



Coastal management and restoration

Pacific BioScapes Programme - Samoa

The Pacific BioScapes Programme is supporting **coral reef and mangrove management** on the island of Upolu in Samoa. This activity aims to improve local coastal management practices and support the restoration of mangrove and coral reef ecosystems.

Moata'a village on Upolu is situated on and around a mangrove wetland. These mangroves are vulnerable to the threat of development and the hazards caused by climate change including inundation and sea-level rise and are degraded as a result. Restoration of the Moata'a mangroves are being planned. The mangrove areas at Vaiusu and Malaela will also be studied as reference sites to support ongoing management and monitoring of restoration activities in Samoa.

Through BioScapes, the **University of Newcastle** and the **Government of Samoa** are providing technical support to enable **local communities** to participate and benefit from sustainable development opportunities. Local communities will have the opportunity to participate in citizen science, environmental education, and ecotourism development through this project.



CENTRAL ISSUES:

- Pollution and degradation of mangroves due to the impacts of development and climate change
- Detrimental impacts on fisheries, mangrove and reef health, and community livelihoods, health and wellbeing
- Limited access to science and knowledge translation

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

- Restore lagoon, mangrove, and coral reef ecosystem function
- Establish coral reef restoration facilities
- Strengthen local capacity in science of mangrove ecosystem health and coral restoration

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