



NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON MSG INSHORE FISHERIES EDUCATION PROJECT IN VANUATU

The Vanuatu national consultation on the implementation of the second objective of the

MSG Roadmap for Inshore Fisheries Management and Sustainable Development was conducted at the MSG Secretariat Office on Tuesday, 20 January, 2015.

The development of the MSG Roadmap for Inshore Fisheries was a decision made by the MSG Leaders at the Special Summit held in Suva in March 2012. The Roadmap provides the strategic direction relevant to the MSG Members' inshore fisheries sectors, policies and legislation and it provides a detailed structure for its implementation. There are three key objectives of the Roadmap and Objective 2 relates to "Education, awareness raising and provision of information on the importance and management of inshore fisheries to all stakeholders."

In line with Objective 2, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) with support from the NZ-South-South Cooperation Program in collaboration with the MSG Secretariat will be implementing a pilot project on fisheries education for schools in Vanuatu. The Project involves the development of a fisheries resource kit for Vanuatu teachers. The resource kit would contain basic information on fisheries, suggestions for exercise and activities for primary and secondary students, learning outcomes and curriculum links.

The national consultation in Vanuatu was facilitated by staff of the Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Division of SPC and the MSG Secretariat and attended by Officials from Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Education, Technical and Vocational Education Centre, Vanuatu Teachers College and a number of primary and secondary school teachers. The consultation provided the opportunity to discuss with the key stakeholders the key components of the Project. The next steps of the Project would involve the contextualizing of the materials to the Vanuatu context and then development of the Teacher's Resource Kit on Fisheries for Vanuatu. The SPC had implemented a similar project in the Cook Islands IN 2014.

This Project would be the first joint initiative by SPC and the MSG towards the implementation of the MSG Roadmap as both organizations recognize the urgent need for sustainable management of inshore fisheries in the region, given that majority of the population of Melanesia is dependent on inshore fisheries for their subsistence and local economic needs.

The MSG Secretariat acknowledged with gratitude and appreciation the technical assistance provided by SPC and added this was another positive step forward in

collaboration with SPC not only towards the achievement of the vision of our Leaders but to instil the values and practice of sustainable use and conservation in the younger generation within our Melanesian communities.

Authorized by the

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