



**NZPPOA - TOKELAU**

# QUARTERLY REPORT

MARCH 2019

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## ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST 5 MONTHS —

In December (2018) a consultation was conducted with the Taupulega of Fakaofu atoll. This resulted with the identification and prioritisation of Ocean Acidification (OA) activities which are:

- Coral and coastal replanting at tentative site - 'Te pala I matagi' and Coral Conservation - Relocation and restocking of coral to affected areas
- Deployment of iSAMI spectrophotometer and GOA-ON in a Box toolkit for OA monitoring
- Assessment and survey of how to best remove the ship wreck
- Capacity and awareness on OA

While consultation in March (2019) with Taupulega of Atafu atoll resulted to OA priorities of:

- Coral replanting (Site will be given to the team by Taupulega upon team's visit for site assessment/survey)
- Replanting to affected areas
- Local village rules and policy for waste management (plastics) recycle mechanism
- Erosion and Coral mining policy and community awareness on OA

Within the same month, a follow up meeting between Mrs Jewel Tuitama of Ministry of Climate, Ocean and Resilient Development (MiCORE) and Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) NZPPOA team Miss Maria Sapatu and Dr. Robert Duncan McIntosh was conducted at the Tokelau Office Apia. This was to discuss the following matters:

- Revise and further discuss priorities by Fakaofu & Atafu atolls
- Plan and schedule OA activities on site
- Availability of MiCORE and SPREP personnel to be onsite for iSAMI deployment

This was followed with MiCORE staff taking part with the collection of data and deployment of Samoa's iSAMI at Lefaga with the National University of Samoa (NUS) and SPREP NZPPOA team. The field work was great hands on training with collecting waters samples, familiarizing with flushing and setting up the iSAMI programme software and the conductivity temperature depth diver (CTD) before deployment. This was followed by laboratory safety handling

of mercury and samples for storage at NUS marine laboratory. The field work training was a great opportunity to collaborate with NUS Samoa as well as to learn from each other's successes and challenges with using iSAMI and GOA-ON in a box toolkit.

## CHALLENGES FACED

- Logistics – personnel involved in implementation are based mostly from Apia. Hence the challenges of movement for equipment and personnel remains
- Human resources – MiCORE currently have two (2) staff hence the challenges of implementation for three sites can be overwhelming at times.
- Lack or unavailability of national OA capacity – The untimely availability of OA capacity support. National and regional priority schedules are not aligned hence there is a need for schedule coordination for both entities to improve implementation timeframes and activities.

- Deployment of iSAMI– June/July
- Purchase of necessary safety equipment for deployment and collecting of iSAMI data – May (Jewel to provide list/ budget)
- Baseline Marine survey (on-site) – June/July

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

