.

2.3 DELIVERABLES

1. Topics covered included:

| Course Code | Course Name | Course Description | Unit of Competency |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CEFC41 | Introduction to Governance and Legal Frameworks | This course describes the performance criteria, learning outcomes, skills and knowledge required to adopt and apply good governance procedures and practices when undertaking Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) activities. It also requires an MCS Officer to apply knowledge of international, regional and national legal frameworks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) fisheries and MCS concepts to work effectively as an MCS Officer. This includes demonstrating knowledge of the role and function of various legal instruments, effective implementation constraints and the range of jurisdictional powers. | MCS4–02A Apply good governance in MCS activities MCS4–03A Work effectively as an MCS Officer |
| CEFC42 | Introduction to Fisheries Management | This course describes the performance criteria, learning outcomes, skills and knowledge required to apply Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) fisheries management concepts in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) fishery into day-to-day MCS activities. This includes demonstrating knowledge of offshore and near shore fisheries, common fishing methods, main commercial fishing methods, main pelagic oceanic fish caught, major fleets operating in the WCPO, the challenges benefits and interests relating to fisheries sustainability and domestication plus fisheries management principles. | MCS4–03A Work effectively as an MCS Officer |
| CEFC43 | Operational Planning and Enforcement Processes | This course describes the performance criteria, learning outcomes, skills and knowledge required of for a Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Officer to contribute to effective operational planning and coordination, including use of operational orders and the effective use of national and regional surveillance assets. Inherent in operational planning and coordination are the importance and advantages of regional cooperation in MCS processes and activities. This includes contributing to effective MCS activities such as participating in inspection activities, conducting interviews and interventions, producing written statements, documenting an investigation and participating in prosecution processes. | MCS4–05A Contribute to effective MCS activities MCS4–06A Contribute to MCS Operational Planning and Coordination |



Front L – R: Shaunalee (Samoa), Jan (Solomon Is), Jino (Vanuatu), Charlyn (Solomon Is), Seini (Fiji) and Kuraiti (Cook Is)
 Back L – R: Victor (Palau), Melvin (RMI), Mark (RMI), McQuiston (Palau), Unaisi (Fiji), Camalus (Nauru),
 Josaia (Fiji), Douglas (Solomon Is), Elton (Nauru) and Mackenly (Vanuatu – partially obscured)

| Course Code | Course Name | Course Description | Unit of Competency |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CEFC44 | MCS Role and Monitoring Tools | This course describes the performance criteria, learning outcomes, skills and knowledge required of for a Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Officer to follow appropriate social principles and practice good governance procedures when undertaking MCS activities. This includes the application of occupational health and safety requirements relating to personal and workplace safety. Demonstrating knowledge of MCS concepts is the ability to explain the role of MCS in fisheries management, understanding general fisheries compliance theory and behaviour and applying risk management to integrated fisheries management. Application of MCS tools involves licensing and access mechanisms, referencing IUU lists, participation in port state measures, knowledge of the operational role of fisheries observers and the use of data systems that support MCS processes and activities. | <p>MCS4–01A Meet Occupational Health and Safety Requirements</p> <p>MCS4–02A Apply social principles in MCS activities</p> <p>MCS4–03A Work effectively as MCS Officer</p> <p>MCS4–04A Contribute in applying MCS tools to effective fisheries management</p> |

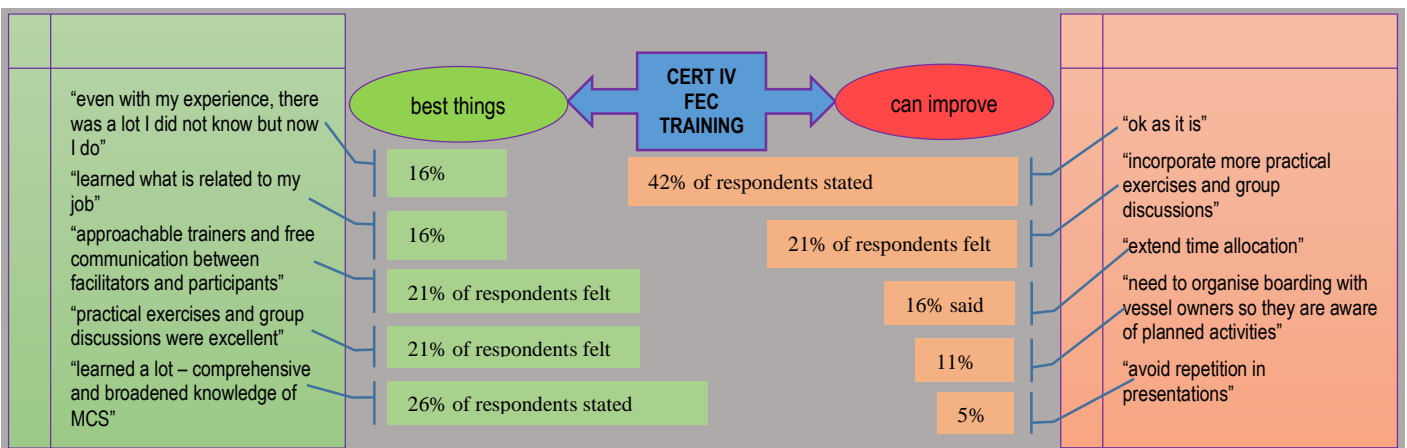
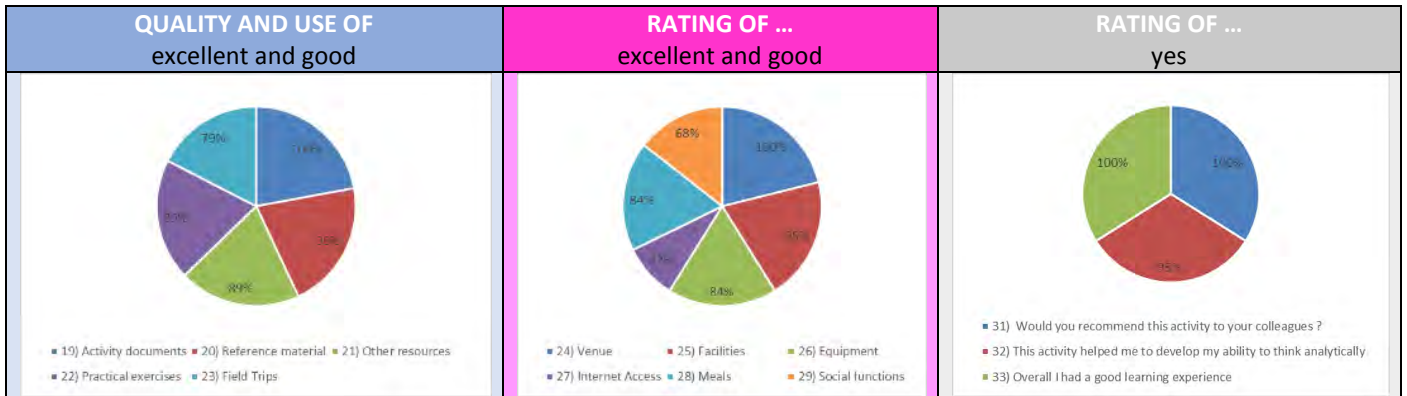
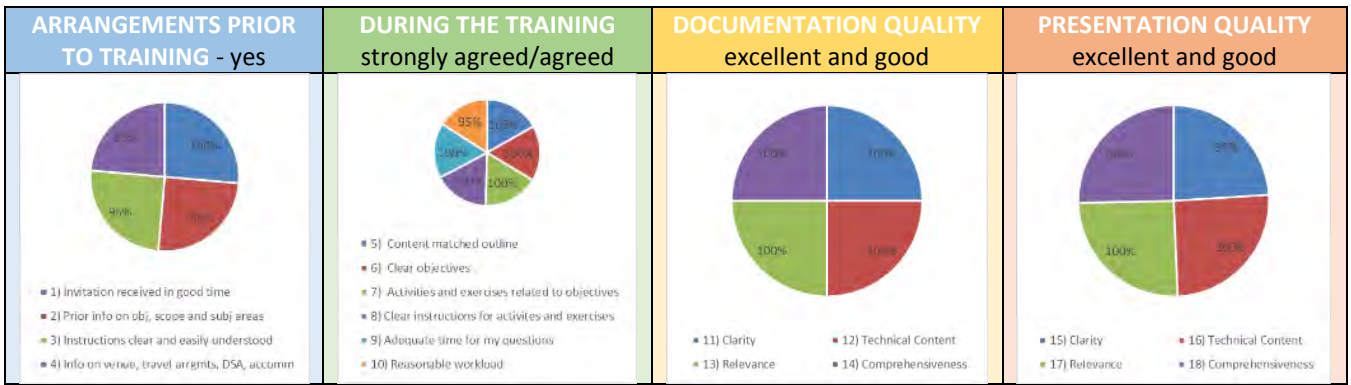


3. CONCLUSIONS

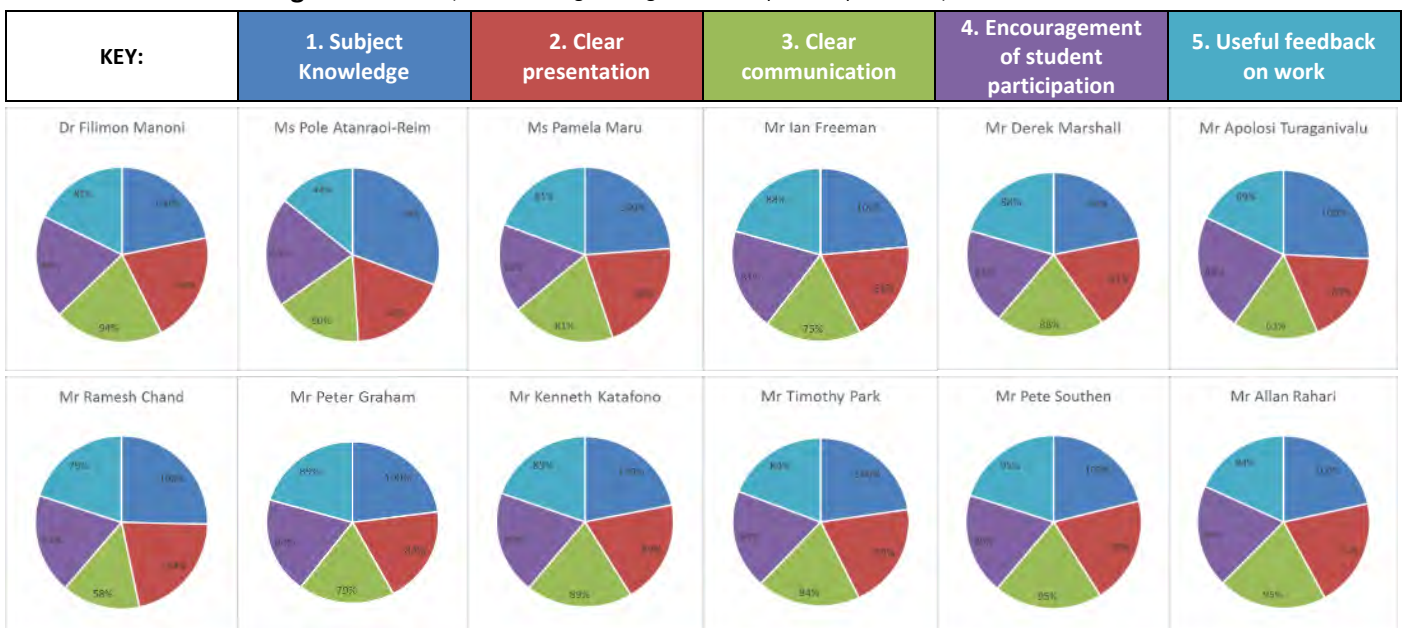
For the purpose of continual improvement of the teaching methods and assessments, participants were asked to provide feedback upon completion of the study programme (Appendix 4). The general feedback was positive and the most popular tasks were practical exercises and group discussions as summarised below.

CERTIFICATE IV IN FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Feedback from trainees to October 2016 regional study programme held at FFA in Honiara



Individual Trainer Rating – excellent (all other ratings were good with scope for improvement)





General conclusions from FFA, NZ MPI and AFMA trainers was that the courses were better structured and practical exercises had improved compared to the previous year. Feedback from participants was also more constructive as opposed to the popularity contest that seemed to dominate the previous rating of trainers. A point was noted that training of trainers could also have led to improved understanding of how to deliver training to adults and how to assess skills against criteria for competence.

3.1 RESOLUTIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

The next course to be run for Fiji through USP in 2016 will be conducted over 8 months with each course allowing participants 6 weeks for online work to be completed before face-to-face components are delivered incountry then competency assessments are undertaken. This will allow two trainers/assessors per course to travel incountry for two weeks to complete all aspects of the course before participants are directed to the online components for the next course. Incountry experts could also be utilised to assist with competency assessments for larger scale practical exercises such as boarding and inspection or the moot court.

Within a year, the study programme will be completed and those who were successfully assessed as competent for every element of the performance criteria will qualify for certification. Each assessment allows three attempts for participants to demonstrate competency. If funding permits, a trial for the Micronesian sub-region (Palau, RMI, FSM and Nauru) will also be conducted through the USP satellite campus with a week of travel to Majuro for assessments. Face-to-face components can be trialled via streaming lectures (or videos) and online discussion forums.

The FFC-endorsed Regional Fisheries Training Framework should leverage attention from members of what more to expect at future FFA-USP training courses and it should be noted that after the initial three years of scholarship awards, students will be expected to pay for their own studies or be sponsored by their departments. Members could consider a capacity building levy from license access fees to support continual upskilling of MCS staff.

FFA Training Adviser