Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation 11th Meeting



for nature conservation in the Pacific islands

> Suva, Fiji June 24th – 27th 2008

Hosted by: IUCN, Pacific Council of Churches, WWF, SPREP, USP and FSPI

Acronyms

BINGOs Big International NGOs
CCA Community Conserved Area
CI Conservation International
CTI Coral Triangle Initiative
FFC Forum Fisheries Committee

FLMMA Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas

FSPI Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International

HOO Heads of Roundtable Organisations
IAS Institute of Applied Science (USP)
IFAW International Fund for Animal Welfare
IMR Institute of Marine Resources (USP)

IUCNWorld Conservation UnionLMMALocally Managed Marine Areas

NBSAP National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

NCSA National Capacity Self Assessment

NZ DOC New Zealand Department of Conservation

NZAID New Zealand Agency For International Development

PA Protected Area

PBIF Pacific Biodiversity Information Forum
PIFS Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

POWPA Programme of Work on Protected Areas (CBD)

RT Roundtable

RTMG Roundtable Management Group

SOPAC South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

SPC Secretariat of the Pacific Community

SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

TNC The Nature Conservancy

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
USAID US Agency for International Development

USP University of the South Pacific

WCPFC Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Council

WG Working Group (of the Roundtable)

WWF Worldwide Fund for Nature

Table of Contents

Meeting Summary	5	
		Deleted: 5
Heads of Roundtable Organisations Meeting (HOO)	<u>5,</u> /	
Session HOO 1: Keynote Presentations	<u>5</u> ,	Deleted: 5
Strategies for Effective Conservation – Annette Lees	<u>6</u>	Deleted: 6
Status and potential of locally managed marine areas in the Pacific Island Region	on <u>7</u>	Deleted: 6
Session HOO 2: Discussions on the Roundtable Charter	<u>7</u> /	Deleted: 6
Session HOO 3: Discussions on the issue of better country support	<u>7</u> /	Deleted: 6
Session HOO 4: Budgetary support to the Roundtable Process	8	Deleted: 6
		Deleted: 6
The General Roundtable Meeting	<u>9</u> _/	
Session RT1: Working groups	<u>9</u> ,	Deleted: 6
Emerging Issues Working Groups		Deleted: 6
Process Working Groups		Deleted: 6
Country Support Groups – PNG/Solomon Islands and Fiji		Deleted: 6
Session RT 2: Monitoring	10	Deleted: 6
Data and information management working group, status and way forward		Deleted: 6
Session RT3: Suggestions for the Roundtable process	<u>12</u>	Deleted: 6
Annexes		
Annex 1: Membership Charter for the Roundtable for Nature Conservation 2008 – 2012	<u>13</u>	Deleted: 6
Annex 2: The Roundtable Management Group - Terms of Reference		Deleted: 6
Annex 3: Issues Working Group Terms of Reference		Deleted: 6
Annex 4: Process Advocacy Working Group: Coral Triangle Initiative		Deleted: 6
Annex 5: Process Advocacy Working Group: Country Support – Record of Discussions		Deleted: 6
Annex 6: Letter developed from the Roundtable to the CTI Consortium and sent during the Roundtable	<u>26</u>	Deleted: 6
Annex 7: Statement from the Roundtable meeting regarding the application of the proposed		
protected area guidelines in the context of the Pacific Islands		Deleted: 6
Annex 8: List of Actions from Roundtable 11		Deleted: 6
Annex 9: List of Participants	<u>32</u>	Deleted: 6

Meeting Summary

Meeting hosts: IUCN, SPREP, USP, FSPI, WWF, Pacific Council of Churches

This is the first Roundtable meeting since the 2007 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation, held in Alotau, Papua New Guinea. All previous working groups and activities of the Roundtable were disbanded and a new set of activities proposed to the Heads of Roundtable Organisations meeting for discussion. The Heads of Roundtable Organisations meeting consisted of people with decision making ability for their organizations or with designated decision making ability. The Roundtable meeting on the second two days was for other Roundtable organization participants and developed and confirmed charters for working groups and discussed other issues pertinent to conservation in the region.

The Roundtable made decisions on the following:

- 1. The Roundtable Charter (and 8 organisations signed the charter) (see annex 1)
- 2. The need for a Roundtable Officer to be based at IUCN in Fiji to support the Chair and support the work of the Roundtable. Roundtable organizations agreed to see whether they had resources to support this.
- 3. The need for the Roundtable to link up to countries and to support national level Roundtable type meetings/discussions. The three countries prioritized for 2008 2009 are PNG, Fiji and the Solomon Islands.
- 4. The creation of a Roundtable Management Group along with a TOR to manage the work of the Roundtable and support the Chair. (Annex 2)
- 5. The creation of a Monitoring Working Group to support the monitoring mandate of the Roundtable.
- 6. The creation of a series of working groups that will be reviewed in 2009 and who have developed specific TOR. These include: invasive species, coral triangle initiative, capacity building, threatened species, community based management, oceanic fisheries management, economics and sustainable resource use and agrobiodiversity. (Annex 3)
- 7. A statement from the Roundtable meeting regarding the application of the proposed IUCN protected area guidelines in the context of the Pacific Islands (annex 7)

The outline of the new look Roundtable can be seen in the diagram on the previous page. Organisations that have signed the Charter are: SPREP, IUCN, USP Faculty of Islands and Oceans, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy, SOPAC, LMMA Secretariat and WWF. Other organizations are going through the approval process to sign the charter.

The meeting was held at USP's Institute of Applied Science and FSPI Headquarters in Suva. Please see Annex 6 for the participants list.

Two meetings were held:

- 1. Heads of Roundtable Organisations (two days)
- 2. General Roundtable Meeting (two days)

Heads of Roundtable Organisations Meeting (HOO)

The welcome address was given by USP's Dean of the Faculty of Islands and Oceans, Dr Pao Luteru.

Session HOO 1: Keynote Presentations

Two keynote presentations were given:

- 1. Annette Lees Strategies for Effective Conservation
- 2. Hugh Govan: Status and potential of locally managed marine areas in the Pacific Island Region

Strategies for Effective Conservation – Annette Lees

Austral Foundation, during Roundtable 10 formed a small group to give some thoughts to a review to identify why conservation is not winning the war in the Pacific region despite the huge resources being invested in it.

This review decided to focus on Fiji

(the full version of the Austral Foundation report on conservation in Fiji is available on request – <u>kateb@sprep.org</u>)

Assumptions

The report found that those with an interest in conservation make assumptions about the cause of the problems as follows:

- awareness? Not true the report found that everyone knows/is aware of the biodiversity crisis
- policies and legislation? 26 pieces of legislation passed in Fiji since 1880 and 22 international conventions. Fiji's Forestry policy is "exemplary". However the best initiatives have been undertaken without legislation (eg LMMA)
- information and science? No have enough
- appropriate models? Everything has been tried need to pick out what works and implement
- resources? \$8Million USD (13M FJD) spent in Fiji. Doubling it not going to solve the problem

Problems:

- (1) Ownership reduced local ownership; conservation is done by those outside the actual conservation area; division between international and Fijian focus eg. Protection rarely permanent for Fiians and international organizations often focused on biodiversity conservation. 23 International conservation NGOs in Fiji. Alienates conservation from the people of Fiji external organizations are not accountable when things fail. International NGOs accountable to their HQs not to communities.
- (2) Insufficient Strategic Thinking a hundred good projects do not make a sound strategy. If it's too hard, things get set aside because the focus is on getting money A different approach that the report suggests is "conservation campaigning" working together on an issue (eg. Unsustainable logging)

 Need to have accountability to Fiji
- (3) Fijian Capacity our vision is its Fijians working towards conservation therefore capacity should be with them. But still with the international NGOs. 13 offices in Fiji magnets to concentrate talented Fijians local agencies cannot compete.

Alternate model—support emergence and capacity of local conservation groups and government—talented people remain in the local agencies and lead their growth

Corruption issues not touched by the IGOs – but this is crucial to unpicking conservation issues – "a thousand eyes" – nurture the local agencies.

Donors – more influential than IGOs; often don't do good analysis of the country situation before funding; focus on their own vision.

Conclusion: strategic capacity development needed; Pacific Implementation Principles – not WHAT we are doing but HOW we are doing it that needs to be addressed.

Comments from meeting

- ✓ Donors need to hear this message and be part of the Roundtable.
- ✓ Gaps in the discussion local small scale NGOs can't compete with the funding competition this presentation emphasizes the need for us to be accountable to each other at the highest levels Heads of RT can prioritise how
- ✓ Put money into capacity development not technical but things like strategic thinking, etc

- ✓ Regional intergovernmental organisations points are equally relevant to these.
- ✓ Regional IGOs were not mentioned during the discussions at national level suggests that regional organizations are not relevant at the national level
- ✓ There are some individual projects that are doing many positive things biodiversity being preserved in areas; desire and commitment exists
- ✓ Government commitment needed is there leadership? This is a reality that needs to be addressed by the RT

Status and potential of locally managed marine areas in the Pacific Island Region

Hugh Govan (hgovan@gmail.com)

Hugh outlined the history of Marine Managed Areas in the Pacific Islands and gave an inventory of current Marine Managed Areas in Melanesia and Polynesia. This presentation also included characteristics and the process of setting up LMMAs

He put forth some issues in upscaling sustainable coastal management and conservation with MMAs and possible steps towards sustainable resource management and conservation. (please see presentation attached to this email for more information).

Session HOO 2: Discussions on the Roundtable Charter

A draft charter was presented to the Roundtable to define it as a professional body – with the intention that everyone works to a set of "rules"

The wording of Code of Conduct was changed to Principles for Implementation and this will also be changed in the Action Strategy.

The Charter outlines how Roundtable organizations will implement the Action Strategy and their responsibilities as Roundtable members. Eight Roundtable organizations signed the charter (see annex 1 for the Charter) at various events during the Roundtable. The RT HOO Agreed that to be a member of the Roundtable it is desirable that groups have signed the Charter and that this would be encouraged. For those unable to sign the Charter, they can be associated members of the Roundtable but they must agree to abide by the Principles for Implementation.

Session HOO 3: Discussions on the issue of better country support

The HOO agreed that it was important to work with countries to roll out the action strategy at national level

- Focus on helping countries determine what their targets will be for the next five years based on their NBSAP
- What we can do to re-engage
- How to bring in partnerships?
- What help and support they need to achieve this?

It was agreed that the Roundtable would focus on three countries this year that it would assist and organize some type of national consultation around the new Action Strategy.

It was also suggested that as part of this process the Roundtable and SPREP consider the preparatory work needed at country level to enable countries to get the most out of the exercise. This could be based on a similar process currently being attempted by Austral Foundation with the Fiji Government. Breakout groups met during the Roundtable meeting to determine the best approach to this for PNG and the Solomon Islands. Fiji based members will meet on Fiji. The record of these discussions is at Annex 5.

The HOO decided to focus on PNG, Solomon Islands and Fiji. PNG because it has just completed its NBSAP and it held the conference last year. It was felt that the Roundtable had a duty to continue its engagement there. Solomon Islands because their NBSAP is not complete and the Roundtable could

be a catalyst to its completion and assist with implementation. Fiji was chosen because of the Fiji Conservation Review carried out by Austral Foundation and the needs identified in that report.

Session HOO 4: Budgetary support to the Roundtable Process

Heads of Organizations were asked to consider whether they could give financial assistance to the creation of a position based in IUCN, Fiji to support the Roundtable process and be the main focal point for the Roundtable.

Various representatives committed to finding out whether their organizations would be able to support this. It was suggested that the total sought was \$50,000FJD/year for the coordinator and travel costs. It is hoped that organizations would put \$5000 - \$10,000 /year into this activity.

Action Items

RT members have four weeks to give an indication of support or otherwise to this activity.. The RT Chair will follow up by email and develop an MOU.Chris Margules (CI) and Paul Lokani (TNC) committed to looking internally to assess whether they had any resources and to let Taholo know.

Don Stewart of Birdlife committed the time of Birdlife's fundraising person to assist in mobilizing resources for the position and associated travel.

The General Roundtable Meeting

Session RT1: Working groups

The main work of organising the Roundtable process will be undertaken by the Roundtable Management Group (see TOR outlined in Annex 2).

Following the guidance of the HOO meeting in the previous two days a number of emerging issues working groups were constituted.

The groups will be reviewed and assessed by the round table after twelve months.

As well at that there will be a Monitoring Working Group and groups focused on process advocacy issues such as one on the Coral Triangle Initative and the Country Support groups.

Emerging Issues Working Groups

Country support and capacity building: offers an opportunity for Roundtable organizations working on training or capacity building activities to better coordinate their work, to assess needs identified by NBSAPs and the National Capacity Self Assessment process and whether these are being met.

Chair: Bill Aalbersberg, USP (aalbersberg@usp.ac.fj)

Community-based Management: The working group is focussed on promoting effective Pacific community based conservation approach, and on integrating these approaches into the work of the Roundtable and other partners.

Contact person: Etika Rupeni, FSPI (etika.rupeni@fspi.org.fj)

Oceanic Fisheries Mangement (Unsustainable Fisheries): This working group will specifically target promoting and supporting informed civil society engagement in regional fisheries management issues in particular regional issues and offshore fisheries (EEZs and the high seas)

Contact person: Etika Rupeni, FSPI (etika.rupeni@fspi.org.fj)

Economics and Sustainable Resource Use: Will identify issues of relevance to conservation from an economic perspective such as trust funds, carbon trading for biodiversity, ecosystem services, private sector, income generation and promote and support application of economic analysis for informed decision making from community to national level.

Contact person: Sandeep Singh (SinghSK1@state.gov)

Invasive Species: Regional planning and coordination group. Technical & skills exchange. The focus of this group is to increase coordination of invasive species work in the region and ensure that gaps are being addressed.

Chair: Alan Tye, SPREP (alant@sprep.org)

Threatened Species: Regional planning and coordination group, technical exchange in relation to threatened species in the region. Will also work to increase coordination and ensure that gaps in action are filled.

Focal points: Ana Tiraa, SPREP (<u>anat@sprep.org</u>) and Helen Pippard, IUCN (helen.pippard@iucn.org)

Agrobiodiversity: Focussed on preventing loss of agricultural biodiversity across the Pacific. Full TOR will be sent out in the next month.

Chair: Randy Thaman, USP (thaman_r@usp.ac.fj)

Seabed Mining: It was decided that a working group did not have to form around this issue but that IUCN and SOPAC would work on it together and through their organsiations. They decided to focus

on seabed mining because several countries have signed off significant sections of their waters to exploration and mining. There was concern that EIA information was being provided by the mining companies themselves.

For more information contact: Taholo Kami, IUCN (<u>Taholo.Kami@iucn.org</u>) and Arthur Webb, SOPAC (<u>arthurw@sopac.org</u>)

Action Items:

SOPAC and IUCN to work together on a preparatory meeting to develop an advisory paper to the next SOPAC meeting on seabed mining.

Chairs need to be confirmed for: Community based management, oceanic fisheries management, economics and sustainable use and threatened species. Contact people or focal points currently listed need to do this as soon as possible.

Chairs need to actively undertake the activities as outlined in the TOR of each group.

Process Working Groups

Coral Triangle Initaitive

Focussed on connecting the Roundtable and the Action Strategy to the development of the Coral Triangle Initaitive.

Country Support Groups - PNG/Solomon Islands and Fiji

Focussed on three priority countries for 2008-09. Will hold country level Roundtable meetings to see how the Roundtable can support each of these countries. See annex 5 for more information. Core members: Paul Lokani, TNC, Jackie Evans, WWF, SPREP and others.

Session RT 2: Monitoring

Data and information management working group, status and way forward

Mark Fornwall of PBIF and the Chair of the Data and information management working group for the past three years shared his thoughts on the potential monitoring role of the Roundtable and associated working groups.

PBIF served as a consultancy to the previous Roundtable Management Committee and assisted with conference planning and sat on the new Action Strategy drafting committee – provided a data management service

Things the former Data and Information Working Group was working on for the Roundtable: RT Operations

- Volunteer Task Database
- Project Management Database

Products:

Volunteer Task Database (2006)

- Roundtable WG Tasks
- View, create, and edit tasks
- http://www.pbif.org/pirttaskdb/default.html

Project Management Database (2006)

- Lists Projects (description, champion, location, aims, deliverables, etc.)
- View, add, and edit projects
- http://www.pbif.org/projectdb/default.html

Data Support function

- Pacific Protected Areas Database
 - o Revised Version Operational
 - o Updates Underway
- Species Occurrence Database
 - o 300.000 Records from International Sources
- Pacific Bibliography
 - o 3,000 Literature References

Pacific Protected Areas Database

- o 497 Records Updated Website
- o 233 Records added for Terrestrial Areas in the Hawaiian Islands
- 62 Records For Marine Protected Areas (Hawaii, the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, American Samoa, Guam)
- o World Database on Protected Areas
- o Harvesting Related Data
- o View all results with one click
- o Text search
- o "Clickable" map

From 2008 onwards this group is changing from the Data and Information Working Group to the Monitoring Working Group

- Re-Engage Working Group Members
- Finalize TOR
- Develop/Update Website

Reporting Year 1: what do we monitor and how.

• Roundtable Management Committee

Its TOR says that it will monitor:

- o Process
- o Performance Against Principals
- o Membership
- Working Groups (Action Strategy)
 - o Most are seeking to try to discover who is doing what and identify gaps could this be the first year report? GAP Analysis?

Data Support

- Pacific Protected Areas database looking to link in to the world database on PA's. Starting
 in US and Micronesia areas
- Species occurrence db
- Pacific Bibliography

Working Groups – Action Strategy Monitoring (this is our charter)

Four objectives must be reported to the Conference

- what do we need to know?
- what are the data sources?

Two types of monitoring

- Roundtable Process
- State of Livelihoods and biodiversity

How:

- PPADB other data?
- working group reports?

Action Items

Agreement from Roundtable 11 Meeting to:

- Monitor the principles how well they are done
- Monitor the state of conservation in the region looking at selected countries over a few years and scaling up ...
- How well we are working
- RT also should be making sure that the available data/information from different countries is collated/brought together in some way.

Session RT3: Suggestions for the Roundtable process

The Roundtable agreed on the need to table issues that are raised at the working groups through the year and submit as agenda items. This way everyone has a chance to think about and engage in effective, solution-based discussion.

Overall agreement for a more business-like operation of the RT

The group discussed outstanding issues which were:

• Country support and capacity building working group

A TOR was developed for this group (see annex 3)

• IUCN World Conservation Congress in Barcelona

Update from IUCN on preparations and opportunities.

• Preparations for COP 10 of the CBD

Update on SPREP on the issues that the region will focus on for the next two years in relation to this.

• Proposed IUCN protected area guidelines in the context of the Pacific Islands

It was resolved to send a message from the Roundtable to IUCN (see annex)

• IUCN redlisting process

SPREP and IUCN are working on this and updated the meeting on progress.

Action Item

SPREP to invite the Chair of the Roundtable to the SPREP Annual Governing Council Meeting RTMG to invite good practice donors to re-engage with the Roundtable.

Helen from IUCN needs a list of organizations that are attending WCC in Barcelona

Annex 1: Membership Charter for the Roundtable for Nature Conservation 2008 – 2012

Preamble

The Roundtable for Nature Conservation is a membership-based network of donors, NGOs, and regional agencies that is focussed on:

Promoting, facilitating and monitoring progress on the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands Region 2008 – 2012 through increased collaboration and partnerships.

The Action Strategy is endorsed by Pacific island countries and territories through the SPREP Governing Council process every five years. The Roundtable itself does not implement the Action Strategy but its member organisations do. The Roundtable will report on the implementation of the Action Strategy to governments in the Pacific island region. It serves as a venue for bringing strategic oversight to conservation in the region while providing a forum for accountability, transparency and coordination for conservation organisations and donors. The Roundtable will support NBSAP implementation..

Mandate of the Roundtable

as revised by the Chair

- The Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation is maintained as a mechanism for promoting, facilitating and monitoring the implementation of Action Strategy.
- The Roundtable adopts mechanisms for making its membership accountable to Principles of Implementationt and its work inclusive of participation by regional and national bodies.
- The Roundtable's mandate for the next five years is to increase effective conservation action in the Pacific islands by ensuring members:
 - Actively recognise, respect and support a Pacific approach to conservation based on sustainable resource use, community property rights and decision-making practices, and local aspirations for development and well-being
 - Respect and encourage national and community partner leadership for all conservation programmes and help strengthen partner capacity to exercise their leadership
 - Align all conservation programmes with conservation programmes of national partners.
 - Design conservation programmes that are of a scale and budget appropriate to the local context and that long-term strategic planning and resource mobilisation sustains conservation over time.
 - o Actively support communication, education and public awareness
 - Put systems in place to enable full accountability to and participation of the people affected by conservation programme implementation assisted by well communicated, fully transparent operations.
 - Work with each other to ensure collaborative analysis, strategies, agreed priorities and coordination of political engagement to avoid duplication.
 - Provide timely, transparent and comprehensive reporting on conservation programmes to the Roundtable
 - o mobilise resources for the implementation of the Action Strategy

The Roundtable reports to the 9th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas on the implementation of the Action Strategy

Membership

Roundtable members represent international, regional and national organizations implementing, funding or coordinating:

- More than one objective of the Action Strategy
- In two or more countries.

The Roundtable is able to invite participants in the Roundtable process to advance its cause.

Commitment

On signing this Membership Charter, we commit to:

- Being bound by the Action Strategy Principles of Implementation
- Signing MOUs, agreements or work programmes with national governments in each country of our operation and being led by national conservation priorities in that country
- Transparency through reporting on activities, projects and programmes relevant to the Action Strategy
- Contributing to the work programme of the Roundtable itself through active participation in one of the working groups and committing to the mandate of the Roundtable.

Commitment to the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation

We as a member of the Roundtable for Nature Conservation commit to supporting efforts towards:

- regional strategy and priorities,
- regional collaboration,
- economies of scale,
- complementarities,
- accountability,
- · transparency and
- mutual support

in the implementation of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation 2008 - 2012.

Signing this charter means that our organisation is a signatory to the regional Action Strategy for Nature Conservation 2008 - 2012 and agrees with the mandate of the Roundtable.

Signed

Organisational Representative

NB: Those organisations that have signed this charter prior to the printing of the Action Strategy will have their organisation and signature included in the published Action Strategy as a signatory to the Action Strategy

Annex 2: The Roundtable Management Group - Terms of Reference

The Roundtable Management Group supports the Roundtable functions and mandate and ensures that the Roundtable process happens. The Roundtable Management Group is not a decision making body of the Roundtable, it manages the process. Heads of Roundtable Organisations (HOO) will make decisions for the Roundtable.

1. Facilitating the implementation of the Roundtable mandate

- Create agenda for Roundtable meeting (for comment) and ensure that it is held.
- Facilitating coordination, communication and collaboration for the emerging issues working groups and monitoring and advocacy working groups.
- Fundraising and communications function

2. Promoting Proactive Roundtable Membership

Identifying priority membership (eg donors, CROP etc) and working with them to join the Roundtable and understand and implement the principles. Where possible to support them to sign the Roundtable Charter.

3. The Implementation Principles

Managing the development of the principles and establishing and implementing the Principles monitoring system for Roundtable members

4. Conference

Organising the 2012 regional Conservation Conference

5. The Action Strategy

Supporting the promotion of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation.

Commitments of the Roundtable Management Group

To ensure that the core required activities of the Roundtable are taking place. In particular:

- 1. Protected Areas database
- 2. Projects inventory
- 3. Monitoring the Action Strategy and reporting back to the Conference.
- 4. Country Support activities
- 5. Database of Organisations that meet the criteria of Roundtable membership
- 6. Database of donors in the region
- 7. Develop and maintain action list for the Roundtable
- 8. Roundtable website

RTMG Communications

The RTMG is happy to do everything by email

Teleconferences would be used where we are not getting traction

Membership of the Roundtable Management Group

Criteria

Its desirable that we have consistent membership over the five years of the Action Strategy. Those who are members must be able to commit time to this effort.

Specific membership:

Roundtable Chair, donor – target NZAID, SPREP, Chair RT Monitoring Working Group, Individual representatives: Annette Lees, Greg Sherley

TNC, WWF, FSPI, CI to designate representatives but are able to decide that they don't need to be a part of this group if they would like.

On the membership issue, no important decision is going to be made without consultation. The RTMG is not a representative body this role is carried out by the Heads of Organisation.

Action Items

- 1. Database of conservation organizations that meet the criteria of the Roundtable membership. Annette and Mark HIGH
- 2. Need to know the relative decision making authority of the RTMG vs the membership vs the chair. DONE
- 3. Target getting a donor on the RTMG TAHOLO and Annette HIGH
- 4. Getting a fundraiser, communicator TAHOLO LOW
- 5. Developing and managing mailing lists for the Roundtable look at current list and why people are on it; decide on types of mailing lists...current RT mailing list will become Action Strategy Mailing List open); Roundtable Mailing List more targeted and open to members and designated individuals who are active. KATE/MARK MEDIUM
- 6. Chair to write to current mailing list and provide information on the RT meeting outcomes and ask people for interest in being on the List (attach Membership form) letter will clarify different lists CHAIR with Kate and Seema MEDIUM
- 7. Clarify country role (add country in the organogram) Kate HIGH
- 8. Identify process for bringing donors on board re-engage with NZAID to assist RT with activities Annette and Taholo Draft a strategy for engaging donors (Annette) Identify potential large funding mechanisms/bodies that with funding interest in funds in the region and have dialogue with these Annette MEDIUM
- 9. Draft up a proposed monitoring of the Roundtable principles Annette MEDIUM
- 10. Look at project inventory group and refine project outcomes, adherence to the principles MARK MEDIUM
- 11. Roundtable website update and look at where it could be housed. KATE AND MARK MEDIUM
- 12. Explore wiki/blogs for emerging issues KATE and MARK MEDIUM

Priorities

High: next two weeks Medium next month

Low: within next three months

Chairs role: 5 years, anything he feels uncomfortable with then he should consult initially with RTMG

Annex 3: Issues Working Group Terms of Reference

Country Support and Capacity Building

USP Chair (contact Bill Aalbersberg for more information - aalbersberg@usp.ac.fj)

Roles

- 1. Clearing House for Training Activities Related to Nature Conservation proposed activities would be communicated as early as possible to chair who would look for overlaps/ synergies and then communicate training information to committee members/ others as decided by management)
- 2. Work together to assess needs identified by NBSAPs and National Self Assessment and how they are being met and key gaps and communicate those gaps to funders, BINGOs and large well financed upcoming projects.
- 3. Discuss ways to maximise capacity building support (long-term postgraduate fellowships and short term training courses)

Membership

Hopefully each member organization of Roundtable involved in providing or delivering training.

Communication

By Email

Invasives Working Group TOR

Function

Regional planning and coordination group.

Technical & skills exchange.

Actions for next 12 months

Re-form group with representative membership.

Adopt NBSAPs, NISAPs and the *Guidelines for Invasive Species Management in the Pacific* as the basis for strategic action and monitoring.

Work out who is doing what from the regional/coordinated activities in the *Guidelines*. Analyse gaps.

Work out who should take the lead on filling each gap and assign responsibility.

Why in the RT / What can the RT do for us

Provides accountability, a monitoring and evaluation forum and a mechanism for evaluating progress.

Gives clout/leverage and provides a conduit to high-level decision makers in member organisations.

Outcomes

Increased coordination of invasive species work in the region.

Gaps addressed.

Timescale

Permanent (reviewed annually).

Who

Interested/committed representatives of regional agencies (donors, NGOs, IGOs) and countries/territories, and active individuals.

Implementing the RT Principles

To be addressed in the annual report.

Monitoring and reporting

Annual progress report to RT meeting, compiled by Chair/focal point and covering action points and recommendations.

Chair: Alan Tye, SPREP (alant@sprep.org)

Threatened species Working Group TOR

Function

Regional planning and coordination group.

Technical exchange.

Actions for next 12 months

Re-form group with representative membership. Invite all working group members to the new one.

Work out who is doing what from the regional/coordinated activities in threanted species.

Review of species under the RedList and progressing recommendations

Follow-up on commitments in PNG

Explore possibilities of a focal point for threantened species.

Why in the RT / What can the RT do for us

Provides accountability, a monitoring and evaluation forum and a mechanism for evaluating progress.

Gives clout/leverage and provides a conduit to high-level decision makers in member organisations.

Outcomes

Increased coordination of threatened species work in the region.

Gaps in action filled.

Timescale

Permanent (periodically reviewed).

Who

Interested/committed representatives of regional agencies (donors, NGOs, IGOs) and countries/territories, and active individuals.

Implementing the RT Principles

To be addressed in the annual report.

Monitoring and reporting

Annual progress report to RT meeting, compiled by Chair/focal point and covering action points.

Focal point will report to the RT and make species related recommendations to the RTMG.

Focal Points: Ana Tiraa (anat@sprep.org) and Helen Pippard (helen.pippard@iucn.org)

Community Based Management - Working Group TOR

- 1. Promoting cost-effective Pacific Community based conservation approaches (PCBA).
- 2. To support integration of PCBA into activities of RT members and partners (e.g govt, donors, private sector etc)

3. Outcomes

- a. support current efforts to secure international recognition of PCBA (1-2 years)
- b. Work with RT Monitoring Group on inventory/registry of community level initiatives Report to RT on yearly basis.
- c. Support emergence and development of PCBA networks (e.g locally managed forest area network (???) 1 5 years
- d. Identify emerging issues
- 4. RT to provide continued support and leadership
- 5. <u>Who</u>
 - ⇒ FSPI
 - ⇒ LMMA
 - **FLMMA**
 - TNC (?)

 - **⇒** WWF (?)
 - ⇒ USP/IAS
 - ⇒ IUCN
- 6. RT to provide continued support and leadership
- 7. Annual Report to RT

Contact person: Etika Rupeni (etika.rupeni@fspi.org.fj)

Oceanic Fisheries Management (Unsustainable Fishing) – Working Group TOR

- 1. focus on regional issues: offshore fisheries (EEZ and High Seas)
 - a. Aim is to promote and support informed civil society engagement in regional fisheries management issues.
 - b. Emphasis should be on biodiversity ecosystem based management...
- 2. High level RT engagement in regional fisheries processes/for a (e.g WCPFC, FFC, Forum leaders) increased RT engagement within 18 months
- 3. Outcomes
 - a. To be developed in consultation with WWF re WPFCP/CTI ongoing activities/3 years
 - b. Increased awareness and engagement of civil society report on progress at least annually
- 4. Wrkgrp will also piggyback on WWF meetings
- 5. WHO
 - ⇒ WWF Seremaia
 - ⇒ IUCn Marine Officer (Chair)
 - ⇒ Greenpeace (Pacific Office to be confirmed)
 - ⇒ US Regional Env Office (to be confirmed)
 - ⇒ USP Joeli and Vina (to be confirmed)
- 6. Engage in regular fisheries issues; advocating sustainable fisheries management and conservation; NGO coordination; profile raising
- 7. Annual Reporting to RT
- 8. Monitoring
 - a. Activities of the WG
 - b. Activities of RT members
- 9. Implementing Principles 5 and 6

Contact person: Etika Rupeni (etika.rupeni@fspi.org.fj)

Economics and Sustainable Resource Use Working Group TOR

- 1. To promote and support application of economic analysis for informed decision making from community to national level.
 - a. Examples
 - i. Income generation
 - 1. Ecotourism
 - 2. Ecoforestry
 - ii. Community
 - 1. Sustainable financing
 - 2. trust funds
 - 3. carbon trading for biodiversity conservation
 - 4. ecosystem services
 - 5. private sector involvement
- 2. opportunity to share best-practice, identify gaps and pool resources to support improved practice
- 3. Sharing knowledge and skills /provide mutual support on organizational activities
 - a. Within WGs (meetings, emails)
 - b. With RT members (Briefing papers, presentations)
 - c. With partners/practitioners
- 4. Ongoing
- 5. <u>Who</u>
 - ⇒ FSPI
 - ⇒ Worldfish Warwick
 - \Rightarrow USP IAS (tbc)/IMR (tbc)
 - ⇒ IUCN
 - ⇒ Padma Lal (?)
 - \Rightarrow UNDP (?)
 - ⇒ SOPAC (?)
 - ⇒ PIFS (?)

Have to appoint a chair for this working group.

Contact person: Sandeep Singh (SinghSK1@state.gov)

Annex 4: Process Advocacy Working Group: Coral Triangle Initiative Terms of Reference

Tried to identify how the CTI can be managed in the Pacific – how information flow and processes can be improved.

Agreed that we do need a WG but around specific deliverables for the CTI – in the first case with focus around a proposal development process

- (1) ensure greater Pacific engagement
- (2) wider dissemination of information
- (3) coordination more effectively amongst implementing agencies
- (4) programme design for use of the USAID funds
- (5) involve more sectors and integrate better
- (6) advisory role (to govts and others on how the CTI should roll out)

In order to drive the process, will need a CTI Coordinator for the region. This will be reported back to the CTI consortium (WWF, CI, TNC, WorldFish)

Members of WG identified but is open. The four BINGOs plus FSPI, LMMA, SPREP, SOPAC....others? (please see first output of this working group Annex 4)

Annex 5: Process Advocacy Working Group: Country Support - Record of Discussions

Papua New Guinea

The group was updated on the current status of conservation issues in PNG

There is a new Climate Change department

- Focused on climate change and environmental sustainability Environment and Conservation are reviewing all legislation and their role is changing via restructuring to more of a focus on policy and management. Implementation would then take place through Provincial Governments and NGOs.

The PNG coordinating committee set up during the Alotau Conference is helping with in country coordination around the NBSAP and other conservation related issues. Committee helps track progress on the commitment that PNG has made and has met twice. So far they have focused on reports from the conference.

The Group felt that for Roundtable activities at country level, that instead of starting a new working group – we could use the committee that is already formed. The idea of this national level Roundtable consultation in PNG would be on helping with implementation of the NBSAP. RT could sit with the committee to see the capacity needs.

There is a need for looking at who is doing what and where the gaps are.

Marine: had a meeting in PNG 5 or 6 years ago. Need to consolidate the work that is happening. There is work in PNG that is being done that people don't know about it.

PNG/PINBIO – have a workshop in two weeks time. Want to look at what is happening and defining what should be considered protected areas. Have been underreporting and undercounting.

Could develop a project inventory with PNG.

Private sector is involved in conservation and we need to recognize their contribution. CI is talking to the business council of PNG to start a corporate committee or council within the business community. Has received positive indications from them. Have other private sector people involved but there is no proper mechanism that allows them. Institute of national affairs had a workshop on climate change and REDD and there was private sector engagement in that. DEC is looking at establishing a REDD framework which would be the mechanism to manage REDD related activities that includes how payments are made.

Some of the things are quite advanced in terms of conservation areas. Need to provide an opportunity for PNG to share what they are doing with the other countries.

Three legal NGOs: Alotau Enviornment, CELCOR, ELC

Mama Graun is expanding to operate as a Melanesian Trust Fund – Solomon Islands, East Timor and PNG. Is funding existing WMAs but the goal is to make these effective – not just paper parks. Have encouraged them to come to Solomons in August.

Actions

Coordination mechanism at country level – who is doing what? PNG Conservation Roundtable?

Look for opportunities to bring some people over from PNG to demonstrate things to the rest of the region?

Solomons

Have restructured the ministry of natural resources. PS is the CTI focal point and the GEF focal point. Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources also exists.

Min of Environment has extra officers on board: NBSAP, CTI, POWPA.

Ministry of Fisheries – NZ Govt working on institutional strengthening. Strategic plan, needs in terms of capacity, building a new building.

Found complete change in focus between NGOs and stakeholders and Government in the past few months. Fisheries Act being reviewed.

IFAW helped fund regulations for the wildlife act and now the Environment Act. Environment Act was originally comprehensive but it was decided at the time that it was too much for the environment department to enforce so they reduced it..

Cabinet approved the establishment of a technical working committee – it's a planning body for things like GEF as well. In addition to this committee they could look at reviving the conservation council that was set up (was originally formed by TNC to support the 2004 marine RAP). Could be more formalized group to energise the NBSAP process. Conservation Council is an informal advisory group to the government. There is some provision in the Act for a formal grouping that would advise – Environment Advisory Committee. Equivalent to the Fisheries Advisory Council under the Ministry of Fisheries.

There is also a conservation advocates group (driven by CI) focusing on being an advisory group to landowners. POWPA – govt looking to develop PA legislation. Having NBSAP meeting in July.

NCSA – is an opportunity. Looks at lots of types of capacity.

There is good intent inside the ministry. PM very interested in resource management issues. At departmental level the number of staff is good

Need more of a discussion with realistic plan for the NBSAP.

Solomons hosting the second meeting of the CTI.

Arnavon Islands – has an endowment - \$20,000 USD/year. \$400,000 USD. Money invested in TNC. Good model for sustainable financing.

Payment for Ecosystem Services: Kokoda Track and Owen Stanley Range is a good model for how the environment provides ecosystem services. Power and water is coming from there.

Would be good if there was a mentor or attachment scheme for a least one year to assist with new staff of the Department.

TNC wants to have a fellowship programme to Solomon Islands. Can the group help facilitate fellowships?

Action: SPREP to assist with information on volunteers, placements, interns opportunities.

Annex 6: Letter developed from the Roundtable to the CTI Consortium and sent during the Roundtable.



26th June 2008

Dear CTI consortium,

The Pacific Islands Region Roundtable for Nature Conservation met this week to discuss its future role and function in relation to the *Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Island Region 2008-2012*. The strategy provides a roadmap for action to achieve agreed regional conservation objectives and has now been submitted to the Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Governing Council for government endorsement. The Roundtable membership consists of representatives of Regional Organisations, Donors, Non-Government Organisations and other key conservation practitioners. Government engagement is coordinated through SPREP. The Roundtable promotes, facilitates, coordinates and monitors progress of the *Action Strategy* and provides joint advocacy on key regional conservation issues and priorities. It offers an important governance mechanism to coordinate conservation action across the region.

The *Action Strategy*, attached, identifies principles which underpin best practice and governance in conservation in the Pacific Islands region. The Roundtable would like to emphasize to the CTI USAID consortium the importance of:

- (i) adopting the *Action Strategy* principles in the development of the CTI USAID support programme concept and
- (ii) using the *Action Strategy* to guide the design phase of the CTI for the Pacific Islands Region.

Given the significance of the CTI to the region, the Roundtable would like to request that it is actively engaged in the CTI USAID programme design phase and the subsequent coordination of the CTI in the Pacific Islands Region. The Roundtable would also like to recommend a formal mechanism to provide up to date information on and coordination of the CTI.

and Protected Areas

We look forward to future collaboration on this important regional initiative.

International Union for Conservation of Nature Regional Office for Oceania

5 Ma'afu Street, Suva, FIJI ISLANDS P: (679) 331 9084 www.iucn.org www.iucn.org/oceania

Annex 7: Statement from the Roundtable meeting regarding the application of the proposed IUCN protected area guidelines in the context of the Pacific Islands

The Pacific Islands Round Table on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (RT) is a membership-based network of donors, NGOs, and regional agencies.

The RT meeting of 24-27 June 2008 noted the outstanding efforts of the drafting committee revising the "Guidelines for applying protected area management categories" as reflected in its third draft. In particular we appreciate the inclusion of Indigenous/Community Conservation Areas (CCAs).

The RT would like to highlight that CCAs are one of the main tools through which most of the 12 Pacific Island countries are addressing their commitments to Protected Areas and nature conservation which underpins livelihoods and economic development. These community protected areas currently constitute over 400 of the documented protected areas in the region.

The first accompanying principle to the overall definition of PAs states: "For IUCN, only those sites where the main objective is conserving nature should be considered protected areas; this can include many sites with other goals as well, at the same level, but in the case of conflict, nature conservation has to be the priority" and "The choice of category should be based on the primary objective(s) stated for each protected area"

The RT wishes to emphasize that most natural resources in the Pacific are owned and used by indigenous and local communities and the Pacific approach to conservation is based on sustainable resource use, community property rights and decision-making practices, and local aspirations for development and well-being.

The specific wording of the first principle is of difficult applicability in the context of the Pacific where communities rarely set a "primary" objective and where conservation, protected areas and sustainable use are inextricably linked.

For the above reasons we would be grateful if an amendment of the draft could be considered to reflect these concerns.

Possible ways forward may include one or several of the following:

- Substitute the first "the" for an "a" in the principle concerned (...where a main objective is conserving nature...).
- Insert "in particular sustainable use of natural resources" after "... at the same level".
- Clarify that "sustainable use" does not represent a conflict

Members of the Pacific Islands Round Table on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 27 June 2008

(for more information on this please contact Hugh Govan, hgovan@gmail.com)

Annex 8: List of Actions from Roundtable 11

Roundtable Charter

Roundtable members to confirm whether they will be signing the Roundtable Charter – by SEPTEMBER 2008 – to the Chair of the Roundtable.

Budget for Roundtable

RT members have four weeks to give an indication of support or otherwise to this activity..

The RT Chair will follow up by email and develop an MOU. Chris Margules (CI) and Paul Lokani (TNC) committed to looking internally to assess whether they had any resources and to let Taholo know.

Don Stewart of Birdlife committed the time of Birdlife's fundraising person to assist in mobilizing resources for the position and associated travel.

Roundtable Working Groups

SOPAC and IUCN to work together on a preparatory meeting to develop an advisory paper to the next SOPAC meeting on seabed mining.

Chairs need to be confirmed for: Community based management, oceanic fisheries management, economics and sustainable use and threatened species. Contact people or focal points currently listed need to do this as soon as possible.

Chairs need to actively undertake the activities as outlined in the TOR of each group.

Monitoring Working Group

- Monitor the principles how well they are done
- Monitor the state of conservation in the region looking at selected countries over a few years and scaling up ...
- How well we are working

RT also should be making sure that the available data/information from different countries is collated/brought together in some way.

Other issues session

SPREP to invite the Chair of the Roundtable to the SPREP Annual Governing Council Meeting

RTMG to invite good practice donors to re-engage with the Roundtable.

Helen from IUCN needs a list of organizations that are attending WCC in Barcelona

Roundtable Management Group

- Database of conservation organizations that meet the criteria of the Roundtable membership. Annette and Mark HIGH
- Need to know the relative decision making authority of the RTMG vs the membership vs the chair. DONE
- Target getting a donor on the RTMG TAHOLO and Annette HIGH
- Getting a fundraiser, communicator TAHOLO LOW
- Developing and managing mailing lists for the Roundtable look at current list and why people are on it; decide on types of mailing lists…current RT mailing list will

become Action Strategy Mailing List - open); Roundtable Mailing List more targeted and open to members and designated individuals who are active. KATE/MARK MEDIUM

- Chair to write to current mailing list and provide information on the RT meeting outcomes and ask people for interest in being on the List (attach Membership form) – letter will clarify different lists CHAIR with Kate and Seema MEDIUM
- Clarify country role (add country in the organogram) Kate HIGH
- Identify process for bringing donors on board re-engage with NZAID to assist RT with activities Annette and Taholo Draft a strategy for engaging donors (Annette) Identify potential large funding mechanisms/bodies that with funding interest in funds in the region and have dialogue with these Annette MEDIUM
- Draft up a proposed monitoring of the Roundtable principles Annette MEDIUM
- Look at project inventory group and refine project outcomes, adherence to the principles MARK MEDIUM
- Roundtable website update and look at where it could be housed. KATE AND MARK MEDIUM
- Explore wiki/blogs for emerging issues KATE and MARK MEDIUM

Invasive Species Working Group

- Re-form group with representative membership.
- Adopt NBSAPs, NISAPs and the *Guidelines for Invasive Species Management in the Pacific* as the basis for strategic action and monitoring.
- Work out who is doing what from the regional/coordinated activities in the Guidelines.
- Analyse gaps.
- Work out who should take the lead on filling each gap and assign responsibility.

Capacity Building Working Group

- Clearing House for Training Activities Related to Nature Conservation proposed activities would be communicated as early as possible to chair who would look for overlaps/ synergies and then communicate training information to committee members/ others as decided by management)
- Work together to assess needs identified by NBSAPs and National Self Assessment and how they are being met and key gaps and communicate those gaps to funders, BINGOs and large well financed upcoming projects.
- Discuss ways to maximise capacity building support (long-term postgraduate fellowships and short term training courses)

Threatened Species Working Group

- For next 12 mths: Re-form group with representative membership. Invite all working group members to the new one.
- Work out who is doing what from the regional/coordinated activities in threanted species.
- Review of species under the RedList and progressing recommendations
- Follow-up on commitments in PNG

• Explore possibilities of a focal point for threantened species.

Community based conservation

- support current efforts to secure international recognition of PCBA (1-2 years)
- Work with RT Monitoring Group on inventory/registry of community level initiatives
 Report to RT on yearly basis.
- Support emergence and development of PCBA networks (e.g locally managed forest area network (???) 1 5 years
- Identify emerging issues

Oceanic Fisheries Management

- To be developed in consultation with WWF re WPFCP/CTI ongoing activities/3 years
- Increased awareness and engagement of civil society report on progress at least annually

Economics and Sustainable Resource Use Working

• Need to appoint a chair and develop work plan.

Coral Triangle Initaitive Working Group

• Confirm working group members and initially focus on the proposal development process of the CTI.

Country Support Working Group

In next 12 mths

- Organise national Roundtable consultation in PNG, Fiji and the Solomon Islands.
- Help to develop a national level coordination mechanism to identify who is doing what.

Annex 9: List of Participants

Preferred Title Ms/Mrs/Mr/ Dr/Prof/etc	Name	Organisation	Position	Head of Org/Prog?*	Email Contact (or fax/phone if no email)
1.	Annette Lees	Austral Foundation			a.lees@xtra.co.nz
2.	Don Stewart	Birdlife Pacific		√	don@birdlifepacific.org.fj
3.	Warwick Nash	World Fish		√ (Delegated	warwickn@spc.int
4.	Feiloakitau Tevi	Pacific Conference of Churches	General Secretary	V	tevi@pcc.org.fj
5.	Rex Horoi	FSPI	Executive Director	V	rex.horoi@fspi.org.fj
6.	Etika Rupeni	FSPI	Regional Programme Manager – Coastal		etika.rupeni@fspi.org.fj
7.	Hugh Govan	LMMA Network Representative		√ (Delegated)	hgovan@gmail.com
8.	Chris Margules	Conservation International		V	cmargules@conservation.org
9.	Bill Nagle	Pacific Invasives Initiative	Project Coordinator	X	w.nagle@auckland.ac.nz
10.	Paul Lokani	The Nature Conservancy	Melanesia Programme Director	√	plokani@tnc.org
11.	Arthur Webb	SOPAC	Programme Manager Oceans and Islands		Arthur@sopac.org
12.	Paul Eastwood	SOPAC	Pacific Islands GOOS Coordinator	X	Paul.Eastwood@sopac.org
13.	Marie Fatiaki	Live and Learn	Regional Programme Manager	√	Marie@livelearn.org.fj
14.	Rodney Lui	Live and Learn		X	

15.	Sandeep Singh	US Embassy Suva	Regional Environment Affairs Specialist	X	SinghSK1@state.gov
16.	Kesaia Tabunakawai	WWF South Pacific Programme Office	Interim Representative	V	ktabunakawai@wwfpacific.org.fj,
17.	Louise Heaps	WWF South Pacific Programme Office	Conservation Director		LHeaps@wwfpacific.org.fj
18.	Jackie Thomas	WWF – Western Melanesia Programme	Sol Is – Country Prog Manager		jthomas@solomon.com.sb,
19.	Mark Otter	WWF-Australia	Programme Leader – International		motter@wwf.org.au
20.	lan Karika	Rarotonga Environment Authority	Chair	Х	kakerori@tca.co.ck
21.	Greg Sherley	NZ DOC		√	gsherley@doc.govt.nz
22.	Mark Fornwall	US GS/PBIS	Chair, Pacific Biodiversity Information Forum	√	markfornwall@usgs.gov
23.	Marika Tuiwawa (USP)	USP	Curator, Regional Herbarium Manager, Biodiversity Research Programme	V	Tuiwawa M@usp.ac.fj
24.			-		Tawake A@usp.ac.fj
25.	Pip Cohen	Reef Base			
26.	Asenaca Ravuvu	UNDP	Environment Unit Team Leader		Asenaca.ravuvu@undp.org
27.	Kate Brown	SPREP	Action Strategy Advisor	Х	kateb@sprep.org
28.	Ana Tiraa	SPREP	Island Biodiversity Officer		anaT@sprep.org
29.	Alan Tye	SPREP	Invasive Species Officer	Х	alanT@sprep.org
30.	Stuart Chape	SPREP	Programme Manager Islands and Ecosystems	V	stuartc@sprep.org
31.	Taholo Kami	IUCN	Director, Oceania Regional Programme	V	Taholo.Kami@iucn.org
32.	Seema Deo	IUCN	Communications Advisor	Х	Seema.Deo@iucn.org

33.	Helen Pippard	IUCN	Species Focal Point Membership Focal Point	Х	Helen.Pippard@iucn.org
34.	Pepe Clarke	IUCN			Pepe.Clarke@iucn.org
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38.	Randy Thaman	USP	Professor Pacific Islands Biodiversity		Thaman_r@usp.ac.fj
39.	Joeli Veitayaki	USP	Lecturer	X	Veitayaki j@usp.ac.fj
40.	John Mosesso???	US Geological Survey	Director Biodiversity Programme		John_mosesso@usgs.gov
41.	Leone Limalevu	USP (PACE-SD)	Research Assistant		Limalevu I@usp.ac.fj
42.	Martin Callow	WCS	Director		Mcallow@wcs.org
43.	Bill Aalbersberg	USP	Director, Institute of Applied Science		aalbersberg@usp.ac.fj