

Member's report on activities to ICRI

Presented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme/SAMOA

Reporting period July 2008 – April 2009

Please note that the purpose of this report is to help you share information about your activities within the ICRI community to allow discussion at the next ICRI General Meeting. The reports will be made available on the ICRIForum prior to the meeting. The ICRI secretariat is well aware of your busy schedule, thus don't hesitate to submit an incomplete report.

1. General Information

Representation to ICRI (Country / Organization):	SPREP
Focal Point 1:	
Focal point 2:	
Last meeting attended:	Fort Lauderdale
How do you circulate ICRI information within	
your country and/or organization?	
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities	USD 750 000/ 3years (2007-2009)
(please mention for year/period):	

For countries only:

National Action Plan / Initiative	
Do you have a National Coral Reef action plan?	YES / NO
Is this plan publicly available? If so please provide location:	
Do you have a National Coral Reef Initiative or Task Force?	YES / NO
Are you engaged in any regional programs / initiatives relating to coral reefs:	YES
If yes, please indicate which programmes/initiatives:	Coral Reef InitiativeS for the Pacific, GCRMN SocMon

2. Member contribution to the ICRI GM: Your responses to the following questions will assist the Secretariat in assessing contributions towards the major themes of the Mexico-United States action plan. Due to the heavy schedules of ICRI members, we have tried to keep the questions to a minimum and value any response you can provide.

<u>NOTE</u>: The Secretariat will compile Members' responses to the below questions into a general presentation to be given during the April GM. The Secretariat will also request specific Members to highlight certain initiatives, should additional information be of interest to the full ICRI membership. Please keep this in mind when filling out this report and place special emphasis on calling attention to new initiatives/programs/projects of your government/organization which will be of interest to the ICRI Members.

- a. Please provide any lessons you have learned from your experiences of developing partnerships with the private sector that might be relevant to ICRI members?
- b. Are you aware of programmes or policies by your country/organization for implementing integrated ecosystem management from watershed to reef slope?

As part of the CRISP programme, SPREP and the French Institute of Research for Development (IRD) have implemented a project in Vanuatu to foster collaboration between different government departments, which is a critical step to achieve integrated coastal management. In this project, the Fisheries, Forestry, Environment, Land-Planning were involved and committed to share GIS data layers with the other partners including the private water company. At the end of the programme, the government has expressed its wish to create a transversal department to build on this initiative.

SPREP is also implementing a climate change adaptation project in Vanuatu funded by MacArthur Foundation where communities will design management plans that will include reefs and watersheds. This project aims at building resilience of natural ecosystems as an adaptation to climate change. It is implemented with the support of the Environment and Fisheries Departments of Vanuatu.

c. Are there any monitoring or research activities you are either involved in or aware of aimed at improving understanding of adaptive management of coral reefs and related ecosystems that may be of interest to ICRI members?

The SEM-Pasifika guidelines aimed at assisting the users in conducting socioeconomic monitoring and using the results for adaptive management. Three training workshops have been conducted since the end of 2007 in which adaptive management is included..

d. Please indicate the effects of the Live Reef Food Fish Trade on your government/organization. Are you aware of any programs/policies in place to address these impacts?

In 2001, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community developed the Live Reef Fish Food Trade Initiative to develop a common framework among SPC members for licensing live reef fish enterprises and for monitoring and regulating these fisheries. The longterm goal of the Initiative is to have locally supported

and administered effective management and monitoring arrangements for the LRFT in Pacific Island countries. Several areas of focus for assistance to Pacific Island countries were identified, including:

• Collecting baseline information about the resource, information about the existing fishery, or relevant information required to measure the potential of the fisheries (for new interests).

• Building the capacity of fisheries officers and other personnel to monitor (conduct resource surveys, analyze and interpret data) and manage the fisheries effectively.

• Developing management plans and regulations and monitoring programmes.

• Developing the supporting framework for management (management committee, management funds) and for monitoring (regional database to support monitoring and data collection).

• Assistance in implementing management plans and monitoring programmes.

This initiative has been on-going since 2001.



Figure 1. The distribution and starting dates of live reef fish trade operations in Pacific Island countries and territories.

For more information, refer to SPC Live Reef Fish Information Bulletin #17 – November 2007 available on line at www.spc.int

e. What other new initiatives/programs/projects/progress, in particular since January 2008, has been made by your government/organization relative to Marine Protected Areas, Ramsar site designations containing coral reefs, integrated coastal zone management measures, policy changes influenced by economic valuation of coral reef ecosystem services, etc., which you believe would be of general interest to other ICRI Members?

For any of the above questions, please provide links to further information. As appropriate, the Secretariat will compile such information to make it accessible to all Members on the ICRI Forum.

IYOR Reporting

There is a separate reporting template for IYOR which has already been distributed by Francis Staub to IYOR Focal Points. If you have not received the IYOR request for reporting, please contact Francis Staub at: <u>fstaub@iyor.org</u>.

ICRI and Other Meetings

Are your ICRI Focal Points considering attending any of the following meetings in 2009?

- IMCC, Washington DC
 World Ocean Congress, Manado, Indonesia

Other (please specify):