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# IUCN in Oceania

2010



International Union for Conservation of Nature

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## Message from the Regional Director

Taholo Kami

Bula all,

2010 completes the IUCN Oceania Regional Office's (ORO) fourth year since inception and we continue to grow as a programme that is building effective partnerships and engaging actively with countries in the region.

The 10th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) acknowledged the failure of the 2010 biodiversity target to halt biodiversity degradation; highlighting the continued threat to biodiversity across the globe. Even with Oceania's relative isolation, we are seeing similar challenges to biodiversity conservation in the region. Governments, while making big policy commitments to the environment, are bowing to the lure of short-term gain from resource extraction activities. Mining is driving the economic growth of larger countries, with seabed mining becoming a major item for the smaller island countries. Traditional income earners such as fisheries and forests continue on a downward spiral and fall short of realistic management commitments that will curtail or halt the threats to our environment.

Climate change raises the bar on threats, but also provides opportunities by highlighting to the world the importance of natural ecosystems and the need for compelling commitments on carbon. Nature's solutions for both mitigating and adapting to climate and environmental change continue to be the best "bang for buck" investment for our Oceania countries. With the right approach, we may be able to do more for the environment and biodiversity with the various funding opportunities from climate change. It is essential that biodiversity conservation commitments are part of a portfolio of climate change actions.

The Oceania Regional Office is responding to the challenges by developing a programme that works with our stakeholders – governments, civil society, and communities - to build partnerships and make a difference. Some highlights are as follows:

- In 2010, we continue to see membership growth, especially in the Pacific Islands region. We now have six State members including Tonga, Nauru, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Australia, and New Zealand.

- Our project portfolio and activities, including renewable energy, water, mangroves, and environmental law now cover 10 Pacific Island Countries.
- We have developed close working relationships with our international and regional organizations (especially the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC), Pacific Power Association (PPA) and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)) and the environment Non-Governmental Organizations in the region.
- We are working with SPREP and other partners in providing support to the Pacific countries on CBD, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) at a regional and international level, as well as providing development support for National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plans (NBSAPs).

We now have a strong and growing team of 27 in the regional office and five project officers in countries that have been responsible for the achievements of the past year.

I continue to chair the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation which brings the big regional environment organizations together around a common strategy for nature conservation. In 2010, we also took on new partners on our premises – The Fiji Islands Voyaging Society, Seaweb, and The Coral Reef Alliance who join the Fiji Environmental Law Association in what, I hope, will be more steps in building strong partnerships that advance our cause to ensure a healthy environment in Oceania.

We need to continue to build better partnerships and we look forward to continuing to do so into 2011.

Vinaka and 'ofa atu,

**Taholo Kami, Regional Director  
IUCN Oceania Regional Office**

## About the Oceania Region



Oceania is geographically one of IUCN's largest regional programmes, covering over 100 million square kilometres of the Pacific Ocean, and including the island countries of Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia, as well as Australia and New Zealand.

Oceania's ecosystems are diverse, ranging from the Pacific Island's offshore marine realms, atolls, coral reefs, mangroves, coastal plains, lowland forests, montane forests, and wetlands through to the mountains of New Zealand and inland deserts of Australia.

Oceania's species diversity is amazing: flora and fauna of the islands are often unique, with endemism rates as high as 90% for certain groups. Often, these rare and endemic species are adapted to specialized habitats and limited to small areas of a few islands.

In the Pacific Islands, food security is underpinned by the bounties of nature. Many cultures attach spiritual and religious values to ecosystems and their components, e.g. landscapes,

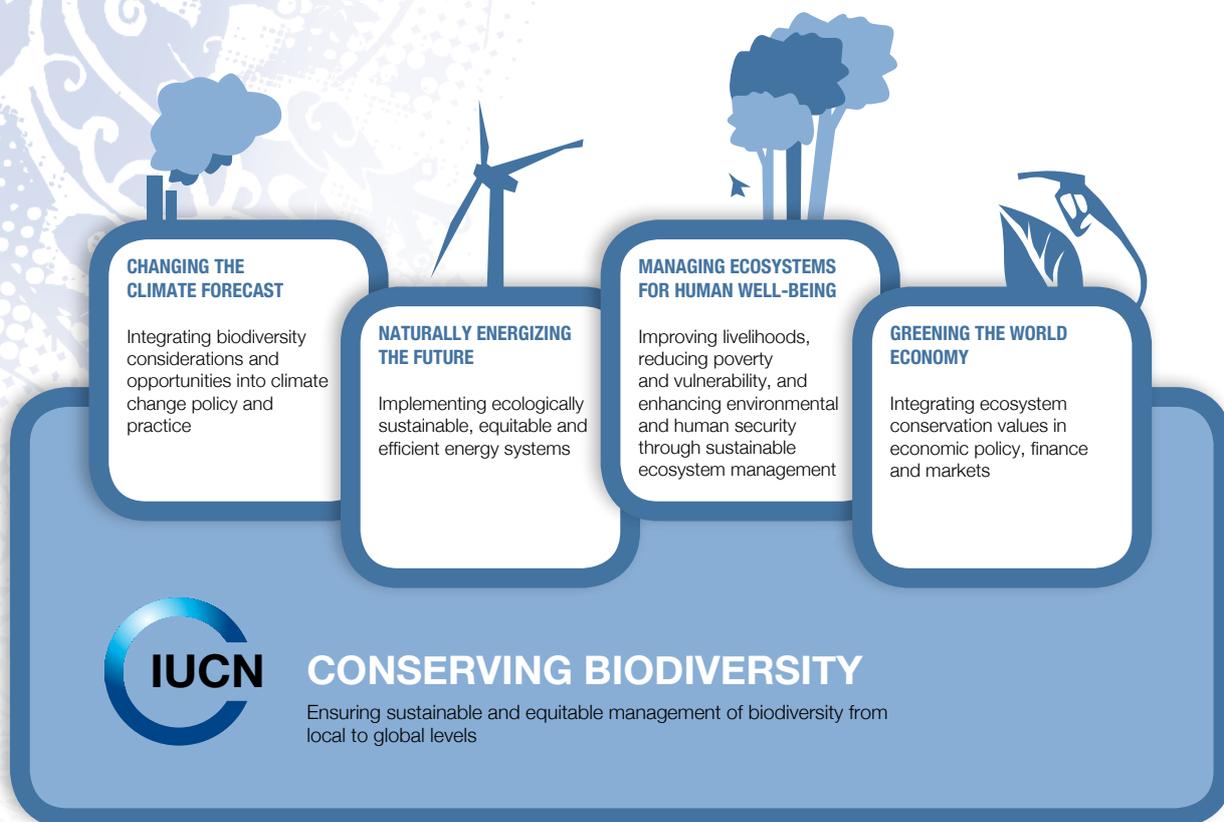
trees, hills, rivers, or particular species. This high economic and cultural dependence on the natural environment, along with a rapidly expanding human population in the Pacific, brings increasing demands on the region's natural resources.

Island plant and animal species are very vulnerable to invasive species and impacts, such as habitat destruction, over-harvesting of species, pollution, and human-induced climate change.

Thus, increasing awareness about the importance of species and the threats they are facing is crucial. IUCN is working with like-minded organizations to contribute to the conservation of species and ecosystems in the Pacific.

The concept of "investing in nature" is central to this approach: too often, humans take other species and their day-to-day uses for granted. For Oceania, it is vital that investments in natural resources promote sustainable long-term use, management, and conservation of the species we utilise in our everyday lives.

## IUCN Global Programme of Work



The IUCN Programme 2009–2012 was approved by IUCN Members at the World Conservation Congress in 2008. The IUCN Programme of Work is delivered through its five thematic areas and 10 global results. It provides a focus for the Union to take action and engage with Members and partners, and deliver concrete results in the pursuit of a just world that values and conserves nature.

Conserving Biodiversity remains the focus of IUCN's efforts, and provides the basis for developing effective and strategic interventions in the areas of conservation, climate change, energy, poverty and security, economy and markets.

The link between biodiversity loss and its key underlying causes must also be addressed. These are identified in the four thematic programme areas illustrated above.

The global financial and environmental challenges of 2010 have re-focused attention on our environment and resources. Our conservation actions need to be monitored and adjusted with the results leading to more effective subsequent action. IUCN will continue to adapt and innovate whilst striving to deliver our programme of work in a relevant and timely manner.

## Oceania Regional Programme of Work



The Oceania Regional Programme mirrors the Global IUCN Programme in its core and thematic programme areas. In 2010, IUCN Oceania had direct implementation of activities in over 10 countries in the region, each seeking to meet the needs of governments, local communities, and Members to strengthen the management of nature and natural resources.

### **The 2010 Oceania Regional Programme operated in the following areas:**

The **Species Programme** delivers on IUCN's core programme area, Conserving the Diversity of Life, by ensuring sustainable and equitable management of biodiversity in the Pacific Islands region. Work in 2010 focused on the following areas: Red Listing of Pacific Islands' species; CITES implementation; contributing to the Pacific Invasives Partnership; and raising the profile of species work in the region.

The **Water Programme** seeks to integrate environmental concerns into water resource management. This has included promoting environmental flows, environmental economics,

watershed ecosystems, and river bank rehabilitation. It also promotes increased awareness about the need for climate change adaptation and the value of coastal ecosystems to disaster risk reduction. Oceania work is directly aligned to IUCN's global Water Programme through its Water and Nature Initiative (WANI). WANI focuses on good governance, payments for ecosystem services, capacity building of water resource managers at community, national, and regional levels, and the transfer of knowledge with the aim to improve the quality and sustainability of water resources.

The **Energy Programme** continues to assist countries in the region to accelerate their transition to renewable energy and energy efficient systems that are ecologically efficient, sustainable, and socially equitable. It also seeks to build energy-related synergies with partners and regional organizations. Low carbon approaches and efficient models for the energy sector continue to be demonstrated in six Pacific Island Countries through the regional project *Managing the Ecosystem and Livelihood Implications of Energy Policies in the Pacific Island States*.



The **Marine Programme** wrapped up the majority of activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project that considered the ecological impacts of longline tuna fishing in relation to sea mounts. IUCN was interested in the conservation aspects, exploring patterns in the amount and size of fish around seamounts, and identifying possible spawning or aggregation sites.

In addition to core programmatic areas, IUCN Oceania continues to work on a number of cross-cutting initiatives.

### **Pacific Mangroves Initiative**

The Pacific Mangroves Initiative (PMI) is a regional partnership on climate change. Using mangroves as the “flagship” for ecosystem conservation, its goals are to conserve mangrove and associated coastal ecosystems, to improve livelihoods, and explore adaptation and mitigation to climate change. It also seeks to strengthen institutional and individual capacities to make informed decisions about the wise use and management of the resources. IUCN Oceania is working with a range of partners, including SPREP, University of the South Pacific (USP), World Fish, and countries of the region. In 2010, activities under PMI began with the launch of the Mangrove Ecosystems for Climate Change Adaptation and Livelihoods (MESCAL) project.

### **The Pacific Ocean 2020**

The Pacific Ocean 2020 Initiative calls on all countries of the Pacific Ocean Rim and the Pacific Islands to commit to the

sustainable management of the world’s largest natural asset—the Pacific Ocean. Pollution, habitat destruction, overfishing and overexploitation, and climate change are faced by both Pacific Island and Rim nations, countries very different in wealth, population, size, and culture. The commonality of the issues highlights the need for coordinated and Pacific-wide solutions. Only by working together can Pacific Island and Rim countries address these threats and achieve the vision of Pacific Ocean 2020.

### **The Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance**

This was established as a regional virtual centre to work with countries and partner organizations to strengthen the capacity of individuals and institutions at all levels to make informed decisions about the use and management of natural resources, and human and financial capital for improved conservation and resilience to external shocks. The initiative gives leverage to IUCN’s work in the areas of environmental law, economics, policy, and governance.

**Environmental Law** is critical to IUCN’s mission and integral to all of the thematic programme areas. The work of the Programme in Oceania currently involves: increasing awareness of laws to protect and manage natural resources; encouraging an integrated and rights-based approach to the management of natural resources in accordance with international obligations; provision of assistance to build capacity; assisting Pacific Island member governments with development of environmental policies; and raising awareness of the role of law in relation to the conservation of nature.

## CONSERVING THE DIVERSITY OF LIFE

IUCN's Core Programme Area is adapted to Oceania to ensure sustainable and equitable management of resources in the region. Activities in 2010 largely focused on knowledge generation and dissemination, and capacity building.

### Continuing Development of the IUCN Red List for Species of the Pacific Islands

Reptiles, freshwater fish and land snails were the focus of collaborative efforts in 2010 to increase and strengthen our knowledge of Pacific Island terrestrial and freshwater species. By the end of 2011 the status of these species will be assessed and a category describing their threat status will have been assigned to each species. These data will then be included in the IUCN Red List. This initiative is funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and the Fonds Pacifique. Additionally, IUCN Oceania worked with IUCN's Global Marine Species Assessment to assess marine fish using Red List Criteria. In November 2010, the first Oceania workshop was held in Nadi, Fiji to assess the status of damselfishes (Pomacentridae), both regionally and at the global level. IUCN Oceania recognises the support of relevant members of Specialist Groups of the Species Survival Commission; IUCN Oceania Members, (e.g. USP and Landcare Research Ltd), and regional organizations such as Conservation International, Wetlands International Oceania, and SPREP in the regional Red Listing initiatives.

#### Regional CITES support

IUCN, along with the CITES Secretariat, SPC, SPREP, and regional Parties to CITES continued to support CITES implementation in Oceania. A workshop held in Honiara, Solomon Islands in May 2010, strengthened capacity for carrying out CITES non-detriment findings in the Solomon Islands and regionally. The workshop increased understanding of the implementation of CITES, with a focus on marine species such as corals, clams, and cetaceans.

### Promoting Environmental Law in the North Pacific

IUCN organized the training course on environmental compliance and enforcement for North Pacific Island countries in June 2010 in Palau. The event focussed on capacity building in principles of enforceable environmental laws and regulations, development of environmental compliance and

enforcement programmes, and evaluating effectiveness of environmental laws and regulations. Participants came from Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The workshop was funded through a US State Department Grant and was facilitated in partnership with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

#### Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

IUCN Oceania joined the Fiji delegation at the 10th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010. This provided the opportunity to strengthen both the participation of Fiji in the dialogues, and provide support to other Pacific Island Countries in relevant discussions and dialogues. IUCN Oceania remains committed to supporting countries in meeting their commitments under the CBD and supporting the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

### Capacity Building for Fiji Environmental Law

The IUCN Oceania legal team, in association with the Fiji Environmental Law Association (FELA), completed a series of seven community-based workshops focusing on educating the public on their legal rights under the Fiji Environment Management Act (2005). To ensure comprehensive understanding of the legislation, workshop materials were produced in Fijian, Hindi, and English and selected workshops were presented in Fijian and Hindi.

#### Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation

IUCN Oceania currently acts as the Secretariat for the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRNC) – a growing coalition of conservation organizations and donor agencies in the Pacific Islands region. The PIRNC acts as a forum to enhance collaboration and coordination to increase effective conservation action for nature conservation in the Pacific. In particular, it is the coordination mechanism for the implementation of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Island Region 2008-2012.

The 13th PIRNC meeting, held in Apia, Samoa in July 2010, recognized the need to seek creative and practical solutions to protect our islands' biodiversity. With the theme "Natural Solutions to Environmental and Climate Change in the Pacific", the meeting brought together regional organisations, partners, roundtable members, experts, and other stakeholders to discuss issues regarding coordination, management, and monitoring mechanisms of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation (2008 – 2012).

## CHANGING THE CLIMATE FORECAST



IUCN Oceania is concerned with the impact of climate change on the region's biodiversity and on the livelihoods of Pacific people. Mitigation and adaptation measures are the two strategies available to respond to climate change. Using its scientific expertise, IUCN Oceania has a major role to play in supporting and influencing related policies, developing scenarios, and making sure that the best information and capacity are available to ensure environmental and ecosystem approaches are integrated into implementing these strategies.

### **Mangrove Ecosystems for Climate Change Adaptation and Livelihoods (MESCAL) project**

In support of the Pacific Mangrove Initiative (PMI), the MESCAL project was initiated early in 2010 to address key challenges to mangrove management and conservation. This four-year

project is focusing on five Pacific Island countries: Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. The project aims "to increase resilience to climate change for the people of the Pacific Island countries through adaptive co-management of mangroves and associated ecosystems". Funding for MESCAL has been provided by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) under their International Climate Initiative.

The 2010 focus of activities sought to identify and establish organizational structures, approaches, and mechanisms required to effectively implement the project.

The MESCAL pre-inception meeting held in February in Honiara, Solomon Islands aimed to further define the activities of the project, and to develop a clear action strategy.



All five countries have appointed a National Country Coordinator, established a Steering Committee, and are now working with partners to develop a comprehensive workplan.

At the national level, all countries have evaluated relevant legislation, policy, and practice in the management of mangroves. Based on this knowledge, national plans of implementation were developed and approaches identified to demonstrate co-management of mangroves. Demonstration sites have been identified in each country to provide models approaches that actively encourage the sharing of management, responsibility, and benefits from mangrove resource.

#### **Vulnerability to Natural Disasters: An Economic Analysis of the Fiji 2009 Floods on the Fijian Sugar Belt**

This publication, written by Dr Padma Narsey Lal, provides the results of an EU-funded project, estimating the direct and indirect economic costs of the 2009 floods on the sugar industry in Fiji. It was estimated that the floods caused almost FJD\$ 24 million of damage and losses, with almost 50% of the flood-affected families falling below the basic needs poverty line. The study also highlights the strong relationship between the effects of decreased ecosystem health due to trade liberalization, poor maintenance of drainage infrastructure and increased flooding. The results suggest that to reduce such economic costs, disaster risk management must focus on a multi-pronged approach to disaster risk reduction and disaster management at all levels – national, industry, and household.

## NATURALLY ENERGIZING THE FUTURE



Energizing the Pacific Islands is a great challenge. In the region, energy expansion options include renewable sources such as wind, solar, and geothermal energy. IUCN Oceania is supporting processes that accelerate the transition to energy systems that are ecologically sustainable, socially equitable, and economically efficient while making full use of the best available technologies and governance arrangements.

### **Demonstrating Low-carbon Approaches and Efficient Models for the Energy Sector**

IUCN has continued to implement the project - Managing the Ecosystem and Livelihood Implications of Energy Policies in the Pacific Island States (Pacific SIDS – EESLI), funded by the Governments of Italy and Austria. The project promotes energy systems that are ecologically efficient, sustainable, and socially equitable in six countries, namely the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. IUCN is using lessons learnt from these practical demonstration projects to influence countries' decision-making when managing their energy sector development programmes.

### **Improving Energy Efficiency in the Land Transport Sector – Samoa**

IUCN Oceania worked with the government of Samoa through the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Land Transport Authority to promote vehicle maintenance and upkeep through training and awareness campaigns. The training sessions were targeted at specific groups, e.g. one for bus and public vehicle drivers and one targeting motor mechanics.

### **Promoting Energy Efficient Measures in New Homes – Palau**

The National Development Bank of Palau, Palau Energy Office, and the Palau Housing Authority are promoting energy efficiency around the country using newly constructed homes used as models. These new homes with integrated energy efficient features, together with an extensive awareness raising campaign have been very successful tools to encourage behavioural change towards less energy consumption. Eighty homes have been built so far with growing interest from the public to go green with their homes.

### Regional Energy Cooperation

IUCN Oceania is recognized as a partner of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) in the implementation of the Framework on Action for Energy Security in the Pacific – the regional policy guideline for energy sector development in the Pacific Island Countries. IUCN is a member of the Energy Oversight Group that plays a critical role in the coordination of various regional energy programmes. As part of the Donor Energy Working Group, IUCN contributed to the development of the Tonga Energy Roadmap which harmonizes the different donors operating in the country. IUCN hopes that the lessons learnt from this coordination and collaboration will benefit other countries in developing their respective energy roadmaps.

### Lighting Islands the Cleaner Way – Tonga

The people of the islands of Mango and Mo'unga'one, two remote islands in the Ha'apai group, are benefitting from the rehabilitation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. A total of 64 solar lighting systems are now operational. Similar work will be conducted on the island of Lofanga with installation work planned for 2011.

### Street Lights Made More Efficient – the Republic of Marshall Islands

This year, the retrofitting of street lights on the two main populated islands, Majuro and Ebeye, has been completed, incorporating energy-efficient measures to improve service delivery, reduce energy consumption, and improve safety in urban areas. A total of 800 street light bulbs have been replaced with efficient light-emitting diode lights. These new lights are expected to reduce energy consumption by an estimated US\$ 300,000.

### Biggest Diesel-Solar PV Hybrid System Installed on Vaitupu – Tuvalu

This project was officially commissioned in April. The project is located at Motufoua Secondary School, one of Tuvalu's government-owned high schools, on Vaitupu - an island atoll 112 kilometres northeast from Tuvalu's capital, Funafuti. The school received a 40kW grid-connected PV system which is now providing 24-hour power to the school.

### Renewable Energy Demonstrations and Assessments – Vanuatu

This project looks at incorporating locally available renewable energy sources, namely wind, solar and hydro, to diversify the nation's energy mix. Rehabilitation work on solar systems installed in schools and health centres on the islands of Malo and Santo have been completed this year.

### Gender Mainstreaming

The gender mainstreaming project was implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) through the Pacific Energy and Gender (PEG) Network, the ENERGIA International Network and IUCN Oceania. It was the first of its kind to address energy projects within the region and now serves as a case study for the PEG Network. Managers of the six renewable energy and energy efficiency projects highlighted above were trained on incorporating gender dimensions into their respective projects. Workshops were held in Tonga (in April), Vanuatu (in June), and Samoa (in August).

### Nahu Women's Group

IUCN in collaboration with the Solomon Islands Energy Division, and the Nahu Women's Group installed and commissioned 34 solar home lighting systems in November. The lighting system provides two lights in each home. Prior to receiving the solar lights, the homes depended on kerosene for lighting. There has been a marked change in the way the households organize their daily activities. The new lights have enabled school children to do home work at night. Women are also able to do additional chores like weaving, sewing, and cooking after sunset.

## MANAGING ECOSYSTEMS FOR HUMAN WELL-BEING



IUCN Oceania continues to play a role in integrating environmental concerns into development strategies in the Pacific region. Using the concept of ecosystem goods and services is a way to implement IUCN's commitment to conservation and development, including post-disaster rehabilitation and interventions on environmental emergencies.

### Water and Nature Initiative in the Pacific

IUCN Oceania's work is directly aligned with IUCN's global Water Programme through its Water and Nature Initiative (WANI). WANI commenced in the Pacific in 2008 and focuses on good governance, payments for ecosystem services, capacity building of water resource managers at community, national and regional levels and the transfer of knowledge with the aim to improve the quality and sustainability of water resources.

### Achievements in 2010

#### Nakasaleka District, Kadavu, Fiji

Opportunities for traditional community-based catchment management approaches continued to be explored in this

#### Improving land and water management to reduce flood risks

The Nadi River Basin regularly suffers from heavy flooding, the most recent being the major floods of 2009. These floods are partially due to poor management practices undertaken in the Nadi Catchments by communities and local authorities. At the beginning of 2010, IUCN Oceania and the Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC) of SPC signed an agreement to implement a national Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) demonstration project for Fiji, with Nadi as the chosen site. The project aims to improve flood preparedness and integrate land and water management planning. In May, a coastal water quality and biological survey was carried out along the Nadi coast to verify the behaviour of the water column, with respect to tidal cycles.

southern Fiji district. In conjunction with the Institute of Applied Sciences at USP, an IUCN Member, a workshop was held in April to review and update the community management plan.

A Catchment Committee was formed with a representative from each of the 13 villages in the district, aiming to provide the basis for longer-term management of the catchment.

A visit to each village within the district was undertaken in July to assess the specific location of threats that were identified in action plans, consult with respective villages of on recent progress, and provide technical advice on the implementation of restoration activities.

In August, IUCN Oceania coordinated an inventory of the flora, birds, insects and mammals of the headwaters of the Nakasaleka District. The main findings showed excessive burning and agricultural activities targeting headwaters of all river and stream systems. A highlight of the biodiversity assessment of the Nakasaleka mountain ranges was the discovery of a new plant species believed to be closely linked with the endemic *Tagimoucia* flower, *Medinilla waterhousei*, in Taveuni.

A district-wide training on constructing basic community nurseries, and the propagation of native tree and fruit species was held in September 2010 at the village of Vacalea in Nakasaka. The training was organised in response to all villages in the district highlighting the need to replant their threatened upper catchment areas, which had previously been burnt and cleared for agricultural activities.

### **Reducing flood risks for Nadi Catchment, Fiji**

In the Nadi Catchment area, the Nadi Basin Catchment Committee continued to improve coordination for the management of this economically important catchment. IUCN Oceania and SOPAC supported the Land and Water Resource Management Division of the Ministry of Primary Industries of the Government of Fiji in this process. All efforts so far have been focused on the development of a strategy to reduce flood risks for the Nadi area.

### **Rehabilitating the Togitogiga catchment, Samoa**

The Togitogiga catchment area has become significantly degraded due to increasing population, and related development pressures leading to soil erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution. Efforts are focusing on the development and implementation of a watershed management plan for the Togitogiga catchment. A baseline survey collating existing hydrological, meteorological, and ecological information has been conducted. Awareness-raising materials on catchment management have been produced. The implementing agency is the Water Resources Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment, Government of Samoa.

### **Fish inventory for Nadi River and estuaries compiled**

The first ever comprehensive listing of fish species in the Nadi Basin and bay vicinity indicate that at least 335 fish species from 158 genera and 73 families reside in the area, representing approximately 27% of Fiji's coral reef, estuarine, and freshwater fish fauna. Fifteen endemic fish species from six families occur in the area representing approximately 26 of the endemic fishes in Fiji. This important work, which will add value to the development of the flood risk management strategy for the Nadi Basin, has improved the understanding of fish diversity in the Nadi Basin area, identifying 248 additional species compared to previous reports. This survey was conducted with technical support of Wetlands International.

### **Economics of Resource and Environmental Project Management in the Pacific**

This newly published book illustrates in a single text the economic foundations of natural resource use from a Pacific perspective. From the theory of environmental economics to the assessment of projects in the field, this book provides new and specialized case studies to examine the root causes of human actions that lead Pacific Islanders to use their natural resources unsustainably. Practical Pacific examples are used

to demonstrate how economic concepts and principles can help to explain unsustainable resource use. The root causes of poor performance are highlighted, as well as how to link these to possible targeted solutions. The University of the South Pacific is now using this publication as a prescribed text for an undergraduate course. The book was produced by Padma Lal of IUCN Oceania and Paula Holland of SOPAC, with financial contribution from IUCN, SOPAC, SPREP, and USP.

### **Pacific Island Seamounts – Under Threat?**

The Pacific Ocean is rich in seamounts with over 6,000 recorded. Seamounts are important for biodiversity and provide economic wealth to the Pacific Islands. IUCN Oceania is a partner in the regional Offshore Fisheries Management Project that is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA). IUCN's involvement in the project relates to the interaction of seamounts and the tuna long-line fishery. In April IUCN Oceania convened a two-day workshop in Nadi, Fiji, to discuss interactions between long-line fishing and seamounts in the Pacific Islands. Participants from Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu met with experts from IUCN, SPCFFA, SOPAC, The New Zealand National Institute of Water and Atmosphere and the Global Census of Marine Life on Seamounts called for additional efforts on the understanding and management of seamounts in the Pacific. In addition, IUCN published a report entitled, *Effects of Pelagic Longline Fishing on Seamount Ecosystems Based on Interviews with Pacific Island Fishers*.

### **Pacific Ocean 2020**

The largest ocean on the planet is faced with major threats including "pollution, habitat destruction, overfishing, and harvesting and climate change" according to the recently published Pacific Ocean Synthesis report. In light of this, the Centre for Oceans Solutions and IUCN Oceania launched the Pacific Ocean 2020. In July, the first stakeholder visioning workshop was held in Fiji to seek ocean-wide collaboration and linkages, and pave a way to address the pressing threats on the Pacific Ocean. Discussions focused on how to better manage marine and coastal resources in order to secure a healthy Pacific Ocean by the year 2020.

## GREENING THE WORLD ECONOMY



Today's economies often fail to support the sustainable management of ecosystems, as the full value of biodiversity is not taken into account. IUCN Oceania aims to work with governments and other stakeholders towards 'greening' Pacific Island economies, by integrating ecosystem conservation values into economic policy (finance and markets). IUCN Oceania's goals include building capacity within government agencies and private business to assess and reduce adverse environmental impacts. Next steps will involve efforts to internalize environmental values in economic policies through the use of economic incentives.

The Pacific Resource and Environmental Economics Network (PREEN) continued to develop and grow in 2010. IUCN, in partnership with SOPAC and SPC, established PREEN to serve as a professional body to promote and mainstream the use of economics in environmental management within the Pacific region.

### Ecosystem Service Valuation in Pilbara, Australia

This scoping exercise produced a report outlining the nature of integrated ecological-economic research to determine economic net values associated with the expected changes in ecosystem services. These were due to alternative uses of water resulting from below water table mining, including discharge into adjacent creeks, use in the production of irrigated hay production, and associated destocking of the cattle rangeland. The scoping report, provided an analytical framework that mining companies could use to assess the net ecological-economic impacts associated with dewatering and watering options for below water table mining, and support mining policy goals of net positive impact on biodiversity.



### The Economics of Coastal Zone Management

Under the Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance, this CRISP/SPREP-funded project produced a resource material targeting students and coastal zone managers with little or no background in economics. The publication was produced by IUCN Oceania in partnership with USP's Marine Studies Programme and IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA). The publication covered areas such as:

- understanding fundamental drivers, ecological connectivity, and root causes of coastal resource and environmental concerns, using key economic concepts, principles, and paradigms;
- management implications of the economic drivers, influences, and root causes of observed coastal resource and environmental concerns, and the potential role of market-based instruments in encouraging efficient and sustainable use of coastal resources; and
- understanding conditions and circumstances where market-based instruments may not be relevant or effective, and what alternative management systems may be required to address coastal resource and environmental management challenges.

## IUCN Oceania Membership

The IUCN Oceania Regional Office is the focal point for administering and serving Member organizations in the Oceania region.

In 2010, IUCN membership in the Oceania region included 45 States, government agencies, and non-government organizations into the IUCN network. This represents about 4% of the global IUCN Membership. Six nations in Oceania are Members: Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Nauru, Solomon Islands, and Tonga. Other State Members of IUCN with territories in the region are France, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom.

### Australian Members

#### State Member

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population, and Communities

#### Government Agencies

Department of Environment, Climate Change, and Water, NSW

Department of Environment and Conservation, WA

Department of Sustainability and Environment, VIC

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, QLD

Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport, NT

Parks Victoria

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

Department of Environment and Natural Resources, South Australia

Wet Tropics Management Authority

#### Non-Governmental Organizations

Australian Centre for Environmental Law

Australian Conservation Foundation

Australian Marine Conservation Society

Australian Network of Environmental Defender's Offices Ltd (ANEDO)

Australian Rainforest Conservation Society

Conservation Volunteers Australia

Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand

Institute of Foresters of Australia

Macquarie University Centre for Environmental Law

National Environmental Law Association

National Parks Association of New South Wales

National Parks Australia Council

Nature Conservation Council of NSW

Project Jonah Australia

The Wilderness Society

University of Canberra, Faculty of Applied Sciences

WWF Australia

### New Zealand Members

#### State Member

Department of Conservation

#### Government Agencies

New Zealand Conservation Authority

Landcare Research New Zealand Ltd

#### Non-Governmental Organisations

Environment and Conservation Organizations NZ

Lincoln University, Environmental Management Division

New Zealand Ecological Society

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society

WWF New Zealand

#### International Non-Governmental Organisations

International Federation of Landscape Architects

## Pacific Island Members

### State Members

Fiji Islands – Department of Environment

Nauru - The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment

Solomon Islands - The Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Meteorology

Tonga - The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

### Non-Governmental Organisations

#### Fiji

National Trust of Fiji Islands

University of the South Pacific

### French Polynesia

Te Mana o te Moana

### New Caledonia

Association pour la Sauvegarde de la Nature Néo-Calédonienne, New Caledonia

### Tonga

Tonga Community Development Trust

### Affiliates

New Caledonia

Direction de l'environnement de la province Sud

## IUCN Global Members Active in Oceania

A number of IUCN Member organizations registered in other countries are also active in the region.

### State Members

France

United Kingdom

USA

South Korea

Malaysia

Japan

### NGOs active in Oceania

World Wildlife Fund

Conservation International

Wetlands International

The Nature Conservancy

Wildlife Conservation Society

BioNET-INTERNATIONAL: The Global Network for Taxonomy

BirdLife International

RARE

Project Aware

### Organization of Members in Oceania

Two National Committees: Australia National Committee and New Zealand National Committee

#### National Committee for Australia

Contact: Ms Pam Eiser (Secretary)  
Sydney, Australia

#### National Committee for New Zealand

Contact: Ms. Diana Shand (Chair)  
IUCN Regional Councillor  
Wellington, New Zealand

### Oceania Regional Committee

Members include: three regional Councillors; one representative from Australia, New Zealand, and PI Members; and one representative from each Commission

Contact: Ms. Diana Shand (Chair)  
IUCN Regional Councillor  
Wellington, New Zealand

## IUCN Commission Members

Out of the 10,000 members of IUCN's six specialized commissions, approximately 900 are based in Oceania. This represents almost 10% of global commission membership, impressive for a large, but relatively un-populated region, and demonstrating that the region can greatly contribute to global and regional conservation issues. Individuals in Oceania are Members of all six Commissions: Commission on Education and Communication (CEC), the Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP), the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), the Species Survival Commission (SSC), and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA).



## OCEANIA REGIONAL OFFICE TEAM

**Changes in 2010**

The Regional Office has grown since its establishment in 2007. From four staff members in 2007, the regional office team now has 27 personnel. A second building, located one property away from the main regional office, was acquired in March and is now accommodating the Energy, Species, and Law Programme teams as well as three NGO partners: Sea Web's Asia Pacific Program, Coral Alliance, and the Fiji Islands Voyaging Society. IUCN Headquarters in Gland, Switzerland, initiated a comprehensive system and process transformation initiative in 2009 with the view to implement an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System across the global organization. The Oceania Regional Office, one of the more isolated by location of all of IUCN's offices has been very involved in this transformation.



## IUCN Oceania 2010 - Staff



**Regional Director**

*Taholo Kami*



**Regional Programme  
Coordinator**

*Bernard O'Callaghan*



**Senior Project Officer -  
Energy**

*Arieta Gonelevu*



**Chief Technical Advisor -  
Initiatives**

*Padma Lal*



**Communications Focal  
Point and Energy Project  
Assistant**

*Salote Sauturaga*



**Pacific Islands (Interim)  
Roundtable for Nature  
Conservation Coordinator**

*Etika Rupeni*



**Marine Programme  
Coordinator**

*Kelvin Passfield*



**Energy Project Coordinator**

*Anare Matakeviti*



**Interim Pacific Oceans  
2020 Officer**

*Anama Solofa*



**Membership Focal Point  
and Species Officer**

*Helen Pippard*



**MESCAL Project Support  
Assistant**

*Neehal Khatri*



**Water Programme  
Coordinator**

*Milika Sobey*



**Environmental Legal  
Advisor**

*William Zormann*



**Temporary Water and  
Nature Initiative Project  
Assistant**

*Epeli Nakautoga*



**Environmental Legal Officer**

*Emma Wangi*



**MESCAL Project Manager**

*Tim Nolan*



**Programme & WANI Project  
Assistant**

*Luisa Tagicakibau*



**MESCAL Coastal  
Ecosystem Management  
Officer (Governance)**

*Sanivalati Navuku*



**Administrative Officer**

*Mavis Yuen*



**Receptionist/Personal Assistant to Regional Director**

*Shelly Lata*



**Assistant Accountant**

*Rohini Singh*



**Regional Accountant**

*David Raj*



**Janitor**

*Laniana Bainimua*

## Key Visits To The Office

JANUARY	Claire Warmenbol, IUCN Water Programme Communications Officer
FEBRUARY	Bill Jackson, IUCN Deputy Director General
	Bob Pressey, WCPA Seminar, JCU “The plan of the day: managing the dynamic transition from regional-scale conservation design to local-scale conservation actions”
	Radhika Murti, IUCN Programme Officer, Ecosystem Management Programme
MARCH	Carl Gustaff-Lundin, IUCN Head of Marine Programme
JUNE	Olivier Tyack, IUCN Programme Officer, Islands Ecosystem Management Programme
	Diana Shand, IUCN Vice Chair of Oceania Regional Committee and Regional Councillor
	Richard Carton, Head of Oversight, IUCN
	Aroha Mead, Chair of Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP)
NOVEMBER	Julie Wymann, Head of Information Management Group, IUCN
	Mikhail Fayez, Information Technology Manager, Information Management Group, IUCN



Our Vision is a just world that values and conserves nature.

Our Mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

