
Tuvalu National FAD Programme

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Résumé

The Tuvalu National Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Programme was initiated back in the early 80s when FADs were first introduced to Tuvalu by the South Pacific Commission now known as the Secretariat of the Pacific Commission. Since their introduction to the late 80s, a total number of 20 - 25 devices were deployed. The programme was revived in the early 90s on funding under the Deep Water Snapper Project with a total of 11 FADs for the country each distributed to all the islands. The programme became non-active and finally stops in 2000. In 2010, it was revived again with funding from the Government of Tuvalu of 8 units. Lack of financial support from aid donors and the government hindered the development and continuity of the programme. This has led to increasing pressure to the inshore reef fisheries on all islands that causes overfishing in the past years. The latest change in approach of the programme in 2010 is by handing over of unit devices ownership to Fishermen Associations on each island to manage, maintain and replace if needed. Each Fishermen Association was provided with data sheets for data collection. A variety of species were fished from different fishing methods around FADs but the most common species that also targeted is tuna. Reports from fishers indicated that the programme has benefited fishers' and their fishing businesses as they now earned profits as well as communities with an ongoing supply of fish.

Mots-Clés: Tuvalu, FAD, Programme

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