

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION PAMPHLET

### COMMUNITY BASED MANAGEMENT THROUGH SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Traditionally, the people of Tonga have had the freedom to harvest resources from the sea without any restrictions as the sea belongs to the Crown in Tongan Law. In the past there was no need to control the harvest of these resources as the population was low and the fishing technology rudimentary. It is now clear that in some parts of Tonga some species have been overfished. Some notable examples in Tonga would be Giant Clams, Sea Cucumbers and Mullet. Many Tongan Communities rely on the products of the sea for their sustenance, both for food and income. If Tongans are to continue to benefit from the produce of the sea we must use these resources with care.



To ensure that there are marine resources available for our children, and their children in the future, the people of Tonga must use the resources wisely now. This is best achieved by working together; that is fishers, communities and government. In the past the government has managed fisheries from a central office – this has not worked well in all cases due to a lack of awareness of the fisheries regulations and their purpose, and the difficulties with enforcing fisheries regulations in remote areas. Involving communities in the management of inshore areas will increase awareness and implementation of responsible fishing and empower communities to manage their local resources to ensure these resources will still be able to provide food for their communities now and into the future. It is up to communities to decide if they are prepared to undertake the responsibility of managing the sea area adjacent to their communities. If they accept that they want to manage their own future they can apply to the Department of Fisheries to undertake the Community Development Process and be designated a Coastal Community.

- The Fisheries Management Act 2002 (FMA) provides for community involvement in inshore area management by a provision for the declaration of any area of the fisheries waters and corresponding subjacent area to be a **Special Management Area** for purposes of;
  - • Coastal Community management
  - • Application of certain conservation and management measures
  - • Subsistence fishing operations or other specified purposes
- A community can apply to the Minister for Fisheries to be designated a Coastal Community, and the Minister may declare a **Special Management Area** to be managed by the Community - provided they develop an approved Coastal Community Management Plan.

The Minister, in declaring a Special Management Area, will take into account the concerns of other communities living adjacent to that area. In order to meet the responsibilities under the FMA, the Minister needs to be assured that the a designated Coastal Community allocated a Special Management Area, will conserve and manage that area - this is demonstrated in a Coastal Community Management Plan. It is required that the Coastal Community will have developed a Coastal Community Management Plan which details how the community will manage, monitor and use the Special Management Area.

In consultation with the Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (a committee established to advise the Minister for Fisheries) and the Coastal Community responsible for a Special Management Area, the Ministry may make regulations applying to that particular Special Management Area to support the implementation of the Coastal Community Management Plan.

Management and monitoring of a Special Management Area, consistent with the approved Coastal Community Management Plan, is the responsibility of the Community. Failure to effectively implement the management plan may result in damage and decrease of marine resources, and the loss, by order of the Minister, of the allocated Special Management Area .

To ensure the Coastal Community has a clear understanding of its responsibilities and that the plan has been formed to best address the communities needs and to meet the communities goals, the Department of Fisheries assists the community in a thorough process of consultation and planning.

For more information please contact the Department of Fisheries on 21399 (Sopu), 60399 (Ha'apai), and 70399 (Vava'u).

# PEPA MA'U 'ANGA FAKAMATALA KI HE NGAahi TUPUI KOLO

## KO E PULE'I FAKAKOLO' 'O FAKAFOU HE NGAahi FEITU'U PULE'I MAKEHE

'I hotau nofo fakafonua, na'e tau'ataina pe ke tau fangota mo toutai'i ta'efakangatangata 'a e ngaahi me'a mo'ui 'i tahi, koe'uhi na'e pule faka'aufuli pe 'a tahi 'e he Pule'anga 'o fakatatau ki he Lao 'o Tonga. 'I he kuohili, na'e 'ikai fiema'u ke pule'i 'a e toutai 'o e ngaahi me'a mo'ui ko 'eni, he na'e kei tokosi'i pe 'a e nofo pea te'eki ke fakalalakala 'a e tekinolosia fakatoutai. 'I he taimi ni, kuo mahino ia 'i he ngaahi feitu'u 'i Tonga ni 'a hono toutai'i tavale 'a e ngaahi me'a mo'ui 'e ni'ihii 'o hange ko e vasuva, mokohunu mo e kanahe. 'Oku lahi 'a e ngaahi tupui kolo 'i Tonga ni 'oku nau falala mei he ngaahi me'a mo'ui mei tahi koe'uhi ko 'enau ngaahi fiema'u fakame'atokoni mo fakapa'anga. Kapau 'e hokohokoatu pe 'a e ma'u 'e he kakai Tonga 'a e ngaahi monu'ia mei tahi, kuo pau leva ke tau ngaue'aki lelei 'a e ngaahi me'a mo'ui ko ia.



Ko hono fakapapau'i 'e toe lahi pe 'a e ngaahi me'a mo'ui 'i tahi ma'a hotau fanau, pea mo honau fanau 'i he kaha'u, kuo pau ke ngaue'aki fakapotopoto 'e he kakai Tonga 'a e ngaahi me'a moui mei tahi he taimi ni. Ko e founga lelei taha pe ke a'usia eni ko e ngaue fakataha; 'a e kau toutai, ngaahi tupui kolo mo e pule'anga. 'I he kuohili, na'e pule'i pe 'e he pule'anga 'a e toutai mei ha 'ofisi pule – ka na'e 'ikai ola lelei 'a e founga ngaue ko eni ki he ngaahi me'a lahi, tupunga mei he si'i 'a e 'ilo 'a e kakai ki he ngaahi lao toutai mo e ngaahi taumu'a, pehe foki ki he faingata'a hono fakahoko 'a e ngaahi lao toutai 'i he ngaahi feitu'u mama'o. Ko hono fakakau mai 'a e ngaahi tupui kolo ki hono pule'i 'a e ngaahi potu tahi mamaha, 'e lava ai ke toe lahi ange 'a e 'ilo mo hono fakahoko 'a e toutai fakapotopoto mo 'oange 'a e mafai kiate kinautolu ke nau pule'i e ngaahi me'a mo'ui 'i honau kongatahi ke fakapapau'i 'e 'inasi mei ai 'a e kakai 'o e kolo 'i he 'aho ni mo e kaha'u foki. Ko e me'a ia 'a e kolo ke nau fakapapau'i 'oku nau mateuteu ke fakahoko 'a e ngaahi fatongia ki hono pule'i e kongatahi 'oku takatakai'i honau kolo. Kapau 'oku nau loto ke nau pule'i ma'ae kaha'u, 'e ngofua ke nau kole ki he Potungae Toutai ke fakahoko 'a e Fokotu'utu'u Ngaue ki he Fakalalakala 'o e Kolo (Community Development Process) pea ke vahe'i ke hoko ko ha Kolo Matatahi.

- 'Oku 'omai 'e he Lao ki hono Pule'i 'o e Toutai 2002, 'a hono fakakau mai 'a e ngaahi kolo ki hono pule'i ha kongatahi mamaha, 'o makatu'unga 'i hono vahe'i ha 'elia 'i he ngaahi tahi toutai'anga mo ha 'elia pe 'oku fekau'aki mo ia, ke hoko ko ha **Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe** ki he ngaahi taumu'a ke;
- ● Pule'i 'e he Kolo Matatahi
- ● Fakahoko e ngaahi ngaue fakatolonga mo pule'i
- ● Ngaue fakatoutai 'oku taumu'a ki he ma'ume'atokoni 'a e famili pe ko ha toe 'uhinga kehe
- 'E ngofua ki ha kolo ke ne kole ki he Minisita Toutai ke vahe'i ia ke hoko ko ha Kolo Matatahi, pea 'e ngofua ki he Minisita ke ne fakaha ha **Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe** ke pule'i 'e he Kolo ko ia – ka kuo pau ke 'uluaki fa'u mo tali 'enau Palani ki hono Pule'i 'a e Kolo Matatahi ko ia.

Kuo pau ki he Minisita, 'i ha'ane vahe'i ha Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe, ke ne fakakaukau'i 'a e ngaahi me'a 'oku tokanga ki ai 'a e ngaahi tupui kolo 'oku ofi ki he feitu'u ko ia. Ko e hoa mo e ngaahi fatongia 'oku ha atu 'i he Lao ki hono Pule'i 'o e Toutai 2002, 'oku fiema'u ai ke fakapapau'i 'e he Minisita 'e fakatolonga mo pule'i 'a e feitu'u ko ia 'e he Kolo Matatahi kuo vahe'i ki ai 'a e Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe – 'a ia 'e ha ia 'i honau Palani. 'Oku fiema'u ia ke fa'u 'e he Kolo Matatahi ha Palani ki hono Pule'i honau Kolo Matatahi, 'a ia 'oku fakamatala'i ai 'a e anga hono pule'i 'e he kolo, mo hono tokanga'i mo ngaue'aki 'a e Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe ko ia.

'I he fealea'aki 'a e Komiti Fale'i ki he Toutai (ko e komiti kuo fokotu'u ke fale'i 'a e Minisita Toutai) pea mo e Kolo Matatahi 'oku 'a'ana 'a e Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe, 'e ngofua ke fa'u 'e he Minisita ha ngaahi tu'utu'uni fekau'aki mo e Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe ko ia, ke tokoni ki hono fakahoko 'o e Palani ki hono Pule'i 'o e Kolo Matatahi ko ia.

Ko e fatongia ia 'a e Kolo ke nau pule'i mo tokanga'i 'a e Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe 'o fakatatau ki he ngaahi fokotu'utu'u 'oku ha 'i honau Palani. Kapau 'e 'ikai lava 'o fakahoko lelei 'a e Palani, 'e lava ai ke maumau mo holoki e ngaahi me'a mo'ui 'i honau kongatahi, pea 'e to'o, 'i ha tu'utu'uni mei he Minisita, 'a e Feitu'u Pule'i Makehe na'e vahe'i atu ki ai.

'Oku tokoni 'a e Potungae Toutai 'aki 'a e fealea'aki mo e palani 'i he Kolo Matatahi, ke nau mahino'i lelei honau ngaahi fatongia mo e fokotu'utu'u 'i honau Palani, ke fetaulaki lelei mo e ngaahi fiema'u 'a e kolo mo honau ngaahi taumu'a.