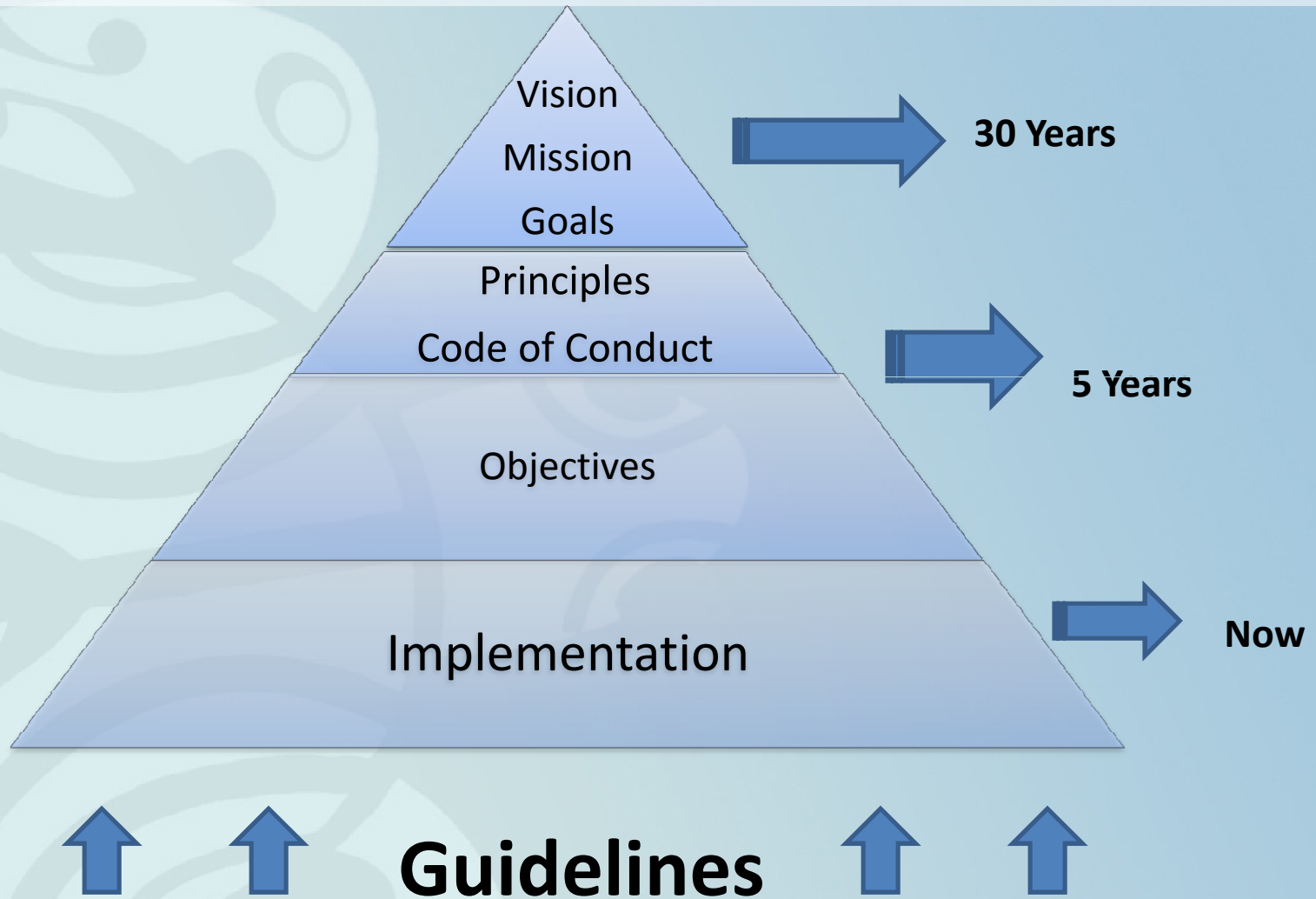


# Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2008 – 2012

*Empowering local people, communities and Pacific  
Institutions*



# Objectives

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Ensure conservation has a development context that recognises, respects and supports sustainable livelihoods and community development aspirations

**OBJECTIVE 2:** Identify, conserve and sustainably manage priority sites, habitats and ecosystems

**OBJECTIVE 3:** Protect and recover threatened species and species of ecological, cultural and economic significance

**OBJECTIVE 4:** Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change impacts and invasive species

# Principles for Nature Conservation

## 1. Community Rights

• Most Natural Resources in the Pacific are owned and used by indigenous and local communities

## 2. Conservation from a Pacific Perspective

## 3. Ownership of Conservation Programmes

## 4. Financial Sustainability

## 5. Good Governance

## 6. Coordination

# Principles for Nature Conservation

7. Capacity Development

8. Accountability

## Linkages with the review and updating NBSAP process

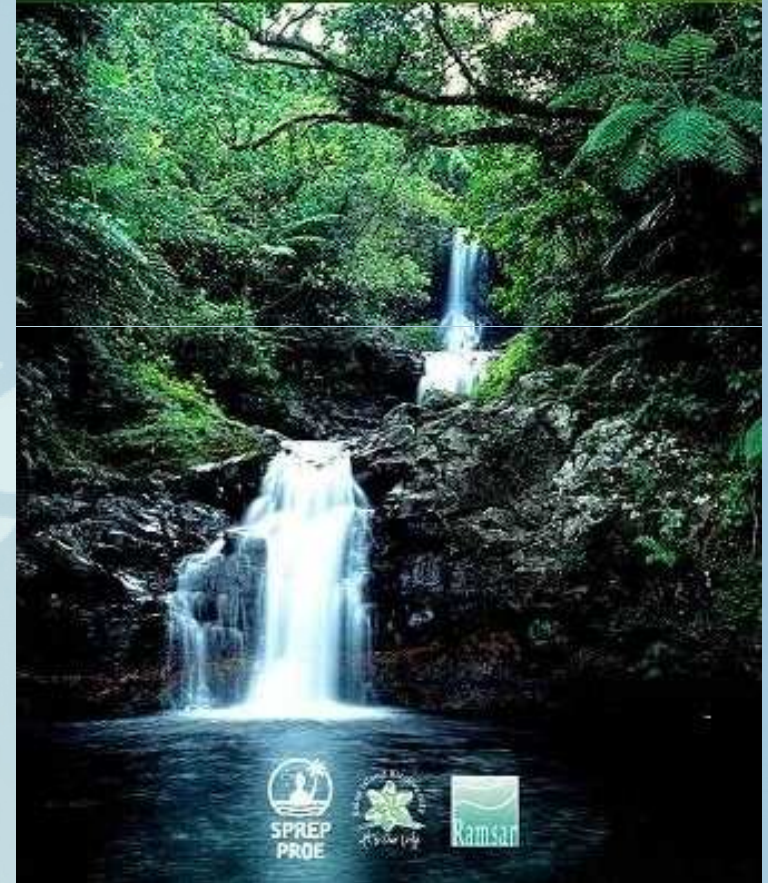
- Review of the implementation of NBSAPs will provide input to the review of the current Action Strategy
- Updated NBSAPs will contribute to the formulation of the next Action Strategy

## Linkages with the review and updating NBSAP process - Timelines

- RT has developed a questionnaire for the review
- June/July 2013 – Roundtable Meeting
- November 2013 – 9<sup>th</sup> Conference



Regional Wetlands Action Plan  
for the Pacific Islands 2011-2013



***Regional Wetlands Action  
Plan for the Pacific  
Islands 2011-2013.***

Vainuupo Jungblut  
Ramsar Officer Oceania  
SPREP

[vainuupoj@sprep.org](mailto:vainuupoj@sprep.org)



## Background

- Developed in August 2010, New Caledonia.
- Seeks to promote and strengthen the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the region.
- Follows on from the 1999 SPREP Regional Wetlands Action Plan
- Developed & finalised by 13 PICTs.
- Covers all wetland types in the PI region (high islands/atolls).
- Outlines actions under 5 goals
- Implements both strategic plans (SPREP and Ramsar)

## Areas covered in the Action Plan

- monitoring/ research (ie – national baseline inventories, economic valuation, life histories, habitat connectivity).
- legislation & policy (ie – strengthening of relevant legislation/policies including EIA procedures).
- **Mainstreaming of wetlands issues (ie – in NBSAPs, Climate Change programmes).**
- Rehabilitation & restoration
- Strengthening cross-sectoral cooperation on wetlands issues
- Climate Change & wetlands (Key role in EBA, vulnerability)
- Invasive species & wetlands (extent & impact)



## Areas covered in the Action Plan

- Increasing wetlands-related awareness & education (national CEPA strategies)
- Documenting & preserving wetlands-related Traditional Knowledge
- Governance (improving policies, customary laws)
- Improving access to wetland information (at all levels)
- Increasing wetlands-related training (monitoring, management)
- Increasing membership to the Ramsar Convention
- Community involvement (research, awareness, management, decision-making)
- Private sector engagement

## In summary...

- Formulation process – driven by the PICTs
- Success – relies on support/efforts of all stakeholders
- Actions/activities – different leads
- Three-year timeframe (expected to reach five)
- Reflects the most current priorities of PICTs
- The guiding plan/strategy for mangroves in the region
- All current/future related regional efforts should align with the new Action Plan.

## **COP 10 Decision X/31 - Protected Areas**

### **A. Strengthening National, Regional and Global implementation**

- **Action plan for PoWPA**
  - **Integration into revised NBSAPs and relevant sectoral plans**
- **Development of regional plans**
  - **Organization of regional technical support networks**
  - **Coordination of available funding and technical support**
- **Sub-regional and regional capacity building workshops**
  - **Increase awareness on PA benefits and values**

## Biodiversity and Ecosystems Management

- PoWPA –Action Plans
- Technical support Integrated Islands Biodiversity Project; Cook Islands, Nauru, Tonga and Tuvalu.
- Coordination and networking with regional biodiversity / ecosystem management interventions including (i) FAO/GEF Forestry and Protected Area Management in Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu and Niue (GEFPAS-FPAM); (ii) MNRE / UNDP Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa Project; (iii) IUCN BIOPAMA Project.
- Design and implement (in conjunction with University of the South Pacific and Lincoln University) a comprehensive Protected Area / Biodiversity Conservation Management capacity needs assessment
- Technical assistance to PICs to mobilize resources for biodiversity conservation interventions.
- Facilitate PIC approaches for formulating ecosystem service indicators including the application of TEEB and Global Footprint tools.
- Provide technical assistance and facilitate PIC efforts to meet CBD Strategic Plan and Aichi Targets including the introduction of monitoring indicators.
- Implement and manage, in collaboration with Samoa MNRE, CEPF, CI and other partners, the CEPF Central Savaii Rainforest Rapid Biodiversity Survey (BIORAP).
- Coordinate, mobilize and collaborate with the Protected Area Working Group to support appropriate activities.
- Support for 2013 Nature Conservation and PA Conference coordinator

## PoWPA Action Plans **12** of **16** have submitted their

- Australia
- [Cook Islands](#)
- [Fiji](#)
- [Kiribati](#)
- Marshall Islands
- [Micronesia \(Federated States of\)](#)
- [Nauru](#)
- [New Zealand](#)
- [Niue](#)
- [Palau](#)
- Papua New Guinea
- [Samoa](#)
- [Solomon Islands](#)
- [Tonga](#)
- [Tuvalu](#)
- Vanuatu

# Enhancing Knowledge and Understanding of the Biodiversity of Upland Central Savaii

## BIORAP SURVEY



**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM**  
PARTNERSHIP FUND





# NBSAP Objectives

## Theme 2: Ecosystem Management

- **Objective 1: Research and Monitoring**

*1.2 Undertake biological surveys of key upland sites not visited in the National Upland Ecological Survey of 1998, e.g. Sili Upland forest, Itu Salega and Gataivai Upland forest.*

- **Objective 2: Conservation Areas**

*2.3 Establish large conservation areas which include more than one ecosystem, in high priority sites identified in lowland and upland ecological surveys such as Aopo, Sili, Salailua, and Eastern Upolu, utilizing community management approaches.*

## Theme 3: Species Management

- **Objective 2: Research and Monitoring**

*2.2 Undertake a research programme to complete the collection and identification of Samoa's fauna and flora.*

*2.3 Develop a project to search for the Punae.*

- **Objective 5: Capacity Building**

*5.1 Develop and implement local capacity building programmes on biological surveys, monitoring techniques and species management.*

# Map of Key Sites for Conservation in Samoa

(CI/SPREP/MNRE 2010)



## Project Methods

### Community Consultations (April- May 2012)

- District consultations in Northern Savaii on April 18 (Manase to Aopo)
- District consultation for Southern Savaii on April 19 (Sili to Salailua)
- Ava ceremony at Aopo on April 18 May



### Survey (May 21-31 2012)

**Taxa: birds, reptiles, land snails, insects and plants**

**Standard methods employed: 5 min bird counts, sound recorders, pitfall trapping and light traps, transects, sticky traps, hand collection**

**Specimens exported for final identification to a number of overseas institutions**

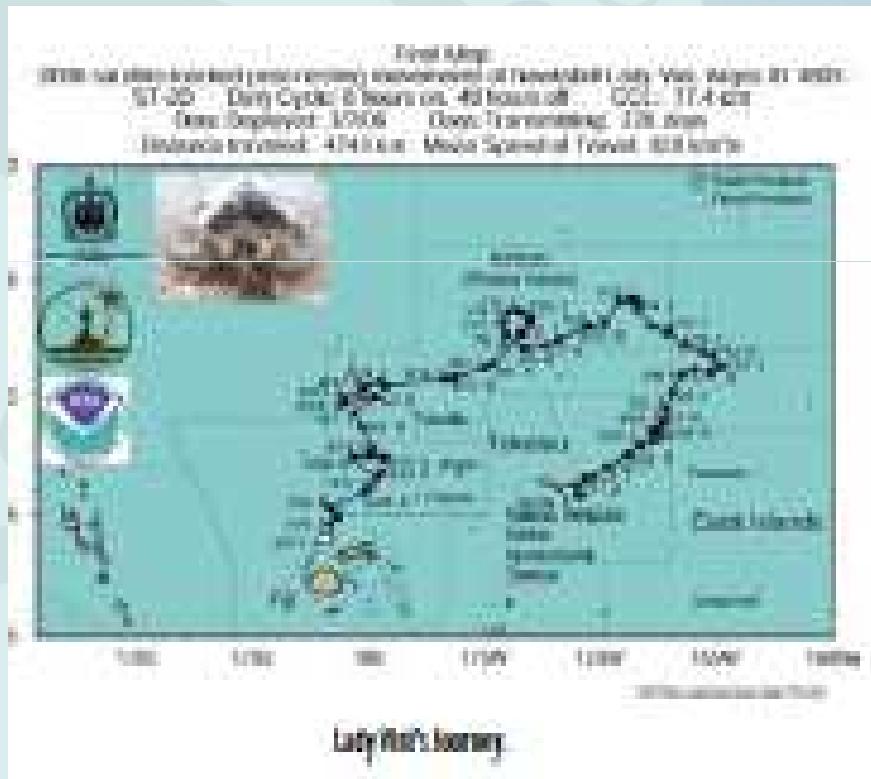


## Project Results and Next Steps

- **Community awareness raised**
- **Scientific knowledge- new species found, status of other species revised, new data on elevation ranges of many species obtained**
- **New trail cut to the correct summit of Savaii (Mt Silisili)**
- **Campsite established at Mata o le Afi for possible ecotourism development**
- **Documentary of survey work**
- **First ava ceremony at 1650m in Samoa!**

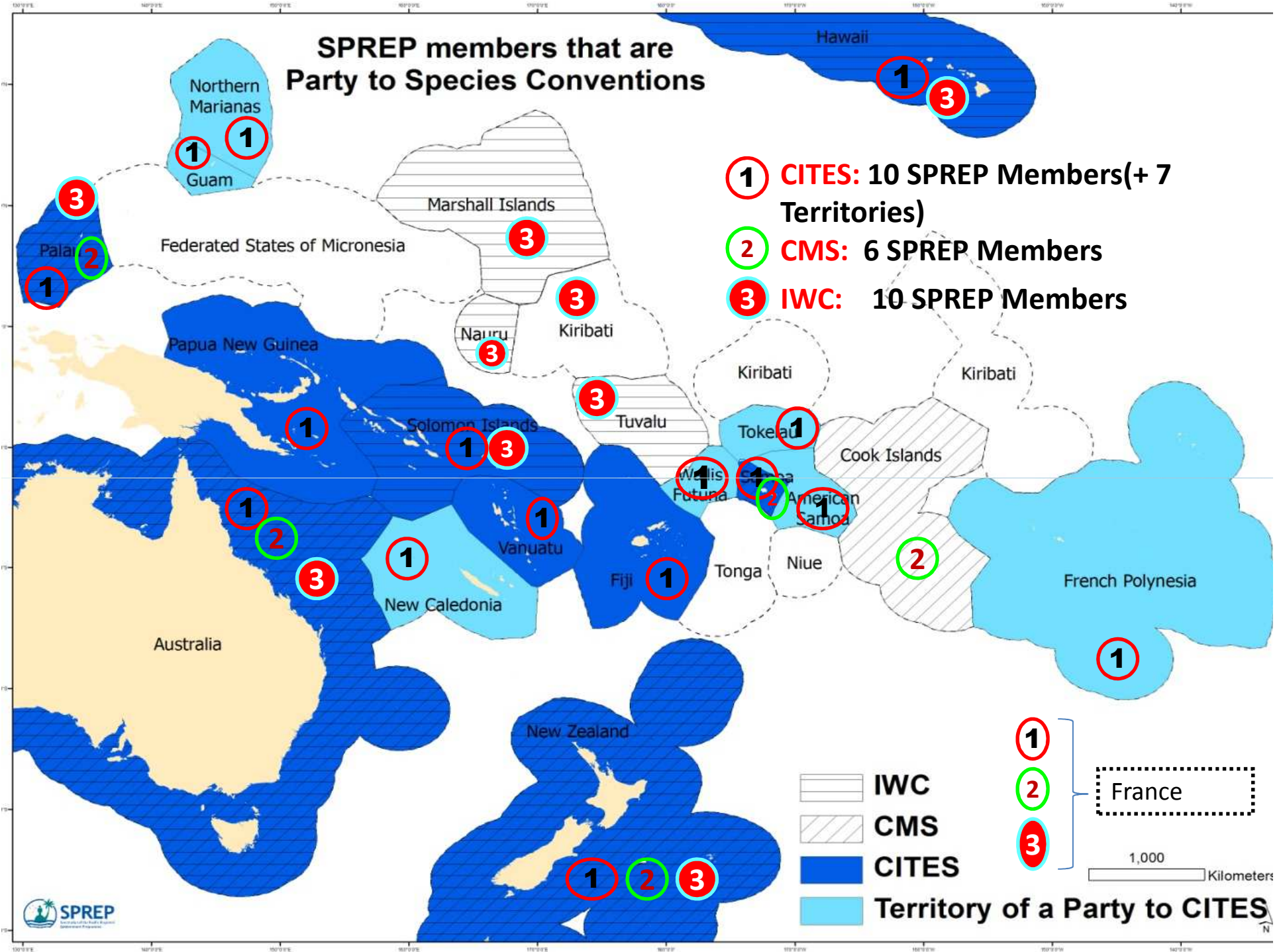


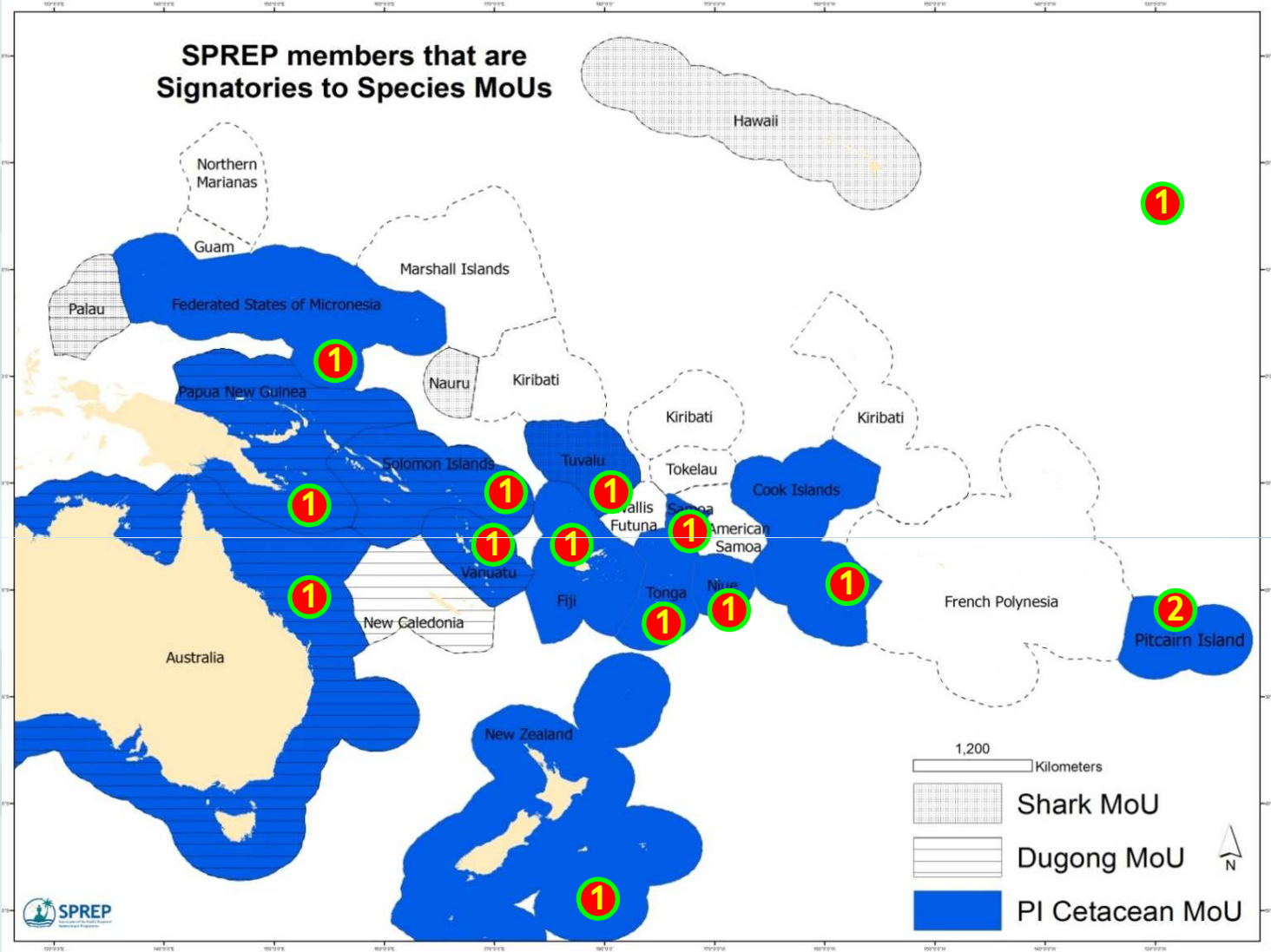
# Integrating threatened & migratory species into NBSAPs



- component of biodiversity & indicator
- integral part of Pacific Island cultures and traditions
- flagships for conservation
- EBM / collaboration

# SPREP members that are Party to Species Conventions

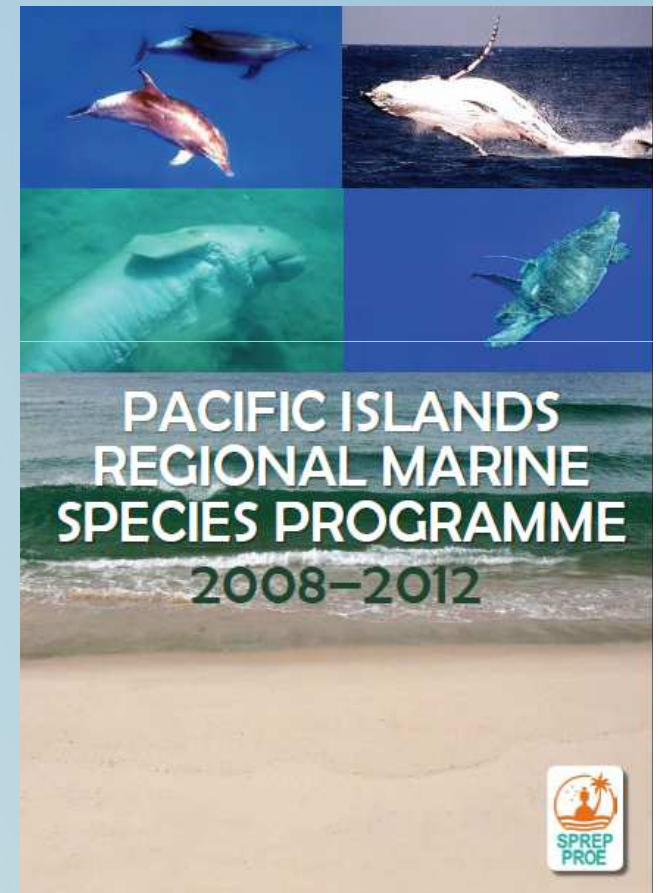




**1** SPREP members that are Signatories to the Pacific Cetaceans MoU

**2** Territory that is a signatory to Pacific Cetaceans MoU

Action Plan	Action	Aichi Target
Dugong (CMS Dugong MoU)	1.3: Increase community awareness of ecological & biological information on dugongs	1
Marine turtles (IOSEA)	3.2: Reduce the use of plastic bags	8
Cetaceans (* PI Cetaceans MoU AP)	4.1: Support efforts to declare whale sanctuaries / marine parks /	11





# Invasive Alien Species

- One of the leading cause of biodiversity loss worldwide;
- 70-95% of species extinctions occur on island
- No 1 cause of species extinctions on islands are by IAS
- Impacts cut across sectors – impacting on health, food security, tourism and trade



# Invasive Alien Species

- Cross-cutting issue –national & regional concern requiring a multi-prong approach:
  - Mainstreaming and Integrating invasive species into national development plans and policies
  - Long-term commitment by Governments to address existing IAS and new introductions
  - Everyone’s problem and responsibility, therefore establishing cross-sector & multi-agency invasive species teams is a priority

# Regional Response

- Pacific Invasives Partnership
  - regional coordinating body for invasive species management (Roundtable Working Group comprising of 30+ agencies);
  - Guiding strategy: the *Guidelines for Invasive Species Management in the Pacific*
- Pacific Invasives Learning Network
  - Country-level learning network of practitioners from different sectors to address national IAS priorities including build capacity to accelerate on the ground actions!



# Regional Response

- Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) – funding investment for the Micronesia-Polynesia Hotspots focusing on *inter alia* invasive species (end 2013)
- GEF-PAS Invasive Species Project – USD\$7 mil. Investment in 10 countries (2011-2014)
- Pacific Islands Forum Leaders – IAS issue is lead by Cook Islands Prime Minister – need support from other Pacific Island leaders (Aug. 2012)

## Aichi Targets

- *Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.*
- **Pacific Invasive Partnership look forward to assist countries achieve Target 9 (and targets 3, 5, 12, 14, 17)**