



**INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR CONSERVATION
OF NATURE**

**OCEANIA
REGIONAL OFFICE
ANNUAL REPORT 2017**



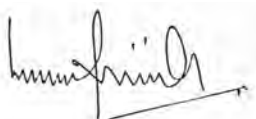
International Union for
Conservation of Nature



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Foreword



Mason Smith
Regional Director

Bula Vina'a and greetings from the Oceania Regional Office (ORO) in Suva, Fiji. It is my pleasure to provide this foreword to the 2017 IUCN Oceania Regional Office annual report.

No doubt, 2017 was a year of transition for ORO, including a number of major programmatic and administrative reforms undertaken during the year, and the recruitment and appointment of several new staff including the Head of Finance and Operations, the Regional Programme Coordinator and my own role of Regional Director. In addition, ORO commenced hubbing arrangements with the Asia Regional Office to strengthen our collaboration in areas such as HR, Finance and Programmes.

In 2017, ORO continued to support IUCN Members and Pacific Island communities to improve their sustainable management and conservation of species and ecosystems, and to address their major drivers of biodiversity loss. In this regard, the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) awarded 15 new grants to community groups and NGOs in Oceania, with a total of approximately USD\$1 million issued to grantees to empower local communities to protect and manage their biodiversity. In Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu, the Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries (MACBIO) project continued to assist countries with their national marine ecosystem services valuations, their national marine spatial plans and reviews of ocean-related legislation, policies, strategies and plans. In 2017 the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management programme (BIOPAMA) commenced Phase 2, with SPREP continuing to develop the Pacific Islands Protected Areas Portal (PIPAP), and ORO developing a €6 million action grant program for local communities and stakeholders to implement field projects. ORO also facilitated and strengthened cooperation amongst large marine protected areas in the region and assisted countries with their National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans (NBSAP).

ORO continued to support the development and growth of environmental governance throughout the region, including the Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance (PCEG) supporting the Fiji Government with the development of a legal framework for terrestrial protected areas. This work will continue in 2018. The PCEG Environmental Law Unit also delivered and supported a number of legal training workshops and provided legal reviews of marine protected area legislation for Tonga, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands, along with producing a number of publications. The Green Growth Leaders Coalition retreat was hosted by the Kingdom of Tonga and a number of pocket talanoas were also held during the year.



Support beams of a modern Fijian house
Credit: IUCN Oceania

Ecosystem-based approaches to climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction featured prominently in ORO's work in 2017 and the Water & Wetlands programme hosted in Fiji a regional capacity building workshop to explore this vital approach to increasing the resilience of Pacific Island communities. ORO also provided assistance to the Republic of Marshall Islands Coastal Management Advisory Council to review the Marshall Islands National Conservation Management Plan (Reimaanlok), and in July ORO launched the Global Mangroves Alliance with partners Conservation International and World Wildlife Fund. The Climate Change Mitigation and Risk Reduction Programme continued to use renewable energy and energy efficiency as a tool for improving community livelihoods and biodiversity co-benefits, by positioning nature conservation at the heart of community and country responses to their energy needs. The Energy, Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative (EESLI) continued to support projects in 10 countries including home loan energy programs, energy loan schemes, a low carbon water access project, and a small grants program among others.

2018 will be a year of consolidation and celebration. ORO will consolidate its achievements to date, strengthen its internal systems and processes (including internal controls and risk management) and lay the foundation for sustainable growth in 2019. Improvements will be made to project implementation and monitoring & evaluation. Resource mobilization through the development of ORO's project

portfolio will occur with the engagement of IUCN Members and Commissions in the design and implementation of these new projects. A revitalized membership strategy will also be rolled out in 2018.

ORO will remain engaged with discussions surrounding the post 2020 Aichi Targets, the debate around the climate agenda, including promoting our work on Nature Based Solutions (NbS), and assisting countries to realize their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). ORO will also remain engaged with Fiji on its COP 23 Oceans Pathway. In 2018 ORO will commence preparations to host the 2019 Regional Conservation Forum and in this regard, work on ORO's 2021-2024 Regional Programme will also commence this year.

In 2018 ORO will celebrate IUCN's 70th birthday in October with a number of celebrations occurring throughout the year. As we celebrate, we will also devote time to develop our leaders in the regional office, and remain fully engaged with all our staff.

I wish to conclude by expressing my sincere appreciation to all ORO staff, IUCN Members and Commissions for their efforts in transitioning ORO through 2017, and I look forward to working as a team in 2018 as we consolidate and lay the foundation for sustainable growth in 2019, and in so doing better our support to Pacific Islands countries and communities.

Vina'a and thank you all.

IUCN Councillors' Remarks



Anna Tiraa
Andrew Bignell
Peter Cochrane

*IUCN Councillors, elected from
Oceania for 2016-2020*

Bula Vinaka

This impressive Annual Report for 2017 also marks the Oceania Regional Office's first ten years of operation. Since its establishment in 2007, the Office has grown steadily in the scope of its responsibilities, its capacity to deliver projects across the Pacific, and its influence and importance for nature conservation in the region, as this Report clearly shows.

We acknowledge and thank Mason for his leadership of the office during the past year and his steady hand in helping to implement IUCN's programmatic and administrative reforms over this period.

We also acknowledge and thank Taholo Kami, ORO's first Director, who led ORO's establishment, its first decade of operation and the development of a wide range of successful nature conservation partnerships and projects across the Pacific. Taholo's capacity to bring people together, from political leaders, to local communities, researchers and government officials has been a key to the growing influence of IUCN and the Oceania Regional Office in and beyond the Pacific.

We also thank the many IUCN staff who serve and have served in ORO for their passion, commitment and capabilities, and our predecessors, past IUCN Councillors, who worked hard to secure the agreement to establish an IUCN regional office in the Pacific, and then to support it over the last ten years.

The decade ahead will be even more challenging for the Pacific and its people, as the impacts of a rapidly changing climate will be felt ever more strongly here, displacing coastal communities, affecting food and water supplies and threatening essential infrastructure such as roads and ports.

The Pacific needs strong and capable leaders and organisations with the skills and capabilities to collectively face these challenges. We are confident that the Oceania Regional Office of IUCN will play an ever more important role in this respect for nature conservation and natural resource management across the vast expanse of the Pacific Ocean.

Vinaka

Overview of IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Created in 1948, IUCN has evolved into the world's largest and most diverse environmental network. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,300 Member organisations and the input of some 10,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. Our experts are organised into six commissions dedicated to species survival, environmental law, protected areas, social and economic policy, ecosystem management, and education and communication.

The ability to convene diverse stakeholders and provide the latest science, objective recommendations and on-the-ground expertise drives IUCN's mission of informing and empowering conservation efforts worldwide. We provide a neutral forum in which governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples groups, faith-based organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges.

By facilitating these solutions, IUCN provides governments and institutions at all levels with the impetus to achieve universal goals, including on biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development, which IUCN was instrumental in defining.

Combined, our knowledge base and diverse membership make IUCN an incubator and trusted repository of best practices, conservation tools, and international guidelines and standards. As the only

environmental organisation with official United Nations Observer Status, IUCN ensures that nature conservation has a voice at the highest level of international governance.

IUCN's expertise and extensive network provide a solid foundation for a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects around the world. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being. They also produce a wealth of data and information which feeds into IUCN's analytical capacity.

Through their affiliation with IUCN, Member organisations are part of a democratic process, voting Resolutions which drive the global conservation agenda. They meet every four years at the IUCN World Conservation Congress to set priorities and agree on the Union's work programme. IUCN congresses have produced several key international environmental agreements including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the World Heritage Convention, and the Ramsar Convention on wetlands. We continue to help these conventions strengthen and evolve so that they can respond to emerging challenges.

Our Member organisations are represented by the IUCN Council – the governing body. Headquartered in Switzerland, IUCN Secretariat comprises around 950 staff in more than 50 countries.

IUCN in Oceania



The IUCN Oceania region is comprised of the 24 countries and territories of Polynesia, Micronesia, Melanesia, Australia and New Zealand. Oceania is geographically one of IUCN's largest regional programmes, covering over 100 million km² of land and ocean. Oceania also contains a diverse range of ecosystems, from coral reefs to kelp forests, mangroves to montane forests, and wetlands to deserts.

Throughout the Pacific, nature supports the daily livelihoods of island communities. Nature is both culturally significant and the primary source of food, water and income. However, increasing pressures from growing populations, extractive industries, infrastructure developments and invasive species are increasing the rate of biodiversity loss in many countries.

Australia and New Zealand lead the region's

economic development, and have solid capacity in the environmental management of developments. The countries and territories of the Pacific Islands have also been continually developing and improving their environmental governance and policies. IUCN often acts as a broker for the environment, encouraging governments, like-minded organisations and communities to work together for the sustainable management of nature's resources.

Our Members

IUCN's Oceania Regional Office is the focal point for administering and serving Member organisations in the Oceania region. In 2017, there were 57 members based in the Oceania region, representing about 4% of global IUCN membership. Two organisations joined the Union in 2017; Queensland Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing and Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, both from Australia.

Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism, Palau The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Vanuatu Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change & Communications (MEIDECC), Tonga Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Meteorology, Solomon Islands Department of Commerce Industry and Environment, CIC, Nauru Department of Environment, Fiji Department of Conservation, New Zealand Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa Department of the Environment and Energy, Australia Queensland Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing, Australia Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Australia	Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Programme, Pacific Community (New Caledonia)* Niue Island United Association of Non-Government Organisations (Niue) Micronesian Shark Foundation (Palau) Environment Tasmania (Australia) Palau Protected Areas Network Fund (Palau) Palau Conservation Society (Palau) North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance Limited (Australia) Tenkile Conservation Alliance (PNG) Te Ipukarea Society (Cook Islands) Te Mana o te Moana (French Polynesia)* Environmental Defenders Offices of Australia Earthwatch Institute (Australia) Conservation Volunteers Australia Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attraction, Western Australia National Environmental Law Association (Australia) Australian Rainforest Conservation Society
Australian Marine Conservation Society Centre for International and Environmental Law (Macquarie University) National Parks Australia Council Institute of Foresters of Australia Tasmanian Land Conservancy Inc. (Australia) WWF - New Zealand WWF-Australia Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand Project Jonah (Australia) The Wilderness Society (Australia) Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales (Australia) Lincoln University, Faculty of Environment, Society and Design (New Zealand) National Trust of Fiji Islands (Fiji) Australian Conservation Foundation Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand University of the South Pacific (Fiji)	Zoos Victoria (Australia) Territory and Municipal Services Directorate, Australian Capital Territory Parks Victoria (Australia) Landcare Research New Zealand Ltd. Wet Tropics Management Authority (Australia) New Zealand Conservation Authority Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Northern Territory (Australia) Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Queensland (Australia) Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, Queensland (Australia) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Victoria (Australia) Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia Office of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales (Australia) Direction de l'environnement de la province Sud (New Caledonia)*

** (asterisk) - Members that are from the French territories*



Solomon Islands Giant Tree Frog
Credit: Patrick Pikacha/CEPF East Melanesia

Oceania and its ecologically rich ocean and islands host an enormous share of the planet's biodiversity. Its biodiversity is characterised by exceptionally high levels of endemism and species diversity. This underpins Oceania's ecosystems and these in turn provide an immense number of services, directly supporting the daily livelihoods of millions of people.

Natural resources across the Pacific Islands are used, customarily owned, governed and managed by local communities, and nature is a central element of island culture and society, underpinning the social and economic livelihoods of people.

IUCN Oceania supports governments, members and communities to improve the sustainable management and conservation of species and ecosystems, and to address the major drivers of biodiversity loss.

PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is a global programme that provides grants to protect critical ecosystems in 36 global biological hotspots. IUCN Oceania is the Regional Implementation Team for CEPF's investment in the East Melanesian Islands biodiversity hotspot, which covers Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and the Bismarck islands of Papua New Guinea.

CEPF awarded 15 new grants to community groups and NGOs in Oceania in 2017, with a combined total of just under USD\$1 million, to empower local communities to protect and manage their biodiversity.

The Emperor, the King and the Little Pig: Status of the lost rats of Guadalcanal

The largest ever survey for rodents was carried out on Guadalcanal by a team from the University of Queensland, with the aim of determining the presence of three little known rodents, which are listed as threatened on the IUCN Red List and are priority species for CEPF. The presence of at least one of these priority species, most likely *Uromys rex* – the King rat – was recorded. The area in which evidence of *Uromys rex* was found is earmarked for logging. As such, it will be important to confirm the species is still present on Guadalcanal and implement actions to conserve it.

New rat species described!

Vika or Vangunu is a new species of giant rat named and described in September 2017 by Hikuna Judge (Zaira Rangers), and Dr Tyrone Lavery (Field Museum of Natural History). CEPF (under a grant to the University of Queensland), Australia Pacific Science Foundation, Lube Bat Conservancy, Fondation Segre, and Australian Museum Research Institute contributed funding for expeditions that eventually led to the discovery of *U. vika*.

New species of goby named after CEPF Grantee!

The French Ichthyological Society and Ecological Solutions Solomon Islands (ESSI) carried out freshwater surveys in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Three new species were described from the Solomon Islands: *Schismatogobius essi*, *Schismatogobius mondo* and *Schismatogobius tiola*. *Schismatogobius essi* is named in dedication to ESSI, which works to improve taxonomic and ecological knowledge of species and ecosystems throughout the Solomon Islands, through close collaboration with local tribes and communities.

Search for Beck's Petrel ends in success!

BirdLife International conducted surveys around New Ireland, Papua New Guinea, where they searched for the elusive and Critically Endangered Beck's Petrel. After many hours pursuing the bird, the team were successful in capturing a Beck's Petrel at sea. It was released in very good condition after being fitted with a satellite transmitter; attached in the hope that signals will provide data on breeding location.

Says Chris Gaskin, team leader of the expedition: "Pinpointing the breeding grounds, and the threats they may face there, is a priority. Petrels only ever go to land to breed, so if we get consistent good quality signals from a location on land we will be able to determine a likely breeding site for a follow up expedition".

Solomon Islands declares first Protected Area!

Exciting news came out of the Solomon Islands in early May, when the Arnavon Islands were declared as The Arnavon Community Marine Park (ACMP). Located between Isabel and Choiseul province, the Arnavon Islands is the country's first officially designated Protected Area under the Protected Area Act 2010. CEPF provided funding to support ACMCA with the legal training of rangers and community members in preparation for the declaration.

Exchanges and Networking

A number of CEPF grantees are working together to learn from each other and build partnerships for future conservation efforts.

In Vanuatu, the Edenhope Foundation, based on the west coast of Santo, established a locally-based Conservation Network for the Santo Mountain Chain naming it the "Santo Sunset Environmental Network". Their long term vision is a network comprised of local customary landowners who will be empowered to take action on protecting and conserving the natural environment for future generations.

Staff from Oceanswatch who are working in Temotu, Solomon Islands, undertook a learning exchange visit to Santo, Vanuatu, where they visited the Loru Community Conservation Area to learn about the Loru Forest Carbon Project. This project was developed by the Nakau Programme to assist the people of Loru in rejecting the advances of loggers and instead sell rainforest carbon offsets as a way of generating revenue for local economic development.

Held from 2nd to 6th October in Honiara, the Solomon Islands National Resource Management Symposium: "Connecting people with nature, a decade of learning", was the first event of its kind to bring together stakeholders to share science, lessons and stories in the effort towards alleviating threats to the natural environment of Solomon Islands. As part of the Symposium, Ecological Solutions Solomon Islands and IUCN Oceania led a Solomon Islands Species Forum.



Red Knobbed Imperial Pigeon in Malaita, Solomon Islands
Credit: Jan van der Ploeg/WorldFish

MANAGING OCEANIA'S MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY

Marine ecosystem benefits that Pacific Islanders rely upon for food and income are being lost at an alarming rate. We are on track to lose some US\$338 billion in value that coral reefs and mangrove ecosystems supply to the Pacific. Offshore fishing, climate change, conflicting uses and more threaten billions of dollars of ocean values as well.

Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu have asked the Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries (MACBIO) project to help them transform their ocean management. MACBIO is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety's (BMUB) International Climate Initiative (IKI). It is being implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) with technical support from IUCN Oceania and in close collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP).

National Marine Ecosystem Service Valuations

In 2017, MACBIO, through IUCN, published five globally unique national marine ecosystem services valuations which have helped to motivate governments towards integrated ocean governance. These studies have found, for example, that Tonga's marine ecosystem services are worth more than the national exports; in the Solomon Islands they compare to 30% of GDP. In all cases, the non-market value of marine ecosystems was found to be significant, for example, those values to do with subsistence fishing, carbon sequestration and coastal protection.

Building the foundation for ocean-wide marine spatial plans

The MACBIO project enabled IUCN to assist Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu to create the building blocks for transformative ocean management, including implementing national marine spatial plans. Already, some of these building blocks are in place.

- Governments have clearly identified and approved the objectives they wish to achieve, and these were approved through the Cabinets of Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.
- IUCN also analysed the legislative basis for integrated marine spatial planning, collated and shared over 200 relevant open-source spatial datasets, and defined what types of ocean zoning is needed in each country.
- Vanuatu launched, in April 2017, the Pacific's first Ocean Policy, developed with IUCN assistance.
- Tonga and Fiji have described marine bioregions and special, unique marine areas throughout their seas, and national consultation plans have been drawn up and approved in all four countries.

All these outputs will be used to help Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu to deliver on their United Nations Ocean Conference Voluntary Commitments which were made to reinforce national decisions to have ocean-wide marine spatial plans in place by 2020.



Cakaulevu Reef, Fiji
Credit: Stuart Chape

In 2018, the next steps include ensuring that the remaining building blocks for national marine spatial plans are in place for all the MACBIO countries.

Open resources

MACBIO published a number of resources in 2017, including country level assessments and valuations of marine ecosystem services, and reviews of ocean-related legislation, policies, strategies and plans. These resources can be viewed at <http://macbio-pacific.info/macbio-resources/>

BIODIVERSITY AND PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT

The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme (BIOPAMA) programme benefited from an ongoing commitment by the European Union (EU) and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States for a second phase until 2023. BIOPAMA is being jointly implemented by IUCN and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC) at the global level. At the regional level IUCN Oceania will continue to partner with SPREP to implement BIOPAMA as they strengthen their common efforts in assisting Pacific countries in achieving effective protected area networks.

Countries are supported with improving the quality of baseline data and information for protected areas which is so necessary for their effective management and governance so that they continue to provide life-supporting benefits to people. This is accompanied by capacity building to use and monitor relevant information and in utilising the Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal. Countries can more easily and accurately track progress on the achievement of National Roadmaps for CBD Aichi Target 11 on Protected Areas, SDGs, other MEAs and national priorities and commitments, the Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Islands Region 2014-2020 and NBSAPs. The JRC provides expert technical support to SPREP. A new component of the Programme, financed through the 11th European Development Fund, is the funding of projects led by local communities, NGOs and other key actors, enabling them to enhance livelihoods through the sustainable use of resources associated with terrestrial, coastal and marine protected areas in priority locations.

Large Marine Protected Areas

In February 2017 IUCN Oceania facilitated, through the BIOPAMA program, strengthened cooperation for Large MPAs in the Pacific between Phoenix Islands Protected Area, the Pacific Remote Island Marine National Monument USA, the Marae Moana of the Cook Islands and the Natural Park of the Coral Sea (New Caledonia). Specific areas of cooperation included sharing lessons and work plans to strengthen cooperation in areas such as capacity building, research, policy reviews, sustainable financing mechanisms, surveillance and enforcement.

IUCN Oceania also supported the government of Cook Islands in developing and announcing through Cabinet “that the size of marine areas around all islands of the Cook Islands protected from large scale commercial fishing and mining shall be established at 50 nautical miles.” This equates to 390,000km² (119,000nm²) of sea and is 20% of the Cook Islands marine area of 1,967,000km².

Biological diversity

In 2017 a review was completed of the Vanuatu National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) 2016-2030, and submitted to the Vanuatu Government for their review and ultimately for submission to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The NBSAP outlines the Vanuatu’s protected areas targets to achieve their goals under Aichi target 11. Support was also provided to develop Vanuatu’s CBD road map for Aichi Target 11.

Looking ahead

In 2017 IUCN Oceania received funding approval from the Global Environment Facility to work with countries and project partners on the full design of two protected area focused projects in Melanesia.

Solomon Islands: EREPA - Ensuring resilient ecosystems and representative protected areas in Solomon Islands

Vanuatu: ECARE - Expanding Conservation Areas Reach and Effectiveness in Vanuatu



Spinner Dolphins in Malaita, Solomon Islands
Credit: Jan van der Ploeg/WorldFish

Young mangrove shoot, Fiji
Credit: Epeli Nakautoga/IUCN Oceania

When we protect, sustainably manage, and restore ecosystems, we also address a range of societal challenges, simultaneously providing human well-being, livelihoods, resilience and biodiversity benefits.

In the Pacific Islands, ecosystem-based approaches to climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction can greatly contribute to increasing the resilience of communities in the face of climate change impacts, such as mangroves reducing the impact of cyclones and storm surges.

IUCN Oceania supports governments, members and communities to increase the role of nature based solutions in climate change adaptation and coastal ecosystems management.

WATER AND WETLANDS

Through its Water and Wetlands programme, IUCN Oceania aims to enhance the capacity of coastal communities and ecosystems to cope with challenges from climate change and natural disasters.

Ecosystems, climate change and disaster risk reduction

In 2017 IUCN Oceania conducted a regional capacity building workshop exploring the role of ecosystems for climate change and disaster risk reduction.

With funding from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the workshop was attended by representatives of environment and national disaster management departments from nine Pacific Island countries. The aim of the workshop was to enhance knowledge and understanding on Nature-based Solutions and its importance for disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and community resilience.

Reimaanlok

IUCN provided assistance to the Republic of Marshall Islands Coastal Management Advisory Council to review the National Conservation Area Plan for the Marshall Islands (Reimaanlok). Funded through The Nature Conservancy and BMUB project 'Building the resilience of communities and their ecosystems to the impacts of Climate Change in Melanesia and Micronesia', the review was undertaken through a workshop and retreat with the CMAC members.

Global Mangrove Initiative

IUCN Oceania launched the Global Mangrove initiative in Fiji with partners Conservation International and World Wildlife Fund, with a mangrove and coastal tree planting event, in collaboration with Suva Rotary Club and the Suva City Council. The event was to encourage the Suva community to protect and replant mangroves and coastal trees as a means to protect community livelihoods from the effects of climate change and natural disasters.

RAMSAR

In 2017 IUCN Oceania began hosting the RAMSAR Secretariat Regional Coordinator, mirroring the arrangement of the global RAMSAR Secretariat being hosted in the global IUCN offices in Switzerland.

Progress towards island resilience

GLISPA, with funding from the TNC BMUB project, hosted several high level events to give the opportunity to island leaders to demonstrate progress on their previous island commitments. These events support mobilisation of island leadership particularly in relation to resilience and sustainability and include hosting the "Leaders in Island Resilience" at the UNFCCC COP23, Nov 2017 and co-hosting of 'Our Oceans, Our Islands, Our future' High Level reception, UN Oceans Conference in June 2017

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND RISK REDUCTION

With the aim of building resilience to climate change in the Pacific Islands, the Climate Change Mitigation and Risk Reduction (CCMRR) Programme uses renewable energy and energy efficiency as an enabler for community livelihoods and positive environmental outcomes, by positioning nature conservation at the heart of community and country responses to their energy needs.

Energy, Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative (EESLI)

Working with 10 countries and funded by the governments of Italy, Spain, Austria and Luxembourg, EESLI supports government-led initiatives, plus small grants for CSOs and SMEs, plus special initiatives to support climate change mitigation and risk reduction measures by IUCN partners and members.

In 2017 EESLI support included the following projects:

Home Energy Loan Programme

The Federated States of Micronesia's Home Energy Loan Programme (HELP), managed and implemented by the FSM Development Bank conducted consultations across the country to determine viable contractors and suppliers for building materials meeting the required standards to qualify for the subsidy as applied by the Pohnpei State Branch. So far, the bank has issued an additional eight loans this year, and targets the financing of 20 new homes and 40 retrofitted homes, which it now intends to do through a partnership with a commercial financing institution, the Bank of Guam.

Social economic development

At the Christian Community Leadership Training Institute in Manoku, Abemama operational data compiled from a recently installed diesel-solar hybrid system shows projected figures of at least 3.694 tonnes of CO₂ avoided per annum, along with the associated cost savings freeing up income for the Institute to direct towards its community programs.

RMI Waste Oil Guidelines

The Republic of Marshall Islands' Waste Oil Management Guidelines were drafted, with the draft reporting reviewed by CCMRR and now awaiting final approval and acceptance by the Marshalls Energy Company and Ministry of Natural Resources & Development.



Young man with his catch, Maramasike, Solomon Islands
Credit: MESCAL Solomon Islands

Energy loan subsidies

Palau's Energy Loan Subsidy Programme (ELSP) concluded in 2017, with a Household Energy Survey and Impact Assessment Report to follow in 2018 to quantify savings created by the ELSP. Palau has request CCMRR to develop a GCF proposal to expand the subsidy programme to the private sector, and a Palau business questionnaire has been delivered for determining interest and scalability of the intended fund.

Enhancing livelihoods

Papua New Guinea's Solar PV lighting systems in Mananakele Village project was successfully completed in 2017, with interest by PNG Women in Agriculture to work with the Government on a subsequent EESLI project to further enhance livelihoods through renewable energy access.

Low carbon water access

A review undertaken of the Tonga Solar Water Pumping Systems project was concluded with the following figures confirming the project successes. Apart from the socio-economic benefits, a total of 36.72KL of diesel that equates to 15 barrels per month is saved by the project, which generates CO₂ savings of 104.4 tonnes per annum.

Biodiversity and livelihoods

Phase 1 of Vanuatu's Talise Hydro Project was completed, with Phase 2 currently under way with the building of 6 km of reticulation lines underground, targeted for completion in 2018. CCMRR and the Government of Vanuatu are discussing how best to realise the biodiversity and livelihood benefits of the project once power is reticulated to households.

Sea water air conditioning

Under the Special Initiatives Programme, field research was conducted by students from the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of the South Pacific, to determine the feasibility and energy/cost effectiveness of utilizing sea water air conditioning (SWAC) systems to remove fossil fuel inputs from the process of meeting cooling demands. Following the field activities in Tuvalu, a model has been designed, data is being analysed, and a feasibility report on potential savings associated with SWAC technology is to be delivered in 2018.

Livelihoods, quality of life, ecosystems and natural resources

Through its EESLI Small Grants programme, CCMRR provided a range of tangible results toward improving livelihoods, creating impacts on the ground to help improve both quality of life for human beings, and safeguards for ecosystems and natural resources.

Some examples in 2017 were:

- The Gender Climate Change Alliance delivered 30 smokeless cook stoves to Nakalawaca Village in Tailevu, Fiji, reducing biomass fuel inputs and associated emissions by 40-50%.





PNG Women in Agriculture training activity, PNG
Credit: Andrew Irvin/IUCN Oceania

- Silver's Eco Bed & Breakfast on Koro Island was able to rehabilitate some of the ecosystem decimated by Cyclone Winston, with over 2,000 seedlings of coastal and terrestrial flora species planted, combined with the installation of a 1.34kW solar PV to provide power for the business and fuel-free access to electricity for members of the community.
- The Uto ni Yalo, a traditional voyaging canoe or vaka, conducted a series of voyages to raise awareness in outer island communities on the value of traditional sailing practices and the fuel and cost savings that may be associated with minimizing fossil fuel inputs to sea travel.
- PNG Women in Agriculture were able to provide the Intoap (Backstreet) and Narusangiang Villages with solar-powered mills and associated training to conduct processing of agricultural products and increase economic returns without any fossil fuel reliance.
- Teta Tours worked with the Tongan Government and NatureFiji - MareqetiViti to conduct a Rapid Biodiversity Assessment of the unique freshwater Anahulu Cave ecosystem on Nuku'alofa, providing the necessary information to post on signage outside the cave, and allowing for appropriate siting lights to be powered by a solar PV installation.

Low Carbon Islands (LCI) project

Working in Nauru, Niue and Tuvalu, and funded by the Global Environment Facility via UNDP, the LCI project was successfully completed in 2017

The Nauru Utilities Corporation, Niue Development Bank, and Development Bank of Tuvalu operationalized their respective Low Carbon Funds to facilitate the purchases by households of energy efficient refrigerators, freezers and washing machines. While many applicants were approved in all three countries, over 25 subsidies were granted in Niue alone, a significant proportion of the population of 1,600 who reside in fewer than 500 households.

Support for legal instruments to improve renewable energy technology penetration in the markets of each country followed course, leading to the:

- Updates to the Nauru Energy Road Map, led by UNDP.
- Review and drafting of Niue's revised energy sector legislation, co-financed with the Pacific Community (SPC).
- Convening of a legal workshop on multilateral environmental agreements by IUCN Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance combined with the publication of Tuvalu's Grid Stability study, laying out the parameters needed for a fully renewable energy grid in Funafuti.



Smokeless Cookstoves in Nakalawaca, Fiji
Credit: IUCN Oceania



A mother and her son return from the market in Batuna, Solomon Islands
Credit: Helen Pippard/IUCN Oceania

Environmental governance is the means by which we determine and act on the goals and priorities for the management of natural resources. It's about how the rules and decisions (both formal and informal) are made, how these rules are implemented and enforced, and how inclusive we are throughout all levels of the process.

IUCN Oceania has combined its work on environmental law, natural resource economics, leadership, and environment and social policy in the IUCN Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance (PCEG).

PCEG is a think tank and service provider that promotes, facilitates and supports the development and growth of environmental governance throughout the Pacific Islands:

- providing world class advice and technical support to Pacific Island leaders and decision makers (utilising the IUCN global network of experts)
- initiating and implementing projects
- providing services to IUCN Oceania programmes



Members of the Green Growth Leaders Coalition at their retreat in Tonga
Credit: IUCN Oceania

Terrestrial Protected Areas in Fiji

In 2017 PCEG supported the Fiji Government to develop a framework for terrestrial protected areas in Fiji. Funded by FAO, the first phase focused on a review of existing law and regulations, with the second phase continuing into 2018, with the final goal an agreed framework that can be used by the Fiji Government in the development of legislation and governance for terrestrial protected areas.

Environmental Law

The flagship of PCEG, in 2017 the Environmental Law Unit delivered and supported a number of legal training workshops including:

- Multi-lateral environmental agreement workshops in Tuvalu
- Environmental Compliance and Enforcement training for Fiji and Samoa
- Environmental impact assessment workshops for several Pacific countries, connected with world heritage sites and in partnership with UNESCO

As well as providing legal reviews of marine protected area legislation for Tonga, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands, the ELU also produced a number of publications, including:

- Solomon Islands Capacity Development on Environmental Law Report
- 3 versions of Integrated Coastal Management Regulatory Roadmaps in Fiji (for Communities, Developers and Decision makers)
- Environmental Law Course Materials for Timor Leste

Leadership for Sustainability

The Green Growth Leaders Coalition is the centre piece of PCEG's leadership programme, bringing together a coalition of senior leaders and champions from across the Pacific Islands. Established in 2013, the GGLC uses a talanoa based approach, which is about open, respectful and inclusive discussion, and the sharing of stories across the organisational, sectoral, national and political boundaries leaders often operate within. This is combined with Chatham House rules, where what is said in the talanoa remains private and confidential, unless the group agrees otherwise.

In 2017 the GGLC Retreat was hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga, Hon. Siaosi Sovaleni, who in his opening remarks noted the GGLC provided "a safe, private space where leaders can gather and discuss common challenges, seek collective advice, share strategies for change and connect with their peers in the region, with an openness and freedom not available in other regional forums".

Hon. Afamasaga Lepulai Rico Tupai concluded the Retreat by conveying a generous offer from the Government of Samoa to host the 2018 GGLC retreat.

Pocket Talanoas

So called because of their shorter duration and more specific focus, the Pocket Talanoas provide an opportunity for GGLC members and selected invitees to hear from and discuss with experts on a particular sector or issue.

On behalf of the GGLC, in 2017 PCEG convened Pocket Talanoas on deep sea mining, integrated ocean management and the climate/ocean nexus.

Network of Economists

In 2017 PCEG became the secretariat for the Pacific Resource and Environmental Economics Network (PREEN), a group of professionals working together to promote and mainstream the use of economics in environmental management within the Pacific region.

Conservation, culture and art

Through its Environment and Social Policy focus, in 2017 PCEG supported a symposium on conservation, culture and art, hosted by IUCN Member the University of the South Pacific and the Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary (TBA21)–Academy.



Opening ceremony at the TBA-21 Symposium in Fiji
Credit: IUCN Oceania



A 'Talanoa' session in Tonga
Credit: IUCN Oceania

10 YEARS IN THE MAKING

A canoe rests along the banks of Caesar's Rock, Fiji
Credit: Helen Pippard/IUCN Oceania

From humble beginnings to a regional centre for excellence in conservation, IUCN Oceania celebrates its 10 year anniversary in 2017 – a milestone that represents a decade of passion, dedication and work towards “a just Oceania that values and conserves nature”

IUCN Oceania has, in its short lifetime to date, made a significant contribution to advancing nature conservation in the Pacific. Of particular note is the innovative approaches taken to mainstreaming conservation in government policy, advancing understanding of and commitments to very large marine protected areas, and capacity building for the good management and governance of protected areas and ecosystems, among other things. IUCN Oceania has grown from humble beginnings into a regional centre of excellence in conservation for the benefit of both humans and nature, including local communities.” – IUCN Regional Councillor for Oceania (2008-2016), **Prof. Brendan Mackey**

IUCN Oceania's success over the past decade is a testament to the aspirations and committed efforts of many people, who have championed the cause of a sustainable future for the region. Their hard work has paid off, and the results are seen in the thriving and diverse networks of people and projects that IUCN Oceania maintains today.

It has been a remarkable journey for IUCN in the region, as past Oceania Regional Councillor (2000-2008) and IUCN Vice President (2004-2008), **Christine Milne** recalls, one that began long before the office officially opened its doors in Suva, Fiji.

“When I was elected to the IUCN Council in 2000, IUCN had offices all over the world except in our region. Together with Wren Green and Suliana Siwatibau, we put the case strongly that our region was home to the Pacific Ocean, the Great Southern Ocean and many island nations with a fantastic number of endemic species and important migratory routes for birds and marine species that needed the support of IUCN in protecting them. We also argued that with global warming accelerating, our region would be one of the most vulnerable and important in understanding the impacts of warming and acidifying oceans. After many discussions over several years including with newly elected Councillors Aroha

Mead, Dianna Shand and Lionel Gibson a decision was made to establish an office.”

Officially receiving International Organisation status just three months after Fiji's most recent political coup (2006), following stout efforts from Ms Siwatibau and Mr Gibson, and also considerable assistance from Robbin Yarrow and Elizabeth Erasito of National Trust of Fiji, against overwhelming odds IUCN's three-man team opened for business in 2007. *“Establishing the IUCN Oceania regional office was a long and sometimes difficult process. It was the last of the eight global IUCN regions to have an office despite the huge biodiversity values and potential benefits of having a vigorous IUCN presence in the region. However, persistence finally paid off and from its modest beginnings, the office grew at a remarkable rate and rapidly established itself as a major conservation force in the South Pacific.”* – IUCN Regional Councillor for Oceania (1996-2004), **Wren Green**.

Past Director of IUCN's global programme (2001-2007) and Deputy Director General (2007-2011), Dr Bill Jackson, also recalls IUCN Oceania's humble origins and the early success of the office after its drawn-out founding period. *“The establishment of the Oceania Regional Office followed a great deal of effort by regional councillors, members and staff both from Headquarters and Asia. I remember visiting the office location before IUCN agreed to a lease or had any staff and I have been constantly impressed with how the IUCN regional programme has grown into an important player in the Pacific.”*

IUCN's arrival on Oceania's conservation scene came at a critical time for the region, as Fiji's Prime Minister, **Hon. Rear Admiral (Retired) Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama** noted, *“Given the immense challenge faced by regional countries in the area of developing sustainable energy alternatives as well as devising adaptation programmes to mitigate the effects of climate change.”*

IUCN Oceania's 10-year anniversary also marked Taholo Kami's 10th year as Regional Director. Working in conservation began a notable career change for Mr Kami who, prior to his appointment, had been Business Manager for the Methodist Church of Tonga.

Mr Kami fondly recalls, *"During the interview I was simply asked to present on what I saw as the future of IUCN in Oceania. I tried to emphasise that successful work in the region was all about bringing people together and sustaining partnerships."* This understanding, earned from a life of living and working in the region, landed Mr Kami the job and has been key to the organisation's growth, particularly in terms of partnerships with Pacific island nations.

High-level, cross-sectoral engagement in the Pacific has been one of IUCN's key strengths and most important contributions to date. As former Councillor for Oceania **Wren Green** highlights, *"The growth in membership from Pacific Island countries is the best testament of IUCN Oceania's influence and value to the region."*

Fiji's Ministry of Local Government, Urban Planning, Housing and Environment joined IUCN as the first Pacific Island state member in 2009. **Col. Samuela Saumatua**, who was the respective Minister (2009-2013) at the time, emphasised how valuable IUCN Oceania's contribution has been.

"IUCN was always supportive of the Ministry's work, providing invaluable advice and cooperation in regards to how to go about sustainability and handling of the environment. Whenever the Ministry needed support IUCN were ready and willing to guide us through. I appreciated the assistance rendered to us and the way, in true Pacific style, they were always willing to start with an informal conversation, but committed to see the work through to completion at a national level. Initial discussions and negotiations were done very informally with minimal fuss and I for one greatly appreciated that."

On the strength of IUCN Oceania's engagement in partnerships, Emeritus Professor at the University of the South Pacific, and Honorary Member of IUCN since 2012, **Prof. Randy Thaman**, conveyed similar sentiments. *"Perhaps the most significant overarching contribution of IUCN to biodiversity conservation in Oceania has been the nurturing and strengthening of true partnerships and trust-based relationships to ensure that these mainstreaming initiatives are successful in the long term."*

"When IUCN arrived on the Oceania conservation scene," Professor Thaman continued, "there was clearly a niche for IUCN, as the world's largest conservation NGO to build bridges and strengthen partnerships between existing, often community based initiatives and actors, and governments and private sectors at the highest levels, through improved awareness, planning and implementation, a role that I believe IUCN Oceania has played over the past 10 years."

It has been a remarkable decade for IUCN Oceania and there is great anticipation and hope for what the future may bring. As former IUCN Councillor and long-time friend of IUCN Oceania and now Chairman of the NatureFiji - MareqetiViti (NFMV) **Mr Robin Yarrow** aptly notes, there could not be a more important time for IUCN to build upon the success of the past ten years in the fight to secure the future of Oceania.

"The next 10 years and beyond will add new challenges to those currently before the Pacific island countries. While some of these challenges emanate from actions of other usually larger states, mainly from well beyond our region, we must also strive to have an increasing number of our island populations as well as our own corporates; more fully recognize and endorse the benefits which nature provides. Because at the end of the day, charity must begin at home – we simply have to be much more caring and responsible in our collective stewardship of our natural resources within our Pacific island region and more effectively 'walk the talk', before it really will be too late."



Former IUCN Councillor Robin Yarrow and Permanent Secretary for Environment, Joshua Wycliffe cut the IUCN Oceania 10th Anniversary cake, Fiji
Credit: IUCN Oceania

A DECADE'S JOURNEY



2007



2008



2009



2010



2011



2012



2014



2015



2017, Jan



2017, Dec

Photo credits: Helen Pippard, IUCN Oceania, Rivers Fiji

Outstanding Accomplishments (2007 - 2017)



2007

5 Staff
34 Members

Appointed Chair of the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT)

2008

Fiji joined IUCN Oceania as a State member

IUCN Pacific SIDS Energy, Ecosystem and Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative Phase 1 funded by Italy and Austria

Developed the Environmental Management Act 2005 Training Manual with Fiji Department of Environment

Instrumental in establishing the Fiji Environmental Law Association (FELA)

2009

Nauru joined IUCN Oceania as a State member

Established the Pacific Resource and Environmental Economics Network (PREEN) with the SPC GeoScience Division (formerly SOPAC)

Conducted study on impact of floods on Fiji Sugar belt

IUCN Director General Julia Marton-Lefevre launched the public lecture series with USP

Assisted in initiating the Pacific Mangrove Initiative (PMI)

2010

27 Staff
45 Members

Tonga and Solomon Islands joined IUCN Oceania as a State member

Initiated process to improve Red List information for the Pacific Islands

Launched LifeCycle Fiji with Department of Energy and LifeCycle Tonga with Tonga Community Development Trust

Instrumental in promoting energy efficient measures in new homes in Palau through the Development Bank of Palau loan prog.

Installed diesel-solar PV hybrid system at Motofua Sec. School, Tuvalu

Discovered new plant species *Medinilla sp.* through the Water and Nature Initiative with IAS-USP

2011

Samoa joined IUCN Oceania as a State member

Signed MOU with South Pacific Tourism Organisation to pursue green tourism ventures

Convened the Pacific Mangrove Initiative (PMI) inaugural meeting

Conducted the 31st Steering Committee meeting for IUCN's Commission of Ecosystem Management (CEM)

Brought together development banks from around the region to discuss energy issues

2012

Vanuatu joined IUCN Oceania as a State member

Helped and supported the inaugural MSG Ministerial of Environment and Climate Change meeting collaboration with Fiji Government

Installed more than 50 new solar systems in Tonga

Convened the Islands Sustainable Forum with Solomon Islands government

Helped prepare 'Economic Coastal Management Pacific-wide SPREP and

Facilitated assessment of 500 species of freshwater land snails and reptiles in



2013

37 Staff
51 Members

Confirmed new mangrove records through the MESCAL project

Supported the establishment of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF)

Conducted Fiji's first carbon stock assessment of mangrove soil in Rewa

Supported Vanuatu to include people and environment focus in its approach to national planning

Co-hosted the 9th Pacific Islands Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Conference with SPREP and Fiji Government

Began 8 year partnership with Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)

Initiated Low Carbon Islands project in Nauru, Niue, and Tuvalu in partnership with UNEP

2014

Assisted in developing Vanuatu's National Oceans Policy through the MACBIO project

Developed the Pacific Mangrove Charter

Convened the Green Growth Leaders' Coalition

Mua Voyage to the World Parks Congress in Sydney

Led a consortium of partners to produce the State of Conservation in Oceania (SOCO) publication for SPREP

Co-hosted with USP, a Species Symposium as part of the Society for Conservation Biology Conference in Fiji

Convened a regional Ministerial level summit on Coastal Fisheries and Beche-de-mer through the MACBIO project

Helped revive and re-establish Fiji's National Mangroves Management Committee

2015

Palau joined IUCN Oceania as a State member

Through the MACBIO project, Vanuatu, Tonga, Solomon Islands have started to integrate marine spatial planning into their development frameworks

Convened a Regional Technical Meeting on Beche-de-mer in Tonga

BIOPAMA project engaged SPREP to manage the Regional Observatory

Instrumental in analysing the legal basis for marine spatial planning in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu

Convened, through MACBIO, a National Conference on Special Management Areas in Tonga

Convened a regional Forestry Ministerial meeting in Nadi

Launched the Waste-to-Art Initiative for creative engagement by youth in waste management practises

2016

Convened the Pacific Ocean Summit in Hawai'i at the IUCN Congress & launched the 2030 Pacific Ocean Partnership

Convened the Oceans Conference of Emerging Leaders with the US Embassy

Launched the IUCN Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance (PCEG)

Assisted WWF and WCS in estimating Fiji's MPA costings

Developed a Code of Practise for Kai processing in Fiji

Hosted national expert workshops in Fiji and Tonga to identify biophysically special and unique marine areas with MACBIO project

Participated at the first World Environmental Law Congress in Brazil

Described the entire SW Pacific Ocean into draft marine bioregions for use in marine planning

Prepared globally-unique national scale marine ecosystem service valuations (Fiji, SI, Tonga and Vanuatu), through MACBIO project

2017

43 Staff
57 Members

Biophysically special, unique marine areas in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands identified by national experts, with MACBIO support

Marine experts in Fiji and Tonga reviewed and finalised marine bioregions tailored to their national planning processes

Launched the Global Mangrove initiative in Fiji with partners CI and WWF, with a mangrove and coastal tree planting event, in collaboration with Suva Rotary Club and the Suva City Council.

Convened the 2017 Green Growth Leaders Coalition in Tonga

Led the Solomon Island Species Forum with Ecological Solutions Solomon Islands at the Solomon Islands National Resource Management Symposium in Honiara

(Refer to report, for more)

Our Commissions

IUCN's six Commissions unite 10,000 volunteer experts from a range of disciplines. They assess the state of the world's natural resources and provide the Union with sound know-how and policy advice on conservation issues.



Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)

One of IUCN's six scientific Commissions. CEM is a network of volunteer experts, numbering 1,000, from around the world working on ecosystem management related issues, for example climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, Red List of Ecosystems, fisheries and ecosystem restoration and services. The Commission works closely with other IUCN Commissions, regional offices and global thematic programmes.

Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)

An inter-disciplinary network of professionals whose mission is to act as a source of advice on the environmental, economic, social and cultural factors that affect natural resources and biological diversity and to provide guidance and support towards effective policies and practices in environmental conservation and sustainable development.

World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)

A network of environmental law and policy experts from all regions of the world who volunteer their knowledge and services to IUCN activities, especially to those of the IUCN Law Programme. WCEL functions as an integral part of the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, which includes the Commission and the Environmental Law Centre.

Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)

CEC is a network driving change for sustainability. More than 1,000 members volunteer their professional expertise in learning, knowledge management and strategic communication to achieve IUCN goals.

Species Survival Commission (SSC)

A science-based network of more than 7,500 volunteer experts from almost every country of the world, all working together towards achieving the vision of, "A just world that values and conserves nature through positive action to reduce the loss of diversity of life on earth".

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

The world's premier network of protected area expertise. It is administered by IUCN's Global Programme on Protected Areas and has over 1,700 members, spanning 140 countries.

WCPA works by helping governments and others plan protected areas and integrate them into all sectors; by providing strategic advice to policy makers; by strengthening capacity and investment in protected areas; and by convening the diverse constituency of protected area stakeholders to address challenging issues. For more than 50 years, IUCN and WCPA have been at the forefront of global action on protected areas.

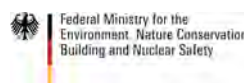
Our Partners and Donors

IUCN Oceania Regional Office acknowledges the support of a large network of partners who help fund its activities, implement the IUCN Programme and offer expertise to support the Union's work.

This work is made possible through the generous contributions of a growing number of donors and partners, including governments, multilateral institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations and companies.



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Resilient nations.



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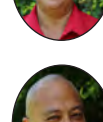
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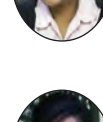
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Acronyms

ACMP	Arnavon Community Marine Park	MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
ACMCA	Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Association	MEIDECC	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications
ACP	African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States	MESCAL	Mangrove Ecosystems for Climate Change Adaptation and Livelihood
ACT	Australian Capital Territory	NbS	Nature-based Solutions
BIOPAMA	Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme	NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan
BMUB	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit	NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	NFMV	NatureFiji-MareqetiViti
CCMRR	Climate Change Mitigation and Risk Reduction	NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
CEC	Commission on Education and Communication	ORO	Oceania Regional Office
CEESP	Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy	PCEG	Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance
CEM	Commission on Ecosystem Management	PICs	Pacific Island Countries
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund	PIDF	Pacific Islands Development Forum
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species	PIF	Pacific Island Forum
COP	Conference of the Parties	PIP	Pacific Invasives Partnership
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations	PIPAP	Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal
ECARE	Expanding Conservation Areas Reach and Effectiveness	PIRT	Pacific Islands Round Table for Nature Conservation
EC-JRC	European Commission's Joint Research Centre	PMI	Pacific Mangroves Initiative
EESLI	Energy, Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative	PREEN	Pacific Resource and Environmental Economics Network
ELSP	Energy Loan Subsidy Programme	RIT	Regional Implementation Team
EREPA	Ensuring Resilient Ecosystems and Representative Protected Areas	RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
ESSI	Ecological Solutions Solomon Islands	SA	South Australia
EU	European Union	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation	SICCP	Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership
FELA	Fiji Environmental Law Association	SMEs	Small Medium (or Micro) Enterprises
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia	SPC	Pacific Community
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
GGLC	Green Growth Leaders Coalition	SSC	Species Survival Commission
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	TBA-21	Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary
GLISPA	Global Island Partnership	TNC	The Nature Conservancy
HELP	Home Energy Loan Programme	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IAS	Institute of Applied Sciences	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IKI	International Climate Initiative	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
LCI	Low Carbon Island	USP	University of the South Pacific
MACBIO	Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries	WA	Western Australia
		WCEL	World Commission on Environmental Law
		WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
		WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Published by:

IUCN Oceania Regional Office, Fiji.

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Citation:

IUCN Oceania Annual Report 2017

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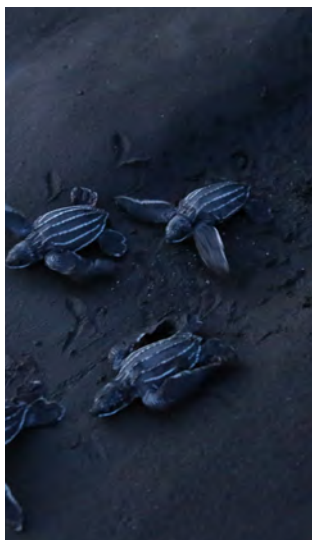
Inside Cover: © Helen Pippard

Layout and Design:

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Available from:

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