

Action Plan for Implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity's Programme of Work on Protected Areas



(INSERT PHOTO OF COUNTRY)

Nauru

Submitted to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity October 6, 2011

Protected area information:

PoWPA Focal Point: Not yet decided

Lead implementing agency: Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment (CIE)

Multi-stakeholder committee: To be determined but most likely will be CIE, Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA), Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation (NRC), Public Health – Environment, Nauru Aquaculture Association (NAQUA), Nauru Fishers Association (NFA), Anabar District Community, Ijuw District Community, Anibare District Community.

Description of protected area system

National Targets and Vision for Protected Areas

Nauru's targets by 2025 are to have at least 5% (≥ 105 hectares (Ha)) of the terrestrial areas which include inland and coastal areas within the boundaries baseline and 22% ($\geq 34,137$ Ha) of the coastal marine areas outside the boundaries baseline within the territorial sea to the contiguous zone as protected areas. The goal of Nauru is to enhance development and sustainable management of terrestrial, marine and fisheries resources to provide sustainable economic returns. The strategies are to ensure sustainable practices are implemented to safeguard the terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems including rehabilitation of mined land. The long term goal is to have the main biodiversity and ecosystems protected through protected areas using relevant conservation planning techniques. Nauru is a country with around 85% of the surface area rendered uninhabitable due to strip mining for phosphate and majority of people residing on the coastline except for Buada district, the only inland district community with no coastline. Rehabilitation of the mined areas of the island is the greatest challenge for the country. The economic downturn of Nauru saw a substantial decrease in wage rates within the public sector which accounts for around 80% of employment in the country. This resulted in an increase in fishing especially reef gleaning which has amplified the usage of reef resources on an already heavily exploited reef. The challenge for Nauru is to identify the best area(s) for protection, gather support and manage, monitor, evaluate the area well to ensure the goals are being achieved and food security is secured. These two areas of challenge are necessary and needed for the security and well being of our people.

Coverage

Currently there are no protected areas in Nauru, however a site has been identified which requires baseline information to be compiled on the biological and ecological significance of the area(s).

(Amount and % protected for terrestrial and marine; maps of protected area system)

Description and background

(Summary description)

Governance types

(Summary matrix of governance types)

Key threats

The Nauru Reed-warbler (*Acrocephalus rehsei*) is on the IUCN vulnerable species list.

Increased focus on harvesting marine resources to supplement lower incomes has the potential to devastate inshore resources.

Disputes between landowners and NRC are causing disruptions in the rehabilitation pilot project site better known as Pit 6.

(Description of key threats, and maps, if available)

Barriers for effective implementation

Landownership is a contentious issue in Nauru and is a potential barrier for effective implementation of protected areas. Fortunately landownership does not extend to the reef flat.

Baseline information on the biological and ecological significance of the identified area(s) is non-existent causing delay on any further action.

There is also a lack of capacity and skilled personnel.

(Description of key barrier s for effective implementation)

Status, priority and timeline for key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

Status of key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

Status of key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas	Status
• Progress on assessing gaps in the protected area network (1.1)	0
• Progress in assessing protected area integration (1.2)	0
• Progress in establishing transboundary protected areas and regional networks (1.3)	0
• Progress in developing site-level management plans (1.4)	0
• Progress in assessing threats and opportunities for restoration (1.5)	2
• Progress in assessing equitable sharing of benefits (2.1)	0
• Progress in assessing protected area governance (2.1)	0
• Progress in assessing the participation of indigenous and local communities in key protected area decisions (2.2)	1
• Progress in assessing the policy environment for establishing and managing protected areas (3.1)	1
• Progress in assessing the values of protected areas (3.1)	0
• Progress in assessing protected area capacity needs (3.2)	0
• Progress in assessing the appropriate technology needs (3.3)	0
• Progress in assessing protected area sustainable finance needs (3.4)	0
• Progress in conducting public awareness campaigns (3.5)	1
• Progress in developing best practices and minimum standards (4.1)	2
• Progress in assessing management effectiveness (4.2)	0
• Progress in establishing an effective PA monitoring system (4.3)	0
• Progress in developing a research program for protected areas (4.4)	0
• Progress in assessing opportunities for marine protection	2
• Progress in incorporating climate change aspects into protected areas	2

Status: 0 = no work, 1 = just started, 2 = partially complete, 3 = nearly complete, 4 = complete
(Insert notes as appropriate)

Priority actions for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas:

NFMRA and CIE have identified a preliminary sea to land area for protection which requires research to confirm connection of the ecosystems from the off-shore shoal to the adjacent reef on Nauru, this reef coastline to the adjacent wetland moving up to the land area on the interior of the wetland in Anabar

and Ijuw and to develop a program on best practices for the establishment and management of the protected area(s) (PA(s)).

(Insert priority actions)

Timeline for completion of key actions

Establish a Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) in 2011 and to have PA(s) established in 2015.

(Insert timeline)

Action Plans for completing priority actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

(Insert detailed action plans)

Action 1: (Describe action)

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
1. Formalize the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and its terms of reference (TOR).	2011	CIE, NFMRA, NRC	AUD\$0
2. Develop TOR and Scope of Study (SOS) on the biological and ecological significance of the identified area(s) for protection.	2011	SPREP, SPC, CIE, NFMRA, NRC	AUD\$0
3. Bring in expert(s) to implement and assess terrestrial and aquatic surveys to establish baseline information on the biological and ecological significance of the identified area(s) for protection.	2012-2013	SPREP, SPC, CIE, NFMRA, NRC	AUD\$200,000
4. Impart knowledge and develop capacity and skills of local counterparts.	2012-2013	SPREP, SPC, CIE, NFMRA, NRC	AUD\$30,000
5. Utilize information to determine the best way forward.	2014	CIE, NFMRA, NRC	AUD\$0
6. Develop framework and mechanisms towards establishment of protected area(s).	2014-2015	CIE, NFMRA, NRC	AUD\$5,000
7. Continue with data collection and assessment.	2014-2015	CIE	AUD\$20,000

Action 2: (Describe action)

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
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Action 3: (Describe action)

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget

(Insert more as needed)

Key assessment results

Ecological gap assessment (insert summary findings if available)

Management effectiveness assessment (Insert summary findings if available)

Sustainable finance assessment (Insert summary findings if available)

Capacity needs assessment (Insert summary findings if available)

Policy environment assessment (Insert summary findings if available)

Protected area integration and mainstreaming assessment (Insert summary findings if available)

Protected area valuation assessment (Insert summary findings if available)

Climate change resilience and adaptation assessment (Insert summary findings if available)

(Insert other assessment results if available)

ACTION PLAN FOR PoWPA and Target 11

1. Basic Information

Country name: Nauru

PoWPA Focal Point: Not yet designated

Lead implementing agency: Nauru Fisheries & Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA)
Department of Commerce, Industry & Environment (CIE)

Multi-stakeholder Committee: Not yet formed

Total country area: 21km²

% terrestrial area protected: Zero

% territorial waters protected: Zero

2. Overview of national protected area system

No information available

3. National targets for Target 11 and time frame for achieving them

No information available

4. INITIAL POWPA ANALYSIS AND PRIORITY SETTING

CBD Party Member target levels to be achieved by 2020:

- i. 17% terrestrial including in-land water areas
- ii. 10% of coastal marine areas within the TS

Nauru Country Targets by 2025

- i. 5% (105Ha) terrestrial including in-land water areas
- ii. 22% (34,137Ha) of coastal marine areas within the TS

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)

- i. Important Bird Areas
- ii. Important Plant Areas
- iii. Alliance for zero extinction
- iv. Areas rich in wild relatives of crops

Target 11

- i. Ecological significant
- ii. Equitable conservation
- iii. Connectivity

5. Status of Key PoWPA Actions

At its early stages of being.

10 yr period

6. Prioritization and Action plan for PoWPA and for achieving Target 11¹

Action	Priority	Timeline	Budget
Gap analysis			
Integration of protected areas into wider land and seascapes to showcase mainstreaming of biodiversity with other sectors and ecosystem based approaches to adaptation to climate change adaptation and leading to mitigation through carbon sequestration	NFMRA and CIE have identified a preliminary sea to land area for protection which requires research to confirm connection of the ecosystems (shoal/adjacent island reef/wetland/land) before taking this issue to the wider stakeholders taking into account putting together best practices for establishing and managing a PA.	1 year	AUD\$255,000
Institutionalize management effectiveness assessment towards assessing 60% of the total areas by 2015 and ensure that the results of the assessments are implemented;			
Diversification of governance types and recognition of ICCAs including through acknowledgement in national legislation or other effective means, formal inclusion in the national systems,			
Development and implementation of sustainable finance plans for protected area systems.			
Assessing the values and contribution of protected areas to the national and local economies and to achieving MDGs			

¹ Activities included are from COP 10 decision and also from PoWPA goals. These are indicative only, PoWPA FPs are required to include as per their priorities based on ground realities

Nauru accessed only 0.5 million for the following project under its biodiversity allocation. Under its Climate Change allocation, it used only 0.5 million

RAF GEF-4 Biodiversity Allocations Utilized by Nauru (All amounts in US\$)

GEF ID	Agency	Transaction Type	Transaction Date	GEF Project Grant	GEF Agency Fee	Total Transaction Amount	Comment
PAS Implementing the Island Biodiversity Programme of Work by Integrating the Conservation Management of Island Biodiversity							
4023	UNEP	FP	March 17, 2010	435,150	43,515	478,665	
4023	UNEP	PPG	February 24, 2010	19,250	1,925	21,175	
Sub totals				454,400	45,440	499,840	

STAR GEF-5 Allocation and Utilization (All amounts in US\$)

Focal Area	STAR GEF-5 Indicative allocation	Allocation utilized	PIFs cleared by CEO awaiting approval	Allocations remaining to be programmed
Biodiversity	1,500,000	0	0	1,500,000
Climate Change	2,000,000	0	0	2,000,000
Land Degradation	500,000	0	0	500,000
Total	4,000,000	0	0	4,000,000

Worksheet for PoWPA Action Planning and Implementation

For each element of the PoWPA, identify the status, the priority, timeline. Be sure to include marine and terrestrial in your deliberations.

Status of key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas	Status	Priority	Timeline
• Has a multi-stakeholder advisory committee been formed?	1	VH	2011
• What is the progress on assessing gaps in the protected area network ? (1.1)	0	L	2020
• What is the progress in assessing protected area integration ? (1.2)	0	M	2015
• What is the progress in establishing transboundary protected areas and regional networks ? (1.3)	0	L	2020
• What is the progress in developing site-level management plans ? (1.4)	0	H	2015
• What is the progress in assessing threats and opportunities for restoration ? (1.5)	2	VH	2015
• What is the progress in assessing equitable sharing of benefits? (2.1)	0	VH	2015
• What is the progress in assessing protected area governance ? (2.1)	0	VH	2015
• What is the progress in assessing the participation of indigenous and local communities in key protected area decisions? (2.2)	1	H	2012
• What is the progress in assessing the policy environment for establishing and managing protected areas? (3.1)	1	VH	2015
• What is the progress in assessing the values of protected areas? (3.1)	0	VH	2015
• What is the progress in assessing protected area capacity needs? (3.2)	0	H	2012
• What is the progress in assessing the appropriate technology needs? (3.3)	0	H	2012
• What is the progress in assessing protected area sustainable finance needs? (3.4)	0	H	2015
• What is the progress in conducting public awareness campaigns? (3.5)	1	VH	2011
• What is the progress in developing best practices and minimum standards ? (4.1)	2	M	2020
• What is the progress in assessing management effectiveness ? (4.2)	0	H	2017
• What is the progress in establishing an effective PA monitoring system ? (4.3)	0	H	2017
• What is the status of developing a research program for protected areas? (4.4)	0	VH	2012
• What is the status of assessing opportunities for marine protection?	2	M	2015
• What is the status of incorporating climate change aspects into protected areas?	2	M	2015

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Priority: VH (very high); H (high); M (medium); L (low); Timeline: (e.g., 2012, 2013, 2014)

Choose 1 action from the table above that has a very high priority, and has not yet been completed. Develop specific steps for completing that action, including a timeline, responsible agency, and basic cost considerations.

Action:

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
Develop [and implement] a research program for [proposed] protected areas (4.4)	2012	NFMRA/CIE and research partners	AUD\$255,000

