2023 5th ANNIVERSARY

KIWA INITIATIVE

Nature-based solutions for climate resilience

© What Took You So Long | RESCCUE | SPC

PRESS BOOK

APRIL 2024 - MARCH 2025

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

Pacific Community
Communauté du Pacifique

SPREP

IUCN

THIS INITIATIVE IS FUNDED BY:

EUROPEAN UNION

AFD

In partnership with Canada

Australian Aid

NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE Aid Programme

TABLE OF CONTENTS

April/May 24	LA CALEDONIE AGRICOLE - Visite du WWF France	P5
02.04.24	SPREP - Développement d'une nouvelle qualification	P6
03.04.24	FIJI SUN - Local Community And Rangers Unite For Forest Celebration	P7
03.04.25	IUCN - Park rangers defend sand dunes from climate risks	P8
03.04.25	IUCN - Local community and rangers unite for forest celebration	P10
17.04.24	SPC - How Arthur Mills reversed his life-threatening illness,	P11
18.04.24	IUCN - TNYC enhances Tonga's coastal resilience with NbS,	P13
24.04.24	SPREP - The Tonga National Youth Congress (TNYC) enhances Tonga's coastal resilience with NbS	P15
27.04.24	NC1 TV - Protéger la sterne néréis en Province Nord : le Projet Sara	P16
30.04.24	RRB - Partenariat Kiwa autour de la mangrove	P18
03.05.24	IUCN - Autonomiser les communautés locales pour une utilisation durable des ressources naturelles grâce à l'initiative Kiwa,	P19
23.05.24	SPC - Fijian farmers receive comprehensive training in agroecological agriculture	P21
07/06/24	RADIO87.5 - Empowering a Sustainable Tongan Economy and Society through Organic Farming	P22
09/06/24	IUCN - Kiwa Initiative facilitates social media session at Heritage in Young Hands EcoCamp	P23
13.06.24	IUCN Kiwa Initiative promotes gender equality in Nature-based Solutions for land restoration	P24
17/06/24	INSIGHT+ - Indigenous knowledge meets global health strategies at regional World Health Summit	P26
19/06/24	SPREP - Kiwa Initiative promotes gender equality in Nature-based Solutions for land restoration,	P29
25.06.24	MFAT GOVNZ - Stories from across the moana	P30
26.06.24	AFD - The dangers facing the world's small islands states and how we can help	P32
01.07.24	FIJI TIMES - Farmers training	P34
02.07.24	IUCN - BirdLife International teams up with East Rennell villagers to overcome environmental challenges,	P35
15.07.24	Matangi Tonga Online - Tongan farmers upskilled in organic and agroecological farming,	P37
15.07.24	SPC INT - Tongan farmers upskilled in organic and agroecological farming practices	P38
16.07.24	Reliefweb - The Kiwa Initiative announces new contribution from Australia and launches new call for regional projects to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific	P39
17.07.24	NIUE EARTH WATCH - L'Initiative Kiwa annonce une contribution supplémentaire de l'Australie et lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux pour renforcer la résilience climatique dans le Pacifique	P41
16.07.24	SPC - The Kiwa Initiative announces new contribution from Australia and launches new call for regional projects to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific	P42
16.07.24	SPC - L'Initiative Kiwa annonce une contribution supplémentaire de l'Australie et lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux pour renforcer la résilience climatique dans le Pacifique	P44
16.07.24	SPREP - Tongan farmers upskilled in organic and agroecological farming	P46

© What Took You So Long | RESCCUE | SPC

20.07.24	FUNDSFORNGOs - [EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million] Kiwa Initiative offers a New Opportunity for Funding Regional Projects	P47
23.07.24	RRB - ITW de Mahé Charles sur l'appel à projets régionaux	P50
25.07.24	PCCP - New call for regional projects from Kiwa Initiative to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific	P51
01.08.24	FUNDSFORNGOs - Explore 80+ Open Grant Opportunities for Climate Change Projects	P52
03.08.24	NC1TV Nouvel appel à projets de l'Initiative Kiwa	P53
10.08.24	TALAONA O'TONGA - Organic farming training brings new hope to Tongan farmers	P54
12.08.24	Amy Amstrong - How Can Accelerators Speed Up Resilience-Building Efforts in the Pacific?	P55
23.08.24	SPC - Farmers cultivating nature-based solutions through Agroecology in the South Pacific,	P59
23.08.24	SPC - Fiji's Bold Move: Strengthening Climate Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions	P61
29.08.24	SPC - Hear from Tongan farmers who are shifting towards organic farming,	P62
08.2024	LA CALEDONIE AGRICOLE - PERENNE toujours mobilisé	P64
02.09.24	MEDIA INDONESIA - Social inclusion at school	p65
02.09.24	SPREP - Workshop deepens understanding on nature's potential for achieving sustainable development	P66
11.09.24	IUCN - 2nd National Symposium for Community-Led Initiatives Environment Sustainability	P68
11.09.24	RELIEF WEB - Kiwa Initiative launches simple, easy to use tools to help Pacific practitioners integrate gender and human rights into nature-based solutions,	P69
13.09.24	NC1 TV - Opération de plantation à Bourail	P71
15.09.24	SPC - Kiwa Initiative launches simple, easy to use tools to help Pacific practitioners integrate gender and human rights into nature-based solutions	P72
18/09/24	NC1TV - Opération sauvetage de la Mangrove	P74
19.09.24	NC1 - Calédoclean en opération sauvegarde de la mangrove à Nouméa	P75
29.09.24	FIJI TIMES - Crossing Taveuni's blue line	P76
30.09.24	CI - Local Action: Restoring Coastal Ecosystems and Bolstering Climate Resilience in the Pacific	P79
03.10.24	DAILY POST VANUATU - Vanuatu looks to nature for sustainable development solutions	P80
03.10.24	DAILY POST - French Development Agency re-establishes presence in Vanuatu	P82
08.10.24	RRB - Pebacc+ project	p83
16.10.24	FIJI VILLAGE - Lack of organic movement for Fiji in the Pacific	P85
29.10.24	FIJI VILLAGE - Award-Winning Mudrenicagi Farm transforms into hub for organic agriculture training	P86
31.10.24	POST COURIER - Kiwa Initiative Workshop promotes gender equity, disability and social inclusion in climate resilience solutions	P87
31.10.24	SPREP - Renforcer le changement : Le troisième atelier régional de l'initiative Kiwa fait progresser l'équité entres les sexes, le handicap et l'inclusion sociale dans les solutions fondées sur la nature pour la résilience climatique	P89
10.24	PARTNERSHIP EU - Initiative Kiwa : renforcer la résilience climatique des écosystèmes, des économies et des communautés des îles du Pacifique	P91
10.24	LA CALEDONIE AGRICOLE - Plantation à Téné a avec le projet PERENNE	P92
10.24	CALEDONIE AGRICOLE-Au chevet des berges de la Néra avec le projet PERENNE	P93
02.11.24	PIPAP.SPREP - Empowering Change: Third Kiwa Initiative Regional Workshop Advances Gender Equity, Disability and Social Inclusion in Nature-Based Solutions for climate resilience	P94
06.11.24	IUCN - Kiwa grantee inspires rangers at World Ranger Congress in Fiji	P95
12.11.24	SOLOMON STAR - Sanga's vision of building a better future with organic farming	P97
20.11.24	RRB - PEBACC+ et la maîtrise du feu	P98
22.11.24	IUCN - IUCN's efforts for climate resilience in the Pacific Islands	P99
28.11.24	FIJI TIMES - $4.2million is being allocated to implement projects in Fiji by the KIWA Initiative	P101
28.11.24	FBC News - Kiwa partners $15m climate resilience partnership	P102

© What Took You So Long | RESCCUE | SPC

29.11.24	FBC News - KIWA project to benefit Vanua Levu communities	P103
29.11.24	IMMINENT GLOBAL NEWS - KIWA Initiative Projects Launched to Aid Pacific Islands	P104
30.11.24	FIJI TIMES - $4.2m for climate resilience	P105
11.24	IFRECOR - L'Initiative Kiwa offre une belle opportunité de soutien aux Projets Régionaux avec l'Appel à Projets 2024	P106
01.12.24	RELIEF WEB & SPC - 16 Days Of Activism: Organic agriculture as a pathway to ending violence against women and girls in Tonga	P107
03.12.24	FIJI SUN - IUCN Oceania Highlights Success in the Kiwa Initiative	P109
03.12.24	FIJI SUN - Mission to the IUCN Kiwa project site in Labasa	P110
04.12.24	IUCN - IUCN Oceania highlights success and collaboration in the Kiwa Initiative	P111
12.24	LA CALEDONIE AGRICOLE - Projet PERENNE : opération bambou,	P113
12.24	LA CALEDONIE AGRICOLE - PERENNE : des formations pour une montée en compétence	P114
07.12.24	FIJI TIMES - Maximising resources	P115
06-13.12.24	IUCN & SPC & SPREP - Kiwa Initiative highlights children's advocacy through social media	P116
12.24	ZCO MAGAZINE - Un collège de Bourail parle de ripisylve	P119
21.01.25	FIJI GOVNET - Decisions made at the 2nd cabinet meeting today	P120
31.01.25	IUCN - Protecting our wetlands with IUCN Oceania and Kiwa Initiative	P121
02.25	LA CALEDONIE AGRICOLE - Projet PERENNE : Opération bambou : mission accomplie !	P122
02.25	LA CALEDONIE AGRICOLE - Journée technique : Gestion de l'érosion en bord de rivière	P123
12.02.25	ASPI The Strategist - In its Indo-Pacific strategy, France should engage more with Pacific islanders,	P124
11.02.25	NC1 RADIO - Sur les berges de la Néra : le projet PERENNE	P126
18.02.25	IUCN - Environmental Restoration in Aileu: Harvesting the Fruit of Hope	P127
20.02.25	FIJI ONE - Conversation about the Oceania Planetary Health Forum	P128
22.02.25	jethrojeff.com Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn	P129
26.02.25	FIJI GOV - The Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, Hon. Filimoni Vosarogo officiates as chief guest at the Oceania Planetary Health Forum	P131
26.02.25	FIJI VILLAGE - Ministry of Environment commits to strengthening Climate and Health resilience	P132
27.02.25	FBC News - Vosarogo urges unified action on climate change	P133
28.02.25	FIJI TIMES - Vosarogo: Our voice is critical	P134
07.03.25	IUCN - Women at the forefront: tackling invasive species in East Rennell	P135
07.03.25	IUCN - Women at the Centre of Solutions for Climate Change	P137
09.03.25	Talaona'O Tonga - Govt declares the Niuas 'organic islands'	P138
17.03.25	PUBLICNOW - Mini. fir environment and climate Hon. MOSESE BULITAVU'S remarks at the launch of the Live and Learn project	P139
17.03.25	FIJI TV - Live and Learn Environmental Education has launched the Regional Kiwa EMPOWER Project	P141
18.03.25	FIJI SUN - $7.5m Climate Resilience Project Launched	P142
18.03.25	franceauxfidji - EMPOWER project Launch	P143
20.03.25	W&F1 - Projet PEBACC+ : s'adapter au réchauffement climatique à Wallis en restaurant la mangrove	P144

© What Took You So Long | RESCCUE | SPC

Date: April/May 2024
Country: New Caledonia

Visite du WWF France, La Calédonie Agricole, Avril/Mai 2024

https://docs.google.com/gview?url=https://www.cap-nc.nc/wp-content/uploads/LCA196-bassedef.pdf

Visite du WWF France

À l'occasion d'une mission sur le territoire du directeur des programmes du WWF France Yann Laurans, le président de la CAP-NC, Jean-Christophe Niautou, le directeur et les techniciens de la CAP-NC qui suivent le projet, ainsi que le maire de Bourail, Patrick Robelin, se sont retrouvés à Nessadiou sur le premier site implanté dans le cadre du projet PERENNE (financé par l'Initiative Kiwa), en bordure de la Néra. Plusieurs aménagements de berge, au travers de chantiers participatifs, vont avoir lieu chez des agriculteurs du bassin versant de la Néra dans les prochains mois. Ce moment d'échanges a été l'occasion de rappeler les enjeux importants du projet sur la sauvegarde des terres agricoles, la qualité des rivières et la santé du lagon, et l'engagement fort de la CAP-NC, aux côtés du WWF-NC dans cette opération, qui pourrait à l'avenir être reproduite dans d'autres zones du territoire.

Développement d'une nouvelle qualification pour permettre aux acteurs des îles du Pacifique de participer aux efforts de résilience climatique, Pacific Community, 02.04.24

https://www.spc.int/fr/actualite/actus-web/2024/04/developpement-dune-nouvellequalification-pour-permettre-aux-acteurs

New qualification to empower Pacific Island stakeholders in climate resilience efforts In an effort to become more climate resilient, Pacific Island communities are taking a big step forward by developing specialised training qualification to help them use Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to battle the effects of climate change.

These solutions are ways to deal with environmental challenges by working with nature instead of against it. Supported by the Kiwa Initiative (which funded by the European Union, France, Canada, New Zealand and Australia), this qualification is a crucial move towards making Pacific Island ecosystems, communities, and economies stronger and more adaptable. This initiative is a team effort led by the Regional technical assistance of the Kiwa Initiative, implemented in partnership by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Pacific Community (SPC), with the valuable support of the Educational Quality and Assessment Programme of SPC. SPC's expertise in developing qualifications played a big role in why they were asked to help with these microqualifications, which are planned to start in 2024.

"These qualifications represent a significant milestone in our efforts to enhance climate resilience in the Pacific. By providing our stakeholders with specialised skills and knowledge, we're empowering our communities to navigate the challenges of climate change with confidence and effectiveness," said Dr Rebecca Stirnemann, Project Development Coordinator of the Kiwa Initiative at SPC. As part of this project, a group called the Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) will be formed with representatives from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), thematic experts from NGOs, regional organisations and academics. With guidance from SPC, the members of this committee develop a Pacific focused qualification.

The goal is to make sure these qualifications are as helpful and relevant as possible to people in the Pacific Islands. Another added benefit about the qualification is that it will be endorsed by people outside the Pacific Islands showcasing that there is a shared commitment to ensuring these qualifications are recognised and respected everywhere, and available for delivery in the entire region as well. By working together, these qualifications will help strengthen the Pacific Islands' ability to deal with climate challenges while working closer with nature. The plan for developing these qualifications is well-organised, with clear steps and goals.

Training sessions for the IAC members will be followed by adjustments based on feedback received. Each step brings Pacific Island stakeholders closer to being better prepared to face the challenges of climate change. For Pacific Island communities, these qualifications are more than just a project – they're a crucial part of their journey towards becoming more resilient to climate change. By working together and forming strong partnerships, these qualifications have the potential to empower communities and protect the environment for years to come. For more information, please visit the Kiwa Initiative website.

Date: April 3rd 2024
Country: Fiji

Local Community And Rangers Unite For Forest Celebration Fiji Sun 03.04.24

https://fijisun.com.fj/2024/04/03/local-community-and-rangers-unite-for-forest-celebration/

Mr. Tutani encouraged everyone to participate in tree planting campaigns and use technology to preserve our forests for future generations.
By International Union For Conservation Of Nature 03 Apr 2024 16:12

Despite the rainy weather conditions, the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park team and the local community celebrated the International Day of Forests (IDOF) in a remarkable way. The highlight of the event was planting over 800 trees, showing the commitment of the people and the volunteers.
The celebration was held on 21 March, which was also part of the National Trust of Fijis (NTF) Kiwa Initiative project. NTFs main goal for the project is to boost the climate resilience of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem.
This event was made possible thanks to the park rangers. They have been working tirelessly on the NTF Kiwa Initiative project that values the importance of trees with the motto, I planted a tree today because trees matter. Kids participating in the tree planting.

Former Park Manager for Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park, Jason Tutani, who was the chief guest, emphasised the importance of local actions with global impacts. Today is all about actions, local actions with global implications. He highlighted the significance of forests, mentioning that they cover a third of the Earths land surface.
Mr. Tutani stated, We are losing 10 million hectares of forests annually to deforestation. He said that these destructive practices have an impact on climate change and our future. He also discussed the theme for this years IDOF, Forests and Innovation. This year's theme touches on how our innovations and technological advancements should now be put to use in protecting our forests. Mr. Tutani encouraged everyone to participate in tree planting campaigns and use technology to preserve our forests for future generations.
The NTF project, titled "Building coastal resilience forest restoration, invasive management actions, and the Heritage in Young Hands Programme of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystems," is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative. Participants before the tree planting session on March 21, 2024.
Photo credit: Sigatoka Sand Dunes. The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: April 3rd 2024
Country: Fiji

Park rangers defend sand dunes from climate risks IUCN 03.04.24

https://www.iucn.org/story/202404/park-rangers-defend-sand-dunes-climate-risks

With a focus on preserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable practices, the National Trust of Fiji (NTF) Kiwa Initiative Project is leading the way in ensuring the climate resilience of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem. Through collaboration, awareness campaigns, and community participation, the project aims to create a relationship between people and nature. The Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park rangers doing weed work for African tulip eradication at the site on 12 - 15 December, 2023.
Photo: The Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park rangers doing weed work for African tulip eradication at the site on 12 - 15 December, 2023.

The Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park rangers doing weed work for African tulip eradication at the site on 12 - 15 December, 2023. Photo: The Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park rangers doing weed work for African tulip eradication at the site on 12 - 15 December, 2023. The NTF is empowering communities to deal with climate change impacts by managing Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park sustainably. This park is important to the overall health of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem. The project aims to establish areas where forests can grow back near the National Park with the help of both the local communities and park rangers. At these spots, they will be planting different types of trees (agroforestry), removing non-native plants (invasive species control), and preventing damage to land that hasn't been harmed yet (avoided degradation).

These examples set up by the community will be used for various educational activities related to nature, such as teaching about useful native plants (ethnobotany) and waste management. They will also learn about creating nutrient-rich soil using organic materials (compost projects). The NTF project, titled "Building coastal resilience—forest restoration, invasive management actions, and the Heritage in Young Hands Programme—of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystems," has set several objectives to strengthen the climate resilience of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem by 2025. One of the objectives consists of establishing three forest restoration demonstration sites, achieving 80% community engagement in agroforestry, and reducing the five identified invasive species throughout the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem. To achieve this, the project has been working with stakeholders to choose suitable locations for forest restoration in the National Park and Kulukulu Project areas. Activities include setting up a nursery in the National Park, managing planting stock, and developing an invasive species action plan for the selected priority invasive species. Another objective is to prevent damage to the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem due to fires. This will be done by setting up three protective barriers around it called 'natural fire buffer zones', and another barrier to its west. A fire management plan will determine priorities and species for these zones.

Date: April 3rd 2024
Country: Fiji

Park rangers defend sand dunes from climate risks IUCN 03.04.24

https://www.iucn.org/story/202404/park-rangers-defend-sand-dunes-climate-risks

Lastly, the goal is to raise community awareness and encourage climate adaptation action through the publication of an ethnobotany research study on the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem, community participation in the agri-nursery, waste management, and carrying out Health Parks and Healthy Peoples Campaign events by the Heritage in Young Hands (HIYH) Programme.

The HIYH is a five-year environmental education programme that provides an opportunity for primary school students to make a real difference in their lives and surroundings. The project has made a lot of progress during the first reporting period, with a focus on supporting the Kiwa Initiative team and donors on visits to the project sites. Moving forward, the project aims to finalise training and awareness materials, commence replanting activities, and conduct team training in drone surveys using a multispectral camera. The NTF Kiwa Initiative project is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative. The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: April 3rd 2024
Country: Fiji

Local community and rangers unite for forest celebration, IUCN 03.04.24

https://www.iucn.org/story/202404/park-rangers-defend-sand-dunes-climate-risks

Despite the rainy weather conditions, the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park team and the local community celebrated the International Day of Forests (IDOF) in a remarkable way.

The highlight of the event was planting over 800 trees, showing the commitment of the people and the volunteers. Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park team and the community celebrating IDOF 2024. Photo: Participants before the tree planting session on March 21, 2024 Sigatoka Sand Dunes © Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park team and the community celebrating IDOF 2024. Photo: Students from the Nasau Youth Camp participated in the tree planting.
Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park team and the community celebrating IDOF 2024. Photo: Former Park Manager for Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park, Jason Tutani. Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park team and the community celebrating IDOF 2024.
Photo: The two year old, Joeli Basiyalo is the youngest tree planter during the IDOF celebrations.

The celebration was held on 21 March, which was also part of the National Trust of Fiji's (NTF) Kiwa Initiative project. NTF's main goal for the project is to boost the climate resilience of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem. This event was made possible thanks to the park rangers. They have been working tirelessly on the NTF Kiwa Initiative project that values the importance of trees with the motto, "I planted a tree today because trees matter." Former Park Manager for Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park, Jason Tutani, who was the chief guest, emphasised the importance of local actions with global impacts. "Today is all about actions, local actions with global implications."
He highlighted the significance of forests, mentioning that they cover a third of the Earth's land surface. Mr. Tutani stated, "We are losing 10 million hectares of forests annually to deforestation." He said that these destructive practices have an impact on climate change and our future. He also discussed the theme for this year's IDOF, 'Forests and Innovation'. "This year's theme touches on how our innovations and technological advancements should now be put to use in protecting our forests." Mr. Tutani encouraged everyone to participate in tree planting campaigns and use technology to preserve our forests for future generations.
The NTF project, titled "Building coastal resilience—forest restoration, invasive management actions, and the Heritage in Young Hands Programme—of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystems," is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative. The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: April 17th 2024
Country: Fiji

How Arthur Mills reversed his life-threatening illness, SPC, 17.04.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/dynamic-story/2024/04/how-arthur-mills-reversed-his-lifethreatening-illness

As a young boy growing up in the lush vegetation of Waidranudranu in the province of Bua, Fiji, Arthur Mills experienced a childhood much like any other Fijian boy during the 1960s and 70s. His days were spent accompanying his father on their family farm, a haven where they cultivated copra and root crops. In those days, farming did not heavily depend on fertilisers or pesticides as it does today; all a farmer needed was their trusty spade and fork, a cane knife, and an understanding of traditional farming methods passed down through generations.

Mudrenicagi Organic Farm in Wainunu, in the province of Bua, Fiji Building the Mudrenicagi Farm Today, at age 65, after 30 years abroad, Arthur is living his dream and continuing the legacy of his forefathers by establishing an organic farm with his wife, Karen. Into the first two years of purchasing their farmland of over 93 acres, the Mills hacked a bit of the Mudrenicagi tropical rainforest jungle, cleared roads and land, built a base camp, planted taro and cassava, 500 Yasi trees, survived a category 5 Tropical Cyclone Winston, built their main two-story house, planted lots of pineapple and banana plants, started a small poultry business, became beekeepers and built a market garden. It's no wonder Arthur is arguably one of Fiji's most physically fit 65-year-olds.

Arthur farms organic taro, yams, fruits, vegetables, and kava and leads an active lifestyle. Along with growing coffee beans and maintaining beehives, he produces and uses organic pesticides and conducts training for nearby communities. While Arthur navigates his present life radiating health and vibrancy, it's a vivid departure from when he was 40 – 50 years old.

After spending 18 committed years in an office environment, a wake-up call from his doctor shook him with the risk of a severe illness. The retired couple in Fiji who started their organic farm with a couple of chickens "He mentioned a couple of health issues. He said that diabetes was creeping up on me, my blood was really sweet (high blood sugar), and I was overweight. I spent eighteen years in front of a computer, contributing to my poor health." – Arthur Mills, Mudrenicagi Organic Learning Farm, Fiji.

Arthur struggled with weight gain, pre-diabetes, and rising blood pressure and knew he would lead a difficult life into his senior years if he did not get a handle on a healthier lifestyle and eating habits. This past scare merely underscores how far he has triumphed in his journey to wellness. Since switching to organic foods on their Mudrenicagi organic farm in 2014, Arthur and Karen attest to the amazing health benefits of organic foods and embraced a remarkable health transformation.

Arthur now weighs a healthy 20 kg less than when he first moved to Fiji; his blood glucose levels are well balanced, he is more physically active with more energy on a day to day, and overall enjoys his second chance at a healthy, full life. Now nine years into cultivating their organic farm, the Mills claim there are apparent differences in the growth and flavours of organic vegetables and crops compared to those grown conventionally.

Date: April 17th 2024
Country: Fiji

How Arthur Mills reversed his life-threatening illness, SPC, 17.04.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/dynamic-story/2024/04/how-arthur-mills-reversed-his-lifethreatening-illness

They have noticed multiple instances of certain leafy vegetables from the market emitting an unusual scent when they have been subjected to excessive fertiliser use by conventional farmers. The end result is that the fruit and vegetables we're growing have so much more flavour than what we buy in the market.
Once people get a taste of what something organic tastes like versus when chemicals and sprays are added, there is a notable difference and people prefer organic. - Karen Mills, Mudrenicagi Organic Learning Farm Centre, Fiji Karen claims that organic farming has unique characteristics that set it apart from other agricultural practices. One of these distinct facets is the extensive use of inter-cropping, which involves growing different types of crops together in the same area.
This method helps promote biodiversity, nutrient cycling, and pest control. Organic farming prioritises education in natural cultivation techniques, teaching farmers about eco-friendly pest management, crop rotation, and soil management. Techniques like 'chop and drop,' where cut plant material enriches the soil as a natural mulch, alongside using organic materials for mulching to preserve soil moisture, suppress weeds, and boost fertility, are integral practices.
Organic Learning Farm Centre In July of 2023, Arthur and Karen Mills put their hands up to become an organic learning farm centre under the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project implemented by the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community at the Pacific Community (SPC). In partnership with Fiji's Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways, POETCom launched the Mudrenicagi organic learning farm centre to develop capacities of 40 – 50 small-scale farmers keen to learn organic farming, organic value-added products, farm planning, business planning as well as access to Group Organic Certification.
The launch was the start of the Organic Learning Farm network in Fiji, launching both the Mudrenicagi Organic Learning Farm Centre and the Navuso Organic Learning Farm Centre at the Navuso Agriculture Technical Institute on Viti Levu Island.
The Organic Learning Farms Network holds immense potential not only for our agricultural community but also for our economy and public health. - Hon. Tomasi Tunabuna, Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Waterways, Fiji The POLFN Project is supported by the Kiwa Initiative, which is a multi-donor organisation funded by the European Union in the Pacific, the French Development Agency, the Canadian International Development Agency, the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, with its implementing partners in the region, SPC, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). About POETCom The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) is a not-for-profit organisation with active members (farmer associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, private sector, research institutions and working with governments) across the Pacific Island region. POETCom is hosted by the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Suva, Fiji.

Date: April 18th 2024
Country: Fiji

TNYC enhances Tonga's coastal resilience with NbS, IUCN, 18.04.24

https://www.iucn.org/story/202404/tnyc-enhances-tongas-coastal-resilience-nbs

The Tonga National Youth Congress (TNYC) Kiwa Initiative project is using Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to protect Tonga's coastal environments and strengthen climate resilience. TNYC's project site in Ano Hehea. Photo: Youth rubbish clean up from the wetland area at the Ano Hehea site in 2023 © TNYC
TNYC's working site in Ano Hehea Photo: Cemented water area in Ano Hehea wetland for community water usage © TNYC
Climate change is a major threat to Tonga, but TNYC is fighting back with cost-effective and sustainable NbS practices. Their work is making a difference in Tonga, and it is an important example of how NbS can address the challenges of climate change. TNYC is working at four sites in Tonga: Mo'ungalafa, Ano Hehea, Sopu, and Lokupo. At these locations, they will be planting mangroves to combat coastal erosion, establish marine protected areas to preserve biodiversity, and promote sustainable fishing practices to ensure long-term ecological balance.
The TNYC Kiwa Initiative project helps local youth groups with environmental activities like conserving species, eliminating harmful species, and promoting NbS. Through these efforts, the project aims to update Tonga's environmental laws to address climate change impacts and support the local communities and their relationship with the environment.
One of the key aspects of the TNYC Kiwa Initiative is its support for local communities by implementing 10 measures aimed at preventing poaching of local flora and fauna at each project sites. These measures will then influence policy and regulation changes to be made at a national level that will positively impact on reserves and parks at the grassroots. At the ecosystem level, the project aims to implement a minimum of three effective resource conservative management strategy per project site.
The conservative management strategies are based on the surveys conducted as part of 10 measures against poaching, but they are specifically adjusted to match the ecosystem of the project site. All Nature-based Solutions in the project rely on organic livelihood practices, combining traditional knowledge with western technologies.
This approach ensures sustainability and considers both the local environment and communities dependent on it. At Lokupo, Ano Hehea & Mo'ungalafa project sites, TNYC had carried out various activities to protect the ecosystem. These include preventative poaching measures such as tracking and monitoring human activities, as well as flora and fauna. TNYC has collected data and conducted surveys to track progress and understand the conservation needs of the site. They have removed harmful invasive species to restore the balance of the ecosystem.
At Sopu reef conservation site, various conservation activities took place, including species surveys, collaboration with authorities, youth projects, baseline surveys, trail mapping, tree tagging, habitat restoration with floating plant islands, mangrove planting, and rubbish collection. TNYC involves local communities in conservation efforts to promote ownership and responsibility for the environment. Through activities like plantings and cleanups, stakeholders are inspired to act and value nature.

Date: April 18th 2024
Country: Fiji

TNYC enhances Tonga's coastal resilience with NbS, IUCN, 18.04.24

https://www.iucn.org/story/202404/tnyc-enhances-tongas-coastal-resilience-nbs

Embracing NbS leads to a future where humans and nature live together in balance, and everyone looks after the environment. The TNYC project titled "Biodiversity management and conservation" is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative. The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: April 24th 2024
Country: Tonga

The Tonga National Youth Congress (TNYC) enhances Tonga's coastal resilience with NbS, PIPAP.SPREP.org, 24.04.24

https://pipap.sprep.org/news/tonga-national-yout-congress-tnyc-enhances-tongas-coastalresilience-nbs

The Tonga National Youth Congress (TNYC) Kiwa Initiative project is using Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to protect Tonga's coastal environments and strengthen climate resilience.Climate change is a major threat to Tonga, but TNYC is fighting back with costeffective and sustainable NbS practices. Their work is making a difference in Tonga, and it is an important example of how NbS can address the challenges of climate change.

Protéger la sterne néréis en Province Nord : le Projet Sara TV NC 1ÈRE 19h30, 27/04/2024.

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/nouvellecaledonie/programme-video/la1ere_nouvellecaledonie_journal-de-19h30-de-nouvelle-caledonie/diffusion/5909121-edition-du-samedi-27- avril-2024.html

Protéger la sterne néréis en Province Nord : le Projet Sara À 18M07.

Journaliste: Et maintenant, direction Poum pour le grand format de ce samedi et ces opérations de préservation des colonies d'oiseaux marins. La Sterne néréis menacée sur les îles au large de la côte ouest est protégée par une brigade de gardes nature. Les agents provinciaux interviennent dans le cadre du projet Sara depuis le début de cette année.

Journaliste 2: Sur le sable blanc de cet îlot. Un drôle de spectacle. De loin, on croirait presque. Mais lorsque l'on s'approche, le subterfuge est total. Des miroirs et des oiseaux en bois peints à la main par les gardes nature aux couleurs de la Sterne Néréis. Un dispositif qui peut faire sourire, mais c'est l'une des actions au cœur du projet Sara menée conjointement par Initiative Kiwa et la Province Nord.

Christophe Hatjopoulos: Ce sont des leurres qui sont posés pour attirer certaines espèces d'oiseaux. Donc là, on a mis ce dispositif ici pour voir si les sternes néréis qui sont un des oiseaux les plus menacées de Calédonie, si ça les attire. L'idée est de pouvoir à terme gérer ces populations et peut être dans certaines zones de Calédonie, de pouvoir les orienter sur des îlots plus propices à leur conservation.

Journaliste 2: Des miroirs et des congénères factices pour encourager la nidification et l'adaptation à un lieu qui n'est pas le leur. L'îlot YAN DAGOUET est un exemple des actions menées sur les 17 îlots de la côte ouest dans le Grand Nord. Une mission de surveillance de tous les jours. Le soleil à peine levé, trois gardes nature de la brigade de Koumac sont sur le pont. Une fois à bord, il faut filer sur l'eau. Ils ne se baladent pas. Ils ont une journée pour contrôler deux îlots. Le premier est à 45 minutes de là. À l'arrivée, un morceau de paradis naturel interdit au public. Une fois débarqués, nous sommes et serons aujourd'hui les seuls privilégiés à des kilomètres à la ronde. Contrôler le dispositif et ces oiseaux en bois, vérifier que les pièges à rats sont opérationnels. Autre menace, plus insidieuse, celle de ces cactus, espèce invasive qu'il faut traiter.

Christophe Hatjopoulos: D'ici quelques années, si on le laisse comme ça, il va recouvrir toute cette zone là et du coup on aura toutes ces sites là ne seront plus accessibles aux puffins. Donc l'idée dans le projet Sara, c'est en partie, c'est aussi d'arracher ces plants là.

Journaliste 2: Au détour d'un buisson endémique. Une aile apparaît au sol : les restes d'une sterne huppée. Christophe reconnaît le prédateur supposé, un faucon pèlerin.

TV NC 1ÈRE 19h30, 27/04/2024.

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/nouvellecaledonie/programme-video/la1ere_nouvellecaledonie_journal-de-19h30-de-nouvelle-caledonie/diffusion/5909121-edition-du-samedi-27- avril-2024.html

Christophe Hatjopoulos: Naturellement, il y a déjà une prédation, prédation qui existe sur les oiseaux et donc au dérangement humain sur ces colonies, vient rajouter en plus à ces prédations, parfois aux conséquences climatiques.

Journaliste : Pour contrer l'impact humain, une partie de ces îlots sont inaccessibles aux débarquements, signalés par ce mât jaune et son fanion rouge. Il faut repartir. Le soleil tape déjà fort avec ses 33 degrés au sol et nous sommes à 2 h de trajet de notre deuxième destination. L'îlot ? lui est autorisé à la plaisance. Sur ce deuxième site, derrière les barrières oranges, la nature offre sa propre représentation : un balai volant de plumes blanches et noires dans le ciel et sur la plage en pleine parade nuptiale, c'est la saison. Aux premières loges, les gardes nature, témoins de l'intimité de ces oiseaux menacés. Parmi eux, Andy Médéric, jeune recrue, apprend à voir le bon pied, mais surtout le bon œil. Chaque oiseau a sa petite particularité. Loin de punir, le garde nature, plus souvent sensibilise, fait acte de pédagogie. Un lien avec la population locale indispensable.

Andy Médéric: C'est quelque chose qui me tient à cœur et en plus, j'ai la chance d'avoir pu être muté sur Koumac. Donc quand on est de la zone, ça permet aussi d'échanger avec les gens du secteur. Donc quand on vient sur les îlots, on en profite pour discuter avec les gens plutôt que de faire que du contrôle. On échange avec eux, on voit leur ressenti et souvent c'est un moment où ils eux, ils nous partagent ce qu'ils voient aussi ce que nous on n'est pas tous les jours en mer non plus. Donc voilà, c'est un échange dans les deux sens.

Journaliste : Le meilleur métier du monde pour ces trois hommes. Quinze ans que ces îlots, morceau de sable blanc au milieu du grand bleu, sont l'objet de toutes leurs attentions. Un secteur de surveillance qui s'étend aussi sur terre, sur des centaines de kilomètres en forêt ou en montagne. Mais c'est ici, dans ces derniers bastions sauvages, dont cette relation avec ces oiseaux du large, que la nature a peut être trouvé ses gardiens.

Date: April 30th 2024
Country: New Caledonia

Partenariat Kiwa autour de la mangrove
RADIO RRB, Journal 17 H 45, 30/04/24

https://www.rrb.nc/podcast/journal-info-soir-mardi-35 Convention-cadre pour la préservation de la mangrove.

À 25M26. Journaliste : Elle a été signée ce matin par la Province Sud, l'UNC et les quatre communes de l'agglomération Nouméa, le Mont-Dore, Païta et Dumbéa à la Maison de la biodiversité. Cette convention permet de mettre en place un comité de suivi chargé de coordonner toutes les actions autour de la mangrove dans chacune des communes.

À 25M46. ITW de Philippe Blaise. -" C'est un partenariat qui crée en fait entre nous un comité de suivi qui va permettre de coordonner toutes les actions que nous faisons les uns les autres autour de la mangrove, avec les partenaires indispensables comme l'OFB, l'État, le programme KIWA, les associations, tous ceux qui ont déjà une implication dans le sauvetage des mangroves. Jusqu'à présent, il y avait beaucoup d'actions qui étaient faites, mais de façon un peu désordonnée. On faisait parfois la même chose parallèlement. Et là, vraiment, on va travailler main dans la main avec ce comité de suivi présidé par Cyril Marchand. Cela va nous permettre d'être plus efficaces, de mieux lever des fonds pour financer les projets. Et on voit que ça a déjà commencé puisque la province Sud a soutenu la ville de Nouméa, notamment pour les aménagements de la mangrove d'Ouémo. C'est un bon début et maintenant, on espère qu'on va faire encore mieux avec du partage de connaissances, du partage d'expériences, de façon à ce qu'on ait tous une stratégie concertée et cohérente de préservation de la mangrove dans le Grand Nouméa ".

Date: May 5th 2024
Country: Papua New Guinea

Autonomiser les communautés locales pour une utilisation durable des ressources naturelles grâce à l'initiative Kiwa, IUCN.ORG, 03/05/2024

https://www.iucn.org/story/202405/empowering-local-communities-sustainable-use-naturalresources-through-kiwa-initiative

Dans le but de promouvoir une gestion durable des ressources naturelles, le projet de l'initiative Kiwa de KGWan Eco-Habitat Inc., qui vise à éduquer les communautés locales, a progressé dans le corridor forestier de Bismarck, dans les hautes terres de PapouasieNouvelle-Guinée. Malgré les défis rencontrés, le projet a remporté des succès significatifs, soulignant le dévouement des communautés locales et de l'équipe du projet. La sensibilisation et la résilience de la formation Kiwa Goroka de l'UICN.
Photo : La sensibilisation et la formation de l'UICN Kiwa Goroka sur la résilience.

Les femmes et les jeunes de KGWan ont suivi une formation sur la littératie financière, ce qui les a motivés à épargner et à renforcer leur résilience climatique. Photo : Les femmes et les jeunes de KGWan ont suivi une formation sur la littératie financière, ce qui les a motivés à épargner et à renforcer la résilience climatique. L'un des principaux objectifs était d'éduquer au moins 1 000 communautés locales sur la gestion durable des ressources naturelles, en mettant l'accent sur la sensibilisation aux risques induits par le climat. Bien que le nombre cible n'ait pas été entièrement atteint en raison de contraintes de temps, le projet a permis d'atteindre 800 personnes dans cinq collectivités. La participation des femmes a dépassé les 40 %, ce qui montre que l'initiative Kiwa inclut tout le monde.
Une étape importante a été franchie lorsque cinq clans des communautés cibles ont signé un acte de conservation le 4 août 2023, consacrant plus de 20 000 hectares de forêt montagnarde à la conservation. Cet acte symbolise les efforts collectifs des communautés pour préserver leur environnement naturel pour les générations futures. Le projet de l'initiative KGWan Kiwa a également permis aux communautés de faire face aux catastrophes et d'apporter des changements pour réduire leur impact, en plus de promouvoir la sensibilisation à la protection de la nature.
Cela montre à quel point le projet est dédié à aider à résoudre différents problèmes environnementaux et à donner du pouvoir aux communautés. Tout au long de la période du projet, la capacité de la pépinière a été améliorée et opérationnelle. Les matériaux matériels ont été mobilisés et le site a été préparé pour l'extension, mais il faut plus de matériel et de temps pour une maintenance complète. De plus, 600 plants d'eucalyptus ont été mobilisés et plantés. De plus, 1 157 semis ont été élevés dans la pépinière ainsi que 240 semis, principalement Halesia et Podocarp, ont été élevés dans la pépinière, la floraison et la saison des graines des principales espèces d'arbres indigènes n'étant pas encore entièrement connues. Dans la zone de conservation trois, 240 semis ont été plantés, et plus de 1 000 plants ont été distribués à la communauté lors de la signature de l'acte de conservation.
La demande de la communauté pour des semis d'arbres pour les boisés et les zones de jardinage est très élevée. Dans les zones de conservation deux et trois, 250 semis indigènes de Casuarina ont été plantés dans le cadre d'une agriculture intelligente face au climat, avec une demande exceptionnellement élevée de la part de la communauté pour les semis de Casuarina.

Autonomiser les communautés locales pour une utilisation durable des ressources naturelles grâce à l'initiative Kiwa, IUCN.ORG 03/05/2024

Enfin, 10 semis de nothofagus ont été plantés dans la zone du bassin versant, avec des défis liés à la technique inconnue de collecte des graines et à la rareté des sauvageons, qui sont dispersés et perturbés par une utilisation humaine non durable. L'initiative KGWan Kiwa a été créée par les trois clans rivaux d'une tribu dont la mission est « d'encourager et de promouvoir 20 000 hectares de conservation de la biodiversité terrestre d'Inaugl dans la province de Simbu, tout en répondant aux moyens de subsistance et aux besoins socio-économiques ».

Pour compléter la déclaration donnée, l'organisation a mis en œuvre les programmes suivants avec quelques activités pour répondre aux besoins des communautés qui ont bénéficié des ressources forestières au cours des 18 dernières années : Gestion des ressources naturelles (gestion durable des forêts, reboisement, éco-foresterie, maisons écologiques). Le projet KGWan intitulé « Améliorer les moyens de subsistance grâce à la conservation de la biodiversité et aux systèmes climatiques durables » est un projet local de l'initiative Kiwa.

L'initiative est financée par l'Union européenne (UE), l'Agence française de développement (AFD), Affaires mondiales Canada (AMC), le ministère des Affaires étrangères du gouvernement australien (DFAT) et le ministère néo-zélandais des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce (MFAT). L'Initiative Kiwa a établi des partenariats avec la Communauté du Pacifique (CPS), le Secrétariat du Programme régional océanien pour l'environnement (PROE) et le Bureau régional de l'Océanie de l'Union internationale pour la conservation de la nature (UICN).

Date: May 23rd 2024
Country: Fiji

Fijian farmers receive comprehensive training in agroecological agriculture, SPC, 23.05.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/news/media-release/2024/05/fijian-farmers-receivecomprehensive-training-in-agroecological?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR0NsiIJk5KKbJfCEsJLxg7bln2qWHfL8zS6nPuJYHxY84zZ6xe1Aywoeo_aem_Ad0E0aRgq9jek O_nTjitwhxy_pczErOJvcmCcXYte8ewPAuLCTbEEqL3uCCtsFwqTjCda49DqhK3Q5kJX8I9gSI

Two female and six male farmers are at the Mudrenicagi Organic Learning Farm Centre in Fiji this week, currently undergoing the first organic and agroecological training under the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project.
This comprehensive training is the first of a series of trainingthat will benefit close to 100 farmers in Fiji who have been selected under the POLFN Project. Karen Mills, Farmer Advisor at the Mudrenicagi Organic Learning Farm Centre, Fiji said they were thrilled to share their experiences with participants. "We're very excited to be sharing our experiences with agroecology and organic farming with the participants this week. We're hopeful that the participants will go back to their farms and communities and put into practice some of the techniques that they have learnt. In this way, we hope to see a transformation of rural farming towards more resilient and healthy food systems," she said.

The POLFN project is funded by the Kiwa Initiative and executed by the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) under the Pacific Community (SPC). The training covers elements of agroecology, including biodiversity, soil health, recycling, including soil health assessment, and recipes for composting. The participants are eager to implement their learnings on their respective farms and learn about the potential benefits these practices could bring to their production. The training also includes non-chemical pest and weed management and Peer-to-Peer Organic Certification. Ilaitia Tuwere, a farmer participant from Suweni village in the province of Cakaudrove on Vanua Levu, shared that, "The training that we are receiving is priceless. It is opening our eyes to new ways of farming that can not only improve the quality of our produce but also have a positive impact on the environment."

The POLFN Project is developing organic learning farm networks in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Nauru, and aims to demonstrate the benefits of nature-based solutions such as agroecology and agroforestry and organic production methods and technologies. About POETCom The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) is a not-for-profit organisation with active members - farmer associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, private sector, research institutions and working with governments across the Pacific Island region. POETCom is hosted by the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Suva, Fiji.

Empowering a Sustainable Tongan Economy and Society through Organic Farming
Radio FM87.5 - 07/06/24

Kiwa Initiative facilitates social media session at Heritage in Young Hands EcoCamp, IUCN 09.06.24

https://iucn.org/fr/node/41595

The Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park recently hosted the annual Heritage in Young Hands (HIYH) EcoCamp, an event focused on environmental education. HIYH students at the SDDNP during the EcoCamp. Photo: HIYH students during the EcoCamp at the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park..

HIYH students participating in the social media session facilitated by Kiwa Communications personnel, Ms. Shreeya Verma during the HIYH EcoCamp on May 9, 2024 at the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park. Photo: HIYH students participating in the social media session facilitated by Kiwa Communications personnel, Ms. Shreeya Verma during the HIYH EcoCamp on May 9, 2024 at the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park.
Students learning and doing activities during the last day of EcoCamp. Photo: Students learning and doing activities during the last day of EcoCamp. HIYH students, Sigatoka Sand Dunes and invited colleagues from the Kiwa Initiative Programme and Shangri-La, after the activities and sessions during the final day of the HIYH EcoCamp. Photo: HIYH students, Sigatoka Sand Dunes and invited colleagues from the Kiwa Initiative Programme and Shangri-La, after the activities and sessions during the final day of the HIYH EcoCamp. Students participating in the sand experiment activities at the SSDNP.
Photo: Students participating in the sand experiment activities at the SSDNP.
This year's edition of the impactful programme was made possible through funding from the Kiwa Initiative, under the National Trust of Fiji's (NTF) Kiwa project aimed at "Building Coastal Resilience- forest restoration, invasive management actions and the Heritage in Young Hands Program- of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystems." From 7 – 9 May, a total of 27 students from various primary schools in Sigatoka participated in the 3-day EcoCamp, which centred around five key themes: Heritage, Civic Pride, Stewardship, Life Skills, and Volunteerism. The interactive, fun, and nature-based programme took the students through the Sigatoka Sand Dunes, Sigatoka Town and the Volivoli Swamp, allowing them to explore their local environment. Two new facilitators, Dikoula Turaga and Shreeya Verma from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), were part of the Kiwa Initiative programme and contributed to the EcoCamp sessions. On the last day, Ms. Verma led a session on social media strategies, where she encouraged the students to wait until they were much older before being fully active on social media. She also had the students collaborate with park rangers to create posters on environmental themes like firebreaks, beach tepees, tree planting and bats, which could be used on the park's social media platforms. Other activities during the EcoCamp included a risk assessment exercise, where students identified potential threats during their 1-hour walk in the park, and a sand experiment that helped them understand the diverse composition of the sand dunes. The students also learned about dune morphology, the story of the "tree huggers" conservation movement, and the key role of bats as forest growers. The HIYH programme was launched in 2016 through a partnership between the National Trust of Fiji and Shangri-La Yanuca Island, Fiji. The programme aims to raise environmental awareness among children as well as increase children's ecological knowledge. The Kiwa Initiative's funding has been crucial in ensuring the continuation and growth of this programme. The NTF Kiwa Initiative project is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative. The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: June 13th 2024
Country: Fiji

Kiwa Initiative promotes gender equality in Nature-based Solutions for land restoration IUCN 13.06.24

https://www.iucn.org/story/202406/kiwa-initiative-promotes-gender-equality-nature-basedsolutions-land-restoration

As we celebrate World Environment Day, this event is very important for communities around the world who are closely connected to the health of our environment. World Environment Day has encouraged people to protect and restore the natural areas that support us all.

This year's theme of "Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience" is closely tied to the work being done by the Kiwa Initiative - a programme that is helping many community-based projects deal with these big environmental problems, by using Naturebased Solutions (NbS) to adapt to the impacts of climate change within their communities, and addressing societal challenges as well.
The Kiwa Initiative is helping local communities adapt to these impacts by restoring damaged lands; minimising the spread of desertification; and learning how to better cope with droughts. This is further monitored by local projects under their respective Environment and Social Risk Management Systems (ESMS) enabling projects to have safeguard measures in place to further mitigate risks that can cause further harm to their environment and people within their communities.
The Kiwa Initiative has a key focus on integrating gender equality and women's empowerment into its Nature-based Solutions (NbS) projects. The initiative is working towards a more inclusive and sustainable future, by acknowledging the crucial role of women in decision-making. The ESMS framework under one of its seven principles, ensures that gender and social inclusion are considered into all stages of the NbS projects, including planning, implementation, and monitoring.
Some of the Kiwa Initiative projects The Kiwa Initiative local project implemented by National Trust of Fiji (NTF) shows how important it is to include everyone when taking care of our environment. They use a special tool to carefully check for any problems for people and nature and ensure that women are involved in all decisions made for the project. This commitment is exemplified by the special team of women, young people, and others from the community that NTF helped establish with the community to ensure that their needs, perspectives, and ideas are considered.
The NTF is empowering communities to deal with climate change impacts by sustainably managing the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park. This park is important to the overall health of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem. The project aims to establish areas where forests can be restored, near the National Park with the help of both the local communities and park rangers.
At these spots, they will be planting different types of trees (agroforestry), removing non-native plants (invasive species control), and preventing damage to land that hasn't been harmed yet (avoided degradation). These examples set up by the community will be used for various educational activities related to nature, such as teaching about useful native plants (ethnobotany) and waste management. They will also learn about creating nutrient-rich soil using organic materials (compost projects). Another Kiwa Initiative local project is being implemented by KGWan in Papua New Guinea (PNG).
This project has taken a step further by involving women and women's groups in the decision-making process relating to inclusive resource use; their roles and responsibilities; and equitable benefit sharing within all members of the community and as a result, community-based sustainable resource management rules are applicable to both men and women, ensuring equitable access and control over natural resources.

Kiwa Initiative promotes gender equality in Nature-based Solutions for land restoration IUCN 13.06.24

The immediate environmental threats identified in this area are deforestation and land degradation caused by environmental and human activities.
Local communities have always depended on forests for food, firewood, medicine, traditional attire, and shelter. The specific goal of the project is to educate, empower and facilitate rural communities of the Inaugl Tribe in PNG to participate in natural resource management for livelihood improvement projects that are self-reliance-oriented, technologically appropriate, ecologically sound, and economically viable which address the impacts of climate change.
One of the primary goals was to educate at least 1,000 local communities on sustainable natural resource management, with a focus on raising awareness about climate-induced risks.
The participation of women exceeded 40%, showing that the Kiwa Initiative encourages the inclusion of everyone within a community most importantly, the vulnerable members of society. By working together, we can bring our planet back to health. Let's fight for gender equality in Nature-based Solutions, making sure everyone has a say in protecting our lands for a bright future.

Indigenous knowledge meets global health strategies at regional World Health Summit
Insight+ - 17/06/24

The first regional World Health Summit took place in Melbourne earlier this year, bringing together participants from around the world to explore the intersection of Indigenous knowledge, climate change and planetary health.

On the morning of 22 April, the pulse of the World Health Summit Regional Meeting 2024 began beating through the halls of the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, with smoke from burning gum leaves welcoming participants to the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation in south-eastern Australia. Under the bold theme, "Shape the future of health across Asia and the Pacific", this ground-breaking conference, the first of its kind in the region, united over 1100 participants from Australia, the Pacific region and worldwide from diverse spheres of global health.

Over the next three days, emphasis was placed on the intersection of Indigenous knowledge, climate change and planetary health. The health of Indigenous peoples, and their long-held world views were repeatedly highlighted for inclusion and respect in global health strategies. This emphasis was underscored by the introduction of a special publication titled "Health: a political choice – advancing Indigenous peoples' rights and well-being", a collaboration between the Global Governance Project and the World Health Organization. The challenges and opportunities presented by the intertwined issues of Indigenous knowledge, climate change and planetary health are vast and demand a hopeful and deeply considered approach to discourse and action.

Planetary health, a field that seeks to understand and address the impacts of human-induced environmental changes on human health, has never been more relevant. As articulated in the summit, the health of our planet and its intertwined social and ecological systems directly influences the health of its human inhabitants. This understanding aligns closely with Indigenous perspectives, which have long recognised the deep connections between the environment and human wellbeing.

A key session led by Catherine Chamberlain from the University of Melbourne focused on climate change and the health of Indigenous peoples. This session highlighted how Indigenous knowledge can offer unique insights and sustainable solutions to climate-related health challenges. Indigenous knowledge emphasises the importance of balance and reciprocity with nature, principles that can greatly inform broader health strategies in the face of climate change.

In his session, Professor Donald Wilson from the Fiji National University highlighted the place-based approach of the Watershed Interventions for Systems Health (WISH) project in Fiji, recognising that managing watersheds holistically is a key to simultaneously achieving various environmental, economic and health goals that support sustainable development. This approach allows for targeted actions to improve overall systems health, tailored to each unique local environment, and includes the active participation of communities who have a deep cultural connection to these regions, thus promoting sustainable practices and wellbeing. In these contexts, place-attachment, driven by a strong desire to maintain cultural identity and practice, incentivises Indigenous people to take actions that support key dimensions of health and wellbeing, which include maintaining and restoring ecosystems that provide critical services and natural resources that underpin cultural vitality and community health.

Indigenous knowledge meets global health strategies at regional World Health Summit
Insight+ - 17/06/24

The discussions also reiterated that the climate emergency is a health emergency, with the most severe impacts often borne by those who have contributed least to global warming. This includes many indigenous communities across the Asia–Pacific region. The session facilitated by John Thwaites at the Monash Sustainable Development Institute on transforming climate change evidence into action underscored the need for immediate and inclusive action plans that incorporate the voices and rights of Indigenous peoples.

Monash University and its partners' involvement in bringing the World Health Summit Regional Meeting to Melbourne is a testament to the increasing commitment to addressing regional health challenges in the Asia–Pacific region through a planetary health lens. The university's message, as shared in their recent social media updates, reflects their hopefulness and pride in facilitating meaningful discussions that integrate diverse knowledge systems, including Indigenous perspectives, to tackle complex global health issues.

The summit's session on "New and old knowledges: First Peoples' health and AI", moderated by Karen Adams from Monash University, provided a contemporary example of how traditional knowledge and modern technology can intersect to enhance health outcomes. Discussions in this session explored the potential of artificial intelligence to support health strategies that are informed by Indigenous knowledge, ensuring that technological advancements are culturally sensitive and beneficial to all segments of society.

The way forward must be collaborative, integrating scientific research with Indigenous wisdom to develop health strategies that are effective, sustainable and culturally respectful. Sessions such as the "Revitalising Informal Settlements and their Environments (RISE) program", moderated by Karin Leder, highlighted innovative approaches to urban planning that respect and incorporate traditional practices and ecological knowledge. The summit's focus on planetary health, emphasised by the presence of global health leaders and Indigenous scholars, sends a strong message: the health of humanity is inextricably linked to the health of our planet. This realisation should drive all stakeholders, including governments, health care providers and academia, to pursue a more integrated approach to health that respects and learns from Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing.

In conclusion, the World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Melbourne has set the stage for continued dialogue and action that bridges Indigenous knowledge and scientific research to tackle the pressing health challenges of our time. As we move forward, it is essential that these discussions translate into actionable strategies that prioritise the health of both the planet and its people, ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

Dr Aaron Jenkins is an eco-epidemiologist and Australia's inaugural senior research fellow in planetary health–combining rigorous ecological methods with public health approaches to address the intersecting upstream determinants that simultaneously affect biodiversity, water resource management, climate change mitigation and human health. He also holds a Sydney Horizon Fellowship focusing on watershed management in the Pacific and leads pacific Planetary Health Hub of Sydney Institute for Infectious Diseases.

Indigenous knowledge meets global health strategies at regional World Health Summit
Insight+ - 17/06/24

Professor Karin Leder is an infectious disease physician and epidemiologist who co-leads Planetary Heath within the School of Public Health at Monash University and is the inaugural director of Monash's Health and Climate Initiative. She is Research Director for the Monash-led Revitalising Informal Settlements and their Environments (RISE) program, and has extensive experience leading complex transdisciplinary research to examine the impacts of environmental exposures on health, particularly in Asia-Pacific.

Dr Donald Wilson is Associate Professor of Epidemiology at the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS) at the Fiji National University (FNU). He is also the Associate Dean Research and founding director of the Fiji Institute of Pacific Health Research (FIPHR), based at CMNHS. In this role over the years, he has collaborated on research projects with academics from Australia and New Zealand, and also partnered with international and regional organizations in delivering on various projects in the areas of NCD's, communicable diseases, sexual & reproductive health, etc. Two of the larger research activities (the "RISE" and "WISH" projects) take a planetary health approach towards identifying and addressing endemic diseases such as leptospirosis, typhoid, dengue and diarrhoeal diseases in rural communities and peri-urban settlements in Fiji.

Date: June 19th 2024
Country: Undisclosed

Kiwa Initiative promotes gender equality in Nature-based Solutions for land restoration, SPREP PROE 19.06.24

https://pipap.sprep.org/news/kiwa-initiative-promotes-gender-equality-nature-basedsolutions-land-restoration

As we celebrate World Environment Day, this event is very important for communities around the world who are closely connected to the health of our environment. World Environment Day has encouraged people to protect and restore the natural areas that support us all.
https://www.iucn.org/story/202406/kiwa-initiative-promotes-gender-equality-nature-basedsolutions-land-restoration

Stories from across the moana, mfat.govt.nz 25.06.24

https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/aid-and-development/climate-change-support/stories-fromacross-themoana?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR0sJf0mDrLYH6rb0BIDd3Tn5c5c5hF_dlC86L

Across the Pacific, communities are grappling with the effects of climate change. Rising sea levels eat away at shorelines, natural habitats are threatened, food and clean water is harder to access, and extreme weather damages infrastructure and leaves villages isolated.
Climate Finance provided by New Zealand is supporting a number of partnerships and programmes that work with our Pacific neighbours to find solutions - often nature-based – to the crisis. Our series of videos showcase initiatives, from mangrove rehabilitation to solar power generation, that are building resilience and hope for the future. Replanting mangroves, restoring balance Founded in 2016, the IUCN's Kiwa Initiative recognises that natural ecosystems and biodiversity are critical to sustainable action on climate change. In this video, residents of Raviravi village in Vanua Levu, Fiji explain how a shoreline mangrove planting scheme is addressing soil erosion, rehabilitating native species and restoring balance in the ecosystem.

Founded in 2016, the IUCN's Kiwa Initiative recognises that natural ecosystems and biodiversity are critical to sustainable action on climate change. In this video, residents of Raviravi village in Vanua Levu, Fiji explain how a shoreline mangrove plan A safe and secure way across the water When a tropical cyclone destroyed their footbridge, the people of Tavuya lost their main means of travelling from their remote location. See how a new bridge – built with a riskinformed development approach from UNDP's 'Governance for Resilient Development in the Pacific' project – is giving local residents safe, affordable access to resources and schools. When a tropical cyclone destroyed their footbridge, the people of Tavuya lost their main means of travelling from their remote location. See how a new bridge – built with a riskinformed development approach from UNDP's 'Governance for Resilient Developme Micro insurance for farmers Innovative climate disaster risk financing and insurance is helping communities be financially prepared and rebuild more quickly after a severe weather event.
The United Nations Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme is implementing the scheme, supported by New Zealand. Hear how it is bringing peace of mind to Fiji's cane and cassava farmers, enabling them to become more climate-resilient. Innovative climate disaster risk financing and insurance is helping communities be financially prepared and rebuild more quickly after a severe weather event. The United Nations Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme is implementing the scheme Indigenous, nature-based solutions A grassroots-led approach to climate challenges is enabling rural communities in Fiji to collectively plan for a climate resilient future.
The Climate Resilient Islands (CRI) programme – funded by New Zealand and implemented by environmental education organisation Live & Learn – provides grant-funding for activities that improve food security, reduce disaster risk and restore ecosystems. The programme is also operating in five other Pacific countries. Watch to learn how drawing on traditional knowledge and naturebased solutions is helping to build resilient communities in Fiji. A grassroots-led approach to climate challenges is enabling rural communities in Fiji to collectively plan for a climate resilient future.
The Climate Resilient Islands (CRI) programme – funded by New Zealand and implemented by environmental education or Water security Climate change is increasing water supply risks for Tongan communities who rely on rainwater and fragile groundwater.

Stories from across the moana, mfat.govt.nz 25.06.24

Since 2022, a New Zealand hassupported the National Water Tank project which has been building water management resilience for households and communities. Hear from members of local communities about how the project is strengthening their water security.

Climate change is increasing water supply risks for Tongan communities who rely on rainwater and fragile groundwater. Since 2022, a New Zealand has supported the National Water Tank project which has been building water management resilience for vulnerabl Protective planting to fight climate change Watch how Tongan communities are fighting climate change by planting native, fruit and coastal plants, with funding by the first national fund in the Pacific region specifically for climate change.

This sustainable financing mechanism enables Tonga to both access largescale international climate finance, and deliver adaption initiatives at the community level. New Zealand is one of the international partners supporting the Government of Tonga's priorities in its Climate Change Fund to build a more resilient Tonga. Watch how Tongan communities are fighting climate change by planting native, fruit and coastal plants, with funding by the first national fund in the Pacific region specifically for climate change.

This sustainable financing mechanism enables Tonga to bot Guardians of the Pacific's plant biodiversity At the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) in Suva, a female-led team of scientists are safeguarding the region's plant genetic resources. In 2022 New Zealand allocated $10 million to the Centre – which conserves over 2400 crop and tree varieties – to scale up its vital work. Read more about CePaCT's game-changing research into new climate resilient varieties of crops that are resistant to drought, pests and diseases, and the far-reaching impacts of their work throughout the Pacific.

THE DANGERS FACING THE WORLD'S SMALL ISLAND STATES – AND HOW WE CAN HELP

AFD 26.06.24

https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/dangers-facing-worlds-small-island-states-and-how-we-canhelp

Biodiversity - Climate - Kiwa Initiative - Three Oceans With Small Island States facing rising sea levels and geographical isolation, they are faced with serious environmental, social and economic problems. How do the world's wealthy countries provide support? AFD's economist specializing in oceans tells us about the work AFD is already doing.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are a group of 39 Member States of UN regional commissions. What distinguishes from other countries? Benjamin Coudert: While their economies vary considerably, SIDS share common structural vulnerabilities, along with vulnerabilities exacerbated by climate change. Indeed, they are small and poorly diversified economies (with low potential for economic diversification). They are also remote from international markets, and highly dependent on international trade, meaning that they are highly exposed to external shocks. On top of this, there are problems of governance, capabilities, and capacities.

Their demographic characteristics are also very different, each with their own social and economic challenges. These factors make the States structurally vulnerable to exogenous shocks, such as the health crisis in 2020 and the war in Ukraine. Further reading: Passing Traditional Knowledge from Mother to Child, to Protect the Environment SIDS are particularly vulnerable to biodiversity loss, because their terrestrial and marine ecosystems are fragile, and to the effects of climate change. Yet these States have the lowest greenhouse gas emissions (< 1% of global GHGs).

They bear the brunt of natural disasters, which are increasing in frequency and intensity due to climate change. AFD's Innovation, Strategy and Research Department has calculated that the costs of a disaster amount to an average of 23% of the GDP of SIDS (the figure is even higher in the Pacific), against an average of 4.5% in other developing countries. This automatically increases their borrowing requirements to finance reconstruction works. There is also a high level of debt in most SIDS. The majority of their public debt is external, owed to international donors, as their domestic debt market is limited and they lack access to foreign capital. This climate-debt trap highlights the marked double vulnerability of island States (macro-financial and climate change). This is especially the case for Pacific States.

The IPCC estimates that climate change will cost an average of 0.5% of GDP worldwide by 2030. But it could reach between 0.75% and 6.5% in the Pacific, and up to 5% in the Caribbean (20% by 2100). Further reading: In Mauritius, 40 Years of Partnership for Water and Sanitation How can such small economic actors make their voices heard among the "giants" of pollution (such as China, the EU, the USA and India)? We should first remember that these small territories are in fact important maritime countries, due to the size of their territorial waters, which cover 28 times the area of their territory on average. But they struggle to have their specific vulnerabilities recognized faced with the "political giants", the main global GHG emitters, and are constantly demanding climate justice.

They also form a group in the UN negotiation forums, AOSIS (Alliance of Small Island States), and join forces with other groups (such as LDCs and the G77) to make their voice heard. It is via these international conferences dedicated to SIDS that they can best express their needs. Three international conferences on SIDS launched by the UN resulted in the adoption of international texts: the Barbados Program of Action in 1994, the Mauritius Strategy in 2005, and the Samoa Pathway in 2014.

THE DANGERS FACING THE WORLD'S SMALL ISLAND STATES – AND HOW WE CAN HELP

AFD 26.06.24

This 4th UN International Conference on SIDS is a rare opportunity (every ten years), as it enables these countries to draw attention to their specific vulnerabilities and their priority needs in terms of international support.

The objective is to strengthen their resilience to the effects of climate change and keep them on track for the achievement of the SDGs. The final text that will be adopted at the conclusion of the conference, ABAS (Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS), will define the development program for SIDS for the coming decade.

How can France and AFD Group play a crucial role for SIDS?

To address all these vulnerabilities, AFD's action in SIDS mobilizes its entire range of financial tools. This includes grants (for programs in the French Overseas Territories), loans with or without subsidies, and guarantees for various types of actors in the islands (public, private, and civil society organizations). AFD has also recently developed tools and approaches that seem to be particularly suitable for operations in SIDS to address their vulnerabilities: debt suspension clauses when a climatic event occurs, "highly concessional" loans, referred to as such because they are allocated at attractive conditions with a long maturity (40 years), and contingency loans (or contingency lines), whose resources are made available following a climatic event.

New initiatives for SIDS are being prepared and are due to be announced at the third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC), in Nice in June 2025.

Farmers training
The Fiji Times 01.07.24

https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/farmers-training/

Close to 50 small-holder farmers were trained in organic agriculture and agroecology at the Navuso Learning Farm Centre last week. The three-day training aimed to fulfil the primary objective of the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) project: to familiarise small-holder farmers with both the concept and implementation of organic agriculture and agroecology; and also offer support to convert their farms to organic practices.

"Navuso Organic Learning Farm Centre is not just training farmers, it is also empowering them to choose organic for the better health of our soil and vanua, for the wellbeing of our families and communities," said Emosi Cagi, Fiji's in-country coordinator under the POLFN project.

In a statement from the Pacific Community (SPC), farmer participant Isei Tudreu said smart, proactive and sustainable agriculture was "indeed" Fiji's life support system. "We were grateful for the talk on soil health and especially on establishing a soil fertility management system through an agroforestry farm set-up," said Mr Tudreu, who operates an organic farm with his wife Daphne in Sabeto, Nadi.

The SPC stated the training was simultaneously run at the Mudrenacagi Organic Learning Centre in Bua. POLFN is funded by the Kiwa Initiative and aims to benefit 100 farmers across Fiji.

BirdLife International teams up with East Rennell villagers to overcome environmental challenges, IUCN 02.07.24

https://www.iucn.org/blog/202407/birdlife-international-teams-east-rennell-villagersovercome-environmental-challenges

Rennell Island in the Solomon Archipelago is a unique place. The East Rennell World Heritage Site (ERWHS), the first UNESCO natural property inscribed with customary ownership and management, is situated on the southernmost part of the island. East Rennell is home to rich species of wildlife, an untouched forest vegetation and the famous Lake Tegano, providing livelihood for some 900 residents across 4 villages. But the people of East Rennell are facing growing challenges.

Climate change impacts, invasive species, and changes in available land, freshwater and marine resources are all taking a toll. Their crops are suffering, necessities like water are depleting, and their endemic flora and fauna are under threat. BirdLife International, with funding from the Kiwa Initiative, is working hand-in-hand with the East Rennell communities to find solutions. In January 2024, a Participatory/Rapid Appraisal (PRA) assessment was conducted, where local experts sit down with the villagers to understand their challenges and develop ideas for addressing them. The villagers shared the same stories – the decline of water quality from the lake (for drinking & cooking); the decrease in availability of good land for planting crops and the limited choice of crops for cultivation with loss of traditional knowledge suggested, also since the swamp taro which is one of the most important staple food crops for the communities has not been growing well due to brackish water intrusion from the lake.

The available land for growing crops was decreasing, and villagers were losing some traditional ways of farming that used to work well. These were made worse with the invasive Black Rat invading their gardens and destroying their hard-earned harvests. But the people of East Rennell are tough and resourceful. With the financial support from the Kiwa Initiative project, they are fighting back. In each of the four villages, Local Rangers recruited for the project have set up 10 hectare-treatment plots whereby rodenticides have been deployed from bait stations. Treatment plots paired with non-treatment plots have provided a comparative analysis of crop yield and biodiversity impacts from Black Rats.

Early results are very promising, with signs that Black rats are being pushed back and crop yields are improving. The project is also helping the villagers adapt to new, climate-smart farming methods, such as building raised garden beds and cultivating a variety of different crops that can withstand the changing conditions. The communities are also working closely with local experts to develop the Renbel Biosecurity Plan to protect East Rennell's natural biodiversity. At the heart of this effort are the four local rangers that the project has recruited and trained. These anaging the rat control, and teaching community members new skills. Over 100 villagers have participated in the project, eager to learn and make a difference.
An East Rennell Monitoring Plan will also enable rangers to measure change in condition of ERWHS fauna values, and to monitor threats (including Black rats) to those fauna values, using key indicator endemic bird species and subspecies, flying-foxes, endemic snails and some other specialist species, e.g., the lake-dwelling Australasian Grebe (endemic subspecies) and Lake Tegano Sea-krait (endemic species), and seabird colonies. The project has had its fair share of challenges. The infrequent and often shipping services to Rennell continues to be a major issue.
This, coupled with the remoteness of East Rennell from the main airstrip and port contributes to shortage of fuel and high transport costs. The project team is working with local implementing partners such as the Solomon Islands Government Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology, the UNESCO National Commission and Live & Learn Solomon Islands to manage logistics in order to effectively deliver on project outcomes.

BirdLife International teams up with East Rennell villagers to overcome environmental challenges, IUCN 02.07.24

Through it all, the goal remains the same – to protect the wonders of East Rennell and support the people who call this special place home. With the community in the lead and BirdLife International's support, real progress is being made.

The future is looking brighter for the people and wildlife of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. The BirdLife International project titled "Improving livelihoods and food security/invasive species management in Solomon Island" is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative.

The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). For more information, visit: www.kiwainitiative.org

Date: July 15th 2024
Country: Tonga

Tongan farmers upskilled in organic and agroecological farming, Matangi Tonga Online, 15.07.24

https://matangitonga.to/2024/07/15/tongan-farmers-upskilled-organic-and-agroecologicalfarming

Around 50 smallholder farmers gained new skills in organic agriculture and agroecology, under training sessions run by the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) project.

Two training sessions aimed at familiarising small-holder farmers with both the concept and implementation of organic agriculture and agroecology, and offered support in converting their farms to organic practices. The training was held at the Mahuleva Organic Learning Farm Centre in Tongatapu, from 8-11 of July.

SPC Tonga Coordinator Mr. Drew Havea shared some challenges that farmers faced and was hopeful that the training would change the mindset of smallholder farmers. "Many farmers face the challenge of weed management, thus prompting their reliance on chemical solutions. So, we're glad that this training in organic farming offers a vital platform to promote sustainable agriculture," he said.

The dedicated farmers were introduced to a set of organic agricultural concepts and methodologies, through an approach involving both classroom instruction and practical experience in farm fields in Mahuleva. They had applied to the POLFN Project and were selected from across Tongatapu. Farmer participant watering tomato plants. Mahuleva Organic Learning Farm Centre, Tongatapu, 8-11 July. Photo: SPC.

Farmer Melesila Weilert said, "This training brings together a diverse group of participants from different communities with varied challenges and solutions. By learning from each other, we're discovering how to collaborate effectively and also achieve our individual and community agricultural plans, contributing to national objectives." Weilert is the Fo'i Tuluta Social Environment and Economic Development (SEED) Chairperson and has been farming organic vegetables for more than a decade in Tonga. Small-holder farmers on Vava'u island will also benefit from similar organic and agroecological farming training at the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre, and are scheduled to begin their training at the end of July, SPC stated.

The POLFN project is implemented at the Pacific Community (SPC) through the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community. POLFN aims to benefit a total of 100 farmers residing in Tongatapu and Vava'u in Tonga. The POLFN Project is funded by the Kiwa Initiative and is dedicated to establishing a network of organic farms that exemplifies nature-based solutions such as agroecology, agroforestry, and various innovative organic production methods and technologies.

Date: July 15th 2024
Country: Tonga

Tongan farmers upskilled in organic and agroecological farming practices SPC INT 15.07.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/news/media-release/2024/07/tongan-farmers-upskilled-inorganic-and-agroecological-farming

Close to 50 small-holder farmers were trained in organic agriculture and agroecology at the Mahuleva Organic Learning Farm Centre in Tongatapu, Tonga, from the 8th to the 11th of July.

The two training sessions under the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project aimed to familiarise small-holder farmers with both the concept and implementation of organic agriculture and agroecology and will offer support in converting their farms to implementing organic practices. Tonga In-Country Coordinator Mr Drew Havea shared some challenges that farmers face and is hopeful that this series of training will change the mindset of small-holder farmers.

"Many farmers face the challenge of weed management, thus prompting their reliance on chemical solutions. So, we're glad that this training in organic farming offers a vital platform to promote sustainable agriculture," he said. The dedicated farmers were introduced to a distinct set of organic agricultural concepts and methodologies through an integrated approach involving both classroom instruction and practical experience in farm fields in Mahuleva, Tonga.

They applied to the POLFN Project and were selected from across Tongatapu. Farmer participant Melesila Weilert said, "This training brings together a diverse group of participants from different communities with varied challenges and solutions. By learning from each other, we're discovering how to collaborate effectively and also achieve our individual and community agricultural plans, contributing to national objectives." Weilert is the Fo'i Tuluta Social Environment and Economic Development (SEED) Chairperson and has been farming organic vegetables for more than a decade in Tonga. Small-holder farmers on Vava'u island will also benefit from similar organic and agroecological farming training at the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre, scheduled to begin their training at the end of July 2024.

The POLFN project is implemented at the Pacific Community (SPC) through the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community. POLFN aims to benefit a total of 100 farmers residing in Tongatapu and Vava'u in Tonga. The POLFN Project is funded by the Kiwa Initiative and is dedicated to establishing a network of organic farms that exemplifies nature-based solutions such as agroecology, agroforestry, and various innovative organic production methods and technologies.

About POETCom The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) is a not-for-profit organisation with active members, farmer associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, the private sector, research institutions, and works with governments across the Pacific Island region. POETCom is hosted by the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Suva, Fiji.

Date: July 16th 2024
Country: International

The Kiwa Initiative announces new contribution from Australia and launches new call for regional projects to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific,
Reliefweb 16.07.24

https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/kiwa-initiative-announces-new-contribution-australia-andlaunches-new-call-regional-projects-strengthen-climate-resilience-pacific

Today, the Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for climate resilience, launches a new call for regional projects (including at least two of the 18 eligible Pacific Island countries and/or territories), which will be open from 15 July to 15 December 2024.
Authorities, public institutions and organisations present in the Pacific Islands are invited to submit project proposals that will contribute to the adaptation of ecosystems, communities and economies to climate change. To date, 22 Kiwa projects are underway in 16 Pacific Island countries and territories: five regional projects and 17 local projects. Local projects are managed by the Oceania regional office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-ORO).
Managed by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the Kiwa Initiative aims to build both local and national capacities and promote responsive approaches to social vulnerability and gender inequality to adapt to climate change. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Pacific Community (SPC) are Kiwa implementing partners and collaborate to provide support by assisting the 18 eligible Pacific Island countries and territories in building their capacity to access Kiwa Initiative funding through informative sessions, technical advice, and assistance, as well as supporting regional project identification, development, implementation, monitoring, and reporting.
A renewed commitment from Australia The Kiwa Initiative is honoured to announce that an additional financing contribution from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia will enable funding for more Kiwa projects, provide greater technical assistance, and foster stronger regional cooperation. Launched in 2020 with EUR 31 million, the Kiwa Initiative funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) will now be endowed with a total of EUR 77 million, thanks to this new contribution from Australia (AUD 3 million).
Ms Annelise Young, Consul-General of Australia to New Caledonia, stated: "Climate change is the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of the peoples of the Pacific, and we have heard the call to take action. Australia's additional contribution of AUD 3 million represents a doubling of our earlier commitment, amounting to a total of AUD 6 million. This increase is a reflection of Australia's commitment to the region alongside France, the European Union, New Zealand and Canada."
This unique coalition of donors demonstrates its commitment to climate change adaptation and biodiversity in one of the regions most affected by climate impacts. A new call for regional projects The Kiwa Initiative launches a news call for regional projects.
This call for regional projects aims to implement NbS projects for climate change adaptation in the Pacific while mainstreaming gender equality and a human rights-based approach. This call is open from 15 July to 15 December 2024. Regional projects must involve at least two of the 18 eligible countries and/or territories, with a budget ranging from EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million.
The project implementation period may not exceed three and half years (3,5 years), with an indicative starting date estimated by early 2026. The project implementation period cannot end later than mid-2029. Eligible Pacific Island countries and territories: Federated States of Micronesia – Fiji – French Polynesia – Kiribati – Nauru – New Caledonia – Niue – Marshall Islands – Palau – Papua New Guinea – Solomon Islands – Samoa – TimorLeste – Tokelau – Tonga – Tuvalu – Vanuatu – Wallis-and-Futuna.

The Kiwa Initiative announces new contribution from Australia and launches new call for regional projects to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific,
Reliefweb 16.07.24

Who can apply? - National and local authorities. - Public bodies and institutions present in one of the 18 eligible countries and territories. - Regional organisations* (Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific, CROP) recognised by Pacific Island countries and territories - * for project ideas submitted by SPC and SPREP, please contact the SPC and SPREP Kiwa focal points. International and national NGOs.
Projects led by regional or international organisations must demonstrate their clear alignment and contribution to the implementation of relevant regional, national and local policies (on climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation, but not only) and must involve local stakeholders.
How to apply? The Terms of Reference of this 2024 Call for regional projects can be downloaded from https://kiwainitiative.org/en/submit-your-project The concept note template is also available online and must be submitted via email to kiwa_initiative@afd.fr no later than Sunday, 15 December 2024 (11:59 pm Noumea time, UTC+11).
Need assistance? Regional project proponents can benefit from technical support provided by Kiwa implementing partners, with key information requests to be sent before 25 November 2024 to: The Pacific Community (SPC), Ms Rebecca STIRNEMANN: rebeccas@spc.int, and The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Ms Mathilde KRAFT mathildek@sprep.org. Additionally, online webinars for proponents will be organised in English, with simultaneous French translation provided by SPC and SPREP. Save the dates, and please register in advance! Introduction talk on the Kiwa Initiative regional grants - July 24th at 12:00 PM (UTC+12)
https://spc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5j4wI5A7R92Tpca67dAEKA Deep dive into Kiwa Initiative grant applications: August 21st at 12:00 PM (UTC+12) https://spc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u2UNHSmhQz-jYObUPyOd3Q
All information regarding the 2024 Call for regional projects is available at https://kiwainitiative.org/en/submit-your-project About the Kiwa Initiative The Kiwa Initiative - Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for Climate Resilience aims to build the resilience of Pacific Island ecosystems, communities and economies to climate change through NbS by protecting, sustainably managing and restoring biodiversity. It is based on simplified access to funding for climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation actions for local and national governments, civil society and regional organisations in Pacific Island Countries and Territories.

The Initiative is funded by the European Union, Agence française de développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). It has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN - ORO). For more information: www.kiwainitiative.org About the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) SPREP is the regional coordinating organisation for the protection and sustainable development of the Pacific island environment. www.sprep.org

Date: July 17th 2024
Country: Niue

L'Initiative Kiwa annonce une contribution supplémentaire de l'Australie et lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux pour renforcer la résilience climatique dans le Pacifique, NIUE EARTH WATCH, 17.07.24

https://www.niueearthwatch.com/article/728215716-l-initiative-kiwa-annonce-une-contributionsupplmentaire-de-l-australie-et-lance-un-nouvel-appel-projets-r-gionaux-pour-renforcer-la-rsilience

Nouméa, Nouvelle-Calédonie, 15 juillet 2024 Aujourd'hui, l'Initiative Kiwa - Solutions fondées sur la Nature (SfN) pour la résilience climatique, lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux (incluant au moins deux des 18 Etats et/ou territoires insulaires du Pacifique - ETIP - éligibles), qui sera ouvert du 15 juillet au 15 décembre 2024.
Les autorités, institutions publiques et organisations présentes dans les Îles du Pacifique sont invitées à soumettre des projets qui contribueront à l'adaptation au changement climatique des écosystèmes, des communautés et des économies. À ce jour, 22 projets Kiwa sont en cours dans 16 ETIP : cinq projets régionaux et 17 projets locaux.
Le bureau régional océanien de l'Union Internationale pour la Conservation de la Nature (UICN-ORO) est en charge du suivi des projets locaux. Gérée par l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), l'Initiative Kiwa vise à renforcer les capacités locales et nationales, et à promouvoir des approches sensibles à la vulnérabilité sociale et aux inégalités entre les genres pour s'adapter au changement climatique. Le Secrétariat du Programme Régional Océanien de l'Environnement (PROE) et la Communauté du Pacifique (CPS) collaborent en tant que partenaires de mise en œuvre pour soutenir les 18 ETIP éligibles, en renforçant leur capacité à accéder au financement de l'Initiative Kiwa. Cette collaboration inclut des sessions d'information, des conseils et une assistance technique pour l'identification, le développement, la mise en œuvre et le suivi des projets régionaux.

Un engagement renouvelé de l'Australie
L'initiative Kiwa a l'honneur d'annoncer qu'une contribution financière supplémentaire du Ministère australien des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce (DFAT) permettra de financer davantage de projets, d'offrir une assistance technique plus importante et de renforcer la coopération régionale. Lancée en 2020 avec 31 millions d'euros, l'Initiative Kiwa financée par l'Union européenne (UE), l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Affaires mondiales Canada (GAC), le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce d'Australie (DFAT) et le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce de Nouvelle-Zélande (MFAT) sera désormais dotée d'un total de 77 millions d'euros, grâce à cette nouvelle contribution de l'Australie (3 millions de dollars australiens).
Mme Annelise Young, Consule générale d'Australie en Nouvelle-Calédonie, a déclaré : "Le changement climatique est la plus grande menace qui pèse sur les moyens de subsistance, la sécurité et le bien-être des peuples du Pacifique, et nous avons entendu l'appel à l'action. La contribution supplémentaire de l'Australie de 3 millions de dollars australiens représente un doublement de notre engagement précédent, qui maintenant s'élève à un total de 6 millions de dollars australiens. Cette augmentation reflète l'engagement de l'Australie dans la région, aux côtés de la France, de l'Union européenne, de la Nouvelle-Zélande et du Canada. »
Cette coalition unique de bailleurs démontre son engagement en faveur de l'adaptation au changement climatique et de la biodiversité dans l'une des régions les plus touchées par les impacts climatiques.

Date: July 16th 2024
Country: Pacific

The Kiwa Initiative announces new contribution from Australia and launches new call for regional projects to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific, SPC 16.07.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/news/joint-release/2024/07/the-kiwa-initiative-announces-newcontribution-from-australia

Today, the Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for climate resilience, launches a new call for regional projects (including at least two of the 18 eligible Pacific Island countries and/or territories), which will be open from 15 July to 15 December 2024. Authorities, public institutions and organisations present in the Pacific Islands are invited to submit project proposals that will contribute to the adaptation of ecosystems, communities and economies to climate change.To date, 22 Kiwa projects are underway in 16 Pacific Island countries and territories: five regional projects and 17 local projects. Local projects are managed by the Oceania regional office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-ORO).

Managed by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the Kiwa Initiative aims to build both local and national capacities and promote responsive approaches to social vulnerability and gender inequality to adapt to climate change. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Pacific Community (SPC) are Kiwa implementing partners and collaborate to provide support by assisting the 18 eligible Pacific Island countries and territories in building their capacity to access Kiwa Initiative funding through informative sessions, technical advice, and assistance, as well as supporting regional project identification, development, implementation, monitoring, and reporting. A renewed commitment from Australia The Kiwa Initiative is honoured to announce that an additional financing contribution from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia will enable funding for more Kiwa projects, provide greater technical assistance, and foster stronger regional cooperation. Launched in 2020 with EUR 31 million, the Kiwa Initiative funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) will now be endowed with a total of EUR 77 million, thanks to this new contribution from Australia (AUD 3 million).

Ms Annelise Young, Consul-General of Australia to New Caledonia, stated: "Climate change is the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of the peoples of the Pacific, and we have heard the call to take action. Australia's additional contribution of AUD 3 million represents a doubling of our earlier commitment, amounting to a total of AUD 6 million. This increase is a reflection of Australia's commitment to the region alongside France, the European Union, New Zealand and Canada."

This unique coalition of donors demonstrates its commitment to climate change adaptation and biodiversity in one of the regions most affected by climate impacts. A new call for regional projects SPC The Kiwa Initiative launches a news call for regional projects. This call for regional projects aims to implement NbS projects for climate change adaptation in the Pacific while mainstreaming gender equality and a human rights-based approach.

This call is open from 15 July to 15 December 2024. Regional projects must involve at least two of the 18 eligible countries and/or territories, with a budget ranging from EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million. The project implementation period may not exceed three and half years (3,5 years), with an indicative starting date estimated by early 2026. The project implementation period cannot end later than mid-2029. Eligible Pacific Island countries and territories: Federated States of Micronesia – Fiji – French Polynesia – Kiribati – Nauru – New Caledonia – Niue – Marshall Islands – Palau – Papua New Guinea – Solomon Islands – Samoa – TimorLeste – Tokelau – Tonga – Tuvalu – Vanuatu – Wallis-and-Futuna. Who can apply? - National and local authorities.

The Kiwa Initiative announces new contribution from Australia and launches new call for regional projects to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific, SPC 16.07.24

- Public bodies and institutions present in one of the 18 eligible countries and territories. - Regional organisations* (Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific, CROP) recognised by Pacific Island countries and territories - * for project ideas submitted by SPC and SPREP, please contact the SPC and SPREP Kiwa focal points. International and national NGOs. Projects led by regional or international organisations must demonstrate their clear alignment and contribution to the implementation of relevant regional, national and local policies (on climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation, but not only) and must involve local stakeholders. How to apply? The Terms of Reference of this 2024 Call for regional projects can be downloaded from https://kiwainitiative.org/en/submit-your-project The concept note template is also available online and must be submitted via email to kiwa_initiative@afd.fr no later than Sunday, 15 December 2024 (11:59 pm Noumea time, UTC+11). Need assistance? Regional project proponents can benefit from technical support provided by Kiwa implementing partners, with key information requests to be sent before 25 November 2024 to: - The Pacific Community (SPC), Ms Rebecca STIRNEMANN: rebeccas@spc.int, and - The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Ms Mathilde KRAFT mathildek@sprep.org. Additionally, online webinars for proponents will be organised in English, with simultaneous French translation provided by SPC and SPREP. Save the dates, and please register in advance! Introduction talk on the Kiwa Initiative regional grants - July 24th at 12:00 PM (UTC+12) https://spc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5j4wI5A7R92Tpca67dAEKA Deep dive into Kiwa Initiative grant applications: August 21st at 12:00 PM (UTC+12) https://spc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u2UNHSmhQz-jYObUPyOd3Q SPC All information regarding the 2024 Call for regional projects is available at https://kiwainitiative.org/en/submit-your-project About the Kiwa Initiative The Kiwa Initiative - Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for Climate Resilience aims to build the resilience of Pacific Island ecosystems, communities and economies to climate change through NbS by protecting, sustainably managing and restoring biodiversity. It is based on simplified access to funding for climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation actions for local and national governments, civil society and regional organisations in Pacific Island Countries and Territories. The Initiative is funded by the European Union, Agence française de développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). It has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN - ORO). For more information: www.kiwainitiative.org About the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) SPREP is the regional coordinating organisation for the protection and sustainable development of the Pacific island environment. www.sprep.org

L'Initiative Kiwa annonce une contribution supplémentaire de l'Australie et lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux pour renforcer la résilience climatique dans le Pacifique, SPC 16.07.24

https://www.spc.int/fr/actualite/communiques/communique-conjoint/2024/07/linitiative-kiwaannonce-une-contribution

Aujourd'hui, l'Initiative Kiwa - Solutions fondées sur la Nature (SfN) pour la résilience climatique, lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux (incluant au moins deux des 18 Etats et/ou territoires insulaires du Pacifique - ETIP - éligibles), qui sera ouvert du 15 juillet au 15 décembre 2024.
Les autorités, institutions publiques et organisations présentes dans les Îles du Pacifique sont invitées à soumettre des projets qui contribueront à l'adaptation au changement climatique des écosystèmes, des communautés et des économies. À ce jour, 22 projets Kiwa sont en cours dans 16 ETIP : cinq projets régionaux et 17 projets locaux. Le bureau régional océanien de l'Union Internationale pour la Conservation de la Nature (UICN-ORO) est en charge du suivi des projets locaux. Gérée par l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), l'Initiative Kiwa vise à renforcer les capacités locales et nationales, et à promouvoir des approches sensibles à la vulnérabilité sociale et aux inégalités entre les genres pour s'adapter au changement climatique. Le Secrétariat du Programme Régional Océanien de l'Environnement (PROE) et la Communauté du Pacifique (CPS) collaborent en tant que partenaires de mise en œuvre pour soutenir les 18 ETIP éligibles, en renforçant leur capacité à accéder au financement de l'Initiative Kiwa. Cette collaboration inclut des sessions d'information, des conseils et une assistance technique pour l'identification, le développement, la mise en œuvre et le suivi des projets régionaux.
Un engagement renouvelé de l'Australie
L'initiative Kiwa a l'honneur d'annoncer qu'une contribution financière supplémentaire du Ministère australien des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce (DFAT) permettra de financer davantage de projets, d'offrir une assistance technique plus importante et de renforcer la coopération régionale. Lancée en 2020 avec 31 millions d'euros, l'Initiative Kiwa financée par l'Union européenne (UE), l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Affaires mondiales Canada (GAC), le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce d'Australie (DFAT) et le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce de NouvelleZélande (MFAT) sera désormais dotée d'un total de 77 millions d'euros, grâce à cette nouvelle contribution de l'Australie (3 millions de dollars australiens). Mme Annelise Young, Consule générale d'Australie en Nouvelle-Calédonie, a déclaré : "Le changement climatique est la plus grande menace qui pèse sur les moyens de subsistance, la sécurité et le bien-être des peuples du Pacifique, et nous avons entendu l'appel à l'action. La contribution supplémentaire de l'Australie de 3 millions de dollars australiens représente un doublement de notre engagement précédent, qui maintenant s'éleve à un total de 6 millions de dollars australiens. Cette augmentation reflète l'engagement de l'Australie dans la région, aux côtés de la France, de l'Union européenne, de la Nouvelle-Zélande et du Canada. » Cette coalition unique de bailleurs démontre son engagement en faveur de l'adaptation au changement climatique et de la biodiversité dans l'une des régions les plus touchées par les impacts climatiques
Un nouvel appel à projets régionaux SPC L'Initiative Kiwa lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux pour la mise en œuvre de Solutions fondées sur la Nature (SfN) pour l'adaptation au changement climatique dans le Pacifique, tout en intégrant l'égalité des genres et une approche basée sur les droits humains. Cet appel à projets régionaux est ouvert du 15 juillet au 15 décembre 2024. Les projets régionaux doivent impliquer au moins 2 des 18 Etats et/ou territoires éligibles, avec un budget compris entre 1,5 million à 5 millions d'euros. La durée de mise en œuvre des projets ne peut excéder 3,5 ans, avec une date indicative de démarrage de projets d'ici début 2026. oa, Timor Leste, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis-et-Futuna.

Date: July 16th 2024
Country: Pacific

L'Initiative Kiwa annonce une contribution supplémentaire de l'Australie et lance un nouvel appel à projets régionaux pour renforcer la résilience climatique dans le Pacifique, SPC 16.07.24

La fin de la période de mise en œuvre des projets ne doit pas dépasser mi-2029. Etats et territoires insulaires du Pacifique éligibles: États fédérés de Micronésie, Fidji, Îles Marshall, Îles Salomon, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Nouvelle-Calédonie, Palaos, Papouasie-Nouvelle-Guinée, Polynésie française, Sam. Qui est concerné ? - Les autorités locales et nationales. - Les institutions et organisations publiques présentes dans les 18 Etats et territoires éligibles. - Les organisations régionales* CROP (Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific) reconnues par les Etats et territoires insulaires du Pacifique. *Pour les notes de concept soumises par la CPS et le PROE, veuillez contacter les points focaux Kiwa dans chacun de ces organisations. Les ONG internationales et nationales. Les projets portés par des organisations régionales ou internationales devront démontrer leur alignement et leur contribution à la mise en œuvre des politiques nationales et locales clés (en matière d'adaptation au changement climatique et de préservation de la biodiversité notamment), et devront nécessairement impliquer des parties prenantes locales. Comment soumettre un projet ? Les termes de reference de cet appel à projets régionaux 2024 doivent être téléchargés sur le site Internet de l'Initiative Kiwa : https://kiwainitiative.org/fr/soumettre-un-projet Le modèle de note de concept est également disponible en ligne et devra être envoyé par email à kiwa_initiative@afd.fr, au plus tard dimanche 15 décembre 2024 (23h59 heure de Nouméa, UTC+11). Besoin d'aide ? Les porteurs de projets peuvent bénéficier d'un soutien technique fourni par les partenaires de mise en oeuvre de l'Initiative Kiwa. Les demandes d'informations sont à envoyer avant le 25 novembre 2024, à : - Communauté du Pacifique (CPS), Mme Rebecca STIRNEMANN : rebeccas@spc.int, et - Programme Régional Océanien de l'Environnement (PROE), Mme Mathilde KRAFT : mathildek@sprep.org. De plus, des webinaires bilingues organisés par la CPS et le PROE pour les porteurs de projets seront organisés en ligne en anglais, avec une traduction simultanée en français. Notez les dates ci-dessous et inscrivez-vous à l'avance ! Présentation des subventions de l'Initiative Kiwa pour les projets régionaux -
Mercredi 24 juillet À 11h (UTC+11) https://spc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5j4wI5A7R92Tpca67dAEKA Analyse approfondie des demandes de subventions de l'Initiative Kiwa - Mercredi 21 août À 11h (UTC+11) https://spc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u2UNHSmhQz-jYObUPyOd3Q. Toutes les informations concernant l'appel à projets régionaux 2024 sont disponibles à https://kiwainitiative.org/fr/soumettre-un-projet SPC À propos de l'Initiative Kiwa 'Initiative Kiwa - Solutions fondées sur la Nature (SfN) pour la résilience climatique – vise à renforcer la résilience des écosystèmes, des communautés et des économies des îles du Pacifique au changement climatique par des Solutions fondées sur la Nature en protégeant, gérant durablement et restaurant la biodiversité. Elle repose sur la simplification de l'accès au financement des actions d'adaptation au changement climatique et de conservation de la biodiversité pour les gouvernements locaux et nationaux, la société civile ainsi que les organisations régionales des États et territoires insulaires du Pacifique. L'initiative est financée par l'Union européenne, l'Agence française de développement (AFD), Affaires mondiales Canada (GAC), le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce de l'Australie (DFAT) et le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce de la Nouvelle-Zélande (MFAT). Elle a établi des partenariats avec la Communauté du Pacifique (CPS), le Secrétariat du Programme régional océanien de l'environnement (PROE) et le Bureau régional océanien de l'Union internationale pour la conservation de la nature (UICN Océanie). Pour plus d'informations : www.kiwainitiative.org A propos du PROE Le Programme régional océanien de l'environnement (PROE) est l'organisation régionale de coordination pour la protection et le développement durable de l'environnement des îles du Pacifique. www.sprep.org

Date: July 16th 2024
Country: Pacific

Tongan farmers upskilled in organic and agroecological farming SPREP - 16/07/24

Close to 50 small-holder farmers were trained in organic agriculture and agroecology at the Mahuleva Organic Learning Farm Centre in Tongatapu, Tonga, from the 8th to the 11th of July. The two training sessions under the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project aimed to familiarise small-holder farmers with both the concept and implementation of organic agriculture and agroecology and will offer support in converting their farms to implementing organic practices.

Tonga In-Country Coordinator Mr Drew Havea shared some challenges that farmers face and is hopeful that this series of training will change the mindset of small-holder farmers.

"Many farmers face the challenge of weed management, thus prompting their reliance on chemical solutions. So, we're glad that this training in organic farming offers a vital platform to promote sustainable agriculture," he said.

Farmer participant planting tomatoes

The dedicated farmers were introduced to a distinct set of organic agricultural concepts and methodologies through an integrated approach involving both classroom instruction and practical experience in farm fields in Mahuleva, Tonga. They applied to the POLFN Project and were selected from across Tongatapu.

Farmer participant Melesila Weilert said, "This training brings together a diverse group of participants from different communities with varied challenges and solutions. By learning from each other, we're discovering how to collaborate effectively and also achieve our individual and community agricultural plans, contributing to national objectives." Weilert is the Fo'i Tuluta Social Environment and Economic Development (SEED) Chairperson and has been farming organic vegetables for more than a decade in Tonga.

Small-holder farmers on Vava'u island will also benefit from similar organic and agroecological farming training at the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre, scheduled to begin their training at the end of July 2024.

The POLFN project is implemented at the Pacific Community (SPC) through the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community. POLFN aims to benefit a total of 100 farmers residing in Tongatapu and Vava'u in Tonga. The POLFN Project is funded by the Kiwa Initiative and is dedicated to establishing a network of organic farms that exemplifies nature-based solutions such as agroecology, agroforestry, and various innovative organic production methods and technologies.

About POETCom

The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) is a not-for-profit organisation with active members, farmer associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, the private sector, research institutions, and works with governments across the Pacific Island region. POETCom is hosted by the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Suva, Fiji.

[EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million] Kiwa Initiative offers a New Opportunity for Funding Regional Projects, fundsforNGOs 20.07.24

https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/eur-1-5-million-to-eur-5-million-kiwainitiative-offers-a-new-opportunity-for-funding-regional-projects/

Deadline: 15-Dec-24 The Kiwa Initiative encourages regional cooperation on designing, implementing and monitoring Nature-based Solutions for climate change resilience in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories. The Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for Climate Resilience – aims at strengthening the climate change resilience of Pacific Islands ecosystems, communities and economies through NbS, by protecting, sustainably managing and restoring biodiversity. It is based on a simplified access to funding for climate change adaptation and NbS for local, national authorities, civil society and regional organizations in 18 eligible Pacific Island Countries and Territories, including the three French Overseas territories (New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Wallis and Futuna). The Call for regional projects reflect the Kiwa Initiative's commitment to: Act as a partnership platform with and for Pacific islanders.

Foster a coordinated, relevant and complementary approach to official development assistance in the Pacific region. Support regional integration in the Pacific, in particular French territories with their neighbouring countries. Strengthen the capacities of local, national and regional actors in developing and carrying out their development projects and integrating NbS for climate adaptation in their strategies and policies. Key Themes Each submitted regional project must implement activities that clearly contribute to climate change adaptation through right-based gender-responsive and socially-inclusive Nature-based Solutions.

The climate change adaptation sub-criterion implies that project leaders must: Determine the context of the risks, vulnerabilities and impacts associated with climate change at the project intervention scale. Indicate the project contribution to address the risks, vulnerabilities and impacts identified at the project intervention scale. Demonstrate a direct link between the identified risks, vulnerabilities and impacts and the funded activities at the project intervention scale. The biodiversity sub-criterion concerns the type of Nature-based Solutions that will be developed in the project. These include the following possible objectives: Preservation of functional and healthy ecosystems. Improvement of ecosystem management through sustainable human activities. Rehabilitation and/or restoration of degraded ecosystems or the creation of ecosystems/ecological engineering. The Gender Equity Disability and Social Inclusion-GEDSI sub-criterion:

The project must specifically address the inclusion of vulnerable populations, particularly women and youth and specify how it aims at reducing existing inequalities. The integration of GEDSI in the whole project must be clear and sufficiently budgeted. Gender equity, disability and social inclusion are all covered GEDSI topics needs to be clearly integrated in the project objectives, activities, budget and indicators will be required. An analysis of the main social and environmental risks related to the project will be required. Sectoral Scope for Kiwa Regional Projects Kiwa projects must support the reduction of communities' vulnerabilities to climate change through Nature-based Solutions and include the following characteristics: Demonstrated links between project activities/outputs and climate change adaptation; Cost-effective and efficient Nature-based Solutions with measurable and multiple benefits for climate change adaptation, biodiversity and human well-being;

[EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million] Kiwa Initiative offers a New Opportunity for Funding Regional Projects, fundsforNGOs 20.07.24

Contribution of the project to gender equity and social inclusion, with specific activities, indicators and a dedicated budget; Active involvement of national/local public authorities and institutions from design to implementation (and even evaluation if possible); Active involvement and consultation of local communities from design to implementation (and even evaluation if possible); Alignment of proposed projects with key relevant regional, national and local policy frameworks; Projects led by regional or international organizations must demonstrate their clear alignment and their contribution to the implementation of relevant national and local policies (on climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation but not only), and must involve local stakeholders; Regional projects must include a relevant regional cooperation dimension between countries and/or territories (pooling, capitalization, sharing) whether they are implemented in French territories and/or in other eligible PICTs. A regional project must involve at least two countries and/or territories; Scalability of the proposed NbS interventions during the project implementation period; Demonstration of an outcome-based approach for the project supported by a robust monitoring, evaluation and learning framework; Sustainability of the proposed interventions (including exit strategies, sustainable financing mechanisms, etc.). Projects must fall within the scope of the legal competencies exercised by the project leaders and must not derogate from the local national or regional regulations in force in terms of the exercise of those competencies. Funding Information

The funding amount provided by the Kiwa Initiative for each regional project ranges from a minimum of EUR 1.5 million to a maximum of EUR 5 million. The project implementation period may not exceed three and half (3.5 years), with an indicative starting date estimated by early 2026. The project implementation period cannot end later than mid2029. Eligibility Criteria Project proponents must be public or private not-for-profit legal entities (individuals are not eligible).

The beneficiaries relevant to regional projects are: National (and local) authorities, Public bodies and institutions present in one of the 18 eligible countries and territories, Regional organizations (Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific, CROP) recognized by Pacific Island countries and territories. For project concepts submitted by SPC and SPREP, please contact the SPC and SPREP Kiwa focal points, International and national NGOs. The Kiwa Initiative covers PICTs for which AFD is authorized to intervene, as well as countries and territories eligible to official development assistance (ODA).

For this 2024 call for regional projects, the Kiwa Initiative covers 18 countries and territories: Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands, French Polynesia, Samoa, Kiribati, Timor Leste, Marshall Islands, Tonga, Nauru, Tokelau, New Caledonia, Tuvalu, Niue, Vanuatu, Palau and Wallis and Futuna. For more information, visit Kiwa Initiative.

[EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million] Kiwa Initiative offers a New Opportunity for Funding Regional Projects, fundsforNGOs 20.07.24

Contribution of the project to gender equity and social inclusion, with specific activities, indicators and a dedicated budget; Active involvement of national/local public authorities and institutions from design to implementation (and even evaluation if possible); Active involvement and consultation of local communities from design to implementation (and even evaluation if possible); Alignment of proposed projects with key relevant regional, national and local policy frameworks; Projects led by regional or international organizations must demonstrate their clear alignment and their contribution to the implementation of relevant national and local policies (on climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation but not only), and must involve local stakeholders; Regional projects must include a relevant regional cooperation dimension between countries and/or territories (pooling, capitalization, sharing) whether they are implemented in French territories and/or in other eligible PICTs. A regional project must involve at least two countries and/or territories; Scalability of the proposed NbS interventions during the project implementation period; Demonstration of an outcome-based approach for the project supported by a robust monitoring, evaluation and learning framework; Sustainability of the proposed interventions (including exit strategies, sustainable financing mechanisms, etc.).

Projects must fall within the scope of the legal competencies exercised by the project leaders and must not derogate from the local national or regional regulations in force in terms of the exercise of those competencies. Funding Information The funding amount provided by the Kiwa Initiative for each regional project ranges from a minimum of EUR 1.5 million to a maximum of EUR 5 million. The project implementation period may not exceed three and half (3.5 years), with an indicative starting date estimated by early 2026. The project implementation period cannot end later than mid2029. Eligibility Criteria Project proponents must be public or private not-for-profit legal entities (individuals are not eligible). The beneficiaries relevant to regional projects are: National (and local) authorities, Public bodies and institutions present in one of the 18 eligible countries and territories, Regional organizations (Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific, CROP) recognized by Pacific Island countries and territories. For project concepts submitted by SPC and SPREP, please contact the SPC and SPREP Kiwa focal points, International and national NGOs. The Kiwa Initiative covers PICTs for which AFD is authorized to intervene, as well as countries and territories eligible to official development assistance (ODA). For this 2024 call for regional projects, the Kiwa Initiative covers 18 countries and territories: Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands, French Polynesia, Samoa, Kiribati, Timor Leste, Marshall Islands, Tonga, Nauru, Tokelau, New Caledonia, Tuvalu, Niue, Vanuatu, Palau and Wallis and Futuna. For more information, visit Kiwa Initiative.

ITW de Mahé Charles sur l'appel à projets régionaux, Radio Rythme Bleu LA RUBRIQUE ENVIRONNEMENT, 23.07.24

Podcast not available.

Mention Kiwa Initiative

Date: July 25th 2024
Country: International

New call for regional projects from Kiwa Initiative to strengthen climate resilience in the Pacific, PCCP 25.07.24

https://www.pacificclimatechange.net/news/new-call-regional-projects-kiwa-initiativestrengthen-climate-resilience-pacific

The Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for climate resilience, has launched a new call for regional projects, which will be open from 15 July to 15 December 2024. Regional projects must involve at least 2 of the 18 eligible countries and territories, with a budget ranging from EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million.
All information regarding the 2024 Call for regional projects and how to apply is available at https://kiwainitiative.org/en/submit-your-project Support to regional project applicants is available by contacting, until 25 November 2024: SPC, Dr. Rebecca Stirnemann: rebeccas@spc.int SPREP, Ms. Mathilde Kraft: mathildek@sprep.org Interested proponents are welcome to attend the following information session in EN & FR: Deep dive into Kiwa Initiative grant applications 21 August 2024 at 12:00 PM FJT https://spc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u2UNHSmhQz-jYObUPyOd3Q

Date: August 1st 2024
Country: International

Explore 80+ Open Grant Opportunities for Climate Change Projects, FundsforNgos, 01.08.24

https://www2.fundsforngos.org/listing/explore-80-open-grant-opportunities-for-climate-changeprojects/

Are you working to combat climate change? Discover a world of funding opportunities right here! This list curates the latest grants for individuals and organizations dedicated to environmental sustainability. From protecting our planet to building a greener future, find the financial support you need to make a difference. Apply now and be part of the climate solution. [...] [EUR 1.5 million to EUR 5 million] Kiwa Initiative offers a New Opportunity for Funding Regional Projects Deadline: 15-Dec-24 The Kiwa Initiative encourages regional cooperation on designing, implementing and monitoring Nature-based Solutions for climate change resilience in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories...[more]

Nouvel appel à projets de l'Initiative Kiwa
TV News LE 19 H 30, NC 1ÈRE TV, 03/08/24

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/nouvellecaledonie/programme-video/la1ere_nouvellecaledonie_journal-de-19h30-de-nouvelle-caledonie/diffusion/6327923-edition-du-samedi-03-aout2024.html

Journaliste à 17min12 : Et au volet environnement, on vous propose de découvrir l'initiative KIWA. Depuis 2020, 5 bailleurs nationaux financent des projets visant à lutter contre les effets du réchauffement climatique dans le Pacifique Sud. Créée par la France, l'initiative KIWA a vu son budget tripler depuis sa création. La Nouvelle-Calédonie a ainsi pu bénéficier de trois projets régionaux.

Journaliste 2 : Pour son nouvel appel à projets, l'initiative KIWA dispose d'un budget de 9 milliards de francs. À l'origine, la France associée à l'Europe, le Canada, la Nouvelle-Zélande et l'Australie. L'Australie, qui double sa contribution cette année et qui assure la présidence tournante de l'initiative.

ITW de Rohan Pankhania-Macdonald, à 17min53. -" En doublant la contribution, on monte maintenant à un budget de 440 millions de francs Pacifique pour l'Australie qui va permettre à KIWA de soutenir des projets qui luttent contre la vulnérabilité dans la région qui font aussi des investissements pour lutter contre les effets du changement climatique, qui est d'ailleurs le principal enjeu de la région ". Journaliste : 18 pays ou territoires du Pacifique sont éligibles pour des projets locaux et régionaux. Les projets s'inscrivent dans le milieu naturel et font appel au savoir-faire des populations. Ainsi, en Nouvelle-Calédonie, trois projets sélectionnés depuis 2021 sont en cours.

ITW de Virginie Bleitrach à 18min40. -" Il y a parmi ces projets, des projets également en Calédonie, en particulier un projet qui est mis en œuvre par l'Organisation régionale du Pacifique et qui couvre à la fois la Nouvelle-Calédonie, mais aussi Fidji, le Vanuatu, les îles Salomon et Wallis-et-Futuna, et ce projet, il rayonne sur l'ensemble de la Nouvelle-Calédonie, en particulier sur la province Sud, où il travaille à la restauration de la mangrove urbaine dans le Grand Nouméa. En province Nord, on va travailler surtout sur l'agro écologie et la lutte contre les incendies, tant les forêts sont précieuses pour les populations. Et dernier exemple, en province des Îles, on va travailler sur la lutte contre l'érosion côtière, donc ce projet-là en particulier, rayonne effectivement sur l'ensemble de la Calédonie et va permettre à la Calédonie d'échanger avec les territoires du Pacifique ".

Journaliste : La gouvernance de KIWA est collégiale. Sa présidence est tournante. Les cinq partenaires sont ainsi associés aux organismes régionaux comme la communauté du Pacifique.

ITW de Felicity Roxburg. Consule générale de Nouvelle-Zélande à 19min39 -" Ce qui est important, c'est qu'on travaille vraiment avec les organismes régionaux qui existent déjà dans la région, qui sont déjà actifs et pour collaborer avec eux et collaborer entre nous, on rend ça plus facile pour les États insulaires de la région d'accéder aux fonds, d'accéder au financement et de travailler avec nous. Donc, nous, on est en collaboration parce qu'on travaille avec des pays qui sont de petites et moyennes tailles et qui ne peuvent pas forcément accéder au financement facilement, sinon ". Journaliste : Lancé le 15 juillet, l'appel à projets 2024 se conclura le 15 décembre. Sont intéressées les organisations non-gouvernementales, les institutions publiques comme les provinces par exemple.

Date: August 10 2024
Country: Tonga

Organic farming training brings new hope to Tongan farmers
Talaona'o Tonga - 10/08/24

https://talanoaotonga.to/organic-farming-training-brings-new-hope-to-tongan-farmers/

Farmer participants learning organic farming techniques first hand. Photo: SPC
Mina'ati Fifita, a farmer from Koloa village in Vava'u, is optimistic about the future of organic farming, believing it will greatly benefit her family's health. Fifita, who runs a farm with a variety of fruits and vegetables, was among 40 small-scale farmers who participated in a two-day training at the 'Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre in Vava'u last month.

This training, the first of its kind provided by the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre through the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project, marks a step forward in promoting agroecology and organic practices in Vava'u. Of the participants, half of them were women.
The hands-on training covered critical topics such as soil health, sustainable pest management, crop rotation, and organic fertilisation techniques, integrating traditional farming knowledge with modern practices.
Participants at the first Circle Farmer training at the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre. Photo: SPC
Farm Advisor and Lead Trainer Amanaki Funaki emphasised the cost-effectiveness and long-term environmental benefits of organic farming, noting the participants' enthusiasm for preserving a healthy land for future generations.

The POLFN project, funded by the Kiwa Initiative and implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC), aims to support 100 family-run farms across Tongatapu and Vava'u, fostering sustainable agriculture and enhancing community development through nature-based solutions.

How Can Accelerators Speed Up Resilience-Building Efforts in the Pacific?,
Linkedin Article from Amy Amstrong, August 12, 2024

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-can-accelerators-speed-up-resilience-building-amy-armstrongndfjc/?trackingId=CjfLKDnBSCOcLoToRLtqXQ%3D%3D

Systems thinker, policy geek, partnership builder and organizational strategist In the Pacific, coral reefs are central to livelihoods, food security, biodiversity, and protecting coastal communities from storms. Quite simply: their survival is essential for the region's survival. And the world is increasingly seeing that connection; a growing focus on the climate-ocean nexus is fueling more attention to coral reef conservation. Even so, Pacific organizations working on the ground to bolster reef health aren't easily connecting to available funds and financing.

Likewise, funders are struggling to find a robust pipeline of fundable projects. In a nutshell, the climate-ocean finance marketplace isn't working as well as it could. We've seen this firsthand over the last six years working with coastal communities in the Pacific and globally to co-design and deliver reef resilience projects as part of the first stage of the Resilient Reefs Initiative.

The Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF) recently carried out a scan of "Accelerators" that potentially could support the scale and pace of reef resilience initiatives in the Pacific. We cast a wide net looking at Accelerators working across a range of blue economy, climate and ocean policy focus areas. There has been a proliferation of efforts that seek to "accelerate" or "incubate" climate projects or ventures and connect them to the resources they need. We wanted to learn more about how they operate and how well they are working. While this began as an internal research activity, we were surprised and encouraged by the robustness of this emerging field.

We share some reflections here as we hope it may be useful for community-based organisations, entrepreneurs and local governments to understand these new approaches and the resources available to support their project design and organisational readiness. We also share some of how this research has shaped our thinking about the expansion of the Resilient Reefs Initiative. Finally, we share this to invite feedback from our partners: Does this gel with your observations? What are we missing? What do you see as key to successful delivery of accelerator programmes in the region?

The findings from our review are informing the design of Reef Action Accelerators that we are codeveloping with regional partners and will be running from 2025 to 2028 to support implementation of the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan 2021-2030.

Key Findings

We were pleased to see so much activity in this space, reflecting a growing acknowledgement that more must be done to streamline access to climate and ocean funding and finance. Specifically, we found: • The largest category of Accelerators was those trying to grow revenue-generating, nature positive ventures. This is consistent with a major trend to increase the role of private finance and environmentally conscious business models in conservation and climate efforts.

This is important innovation and the potential for tapping into new resources is significant. However, it can also be limiting in its reach, as not all projects and project proponents will generate revenue.

Not many of these efforts serve the Pacific specifically (or Small Island Developing States more generally). Island nations are especially vulnerable to climate change and biodiveristy loss and have unique constraints for scaling project activities due to their remoteness, small population size, and high costs. As a result, they are likely to benefit most from programs that understand that context.

How Can Accelerators Speed Up Resilience-Building Efforts in the Pacific?,
Linkedin Article from Amy Amstrong, August 12, 2024

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-can-accelerators-speed-up-resilience-building-amy-armstrongndfjc/?trackingId=CjfLKDnBSCOcLoToRLtqXQ%3D%3D

• Few of these efforts focus on delivery of local or national policies and plans. The majority align their focus areas with global frameworks or funders' priorities.
Why are Accelerators Necessary? Coral Reefs sit at the nexus of a range of challenges to global ocean health, climate change, biodiversity loss, and human well-being. Work to build the resilience of reefs needs to tap into global funding and support for these broad themes.
Despite increasing global commitments to climate and ocean funding and financing, and a growing focus on the Pacific from international donors, we continue to see and hear from key stakeholders that the project pipeline isn't working as well as it could. Some of the barriers to a better resourced and coordinated pipeline include:
• Proliferation of disconnected projects that are missing opportunities to grow and connect with each other
• Lack of effective project engagement with local communities and traditional knowledge holders
• Policy environment doesn't always enable climate resilience interventions such as naturebased solutions
• Requirements, priorities or expectations from funders can be out of sync with local priorities, policies and contexts
• Good existing projects are sometimes overlooked to create something new that meets perceived funder expectations
• Failure to include the latest science, methods and technologies in new project design, including resilience-based design GBRF is working to break down those barriers, improve project design, and streamline Pacific access to climate and ocean funding through the expansion of its new Pacific Reef Resilience Programme.

In thinking about how best to do this, we wanted to better understand the state of play—what other strategies and methodologies are being used to address these barriers? Three Categories of Accelerator Activities There are many ways that global and regional actors are attempting to make funding for ocean climate projects more accessible. We've loosely grouped them in the following categories:
• Development of new projects and ventures and connection to start-up investment
• Design support for climate resilience projects
• Capacity building for governments or organisations' to leverage climate finance and funding Development of new projects and ventures and connection to start-up investment
As noted earlier, many of the Accelerators we reviewed are working specifically with revenuegenerating projects or organisations, building sustainable finance and business models as a key part of the solution for how we will resource nature and climate work into the future.
Examples of these approaches include Sea Change Impact Financing Facility, Blue Natural Capital Financing Facility , Global Fund for Coral Reefs , CLimAccelerator, Blue Carbon Accelerator Fund, Climate Finance for Development Accelerator , Resilient Coasts-Living Lab, Ocean Impact Organisation, among many others. The supports these efforts typically provide include mentorship and training, technical assistance in the creation of new ventures, and sometimes start-up capital. They are often a part of a blended finance facility (an investment strategy that uses development finance and philanthropic funds to help catalyze private capital into markets it wouldn't usually target). While offering crucial access to new capital, reef resilience projects won't always have a financial return, and the readiness and desire of community groups to build the types of ventures blended finance facilities seek to invest in isn't always there.

How Can Accelerators Speed Up Resilience-Building Efforts in the Pacific?,
Linkedin Article from Amy Amstrong, August 12, 2024

At GBRF, we see an opportunity to support organizations and project ideas that aren't ready for or interested in private investment (or who might be eligible and interested in the years to come). Design support for climate resilience projects

A related but smaller category of efforts were those seeking to incubate and accelerate project ideas with grant, aid or other philanthropic resources as the funding target (rather than private capital seeking a return on investment). In these cases, the project owners were typically government or NGOs rather than entrepreneurs or small businesses.

These efforts include: Columbia University's Resilience Accelerator, Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA), SCeNe Coalition, PROBLUE Ocean Trust Fund, and the KIWA Initiative. The kinds of supports here ranged from workshops and standardized tools to supporting project design to calls for proposals and technical assistance in connecting to funding.

At GBRF, we are actively coordinating with these types of efforts to learn what has worked, what can be improved on, and how we can have a bigger impact together. Capacity building for climate finance A final category tackled the challenge from a different angle: efforts to address the absorptive capacity challenge of small governments and community-based organizations (working at the organisational level as opposed to project or venture-level).

The goal for these efforts is to level the playing field for accessing climate funds and finance. Examples include the Climate Finance Access Network , the Island Innovation Impact Accelerator , Country Flexible Finance – Capacity Support Program. These efforts often include training and capacity building, often placing new staff in government offices to increase institutional readiness and improve their ability to apply for funds.

There are several parallels here with the kinds of partnerships GBRF led in the first phase of Resilient Reefs (where we supported new staff and capacity building within governments), and we see these efforts as essential partners to future work.

Key Takeaways

The review reinforced that this is a problem understood by many and that there is much work underway to increase the flow of resources to critical resilience and restoration activities. We noted more effort focusing on standing up revenue-generating projects than on connecting community projects to public and philanthropic grant sources. While the former is an important new way to bring more resources to critical work, the Blue Economy marketplace is still nascent. If we hope to see a pipeline of revenue-generating projects down the line, we need to incubate project concepts and create an enabling environment for the Blue Economy marketplace first. This requires public and philanthropic funding that puts less pressure on projects to generate revenue up front. Our work with coastal communities and national and subnational governments has reinforced that there is demand and need to connect projects owners to public and philanthropic funding sources, streamlining that marketplace and encouraging greater cooperation among funders. While there are some efforts working in this space, much more can and should be done. Finally, we acknowledge that there are many local, national and regional plans and policies that need funding to deliver their mission. Notably, this includes the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan 2021-2030, which has been validated by all Pacific countries, but is working to address a funding shortfall.

How Can Accelerators Speed Up Resilience-Building Efforts in the Pacific?,
Linkedin Article from Amy Amstrong, August 12, 2024

Focusing Accelerator activity on taking existing Pacific plans forward is key.

Next Steps for the Resilient Pacific Reefs Programme
This review is directly informing the design of Reef Action Accelerators that GBRF will be facilitating from 2025 to 2028 in an effort to connect projects and organisations, improve project design, and streamline access to resources.
Specifically, it has pointed to the need for intermediaries like GBRF to:
• Provide resilient project design support in ways that bring together different project owners with each other and with technical experts, and focus on methods and technology that respond to the region's unique challenges
• Make flexible, small grants available to project proponents that address feasibility or viability gaps that have prevented projects from being funder-ready to-date
• Think long term about the Blue Economy marketplace, including a focus now on organisational readiness and project design
• Create space where donors can connect to project proponents and each other to trial a more collaborative and flexible approach to partnering with each other and Pacific Leadership
• Support policy work at national and subnational levels that creates an enabling environment for resilience projects

We are partnering closely with regional advisors to refine our Accelerator design and will make more information available, including how to engage with the Programme, in the next few months. We look forward to hearing from you and getting to work!

Farmers cultivating nature-based solutions through Agroecology in the South Pacific, SPC, 23.08.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/2024/08/farmers-cultivating-nature-based-solutions-through-agroecology-in-the-south

Agroecology is farming sustainably in harmony with nature. As our Pacific Island farmers know, it is a comprehensive approach that harmonises aspects of ecology, economics, and culture or tradition on their farms.

Since World War II farmers have increasingly become reliant on chemical inputs promoted heavily by Agro-industrial corporations and Universities. These chemicals have been proven to not only harm the soil and its ecosystem but also have long-lasting negative impacts on farmers and consumers. In a recent example, 60 countries, including Fiji and other Pacific Island nations, have banned the herbicide, Paraquat. Paraquat has been linked to the development of Parkinson's disease, nonHodgkin lymphoma, childhood leukemia, and other health issues.

The excessive use of chemical weedicides and herbicides, which are almost saturating soil ecosystems, will be a significant factor in the inability to regenerate soils in the Pacific region. When combined with the unpredictable weather in the region, including tropical cyclones and heavy rain, this has created a multi-layered set of challenges for farmers, the agriculture industry, and Pacific Island leaders.

In response to these challenges, the Pacific Community (SPC) through the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project is urging small-holder farmers to use simple organic farming methods that work in harmony with Pacific Islanders' traditional knowledge and modern organic principles. POLFN is operating in Tonga, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Nauru through its newly established Organic Learning Farms that were launched in 2023.

These Learning Farms are training over 300 small-holder farmers this year in farming methods that provide nature-based solutions to the unique agricultural and climate contexts of the Pacific region. Mr Jim Pierce, the Coordinator of the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) that oversees the POLFN Project at SPC states, "By starting with time-tested traditional knowledge and blending it with scientific agroecological principles, the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network is equipping smallholder farmers with tools and techniques to build food systems that are environmentally sustainable, socially just, and economically viable – an organic farming model that could be replicated across the South Pacific".

The five nature-based solutions seen in the infographic are not only safeguarding local livelihoods and food security but also contributing to the overall biodiversity and ecological health of these unique island communities.

About POLFN: The POLFN Project is supported by the Kiwa Initiative, which is a multi-donor programme that aims to build resilience to climate change through Nature-based Solutions (NbS). It is funded by the European Union, Agence française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). Kiwa's implementing partners include the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

About POETCom: The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) is the peak body for the organic movement in the Pacific region with active members, farmer associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, the private sector, research institutions and works with governments across the Pacific Island region. POETCom is hosted by the Land Resources Division of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Suva, Fiji. For more information, visit: The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community The Kiwa Initiative - Climate Resilience in the Pacific Islands thanks to Nature-based Solutions (NbS) L'Initiative Kiwa - La Résilience Climatique dans le Pacifique grâce aux Solutions fondées sur la Nature (SfN)

Fiji's Bold Move: Strengthening Climate Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions,
SPC, 23.08.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/2024/08/fijis-bold-move-strengthening-climate-resilience-withnature-based-solutions

The Pacific Community (SPC), under Promoting Pacific Islands Nature Based Solutions (PPIN) is taking pivotal role in advancing climate resilience across the Pacific Islands, with a special focus on Fiji, by co-facilitating a strategic workshop on August 20-21, 2024, at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva.

The workshop, titled "Aligning Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Nature-based Solutions in Fiji," brings together key regional partners to strengthen the integration of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) into national policy frameworks and enhance the capacity of local stakeholders.
"The convergence of Nature-based Solutions and Ecosystem-based Adaptation represents a powerful strategy for building climate resilience," said Senivasa Waqairamasi, Director Climate Change at Fiji Government "By aligning these approaches, we can ensure that our efforts to protect and restore ecosystems are both effective and sustainable, benefiting both the environment and local communities." Fiji, like many Pacific Island Countries, faces escalating climate threats, making the need for effective adaptation strategies more urgent than ever.
Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) and NbS have emerged as critical approaches to addressing these challenges, offering sustainable solutions that protect the environment while enhancing human well-being. The SPC's involvement in this initiative underscores its commitment to fostering resilient communities across the Pacific through science, innovation, and collaboration. "The workshop is an opportunity to align our regional efforts and ensure that NbS and EbA are not just concepts but actionable strategies embedded within Fiji's development plans," said Ms. Fuatino Fatiaki, POLFN Agroecology Officer. "By integrating these approaches, we can create more robust frameworks that address both environmental and social challenges, ultimately leading to more resilient communities."
Participants from various sectors, including government, non-governmental organizations, and local communities, will engage in discussions and activities aimed at understanding the convergence of NbS and EbA. The workshop will also serve as a platform for SPC to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, identifying gaps in knowledge and capacity that are crucial for effective NbS implementation in Fiji. "Nature-based solutions can be enhanced through capacity building and this workshop has brought together diverse stakeholders so there is coproduction of knowledge and a bottom-up approach is taken to advance Nature-based Solutions in Fiji", said Rakeshni Lata, PPIN-SPC Coordinator.

This initiative is part of a broader regional effort to integrate NbS into policy and practice, supported by projects like the Promoting Pacific Island Nature-based Solutions (PPIN - The PPIN project is funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative, and the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC+). These projects, funded by international partners including the European Union and the French Facility for Global Environment, aim to create a cohesive framework for NbS across the Pacific. "The integration of NbS into Fiji's policy landscape is not just about environmental protection; it's about safeguarding livelihoods and promoting sustainable development in the face of climate change," added Ms. Fuatino Fatiaki. "This workshop is a critical step towards that goal." The two-day workshop is expected to result in several key outcomes, including enhanced awareness of ongoing NbS and EbA initiatives in Fiji, strengthened capacities in Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Ridge to Reef Coastal Management practices, and the identification of specific sectoral opportunities for NbS integration into national policies. Additionally, the development of targeted educational materials and training programs tailored to the needs of Fijian stakeholders will be a priority. [logo kiwa initiative en PJ]

Date: August 29th 2024
Country: Fiji

Hear from Tongan farmers who are shifting towards organic farming,
SPC, 29.08.24

https://spc.int/updates/blog/video/2024/08/hear-from-tongan-farmers-who-are-shifting-towardsorganicfarming?fbclid=IwY2xjawE96TNleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHTwIL2FGHgwuUkuqPUVnWAZUV6xU6IMdE15D_XLAHvkFrpwO4_L4FLE4xQ_aem_LR4hU45gzrQzzh7QoepoTQ

Nearly 90 per cent of Tonga's population resides in rural areas, and a good majority are smallholder farmers who typically cultivate root crops, providing food security, employment, and income. Although many are engaged in agriculture, only about 5 per cent farm for commercial purposes, while the other 95 per cent are smallholder farmers practising subsistence farming.

In this video, we hear from local farmers who have recently received training at the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre, led by Farm Trainer Amanaki Funaki. The Learning Centre was established in 2023 through collaborative efforts spearheaded by the Pacific Community (SPC) through the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN). Through POLFN, Ovava conducted its first of many training with local farmers on 29-30 July 2024.
The training engaged farmers with hands-on exercises covering composting techniques tailored to their specific crop or plant needs and climate conditions, as well as marcotting, which allowed them to propagate new plants from existing ones with ease. Additionally, they explored the benefits of intercropping—the strategic pairing of complementary crops to maximise land usage and ecological synergies. Perhaps most impactfully, the training delved into agroforestry, teaching the farmers how to thoughtfully integrate trees and shrubs into their farming systems to enhance biodiversity, soil health, and yield.

Throughout the training, Funaki emphasised blending organic methods with the farmers' traditional farming knowledge and practices, empowering them to adopt a holistic and sustainable approach to food production. SPC LRD The POLFN Project is implemented through the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community at SPC and is supported by the Kiwa Initiative, a multi-donor programme that aims to build resilience to climate change through Nature-based Solutions (NbS).

POLFN is operating in Tonga, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Nauru, and is funded by the European Union, Agence française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). Kiwa's implementing partners include the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: August 29th 2024
Country: Fiji

Hear from Tongan farmers who are shifting towards organic farming,
SPC, 29.08.24

https://spc.int/updates/blog/video/2024/08/hear-from-tongan-farmers-who-are-shifting-towardsorganicfarming?fbclid=IwY2xjawE96TNleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHTwIL2FGHgwuUkuqPUVnWAZUV6xU6IMdE15D_XLAHvkFrpwO4_L4FLE4xQ_aem_LR4hU45gzrQzzh7QoepoTQ

Nearly 90 per cent of Tonga's population resides in rural areas, and a good majority are smallholder farmers who typically cultivate root crops, providing food security, employment, and income.

Although many are engaged in agriculture, only about 5 per cent farm for commercial purposes, while the other 95 per cent are smallholder farmers practising subsistence farming. In this video, we hear from local farmers who have recently received training at the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre, led by Farm Trainer Amanaki Funaki.

The Learning Centre was established in 2023 through collaborative efforts spearheaded by the Pacific Community (SPC) through the Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN). Through POLFN, Ovava conducted its first of many training with local farmers on 29-30 July 2024. The training engaged farmers with hands-on exercises covering composting techniques tailored to their specific crop or plant needs and climate conditions, as well as marcotting, which allowed them to propagate new plants from existing ones with ease. Additionally, they explored the benefits of intercropping—the strategic pairing of complementary crops to maximise land usage and ecological synergies.

Perhaps most impactfully, the training delved into agroforestry, teaching the farmers how to thoughtfully integrate trees and shrubs into their farming systems to enhance biodiversity, soil health, and yield. Throughout the training, Funaki emphasised blending organic methods with the farmers' traditional farming knowledge and practices, empowering them to adopt a holistic and sustainable approach to food production.

SPC LRD The POLFN Project is implemented through the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community at SPC and is supported by the Kiwa Initiative, a multi-donor programme that aims to build resilience to climate change through Nature-based Solutions (NbS). POLFN is operating in Tonga, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Nauru, and is funded by the European Union, Agence française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). Kiwa's implementing partners include the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

PERENNE toujours mobilisé,
La Calédonie Agricole (août/septembre 2024)

PERENNE
toujours mobilisé

8 000 arbres devaient être plantés cette année grâce à des solutions fondées sur la nature (SFN) dans le cadre du déploiement de PERENNE, financé par l'initiative Kiwa, pour préserver et restaurer les ripisylves du bassin versant de la Néra. WWF et la CAP-NC, coporteurs du projet, œuvrent pour garantir sa continuité malgré la situation actuelle du pays. Les plantations prévues sont reportées à l'année prochaine. Une demande d'avenant est en cours pour obtenir une prolongation calendaire du projet, permettant la tenue des chantiers entre mars et juillet 2025. De leur côté, les pépinières partenaires poursuivent leur travail pour garantir la qualité et la viabilité des plants avant les plantations.

Social inclusion at school
Media Indonesia, 02.09.24

https://mediaindonesia.com/opini/697472/inklusi-sosial-di-sekolah

The Constitution guarantees every citizen access to and the right to quality education, equally and without discrimination based on background, gender, or other differences. Therefore, the organization of the educational process is always considered a response that is inclusive of the diverse needs, interests, and abilities of learners, by increasing participation and reducing exclusionary practices in education.

This educational process is known as inclusive education, which refers to the guarantee of the presence, participation, and achievement of all students, especially those who, for various reasons, are hindered, excluded, or at risk of being marginalized within the educational system. The main goal of inclusive education is to eliminate all barriers to learning, allowing each learner to develop their full potential, improve educational outcomes, and eliminate discrimination (The Salamanca Statement: 1994; UNESCO: 2005).

Social Inclusion / GEDSI

The term inclusion originates from the Latin verb includo, which can have a positive meaning — "to be part of (something)" — or a negative one — "to be trapped (in something)." In the context of education, it is of course understood in the positive sense, referring to involvement and participation based on the principles and values of respect, equality, and equity.

An important approach to promote inclusion in education is GEDSI (gender equality, disability, and social inclusion), often simply referred to as social inclusion.

Social inclusion refers to an approach that ensures that all people, regardless of their social background — such as gender, disability, geographic location, economic status (poverty, etc.), internet and technology access, migration status, language, religion, ethnicity, culture, or those facing any form of marginalization — can be involved, supported, and contribute to education (The KIWA Initiative: 2024).

In other words, social inclusion in education aims to ensure equal access to resources, services, and education policy-making, for everyone, regardless of the many existing social differences.

The principle of inclusion in education is often associated with disability issues or education for those with special needs. However, the discourse on inclusion as a concept, theory, and practice has a much broader, interdisciplinary scope, and reflects the diverse range of human experiences.

Thus, social inclusion in education is not only about guaranteeing equal opportunities in classrooms and schools, but also extends to the broader social community from which students come, engage, and are recognized as part of (Koutsouris et al., 2019; Qvortrup and Qvortrup, 2017).

SPREP workshop deepens understanding on nature's potential for achieving sustainable development, SPREP (02.09.24)

https://www.sprep.org/news/sprep-workshop-deepens-understanding-on-natures-potential-forachieving-sustainabledevelopment?fbclid=IwY2xjawFDYaNleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHd9LrhnDCMtoxpRgffUth2EMzdocCHY4oV_ZCr31XUiN4an_HVzZw3ypjw_aem_zYIA8_zCOvcn0lHi0pVBZw

Island and Ocean Ecosystems 22 August 2024. Suva, Fiji - How can we harness the power of nature to help solve development sustainability issues in the face of climate change impacts? How can we ensure that our nature-based solutions projects and initiatives will have lasting positive socio-economic impacts while achieving long-term positive change in the health of our natural ecosystems and biodiversity?

These were some of the questions participants discussed at the Aligning Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Nature-based Solutions in Fiji workshop held in Suva, Fiji, 20-21 August. The workshop was facilitated by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). Representatives from Fijian government ministries, non-government organisations, the Fiji Development Bank, academic institutions (Fiji National University and the University of the South Pacific) as well as regional and international agencies attended the event to explore and improve their understanding on the convergence of nature-based solutions (NbS) and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) projects and how they can be best applied to support sustainable development.
Opening the workshop, Director of Climate Change, Senivasa Waqairamasi, said "Our islands, forests, and marine ecosystems and their high biodiversity provide economic benefits to all Fijian communities and the nation. We have long harnessed this productivity through our farming production and community and commercial fisheries." She stated that Fiji's tourism industry contributes 40 percent of the country's gross domestic product and is critically dependent on sustaining our cultures, healthy ecosystems and biodiversity. "We need a healthy, well-functioning environment to continue to be the foundation of our development successes and our cultures. In short, we need to base our future on nature," she said.

Stuart Chape, Director Island and Ocean Ecosystems at SPREP stressed the need for transformative approaches that will move beyond incremental results to long-term, generational impact. He provided an overview of the EbA process and discussed the importance of planning for the future. "We not only need to understand the vulnerabilities but must also identify the opportunities we have to address these vulnerabilities and make appropriate choices," said Mr Chape.

Nature-based solutions involve the protection, management or restoration of natural ecosystems to address challenges faced by society to improve human well-being while also increasing biodiversity benefits. As interest in NbS initiatives grows, there is a need to assess how well such projects are delivering on these aspirations. Participants were introduced to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Global Standards for NbS. This serves as a global "benchmark" for what good NbS might look like. A selfassessment framework was shared to help participants better understand the eight global NbS criteria.

It was acknowledged that elements of the global framework may be less relevant in the Pacific context and that a Pacific guide may be more appropriate for assessing good NbS practice in the region. John Clemo, Senior Adviser Climate Change and Environment in the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade said, "Work supported by NZMFAT will inform and guide NbS practitioners in the Pacific. This will be a big step in improving how we are shaping and delivering NbS projects."

Reflections and lessons were shared from NbS and EbA activities in Fiji and included the ridge to reef and ecosystem-based management approach of the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management BIEM Initiative in the Navua-Beqa Lagoon catchment, the NbS work of the Pacific Organic Farmers Network (POLFN), the Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas (CAPA) initiative and the approaches to coastal management and riparian restoration by the Pacific Ecosystem Based Adaptation to Climate Change Phase 2 (PEBACC+) programme.

The workshop introduced the Promoting Pacific Islands Nature Based Solutions (PPIN) project, which is focusing on identifying areas of NbS policy to pursue in Fiji. Group work and discussion helped to identify gaps and needs, which will provide the foundation for further activities to inform the development of educational materials, training programmes and sector-specific guidelines. An outcome of the workshop was the indication of interest by the i-Taukei Lands Trust Board (iTLTB) to integrate NbS into its new environment policy. Participants provided inputs to this proposal and discussed the need to address siloed approaches to policy development and implementation of existing legislation. The need to work with and understand sectors outside the traditional conservation sectors was highlighted as essential to attracting investment interest and large-scale financing for NbS.

The workshop was a collaboration between SPREP's BIEM Initiative, which is a component of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme funded by the European Union and the Government of Sweden; the multi-partner PPIN project, funded by NZMFAT, and the Kiwa Pacific Ecosystem Based Adaptation to Climate Change Phase 2 (PEBACC+) project. For more information, contact: Kenneth Kassem kennethk@sprep.org (BIEM Initiative) Loraini Sivo LorainiS@sprep.org (PEBACC+) Utulei Lui UtuleiL@sprep.org (PPIN)

Date: September 11th 2024
Country: Fiji

2nd National Symposium for Community-Led Initiatives Environment Sustainability, IUCN 11.09.24

https://iucn.org/news/202409/2nd-national-symposium-community-led-initiatives-environmentsustainability

The 2nd National Symposium for Community-Led Initiatives on Environment Sustainability is set to take place from September 10 to 12, 2024 (September 10 at the Albert Park and from September 11 to 12, at Level 9, Suvavou House).

This Symposium's theme, "Share Your Story," aims to highlight the successes and lessons learnt from community projects across Fiji. The symposium will bring together over 40 community representatives to share their experiences and build valuable networks.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn from each other, discuss challenges, and explore innovative solutions for sustainable development. Key objectives of the symposium include: - Sharing success stories and lessons learnt from community-led initiatives. - Building a network of community practitioners for collaboration and support. - Amplifying community voices to influence decision-making on local and national levels. The event will feature sessions on food security, clean energy, and sustainable urban solutions, along with discussions on policy landscapes affecting these areas.

This event builds on the success of last year's inaugural symposium, which hosted representatives from 30 communities. The outcomes from this year's symposium will be presented to the Government of Fiji and will inform the country's position for the upcoming UNFCCC COP29 in Azerbaijan.

The Kiwa Initiative will play a significant role in this event, supporting the symposium and collaboration among local project grantees. Representatives from C3 Fiji and the National Trust of Fiji, two Kiwa ongrantees, will participate and learn from the three-day event as well as share on their experiences on the roles Nature-based Solution in building community resilience to climate change. The symposium is organised by the cChange Pacific in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme Fiji, and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Pacific, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, and the Fiji Museum, with support from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Kiwa Initiative programme and Fiji Development Bank.

Kiwa Initiative launches simple, easy to use tools to help Pacific practitioners integrate gender and human rights into nature-based solutions,
Relief Web, 11.09.24

https://reliefweb.int/report/world/kiwa-initiative-launches-simple-easy-use-tools-help-pacificpractitioners-integrate-gender-and-human-rights-nature-based-solutions

Environmental and social issues cannot be separated – a thriving planet cannot be one that contains widespread human suffering or restricts human potential, and humanity cannot exist on a dying planet (Smallhorn-West et al., 2023).

Nature-based solutions (NbS) address societal challenges through actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural and modified ecosystems, benefiting people and nature at the same time. Fisheries can serve as a vital nature-based solution, playing a significant role in maintaining ecological balance and providing sustainable livelihoods for many Pacific Islanders.
Through responsible management practices, fisheries can contribute to the preservation of aquatic biodiversity while ensuring the well-being of coastal communities. Sustainable fishing methods, such as selective harvesting and habitat protection, promote the resilience of marine ecosystems, mitigating the impacts of overfishing and habitat degradation. Embracing fisheries as a nature-based solution means recognising their inherent link to the health of marine environments, fisheries management, and fostering a harmonious coexistence between humanity and the natural world.

Three tools have been developed to support advocates, policymakers and practitioners better consider and integrate gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) and broader human rights and human rights-based approaches (HRBA) into NbS for climate adaptation.

These resources are the result of a collaboration between the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and Talanoa Consulting under the Kiwa Initiative.

Human rights for nature-based solutions in Pacific Islands: The purpose of this booklet is to provide an introduction to what human rights are and why they are relevant and should be considered when designing and implementing NbS for climate change adaptation in the Pacific Islands. Each of the 12 human rights identified are described in detail, with Pacific Islands examples (where available) to illustrate their relevance to NbS practitioners (Fig. 1). This is not to say other rights are not important, rather than these 12 human rights have been highlighted as good entry or starting points for learning and considering how human rights intersect with NbS. Understanding the relationship between human rights and NbS is an important first step to integrating human rights in NbS.

A three-module training kit has also been developed which includes a trainer's guide and slides. Posters as visual aids to support advocacy and education efforts are also available. Gender equity, disability and social inclusion analysis for nature-based solutions in the Pacific Islands: This guide provides information and guidance on how to conduct a GEDSI analysis and to use the findings to ensure NbS stakeholders promote fairness, address barriers related to gender and disability, and ensure social inclusion in NbS initiatives. A GEDSI analysis provides information that can be used to design interventions to ensure NbS provide equitable benefits for every member of the community. Assessing human rights risks to inform nature-based solutions in Pacific Islands: This assessment tool has been designed for organisations and practitioners working on NbS in the Pacific Islands, who wish to ensure their projects do not cause harm to people. A human rights risk assessment helps to identify and address risks to individuals and groups of stakeholders, including communities, from planned NbS.

With the right social safeguards in place, NbS can positively reinforce human rights, and are likely to be more fair and effective. The risk assessment should not be seen as an additional burden on already busy practitioners. Rather the process of identifying risks is an important opportunity for stakeholder engagement, enhancing the quality of NbS design and implementation, while enhancing accountability for impacts on human rights.

The Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based Solutions for Climate Resilience aims at strengthening the climate change resilience of Pacific Islands ecosystems, communities and economies through nature-based solutions (NbS), by protecting, sustainably managing and restoring biodiversity. It is based on an easier access to funding for climate change adaptation and NbS for local, national authorities, civil society and regional organisations of Pacific Island Countries and Territories including the three French overseas territories. The Initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-ORO).

More information on www.kiwainitiative.org All tools and resources can be freely downloaded from the Kiwa Secretariat website: https://kiwainitiative.org/en/news/ download-now-our-freely-available-resources-on-gedsi-andhumanrights References Smallhorn-West, P., Allison, E., Gurney, G., Karnad, D., Kretser, H., Lobo, A.S., Mangubhai, S., Newing, H., Pennell, K., Raj, S., Tilley, A., Williams, H. and Peckham, S.H., 2023. Why human rights matter for marine conservation. Front. Mar. Sci. 10:1089154. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2023.1089154 Contacts Mathilde Kraft | mathildek@sprep.org Download this article here. Download the latest Women in Fisheries Newsletter here.

Opération de plantation à Bourail
NC 1ÈRE TV, News, LE 19 H 30, 13/09/24

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/nouvellecaledonie/programme-video/la1ere_nouvellecaledonie_journal-de-19h30-de-nouvelle-caledonie/diffusion/6466835-edition-du-vendredi-13- septembre-2024.html

Une vaste opération de plantation éco-citoyenne aura lieu à Bourail. Mention initiative kiwa Journaliste à 17min21 : Des plants originaires de la tribu de Gohapin. Le travail des associations de femmes de cette tribu est financé par l'Initiative Kiwa.

Ces jeunes pousses sont en première ligne dans la ripisylve, la préservation des berges de cours d'eau. C'est bien l'objectif de l'opération.

Kiwa Initiative launches simple, easy to use tools to help Pacific practitioners integrate gender and human rights into nature-based solutions,
SPC, 15.09.24

https://www.spc.int/fr/actualite/actus-web/2024/09/kiwa-initiative-launches-simple-easy-to-usetools-to-help-pacific (contenu disponible en anglais uniquement)

Kiwa Initiative launches simple, easy to use tools to help Pacific practitioners integrate gender and human rights into nature-based solutions Environmental and social issues cannot be separated – a thriving planet cannot be one that contains widespread human suffering or restricts human potential, and humanity cannot exist on a dying planet (Smallhorn-West et al., 2023).
WIL Nature-based solutions (NbS) address societal challenges through actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural and modified ecosystems, benefiting people and nature at the same time. Fisheries can serve as a vital naturebased solution, playing a significant role in maintaining ecological balance and providing sustainable livelihoods for many Pacific Islanders. Through responsible management practices, fisheries can contribute to the preservation of aquatic biodiversity while ensuring the well-being of coastal communities. Sustainable fishing methods, such as selective harvesting and habitat protection, promote the resilience of marine ecosystems, mitigating the impacts of overfishing and habitat degradation. Embracing fisheries as a naturebased solution means recognising their inherent link to the health of marine environments, fisheries management, and fostering a harmonious coexistence between humanity and the natural world.

Three tools have been developed to support advocates, policymakers and practitioners better consider and integrate gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) and broader human rights and human rights-based approaches (HRBA) into NbS for climate adaptation. These resources are the result of a collaboration between the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and Talanoa Consulting under the Kiwa Initiative. Human rights for nature-based solutions in Pacific Islands: The purpose of this booklet is to provide an introduction to what human rights are and why they are relevant and should be considered when designing and implementing NbS for climate change adaptation in the Pacific Islands. Each of the 12 human rights identified are described in detail, with Pacific Islands examples (where available) to illustrate their relevance to NbS practitioners (Fig. 1). This is not to say other rights are not important, rather than these 12 human rights have been highlighted as good entry or starting points for learning and considering how human rights intersect with NbS. Understanding the relationship between human rights and NbS is an important first step to integrating human rights in NbS. A three-module training kit has also been developed which includes a trainer's guide and slides. Posters as visual aids to support advocacy and education efforts are also available. Brochures Gender equity, disability and social inclusion analysis for nature-based solutions in the Pacific Islands: This guide provides information and guidance on how to conduct a GEDSI analysis and to use the findings to ensure NbS stakeholders promote fairness, address barriers related to gender and disability, and ensure social inclusion in NbS initiatives. A GEDSI analysis provides information that can be used to design interventions to ensure NbS provide equitable benefits for every member of the community. Assessing human rights risks to inform nature-based solutions in Pacific Islands: This assessment tool has been designed for organisations and practitioners working on NbS in the Pacific Islands, who wish to ensure their projects do not cause harm to people. A human rights risk assessment helps to identify and address risks to individuals and groups of stakeholders, including communities, from planned NbS.

With the right social safeguards in place, NbS can positively reinforce human rights, and are likely to be more fair and effective. The risk assessment should not be seen as an additional burden on already busy practitioners. Rather the process of identifying risks is an important opportunity for stakeholder engagement, enhancing the quality of NbS design and implementation, while enhancing accountability for impacts on human rights.

The Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based Solutions for Climate Resilience aims at strengthening the climate change resilience of Pacific Islands ecosystems, communities and economies through nature-based solutions (NbS), by protecting, sustainably managing and restoring biodiversity. It is based on an easier access to funding for climate change adaptation and NbS for local, national authorities, civil society and regional organisations of Pacific Island Countries and Territories including the three French overseas territories. The Initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-ORO). More information on www.kiwainitiative.org All tools and resources can be freely downloaded from the Kiwa Secretariat website: https://kiwainitiative.org/en/news/ download-now-our-freely-available-resources-on-gedsi-andhumanrights References Smallhorn-West, P., Allison, E., Gurney, G., Karnad, D., Kretser, H., Lobo, A.S., Mangubhai, S., Newing, H., Pennell, K., Raj, S., Tilley, A., Williams, H. and Peckham, S.H., 2023. Why human rights matter for marine conservation. Front. Mar. Sci. 10:1089154. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2023.1089154 Contacts Mathilde Kraft | mathildek@sprep.org Download this article here. Download the latest Women in Fisheries Information Bulletin here. Division Durabilité environnementale et changement climatique Pêche, Aquaculture et écosystèmes marins

Opération sauvetage de la Mangrove
NC 1ÈRE TV, LE 19 H 30, 18/09/24.

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/nouvellecaledonie/programme-video/la1ere_nouvellecaledonie_journal-de-19h30-de-nouvelle-caledonie/diffusion/6482699-edition-du-mercredi-18- septembre-2024.html –

Calédoclean : opération sauvegarde de la mangrove "Ouémo Sainte Marie ". ITW de François Tron, coordinateur NC du projet PEBACC à 15min59. Mention initiative KIWA. -"

Le projet PEBACC, comme tous les projets de l'initiative KIWA vise à promouvoir les solutions fondées sur la nature pour s'adapter aux changements climatiques. Ici, on va effectivement restaurer la mangrove pour pouvoir renforcer son rôle de filtre à sédiments et à polluants et ainsi protéger et conserver les récifs coralliens en aval ".

Calédoclean en opération sauvegarde de la mangrove à Nouméa, NC1ère, 19.09.24

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/nouvellecaledonie/caledoclean-en-operation-sauvegarde-de-la-mangrove-a-noumea-1522763.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawFhtkdleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHcgNTWvqT2bzU-lXP_GSLMib9-cPeAR0Pz2sBK3nDy6eZeJcUYxwgRq6eQ_aem_kIRuZhrjSVPKlmZKuyUWrg

(Initiative KIWA non mentionnée)
Calédoclean en opération sauvegarde de la mangrove à Nouméa (francetvinfo.fr)
Les bénévoles de Calédoclean se réunissent cette semaine à Ouémo et Sainte-Marie pour une opération de déblaiement des veines d'eau de la mangrove. Les travaux devraient à terme redynamiser tout l'écosystème.
Laura Schintu, Valentin Deleforterie • Publié le 19 septembre 2024 à 16h27

La mangrove de Ouémo, d'ordinaire plutôt silencieuse, résonne cette semaine au son inhabituel des tronçonneuses. Sous le couvert des palétuviers, l'équipe de Calédoclean déblaye les deux veines d'eau principales qui serpentent à travers le biome. Depuis le passage des cyclones Dona et Cook en 2017, beaucoup de bois morts entravent la circulation de l'eau. "Il faut travailler à marée basse, c'est plus facile car on voit mieux le fil d'eau", explique Dylan Laigle, l'un des membres de l'association. Objectif des bénévoles : libérer la mangrove de ses "embâcles", des barrages créés par l'accumulation de déchets naturels notamment. "On trouve aussi pas mal de bouteilles en plastique, du polystyrène, des pneus. On a même trouvé un reste de lampadaire", ajoute Thibaut Bizien, le fondateur de Caledoclean.
"Sur le cours d'eau qui arrive sur l'arroyo des tours de Magenta, on a vu des poissons morts et des anguilles, donc il faut aussi maîtriser les sources de pollution. L'idée, c'est de faciliter la circulation du cours d'eau pour éviter que ces pollutions se maintiennent", poursuit-il. Le changement inévitable Sans cette irrigation naturelle, tout l'écosystème se trouve en danger.

La mangrove de Ouémo a ainsi perdu 10% de sa superficie et le chiffre pourrait tripler sur le moyen terme d'après les prévisions des spécialistes. Le déblaiement, vital, s'inscrit dans le cadre d'un projet global, porté à l'échelle du Pacifique et prônant l'adaptation face aux changements climatiques : "Pebacc+". "Quels que soient nos efforts d'atténuation et de réduction d'émissions de gaz à effet de serre, le climat est en train de changer et il faut s'adapter de toute façon", assure François Tron, coordinateur de ce projet sur le territoire. "Nous voulons promouvoir les solutions fondées sur la nature pour s'adapter au changement. Ici, ça passe par restaurer la mangrove pour renforcer son rôle de filtre à polluants et ainsi protéger les récifs coralliens en aval", poursuit-il. Au total, il faudra environ une semaine pour déblayer l'ensemble des veines d'eau de la mangrove de Ouémo. Une opération similaire est prévue ultérieurement, dans la mangrove de La Coulée.

Crossing Taveuni's blue line, FIJI TIMES, 29.09.24

https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/crossing-taveunis-blue-line/

Crossing Taveuni's blue line - The Fiji Times Local News, News | Published: 17 hours ago | Last Updated: 20 hours ago | By SETAITA TAVANABOLA Replanting initiatives with farmers and communities.
THE development of Taveuni's agriculture has increasingly been at odds with the need to protect and conserve its natural environment. As the encroachment into the Taveuni Forest Reserve and Ravilevu Nature Reserve expands, due to dalo and yaqona production, it has affected ecosystem services provided by these natural resources, especially watershed protection. This in turn could lead the island into a crisis. The reserves on the island marked by the Blue Line boundary are part of Fiji's largest reserves.

The Taveuni Forest Reserve, established in 1914, has a total land area of 11,291 hectares and the Ravilevu Nature Reserve, established in 1959, is 4,019 hectares in area. Also included as one of the reserves or protected areas is the Bouma National Heritage Park established in 1991. The reserves are set aside and protected for the conservation of biodiversity and natural processes of the forest. But as farmers move further inland in search for better soil fertility to expand farmlands, sections of the reserves have been illegally cleared. This has led to the loss of forest cover in water catchment areas, and as a result, locations such as the Vuna district are now experiencing dry streams.

Ministry of Fisheries and Forest senior official, Maleli Nakasava said, "There are farms in the Vuna district that have crossed the Blue Line boundary and are farming within the reserves and near water catchment areas; because of these, two creeks have dried up. If this continues, what is happening in Vuna will happen to the rest of Taveuni." "We're almost at the point of forcefully removing people and their farms from the reserve. It's difficult because we're also dealing with people's livelihood. We've warned them and have given them time to move out." Freshwater ecosystems are also key destinations for tourists to Taveuni's such as the Lake Tagimoucia located some 800 metres in elevation in the upper reaches of the Wainikeli district. Formed from a volcanic crater, the environment around the lake and within the Ravilevu Nature Reserve and reserved forest is known for its rich biodiversity and the presence of rare plants such as the Tagimoucia flower (Medinilla waterhousei), only found in Taveuni, above 600 metres altitude.

According to the Ecosystems and Socio-Economic Resilience Analysis and Mapping (ESRAM) Report for Taveuni published in 2020, satellite imagery of Lake Tagimoucia in July 2016 and January 1999 showed a reduction in the lake levels and wetland vegetation during the 2016 drought period following Tropical Cyclone (TC) Winston. It is evident climate change adds an additional stressor to unsustainable land use practices already at play. Achieving a balance between environmental protection and economic development is a challenge for the island. "The main tourist attraction for Taveuni is not the beaches or the hotels, it's the Tagimoucia flower endemic to the island. Its income for the people – we have tour operators and rental companies that help tourists get around the island. But if the Tagimoucia lake dries up, tourism will be affected as well as income for many," said Mr Nakasava. "The encroachment of the reserves can lead Taveuni to a crisis in the next five to ten years." Chairman for the Taveuni Advisory Council for Delaivuna farmers, Ram Sidal said, "Most of these farmers come from outside Taveuni to farm here and they care more about their income and not so much about the protected reserves, while farmers from Taveuni know the protocol and what to do."

While many attempt to shift the blame on stakeholders and local communities, they all agree the reserves must be protected to build their resilience to climate change impacts and for the future. Silas Reddy, 49-year-old farmer from Qarawalu in the Vuna district, feels there needs to be a solution that's good for the environment and good for livelihoods.

"Farmers move inland for soil fertility and end up crossing the Blue Line boundary. It would be good if farmers are introduced to crops that can still grow on their farm after a harvest and there is a market for it so there is continuous cash flow. At the end of the day, these farmers must buy uniforms for their children, they must pay bills and pay labour. The solution needs to be one that is good for the environment and good for the people and their livelihood," said Mr. Reddy. "A lot of the farmers are aware of the Blue Line boundary, and they only know it by name and what has been told to them, but they can't identify where it is or locate the physical marking. After TC Winston, the markings disappeared because of the damage caused by the cyclone," he added. The markings were redone by forest wardens, a position created two years ago by the Ministry of Fisheries and Forest to help maintain the blue markings, raise awareness on the protection of the Blue Line boundary and support the policing of the reserves. Forest wardens are appointed by landowning units within the reserves.

This is a key priority in Fiji's National Forest Policy; to build capacity and support forest owners to sustainably manage their forests. Maravu Ligani of Vuna and his two sons have taken on this responsibility, as forest wardens, to assist in the policing of forest laws in Taveuni and ensure the visibility of the blue markings, physical blue marks trees about 100 meters apart. Mr Ligani said, "It's painful to see native trees being cleared and Tropical Cyclone Winston worsened its impact, and the use and overuse of chemical/fertilisers in farmlands in or near the Reserves is damaging the soil, the trees/plants, and animals." "It will take centuries for the forest to fully recover from this damage and it will need care and monitoring. It's good to see NGOs come in to help raise awareness on the reserves because many need to understand the importance of these trees – those in the village/communities, farmers, leaseholders, resort owners, tourism operators, students, everyone," With the positions being recently created, forest wardens are working through logistical challenges such as transportation to the reserves.

The ministry has plans to recruit more forest wardens to serve both ends of the island and provide a vehicle to support their work. Mr Ligani and his sons provide community awareness on the limits of forest harvesting activities, awareness on environmental standards and services as well as forest conservation. While they do not hold the power to remove people who have encroached into the reserve, they monitor forest harvesting operations and report any illegal forest-related activities to the ministry. Mr Nakasava said, "We will work with other government agencies and all relevant authorities on the island to enforce the Forest Act 1992. We are also providing technical support to the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) for implementation of the Kiwa Initiative and French GEF funded Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation Plus (PEBACC+) Project. We're looking at the buffer zones located 100 to 200 meters before the Blue Line boundary where we are introducing the concept of agroforestry to help protect the two reserves. "We're advising communities to raise seedlings that can also provide the means to support some of the replanting activities beyond the PEBACC+ Project." The PEBACC+ projec works to strengthen the resilience of ecosystems, economies, and people to the impacts of climate change. In Fiji, it is focused on agroforestry and reforestation in key water catchment areas. PEBACC+ Project Manager, Mrs. Loraini Sivo said, "Encroachment of the reserves will result in the loss of primary forest cover that can significantly affect the role of forests in the water cycle, leading to water shortages and many other problems."

"We're working closely with the Cakaudrove Provincial Office Conservation and the Ministry of Fisheries and Forest to replant native trees in degraded land in selected sites. We're also engaging the Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways to train and build the capacity of farmers on the agroforestry, as well as raise awareness on the Blue Line boundary."

The project has received 'free, prior and informed consent' across 13 communities to begin, has so far completed 30 hectares of community reforestation, initiated support to organic farmers and women and youth groups for a mangrove trial planting initiative.

PEBACC+ is a regional project implemented by SPREP and funded by the Kiwa Initiative – through its donors the European Union, Agence française de développement, Global Affairs Canada, Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade – with co-financing from the French Facility for Global Environment. This four-year project is implemented in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna, and will develop, sustain, and institutionalize the Ecosystem-based Approach (EbA) to climate change adaptation in these five countries and territories. SETAITA TAVANABOLA is the communications officer of PEBACC+ Project, Secretariat of the Pacific

Local Action: Restoring Coastal Ecosystems and Bolstering Climate Resilience in the Pacific,
Conservation International Asia-Pacific, 30.09.24

https://www.conservation.org/asia-pacific/blog/bolstering-climate-resilience-in-the-pacific

In July 2024, Conservation International signed an agreement with the Kiwa Initiative to strengthen the climate resilience of coastal communities across the Pacific by increasing the local value, management and restoration of coastal areas.

Why coastal ecosystems? These areas, including coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass beds, support a rich diversity of marine life, acting as nurseries and feeding grounds for numerous species that local communities rely on for food and livelihoods. They also serve as natural barriers, protecting shorelines from erosion and extreme weather events such as storms and tsunamis. Beyond their ecological roles, coastal ecosystems hold deep cultural significance for many Pacific Island communities, forming a key part of their heritage and traditions. In fact, coastal ecosystems matter to us all – as a natural climate supersolution, storing large amounts of carbon.

This new agreement will expand and build on Conservation International's existing work across the Pacific. Under the agreement, Conservation International will work directly with communities and traditional leaders in Fiji, Samoa and Timor-Leste to restore and better manage coral reefs and mangroves while scaling up sustainable income-generating activities. The project aims to reduce local communities' vulnerability to climate change by bolstering ecosystem services from restored reefs and mangroves, reduce harmful human activities that damage and degrade coastal habitats, and develop financing solutions to sustain and amplify climate change adaptation actions over time.

The Kiwa Initiative is a multi-donor program leveraging nature-based solutions to build the climate change resilience of Pacific Island ecosystems, communities and economies. The initiative is supported by the European Union, France, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Read more about the Kiwa Initiative here.

Date: October 3rd, 2024
Country: Vanuatu

Vanuatu looks to nature for sustainable development solutions, Daily Post Vanuatu, 03.10.24

Designing projects based on agreed standards and criteria for NbS will help ensure successful and sustainable outcomes that benefit people and improve the health of the natural environment. © SPREP/Savvy Vanuatu.

https://www.dailypost.vu/news/vanuatu-looks-to-nature-for-sustainable-developmentsolutions/article_20686726-9067-5dd6-b6e1-3b823662e2fd.html

The value of using natural resources to address sustainable development challenges, such as climate change, food security, and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), was examined at the "Aligning Ecosystembased Adaptation and Nature-based Solutions in Vanuatu" workshop, held in Port Vila on 5 and 6 September.

The high-level workshop was facilitated by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to improve understanding of the overlap between Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) approaches. The goal was to enable positive environmental and socio-economic outcomes for Vanuatu communities. Over forty representatives from Vanuatu government ministries, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), national project managers, academic institutions, and regional and international agencies collaborated to assess how these tools could be applied within Vanuatu's context. The workshop participants applied these tools to various national and provincial projects to strengthen sustainable development, protect biodiversity, and improve resilience against climate change and natural disasters.

The Minister of Climate Change and Energy, John Salong, told participants, "We need to ensure that nature-based solutions are part of every government department's approach and part of developers' plans." "They are key concepts driving many of the major development projects underway in Vanuatu right now." The Minister highlighted that EbA, NbS, and biodiversity conservation are central to sustainable development and embedded in the environment pillar of Vanuatu's National Sustainable Development Plan 2016–2030 (the People's Plan). At the workshop's opening, Acting Director General (DG) for the Ministry of Climate Change, Abraham Nasak, said, "It's in our interest that we continue to have a clean, well-functioning environment and ecosystems as the foundation of our development. Our future must be a future based on nature." "Our island ecosystems, both on land and in the sea, along with their biodiversity, provide food security, shelter, cultural needs, and economic benefits for our communities and the nation as a whole." He stated that the challenges the nation and local communities face due to climate change require responses that protect and sustainably use ecosystems and biodiversity.

Ken Kassem, Project Manager at SPREP for the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative, spoke of the need for approaches that go beyond incremental results and aim for long-term impact. He gave an overview of the EbA process and the importance of planning for the future. "We not only need to understand the vulnerabilities but also identify the opportunities we have to address these challenges and make appropriate decisions," said Mr. Kassem.

Nature-based solutions involve the protection, management, or restoration of natural ecosystems to address societal challenges, improving human well-being while also increasing biodiversity. As interest in NbS initiatives grows, assessing how well such projects deliver on these goals is essential. Participants were introduced to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Global Standard for NbS, which serves as a global benchmark for good NbS projects. The IUCN NbS selfassessment framework was explored during the workshop to improve understanding of the eight global NbS criteria. It was acknowledged that elements of the global framework may not always apply in the Pacific context, and a Pacific or Vanuatu guide might be more suitable for assessing good NbS practices.

Reflections and lessons were shared from NbS and EbA activities in Vanuatu, including the ridge-toreef and ecosystem-based management approach of the BIEM Initiative on Malekula and Pentecost, and coastal management and riparian restoration efforts by the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change plus (PEBACC+) project on Efate and Tanna Island.

The workshop also introduced the Promoting Pacific Islands Nature-Based Solutions (PPIN) project, which focuses on identifying policy areas to mainstream NbS in Vanuatu. Group discussions helped identify gaps and capacity needs, which will guide the development of educational materials, training programmes, and sector-specific guidelines. Participants discussed the need to move away from isolated approaches to policy development and implementation. The importance of working with sectors beyond traditional conservation was stressed as necessary to attract investment and large-scale financing for NbS.

The workshop was a collaboration between SPREP's BIEM Initiative, part of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme funded by the European Union and the Government of Sweden; the multi-partner (IUCN, SPREP, Pacific Community, GGGI) PPIN project, funded by NZ MFAT; and the PEBACC+ project, implemented by SPREP with funding from the Kiwa Initiative and the French Facility for Global Environment.

Date: October 3rd, 2024
Country: Vanuatu

French Development Agency re-establishes presence in Vanuatu, Daily Post Vanuatu, 03.10.24

DG Noah Patrick Kouback, Bénédicte Alsac, AFD representative in Vanuatu, Sébastien Jaunatre, Deputy Head of Mission, French Embassy, Grégoire Bonhomme, Head of Project, French Embassy.

https://www.dailypost.vu/news/french-development-agency-re-establishes-presence-invanuatu/article_a2e1c31d-f442-5e92-b406-dd4d2b4d0b0c.html

Ms Bénédicte Alsac was formally introduced to the Director General (DG) of Vanuatu's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade, Mr. Noah Patrick Kouback, on 24 September. While AFD has continued its work in Vanuatu, it hasn't had an in-country representative for several years.

On 24 September, the French Embassy introduced Ms Alsac, AFD Group Representative in Vanuatu, to DG Kouback and his team. A Presidential promise realised Ms Alsac's appointment follows French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to Vanuatu in 2023, during which he announced that an AFD officer would be posted in Port Vila. She listened to the government's development priorities and provided an overview of AFD's projects in Vanuatu. Ms Alsac and DG Kouback also discussed Prime Minister (PM) Charlot Salwai's upcoming visit to Paris, which will include a meeting with AFD's DG, Mr. Remy Rioux. AFD's projects in Vanuatu include ongoing work with the National University of Vanuatu and regional initiatives such as the Sustainable Waste Action Plan (SWAP), CLIPSSA (Pacific Climate, Local Knowledge and Adaptation Strategies), and the Kiwa Initiative.

AFD is also preparing new projects in healthcare and other key infrastructure sectors. The AFD Group is committed to supporting the Government of Vanuatu's priorities with a comprehensive, sustainable approach for the benefit of the ni-Vanuatu population. Ms Alsac is a graduate of ESSCA business school and a Chartered Financial Analyst. She has extensive experience as a project manager, particularly in rural projects related to biodiversity, forests, and local community development. Before her arrival in Vanuatu, she worked as an expert on biodiversity and indigenous peoples at AFD headquarters in Paris. AFD implements France's international development and solidarity policies.

Through its support of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), the public sector, and its research and publications, AFD promotes and accelerates transitions towards a fairer, more resilient world. It also provides training in sustainable development (through AFD Campus) and runs awareness-raising activities in France. With their partners, they are developing shared solutions with and for the people of the Global South. AFD teams are currently working on more than 2,700 projects in 120 countries and French Overseas Departments and Territories. They are also committed to protecting global public goods, including climate stability, biodiversity, peace, gender equality, education, and healthcare. In this way, AFD contributes to France's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for a shared future.

PEBACC+ project
Radio Rythme Bleu, 08.10.24

Podcast not available

Journaliste: L'Initiative Kiwa met en œuvre des projets qui déploient des Solutions fondées sur la Nature. L'objectif est de rendre les écosystèmes plus résilients face au changement climatique au travers de solutions simples fondées sur la nature et réplicable par les populations. François Tronc est coordonnateur du projet PEBACC+ pour la Nouvelle-Calédonie.

François Tron: PEBACC+ c'est un projet d'adaptation au changement climatique par des solutions fondées sur la nature dans le Pacifique, qui est porté par le PROE, Programme Régional Océanien pour l'Environnement, qui est une organisation de coopération régionale. C'est un projet régional avec Fidji, le Vanuatu, les Solomons Island, Wallis et Futuna et la Nouvelle Calédonie, s'adapter au changement climatique par les Solutions fondées sur la Nature.

Journaliste: Depuis quand est ce que ce projet a été élargi à la Nouvelle-Calédonie?

François Tron: Effectivement, PEBACC+ parce qu'il y a un PEBACC d'origine qui a commencé en 2015 sur les trois pays mélanésien voisin sur le financement de la coopération allemande pour le climat. Et depuis l'année dernière, PEBACC+ intègre effectivement Wallis-et-futuna et la Nouvelle-Calédonie. Journaliste: En Nouvelle Calédonie. Comment va se traduire PEBACC+ plus? François Tron: On a trois activités sur ce projet PEBACC+ plus. D'une part, les activités de démonstration terrain, notamment la restauration des mangroves et de la végétation du trait de côte dans le Grand Nouméa. On a également une analyse de résilience à l'échelle du pays pour préparer une échelle d'intervention supérieure et accompagner l'intégration des Solutions fondées sur la Nature dans les politiques et les stratégies d'adaptation au changement climatique.

Journaliste: Qu'est ce qu'on appelle les Solutions fondées sur la Nature?

François Tron: Ça ressemble beaucoup à tout ce qu'on a fait jusqu'à présent en faveur de l'environnement, de la nature, de la biodiversité. Des Solutions fondées sur la Nature, c'est toutes les actions concrètes de protection et de restauration de la nature, non seulement pour la valeur d'existence de la biodiversité et les espèces menacées, mais aussi parce que la nature nous rend un certain nombre de services. C'est ce qu'on appelle les défis sociétaux, l'adaptation et l'atténuation du changement climatique, la gestion des risques naturels, la sécurité alimentaire, la santé publique ou aussi la sécurité des ressources en eau.

Journaliste: Dans ces Solutions fondées sur la Nature, il y a aussi un. Elles doivent être simples, simples à reproduire. C'est ça le principe.

François Tron: Effectivement, les solutions très concrètes, très pratiques, efficaces et pas cher. Après, dans la réalité, le monde est un petit peu plus complexe que ça. En effet, ça peut prendre un certain temps avant qu'une graine devienne un arbre et qui rende tous les services qu'on attend d'un arbre.

Journaliste: Mais il y a une fonction de démonstration, non?

François Tron: Pour une des trois activités, ce sont les activités de démonstration. Donc effectivement, quand on parle de démonstration, il faut bien entendu que on soit à peu près certain qu'on ait une efficacité sur un sujet particulier. Donc s'il s'agit de restaurer la végétation littorale, c'est effectivement pour protéger un trait de côte qui s'érode. Donc il faut qu'on ait un peu d'efficacité, il faut que ce soit visible, il faut qu'on ait des indicateurs de court terme qui soient explicites de manière à ce que, dans le concept du démonstrateur, on puisse en inspirer les décideurs pour passer demain à une autre échelle d'intervention.

Journaliste: Pour le moment, les travaux sont centrés un peu sur la mangrove de Ouemo, le littoral un peu sur Sainte Marie et Côte Blanche et Mont-Dore.

François Tron: Donc on a effectivement une intervention sur l'estuaire de la coulée, tant sur la mangrove de la coulée en rive gauche que sur le trait de côte de la Pointe d'Auge. Donc c'est toujours la même zone, mais on a également des activités de démonstration terrain dans les autres provinces, à savoir sur Kouaoua pour la sécurisation des ressources en eau par la maîtrise du feu et la lutte contre les espèces envahissantes, l'agroforesterie et aussi aux îles Loyautés sur Ouvéa pour la protection du trait de côte par la restauration de la végétation littorale. On s'efforce de travailler avec l'ensemble des trois provinces qui sont les autorités compétentes en matière d'environnement. Journaliste: François Tron, coordonnateur du projet pour la Nouvelle-Calédonie.

Date: October 16, 2024
Country: Fiji

Lack of organic movement for Fiji in the Pacific
Fiji Village - 16/10/24

Fiji's organic movement in the Pacific region is one of the areas that the Pacific Organic Learning Farm Network (POFLN) under The Pacific Community is working on to strengthen.

While speaking to fijivillage News at the 2024 Agriculture Show, Pacific Organic Learning Farm Network Income Coordinator Emosi Cagi says this is an area where Fiji is lacking in the Pacific as well as sustainable farming practices and also safeguards the biodiversity of our resources.
Cagi says they now have a couple of projects that have been around in their division, which is also linked through to these main visions and objectives of trying to safeguard biodiversity and also our water resources, mainly on natural resources that we have in the Pacific region that we always treasure much.
He says these are the areas they think that they would come and share with people during the event this week adding they are fortunate to be working with the Minister of Agriculture and other ministry divisions to move this forward.
He adds one of the main challenges now for them is to try to educate or to share knowledge with the youth as most of the youths nowadays have their own thoughts of how they live their lifestyle and also how they do farming practices.
Cagi says they need to drill some of these youths to take the next step forward as we won't be here for a lifetime, but the youths are the hope to carry forward the motivations, objectives and visions and spread it out to their peers.
The Agriculture Show is currently underway at the Valelevu ground and will finish this Friday.

Date: October 29, 2024
Country: Fiji

Award-Winning Mudrenicagi Farm transforms into hub for organic agriculture training
Fiji Village - 29/10/24

Mudrenicagi Organic Farm in Bua, which won the Ministry of Agriculture's Organic Farmer of the Year Award, has now transformed into a learning centre for local agriculture after launching training programmes for 50 smallholder farmers in Northern Fiji.

The Pacific Community says they are proudly celebrating the owners and SPC's Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network Project's Farm Advisors Karen and Arthur Mills.

Karen Mills says this award really isn't an individual award, it's an award that recognises the team effort on theirfamily-based farm.

She says receiving this award really validates the effort they have put into their farm journey and encourages them to continue working towards their vision of a successful, sustainable, regenerative organic farm and training centre.

SPC says the Mills have committed the last nine years to organic farming, integrating permaculture principles with local traditional practices.

They say the backbone of the Mudrenicagi farm is a 25-acre coconut polyculture food forest.

SPC says the three to six-year-old coconut trees are planted on contour and intercropped with pineapple, banana, vudi, citrus, noni, various fruit trees, cassava, taro, kumala, yaqona, breadfruit, yasi, and a small trial of coffee and cacao. Additionally, 200 new vanilla vines have been planted on Gliricidia host trees within the coconut system.

They say the farm also hosts 40 beehives and operates a small poultry farm with 300 laying hens, producing around 260 eggs daily. The hens are kept in secure night shelters and have access to large outdoor runs during the day.

SPC says Karen and Arthur's journey in organic farming has yielded remarkable results, contributing to the health of their soil, the vitality of their crops, and their family's well-being.

They add by focusing on organic practices, they are actively helping to mitigate the impacts of climate change while ensuring food security for their rural community.

Project Country Coordinator Emosi Cagi says the Mills are transforming farming in Northern Fiji.

He says as trainers and mentors, they equip smallholder farmers with vital skills for a changing climate.

Cagi says their leadership is essential; we need more advocates for organic agriculture that prioritises health of Fijian soil and economic resilience.

Date: October 31st, 2024
Country: PNG

Kiwa Initiative Workshop promotes gender equity, disability and social inclusion in climate resilience solutions,
Post-Courier, 31.10.24

https://www.postcourier.com.pg/kiwa-initiative-workshop-promotes-gender-equity-disability-andsocial-inclusion-in-climate-resilience-solutions/

The Kiwa Initiative through the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) convened its third regional workshop focused on integrating Gender Equity, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) and human rights within Nature- based Solutions (NbS) for climate resilience.

This pivotal workshop gathers most of the Kiwa project teams and aimed at sharing lessons learned so far from the work undertaken to better integrate GEDSI in Kiwa funded projects. By doing so, this regional event aims at reinforcing the initiative's commitment to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly on Climate Action, Gender Equality, and Partnerships.

Pacific Island leaders have pledged their support to gender equality through various commitments, including the Pacific Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights 2018-2030 and the Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2016-2025. The workshop seeks to enhance regional capacities and foster cooperation to effectively address GEDSI issues in climate adaptation projects.

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Group representative based in Fiji, Elodie Vitalis in her opening remarks stated, "This workshop presents an opportunity to exchange experiences and knowledge regarding GEDSI as well as what has been achieved and the challenges faced. It is essential that we collectively learn from our wide variety of experiences and readily overcome barriers together. This also provides an additional opportunity of bringing all actors committed to this topic together in a dedicated community of practice, fostering peer-to-peer exchange on new learnings and experiences. This is essential for participants as they express their needs so that they can be supported effectively according to their contexts."

Facilitated by Talanoa Consulting and SPREP, the workshop gathered 25 representatives from partners, project management teams, and GEDSI focal points under the Kiwa Initiative, which currently supports 17 local and 5 regional projects across 16 Pacific Island Countries and Territories. Participants engaged in discussions on integrating GEDSI into NbS, sharing valuable lessons learned and developing key recommendations to guide future initiatives. The workshop engaged experts on the empowerment of marginalized groups, shared insights through storytelling from the field, created actionable recommendations for GEDSI and human rights integration at project and regional levels, and enhanced GEDSI progress through Environmental and Social Commitments.

Marshall Islands Conservation Society Executive Director, Dolores Debrum-Kattil speaking about the workshop said, "Each community is unique, so it's important to educate ourselves before engaging with them. We must consider their social, environmental, and economic contexts and keep our expectations realistic. When communities are given the opportunity and support to contribute, they will participate. We always prioritise diverse voices, ensuring that the perspectives of women and girls are included. Our experience shows that beginning consultations with GEDSI topics and allowing for self-identification fosters meaningful discussions, encourages engagement, and adds an element of enjoyment to the process." SPREP Project Coordinator for the Kiwa Initiative, Mathilde Kraft said, "It is wonderful to see NbS practitioners from across coming together to share their experience and support each other in finding new ideas and strategies to ensure their Kiwa projects have fair benefits for people and nature. There is much to learn from the efforts and dedication of this community of professionals to advance GEDSI in Pacific NbS."

The outcomes from this workshop will be promoted regionally and internationally, amplifying the voices of Pacific communities on GEDSI, climate change, and biodiversity, and informing future initiatives. The workshop was hosted at the Holiday Inn, Suva, Fiji on 22 and 23 October 2024....PACNEWS/SPREP For more information, please contact: SPREP - Project Coordinator, Kiwa Initiative, Matilde Kraft at mathildek@sprep.org SPREP - Communications Officer, PEBACC+, Setaita Tavanabola at setaitat@sprep.org

Renforcer le changement : Le troisième atelier régional de l'initiative Kiwa fait progresser l'équité entres les sexes, le handicap et l'inclusion sociale dans les solutions fondées sur la nature pour la résilience climatique, sprep.org 31.10.24

https://www.sprep.org/news/empowering-change-third-kiwa-initiative-regional-workshop-advancesgender-equity-disability-and-social-inclusion-in-nature-based-solutions-for-climate-resilience

Écosystèmes insulaires et océaniques L'Initiative Kiwa, par l'intermédiaire du Secrétariat du Programme régional océanien de l'environnement (SPREP), a organisé son troisième atelier régional axé sur l'intégration de l'équité entre les sexes, du handicap et de l'inclusion sociale (GEDSI) et des droits de l'homme dans les solutions fondées sur la nature (NbS) pour la résilience climatique.
Cet atelier pivot rassemble la plupart des équipes de projet Kiwa et vise à partager les leçons tirées jusqu'à présent du travail entrepris pour mieux intégrer la GEDSI dans les projets financés par Kiwa. Ce faisant, cet événement régional vise à renforcer l'engagement de l'initiative à atteindre les Objectifs de développement durable des Nations Unies, en particulier en ce qui concerne l'action climatique, l'égalité des sexes et les partenariats. Les dirigeants des îles du Pacifique ont promis leur soutien à l'égalité des sexes par le biais de divers engagements, notamment la Plateforme d'action du Pacifique pour l'égalité des sexes et les droits humains des femmes 2018-2030 et le Cadre du Pacifique pour les droits des personnes handicapées 2016-2025. L'atelier vise à renforcer les capacités régionales et à favoriser la coopération pour traiter efficacement les questions liées à l'ISDH dans les projets d'adaptation au climat.
La représentante du Groupe de l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD) basée à Fidji, Mme Elodie Vitalis, a déclaré dans son discours d'ouverture : « Cet atelier est l'occasion d'échanger des expériences et des connaissances sur l'initiative GEDSI, ainsi que sur les résultats obtenus et les défis à relever. Il est essentiel que nous tirions collectivement les leçons de nos expériences très diverses et que nous surmontions ensemble les obstacles. Il s'agit également d'une occasion supplémentaire de rassembler tous les acteurs engagés dans ce domaine au sein d'une communauté de pratique dédiée, en favorisant les échanges entre pairs sur les nouveaux apprentissages et les nouvelles expériences. Ceci est essentiel pour les participants qui expriment leurs besoins afin qu'ils puissent être soutenus efficacement en fonction de leurs contextes.

Animé par Talanoa Consulting et le SPREP, l'atelier a réuni 25 représentants de partenaires, d'équipes de gestion de projet et de points focaux GEDSI dans le cadre de l'initiative Kiwa, qui soutient actuellement 17 projets locaux et 5 projets régionaux dans 16 pays et territoires insulaires du Pacifique. Les participants ont discuté de l'intégration de l'initiative GEDSI dans les stratégies nationales de développement, partagé les enseignements tirés et élaboré des recommandations clés pour guider les initiatives futures. L'atelier a fait appel à des experts en matière d'autonomisation des groupes marginalisés, a partagé des points de vue grâce à des récits de terrain, a créé des recommandations exploitables pour l'intégration de l'initiative GEDSI et des droits de l'homme au niveau des projets et des régions, et a renforcé les progrès de l'initiative GEDSI par le biais d'engagements environnementaux et sociaux. Mme Dolores Debrum-Kattil, directrice exécutive de la Société de conservation des Îles Marshall, a déclaré à propos de l'atelier : « Chaque communauté est unique, il est donc important de s'informer avant de s'engager avec elle. Nous devons tenir compte de leur contexte social, environnemental et économique et garder des attentes réalistes.

Lorsque les communautés ont la possibilité et le soutien nécessaires pour contribuer, elles participent. Nous donnons toujours la priorité à la diversité des voix, en veillant à ce que les points de vue des femmes et des filles soient pris en compte. Notre expérience montre que le fait de commencer les consultations par des sujets GEDSI et de permettre l'auto-identification favorise des discussions significatives, encourage l'engagement et ajoute un élément de plaisir au processus ».

La coordinatrice du projet SPREP pour l'initiative Kiwa, Mme Mathilde Kraft, a déclaré : « Il est merveilleux de voir des praticiens NbS de tous les pays se réunir pour partager leur expérience et se soutenir mutuellement dans la recherche de nouvelles idées et stratégies pour s'assurer que leurs projets Kiwa ont des retombées équitables pour les personnes et la nature. Il y a beaucoup à apprendre des efforts et du dévouement de cette communauté de professionnels pour faire progresser la GEDSI dans les NbS du Pacifique Les résultats de cet atelier seront promus au niveau régional et international, amplifiant les voix des communautés du Pacifique sur l'initiative GEDSI, le changement climatique et la biodiversité, et informant les initiatives futures. L'atelier s'est tenu au Holiday Inn, Suva, Fidji, les 22 et 23 octobre 2024.

Pour plus d'informations, veuillez contacter SPREP - Coordinatrice de projet, Initiative Kiwa, Mme Matilde Kraft à mathildek@sprep.org SPREP - Chargée de communication, PEBACC+, Mme Setaita Tavanabola à setaitat@sprep.org

A propos de l'Initiative Kiwa - L'Initiative Kiwa - Solutions basées sur la nature (NbS) pour la résilience climatique vise à renforcer la résilience des écosystèmes, des communautés et des économies des îles du Pacifique face au changement climatique grâce aux NbS en protégeant, en gérant durablement et en restaurant la biodiversité. Elle repose sur un accès simplifié au financement des actions d'adaptation au changement climatique et de conservation de la biodiversité pour les gouvernements locaux et nationaux, la société civile et les organisations régionales dans les pays et territoires insulaires du Pacifique. L'initiative est financée par l'Union européenne, l'Agence française de développement (AFD), Affaires mondiales Canada (GAC), le ministère australien des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce (DFAT) et le ministère néo-zélandais des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce (MFAT). Il a établi des partenariats avec la Communauté du Pacifique (CPS), le Secrétariat du Programme régional océanien de l'environnement (PROE) et le Bureau régional océanien de l'Union internationale pour la conservation de la nature (UICN - ORO). Pour plus d'informations : L'initiative Kiwa - La résilience climatique dans les îles du Pacifique grâce aux solutions basées sur la nature (NbS) A propos du SPREP - Le SPREP est l'organisation régionale créée par les gouvernements et les administrations du Pacifique et chargée de protéger et de gérer l'environnement et les ressources naturelles du Pacifique. La création du PROE en 1993 est un signal clair adressé à la communauté internationale de l'engagement profond des gouvernements et administrations des îles du Pacifique en faveur d'une meilleure gestion de l'environnement dans le contexte du développement durable. L'orientation stratégique du PROE est clairement définie dans le plan stratégique 2017-2026 du PROE. Ce plan définit le mandat, la vision et les programmes de l'organisation, et met fortement l'accent sur la fourniture efficace de services aux pays et territoires membres du PROE. www.sprep.org

Date: Doesn't appear
Country: Donor

Initiative Kiwa : renforcer la résilience climatique des écosystèmes, des économies et des communautés des îles du Pacifique

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway/kiwa-initiative-strengthenclimate-resilience-pacific-islands-ecosystems-economies-and-communities_en?prefLang=sl

Le projet vise à renforcer la résilience au changement climatique des écosystèmes, des économies et des communautés des îles du Pacifique en promouvant et en soutenant les solutions basées sur la nature (NbS). L'initiative Kiwa est la première coopération entre la France, l'Union européenne, l'Australie, la Nouvelle-Zélande et le Canada. Elle est gérée par l'Agence française de développement (AFD). En savoir plus sur l'Alliance verte et bleue pour le Pacifique.

Plantations à Tene avec le projet PERENNE,
La Calédonie agricole, octobre/novembre 2024

Des plantations pour **préserver l'environnement**

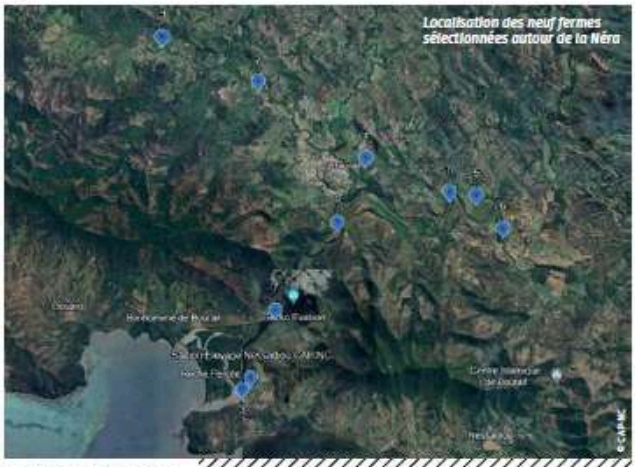
Samedi 14 septembre, la CAP-NC et WWF, en partenariat avec le RSMA (régiment du service militaire adapté), ont organisé à Téné une plantation écocitoyenne sur l'exploitation de Rudy Roy, agriculteur et élu de la CAP-NC, dans le cadre du projet PERENNE financé par l'initiative Kiwa. 1 200 arbres ont été plantés sur une surface de 5 500 m², permettant ainsi de restaurer 800 mètres de berge. 70 personnes ont participé au chantier qui permettra à terme de mieux protéger les sols et de préserver les ressources et en eau et la biodiversité.

Pour en savoir + **sur le projet PERENNE, rendez-vous en page 10**

Au chevet des berges de la Néra avec le projet PERENNE,
La Calédonie agricole, octobre/novembre 2024

Au chevet des berges de la Néra avec le projet PERENNE

Protéger et restaurer les zones boisées, ou ripisylves, des berges de la Néra, tel est l'objectif du projet PERENNE. Lancé en mai 2023 par la CAP-NC et le WWF, ce programme cofinancé par l'Initiative s'apprête à ouvrir son premier chantier participatif de plantation.


Localisation des neuf fermes sélectionnées autour de la Néra

Rempart contre l'érosion et garante de la qualité de l'eau, des bassins versants jusqu'au lagon, la ripisylve joue une fonction naturelle essentielle pour la biodiversité et l'homme. Un rôle que les agriculteurs de la plaine de la Néra, en première ligne face aux inondations et aux pertes de sol agricole qu'elles entraînent, ont semble-t-il bien compris. Ils ont en effet été nombreux à répondre à l'appel à manifestation d'intérêt lancé en amont du projet PERENNE afin d'identifier les exploitations qui accueilleront ce programme d'expérimentation d'une solution fondée sur la nature, à savoir la restauration de la ripisylve. « *Neuf d'entre eux ont été sélectionnés*, explique Sriani Sadimoen, chargée de mission développement durable à la CAP-NC. *Chez chacun, un chantier participatif de plantation sera organisé. Le premier a eu lieu en septembre.* »

DEUX PÉPINIÈRES ASSOCIATIVES MOBILISÉES

D'ici là, la préparation des 16 000 plants nécessaires se poursuit dans les pépinières des deux associations partenaires du projet. Il s'agit de Bwârâ Tortues marines (la Roche Percée, à Bourail), qui participe depuis 2008 au reboisement des bords de plage et sentiers du littoral pour maintenir un habitat propice à la ponte des tortues, et de Wâ Érétéu (tribu de Gohapin, à Poya), partenaire de longue date du WWF pour la récolte de semences et la production de plantes endémiques. Avec l'accompagnement de la CAP-NC, elles cultivent actuellement de jeunes plants de palétuvier aveuglant, de ficus papier de verre ou encore de bourao. « *Des espèces sélectionnées après un diagnostic de la flore déjà présente sur les rives de la Néra, mené en amont du projet* », précise la chargée de mission.

UN MODÈLE RÉPLICABLE

Coordonnés par la CAP-NC et le WWF, les neuf chantiers de plantation se dérouleront de façon échelonnée en septembre 2024, puis d'avril à juillet 2025. Selon les exploitations, ils s'étendront sur des portions de 30 à 800 mètres le long de la Néra ou de ses affluents et feront appel à la participation de bénévoles (citoyens, scolaires, alternants de la CAP-NC, partenaires du WWF, etc.). S'en suivra une phase de suivi qui sera menée par le réseau REPAIR. Des visites régulières seront ainsi programmées jusqu'au mois de décembre 2025 afin de surveiller la bonne adaptation des végétaux. Ce retour d'expérience permettra, à terme, de présenter des cas types, « *sous la forme de fiches techniques par exemple*, indique Sriani Sadimoen, *afin de faciliter la diffusion de cette solution fondée sur la nature et de permettre sa réplication ailleurs* ».

TOUT SAVOIR SUR L'INITIATIVE KIWA

L'Initiative Kiwa - Des solutions fondées sur la nature (SFN) pour la résilience climatique vise à renforcer la résilience au changement climatique des écosystèmes, des communautés et des économies des îles du Pacifique grâce aux SFN en protégeant, en gérant durablement et en restaurant la biodiversité. Elle est basée sur un accès simplifié aux financements de l'adaptation au changement climatique et sur la conservation de la biodiversité pour les autorités locales, nationales, la société civile et les organisations régionales des États et territoires insulaires du Pacifique, dont les trois territoires français (Nouvelle-Calédonie, Wallis-et-Futuna et Polynésie française). L'Initiative est financée par l'Union européenne (UE), l'Agence française de développement (AFD), les Affaires mondiales Canada (GAC), le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce de l'Australie (DFAT) et le ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce de la Nouvelle-Zélande (MFAT). Elle a établi des partenariats avec la Communauté du Pacifique (CPS), le Programme régional océanien de l'environnement (PROE) et le bureau régional pour l'Océanie de l'Union internationale pour la conservation de la nature (UICN).

Plus d'informations sur www.kiwainitiative.org

Empowering Change: Third Kiwa Initiative Regional Workshop Advances Gender Equity, Disability and Social Inclusion in Nature-Based Solutions for climate resilience, PIPAP.SPREP.ORG 02.11.24

https://pipap.sprep.org/news/empowering-change-third-kiwa-initiative-regional-workshopadvances-gender-equity-disability

The Kiwa Initiative through the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) convened its third regional workshop focused on integrating Gender Equity, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) and human rights within Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for climate resilience.

This pivotal workshop gathers most of the Kiwa project teams and aimed at sharing lessons learned so far from the work undertaken to better integrate GEDSI in Kiwa funded projects. By doing so, this regional event aims at reinforcing the initiative's commitment to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly on Climate Action, Gender Equality, and Partnerships. Pacific Island leaders have pledged their support to gender equality through various commitments, including the Pacific Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights 2018-2030 and the Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2016-2025.

The workshop seeks to enhance regional capacities and foster cooperation to effectively address GEDSI issues in climate adaptation projects

Kiwa grantee inspires rangers at World Ranger Congress in Fiji, IUCN 06.11.24

https://iucn.org/story/202411/kiwa-grantee-inspires-rangers-world-ranger-congress-fiji

Rangers play an important role in protecting the planet's natural resources and biodiversity. They work tirelessly to safeguard national parks, wildlife, and ecosystems, ensuring that these areas remain healthy for future generations. They make it possible to achieve global conservation targets, such as the ambitious target of protecting 30 per cent of land and oceans by 2030.

One such dedicated ranger is Mererai Nadredre, a Senior Ranger at the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park and a proud grantee of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Kiwa Initiative National Trust of Fiji (NTF). She is committed to help rangers learn new skills and gain knowledge. Ms Nadredre said it was crucial that rangers were well trained and prepared to meet the 30x30 target.

She saw the Kiwa Initiative as a key source of funding for training programmes that helped rangers grow alongside their traditional knowledge. In her role, Ms Nadredre organises programmes to raise awareness about environmental issues and invites communities to participate in activities that promote coastal resilience. "I build connections with people, which is needed for the success of the Kiwa Initiative NTF project," she explained. She stated rangers needed technical skills to do their jobs well. She mentioned ranger associations should give chances to learn and share knowledge.
"Training programmes must meet local needs and include traditional knowledge." Engaging young people is essential for the success of the Kiwa Initiative programme. Ms Nadredre emphasised the need for more workshops and programmes for children, stating, "We need more workshops and programs for children." Initiatives like "Heritage In Young Hands" have effectively involved youth in conservation efforts, helping to build accountability and connection to nature. Despite facing challenges, such as threats from fire, the Senior Ranger remains hopeful. "Even small results are worth celebrating," she said.

To further strengthen the Kiwa Initiative, she suggests creating the Fiji Islands Ranger Association to unite various environmental groups for collaboration. Dr. Madhu Rao, Chair of IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), said, "IUCN WCPA supports the work of the International Ranger Federation (IRF). They are building a skilled and diverse team of workers who can protect and manage 30 percent of the planet. We are committed to supporting these efforts." She said the ranger workforce was vital for ensuring that we achieved our global goals for protected and conserved areas; however, many endured poor terms of employment and inadequate, hazardous working conditions. "They risk and lose their lives, live under difficult conditions and spend long, arduous hours in the field- to protect wildlife and secure protected areas. "On World Ranger Day especially, we remember and pay our respects to those who have died at work in the last year, through accidents, illness and homicide," Dr. Rao highlighted. She also mentioned the world's rangers were fundamental to the recovery of nature and the successful implementation of global protected and conserved area targets. "We need to quite urgently, recognise and formalise their contributions, support the professionalisation of the ranger workforce and increase their numbers five-fold from current numbers if we want to turn the tide on biodiversity declines."

The 10th IRF World Ranger Congress (WRC) took place in Hyères, South of France, from October 7-11, 2024. As the IUCN Kiwa Initiative continues to support rangers from their various projects, it aims to save nature and assist communities, guided by the lessons learned from the WRC.

The NTF project, titled "Building coastal resilience—forest restoration, invasive management actions, and the Heritage in Young Hands Programme—of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystems," is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative. The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of IUCN.

Sanga's vision of building a better future with organic farming
Solomon Star - 12/11/24

Lesley Sanga is a farmer in Central Kwara'ae, Malaita Province. He is a former reporter of Solomon Star, but now doing what he loves most which is farming.

He is now the advisor oat the Gwaunafiu Organic Farm School in Central Kwara'ae.
In an interview with this newspaper, Sanga shared his insights of being a farmer and his roles in helping other local farmers.
His role as Farm Advisor is to teach people (local farmers) about the benefits of organic farming. His role involves supporting and guiding organic farming practices at the center, as well as helping local farmers adopt sustainable, organic methods that benefit their health and the environment.
Sanga said his motivation to focus on organic farming comes from a desire to combat non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in our communities.
"By promoting organic farming, I believe we can encourage healthier eating habits, which ultimately supports healthier lifestyles.
"My goal is to inspire others to see organic farming as a powerful way to address these health challenges," Sanga said.
Commenting on this year's World Food Day theme which is "Right to Food for a Better Life and Better Future", Sanga said World Food Day is essential for raising awareness about agriculture's role in a healthier future.
"However, one downside is that the event is very centralized, mainly celebrated in Honiara.
"I believe it would be more impactful if the celebration could reach the provincial levels, where people can directly benefit from and participate in these discussions about food and agriculture," Sanga said.
Sanga is currently in Nadi, Fiji attending an annual planning meeting program where he presents the experiences and plans of Gwaunafiu Organic Farm School.
He said attending the program is an opportunity to discuss our goals for the future and how this network can collaborate closely with the Gwaunafiu center, where the focus is on strengthening organic farming practices in Central Kwara'ae.
He added that the program is an incredible opportunity to learn from each other's experiences and bring valuable insights back to our communities.
The program brings together members of the Pacific Organic Farming Network from Fiji, Tonga and Solomon Islands to review the challenges and achievements we've faced over the past year.
Sanga calls on and encourages young people saying "Farming is one of the best pursuits, especially for young people, because it provides a direct path to healthy, nutritious food."
"Growing our own food can improve our health, build resilience, and create sustainable communities.
Healthy food means healthy life and farming can help you take care of your family and your community and I encourage you to embrace farming as a way to contribute to your own well-being as well as your community's," said Sanga.
Looking to the future, Sanga dreams of making Gwaunafiu Organic Farm School a place where young people can come and learn organic farming.
"My dream is to see this center fully up and running, providing a hand-on learning environment where young people can practice organic farming methods.
"I believe that by teaching young people about farming, they can have a better life by supporting themselves and contribute to healthier and more sustainable Solomon Islands," Sanga said.

PEBACC+ et la maîtrise du feu
Radio Rythme Bleu, 20/11/24

Journaliste: À Kouaoua, le début d'un atelier autour de la maîtrise du feu. C'est un projet porté par les acteurs du programme Kiwa PEBACC + en lien avec la Province Nord, le gouvernement de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et la commune de Kouaoua et la CPS. L'objectif est de trouver des solutions concrètes pour lutter contre les feux de brousse, sécuriser la ressource en eau face au changement climatique avec des actions adaptées à partager auprès des populations. Les explications de François Tron, le coordinateur du projet.

ITW de François Tron: Dans les solutions concrètes, on a par exemple le WWF qui propose une formation et un équipement pour des gens dans les villages ou les tribus pour lancer les alertes de manière précoce. On a l'association AGIR qui va aussi présenter les techniques d'agroforesterie qui permettent de réduire l'usage du feu dans les champs. On a également Conservation International, qui présente une solution fondée sur les connaissances traditionnelles écologiques locales, sur des espèces d'arbres qui brûlent mal et qui ont tendance à bloquer le feu. C'est ce qu'on appelle les pare feu végétalisés à base d'arbres pyroretardants. On a également la Fédération de la faune et de la chasse de Nouvelle-Calédonie qui va présenter comment est-ce que dans l'activité de chasse, on peut effectivement avoir un usage particulièrement modeste, voire pas d'usage du tout du feu. Et au niveau international, on a également eu plusieurs interventions sur l'utilisation du brûlage dirigé, contrôlé, préventif, c'est à dire utiliser le feu à la bonne période au bon endroit pour éviter que plus tard on ait des grands feux destructeurs. Journaliste: Sur place depuis ce matin, une cinquantaine de personnes issues de tout le territoire sont présentes. L'idée est de réadapter l'usage du feu au contexte du changement climatique afin de protéger l'environnement sur le long terme. Alex Davis est originaire de Canala et chargé de la mise en œuvre du Plan Climat Energie à la Province Nord.

Alex Davis: Ça apporte du sens dans le sens où on a ce qu'on voit actuellement, notamment les effets du changement climatique qui sont présents. Ce n'est plus quelque chose à confirmer ou à rechercher. Les gens, ils le ressentent sur le terrain également, donc à leur niveau. Avec ça, on a tous ces facteurs qu'on appelle les facteurs aggravants, notamment le feu. C'est important de ... on ne va pas dire sensibiliser parce que les gens, ils sont sensibilisés, mais c'est accompagner les populations à faire de nouvelles pratiques, à innover dans les pratiques culturales ou dans les pratiques de chasse pour minimiser l'impact du feu et permettre la régénération des écosystèmes. Journaliste: Des experts régionaux participent également à ces ateliers par visioconférence pour partager leurs expériences. Des ateliers qui continuent jusqu'à vendredi à Kouaoua.

IUCN's efforts for climate resilience in the Pacific Islands, IUCN, 22.11.24

https://iucn.org/story/202411/iucns-efforts-climate-resilience-pacific-islands

IUCN has become the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it, including addressing the challenges of climate change, advocating for the integration of biodiversity conservation into climate action. With its extensive network of Members, Commission members and partners, IUCN works across various regions, including Oceania, to promote sustainable development and resilience in the face of climate-related threats. content hero image
Photo: East Rennell, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, faces climate change and resource depletion challenges.

BirdLife International and the Kiwa Initiative are working with local communities to address these issues. IUCN recognises that climate change is one of the most significant threats to biodiversity and human well-being. The organisation's strategy involves influencing international climate policies, advocating for Nature-based solutions (NbS), and promoting sustainable practices that can mitigate climate impacts while enhancing ecosystem resilience.
IUCN's NbS for Climate Change programme exemplifies this commitment, highlighting the need to incorporate ecosystem services into climate action plans at local, national, and global levels. In the Pacific Islands, IUCN Oceania aims on empowering local communities to adapt to climate change through sustainable practices. The region faces unique challenges, including rising sea levels, increased storm intensity, and habitat loss, which threaten the livelihoods and cultural identities of local populations.

IUCN Oceania employs a diverse tactic that unites community engagement, capacity building, and project implementation to address these pressing issues. Key Projects and Initiatives Kiwa Initiative The Kiwa Initiative is a flagship programme aimed at improving climate resilience in Pacific Island countries. This initiative integrates ecosystem management with community development, ensuring that local voices are included in decision-making processes.

By providing technical support and funding, the Kiwa Initiative helps communities implement sustainable practices that protect their natural resources while adapting to climate change. For example, the Kiwa Initiative has facilitated the restoration of coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves and coral reefs, which act as natural barriers against storms and erosion. Ecosystems protect infrastructure and support local fisheries, which are necessary for food security and economic stability. Community workshops help residents understand the importance of these ecosystems and how to get involved in conservation efforts. BIOPAMA Another significant project under IUCN Oceania is BIOPAMA, which aims to improve the management of protected areas and biodiversity in the Pacific. This initiative provides tools, resources, and training to enhance the capacity of local governments and communities to manage their natural resources effectively. BIOPAMA supports the establishment of protected areas that are crucial for conserving biodiversity while also providing ecosystem services that communities depend on. For instance, in Fiji, BIOPAMA has helped local authorities develop management plans for marine protected areas, which are essential for sustaining fish populations and protecting coral reefs. By involving local communities in the planning and management processes, BIOPAMA ensures that conservation efforts are aligned with the needs and aspirations of the people. Community Engagement and Capacity Building IUCN places a strong emphasis on community engagement as a cornerstone of its climate change strategy.

By involving local populations in the design and implementation of projects, IUCN ensures that solutions are culturally appropriate and effective. Workshops and training sessions are conducted to build local capacity, equipping communities with the knowledge and skills needed to implement sustainable practices in agriculture, fisheries, and natural resource management. IUCN also values traditional knowledge as a vital component of climate adaptation strategies.

Many Pacific Island communities possess a deep understanding of their local ecosystems, having coexisted with them for generations. By integrating this knowledge with scientific research, IUCN develops more effective and culturally relevant solutions to climate challenges. On a broader scale, IUCN advocates for policies that recognise the importance of nature in climate change mitigation and adaptation. The organisation works with governments, NGOs, and international bodies to promote the inclusion of biodiversity considerations in climate agreements and national policies.
IUCN's influence extends to high-level discussions at forums such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), where it emphasizes the need for Nature-based Solutions as part of global climate strategies. IUCN's work in the Pacific region also aligns with the Global Biodiversity Framework, which aims to halt biodiversity loss and enhance ecosystem resilience.
By promoting the integration of biodiversity into climate action, IUCN helps ensure that conservation efforts contribute to broader sustainable development goals. IUCN's method to climate change, merging global advocacy with local action, is needed for building resilience in vulnerable regions like the Pacific Islands. Through grant programmes such as the Kiwa Initiative and BIOPAMA, IUCN Oceania inspires communities to adapt to climate impacts while preserving their natural resources and cultural heritage.

The organisation's engagement to mix nature into climate solutions ensures a sustainable and hopeful future for communities worldwide. Through the financial assistance of donors such as European Union, Agence Française de Développement, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and ACP group of states. IUCN is bringing together governments, NGOs, and local communities to find new solutions for climate change, loss of biodiversity, and sustainable development. Through its work, IUCN is helping create a strong and sustainable future for the Pacific Islands and beyond.

$4.2million is being allocated to implement projects in Fiji by the KIWA Initiative

The Fiji Times, 28.11.24

[L-R] Ms Bridget Kennedy, Conservation International, New Restore Project, Ms Caitie Devereux, Consul (Development), Australian Consulate General Noumea, Subesh Prasad, Regional Project Manager, Kiwa Empowerment Project, Live and Learn Fiji. Picture: JOSEFA SIGAVOLAVOLA

https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/kiwa-initiative-projects-launch/

Ms Bridget Kennedy, Conservation International, New Restore Project, Ms Caitie Devereux, Consul (Development), Australian Consulate General Noumea, Subesh Prasad, Regional Project Manager, Kiwa Empowerment Project, Live and Learn Fiji.

Two projects were launched as part of the KIWA Initiative at Novotel, Lami yesterday with a combined funding of over €6.6million (approx $F15.7million). The two projects will benefit more than 70 communities across five Pacific Island countries, including Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Samoa, and Timor-Leste. Pacific for Agence Francaise de Development (AFD) regional director Virginie Bleitrach said the projects were part of the broader KIWA Initiative since its 2020 launch. "Through nature-based solutions, the two additional projects are in addition to seven projects already launched on a regional level," Ms Bleitrach said. "We have around 20 projects at local level in the three subregions of the Pacific including Fiji, the African and Caribbean countries and French territories." She said the initiative aimed to support local communities in the Pacific mitigate climate change through better adaptations solutions. "KIWA Initiative started with a budget of €30m (approx $F71.5m) and now we have a budget of €77m (approx $F183.6m), all in the effort dedicated to supporting people in terms of climate adaptation.

"We are five donors – France, European Union, New Zealand, Australia and Canada, and we work with the regional organisations in the Pacific. "Right now, two-third of the budget is already committed; we meet often to discuss about this project and then identify new projects, the two projects that we signed today are the latest projects selected by the initiative," she said. KIWA Initiative is a multi-donor program that aims to strengthen the climate change resilience of Pacific Island ecosystems, communities and economies through nature-based solutions.

Kiwa partners $15m climate resilience partnership, FBC News 28.11.24

https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/news/kiwa-partners-15m-climate-resilience-partnership/

The Kiwa initiative has announced two new partnerships valued at about $15 million designed to strengthen the climate change resilience of Pacific ecosystems, communities and economies through nature-based solutions, with Conservation International and Live and Learn Pacific.

Kiwa Committee Chair Caitie Devereux says the partnerships are with Conservation International and Live and Learn Pacific.

Devereux adds that through the two new partnerships, they will be able to reach about 70 more communities which they can assist through smart climate solutions.

"That means there are now seven regional projects with a total of $67.6 million and 17 local projects."

Devereux states that now they have seven projects that they have launched at the regional level, across the Pacific.

She says the current round of regional calls is open for regional projects, with the window closing on the 15th of December.

KIWA project to benefit Vanua Levu communities, FBC News, 29.11.24

https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/news/kiwa-project-to-benefit-vanua-levu-communities/

Fiji is ramping up efforts to address the gender impacts of climate change through targeted community projects aimed at restoring degraded lands and ensuring food and water security. Live and Learn Fiji, a key player in these initiatives has been allocated $4 million by the Kiwa Initiative to fund climate-resilient projects across 20 communities in Vanua Levu.

Projects Manager Subash Prasad says the funding will support critical restoration efforts. The funding will assist vulnerable rural communities adapt to the worsening effects of climate change. "So this is like an original project. Which is going to be replicated in Tuvalu and Solomon. And including Fiji. And it's 4.2 million Fijian dollars. For Fiji specifically. Excluding Tuvalu and Solomons. In total, it's an original project. It's more than 3 million euros. 3 million euros for the three countries. But Fiji has 4.2 million Fijian dollars." Prasad states that climate change has drastically impacted numerous communities in rural settings. He states that they are working on restoring degraded lands and improving their water systems.

The Project manager states that they are trying to stabilizing their water system, plant more native trees conduct climate smart agriculture trainings to improve food security. Live and Learn Fiji is focusing on integrating gender-sensitive approaches into its climate initiatives, ensuring that women and marginalized groups are at the forefront of adaptation efforts.

KIWA Initiative Projects Launched to Aid Pacific Islands, Imminent Global News, 29.11.24

https://imminent-global-news.translated.com/summary/en/91953

Article from Fijitimes
The KIWA Initiative has launched two new projects at Novotel, Lami, with over €6.6 million in funding, targeting more than 70 communities across five Pacific Island countries: Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Samoa, and Timor-Leste.

This multi-donor program, supported by five key donors including France, the European Union, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada, aims to bolster climate change resilience in Pacific Island ecosystems, communities, and economies through nature-based solutions.

Since its inception in 2020, the initiative has expanded from a budget of €30 million to €77 million, already committing two-thirds of this to various projects. The new projects contribute to the broader goal of the KIWA Initiative to provide adaptive climate solutions and support local communities in mitigating climate change impacts. The AFD regional director highlighted these projects as a part of the larger effort to adapt and strengthen the region against climate changes, aiming to positively impact vulnerable communities through practical, environmentally-conscious measures.

$4.2m for climate resilience, The Fiji Times, 30.11.24

https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/4-2m-for-climate-resilience/ Business,

Local News, News | Published: 2 days ago | Last Updated: 2 days ago | By JOSEFA SIGAVOLAVOLA

A TOTAL of $4.2million is being allocated to Live & Learn Environmental Education Fiji by the Kiwa Initiative for the implementation of projects in Fiji over the next three years.

Regional project manager for Live and Learn Subesh Prasad revealed this after the launch of Kiwa's two most recent regional projects at the Novotel Hotel in Lami this week. "Live & Learn is happy to be part of this Kiwa Initiative and we're looking to make an impact in our vulnerable communities who are exposed to this climate conditions," Mr Prasad said. Live & Learn is registered in Fiji as a charitable trust and works with communities throughout Asia and the Pacific to encourage individual and community attitudes, values and actions that are ethical and sustainable.

The Kiwa Initiative, funded by the European Union, Agence française de développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), works with regional partners to promote nature-based solutions for climate resilience in Pacific Island ecosystems, communities, and economies against climate change. Its two newest projects Kiwa Empower and Kiwa Restore are being implemented through Live & Learn Environmental Education Fiji and Conservation International respectively.

Mr Prasad said apart from Fiji, the project would also be delivered through Live and Learn Tuvalu and Live and Learn Solomon Islands. "Implementation is for three years until 2027," he said. "We signed the financial agreement for the initiative last week and as we speak, we are in the process of kickstarting this project in our local communities. "Tuvalu and the Solomons will follow as soon as we're given the official greenlight to run the projects in their local communities." Mr Prasad said the project would involve interventions in nature-based solutions and restoring degraded lands in local communities. "This project will be implemented in 20 communities in Vanua Levu — 14 in the Cakaudrove province, three in Macuata and three in Bua," he said. "We will work on improving and stabilising their water systems, planting more trees in these communities and conducting climate smart agriculture to improve their food security."

The amount allocated for the Kiwa projects implementation in Fiji is part of the larger €6.6million ($F15.7million) allocated by Kiwa Initiatives to boost climate adaptation programs in the Pacific.

L'Initiative Kiwa offre une belle opportunité de soutien aux Projets Régionaux avec l'Appel à Projets 2024, Newsletter Ifrecor Polynésie Novembre 2024

https://mailchi.mp/b48aef0403c9/newsletter-ifrecor-polynesie-novembre-2024

L'appel à projets régionaux 2024 de l'Initiative Kiwa est ouvert jusqu'au 15 décembre 2024. Les autorités publiques nationales et locales des 18 États et territoires des îles du Pacifique sont éligibles, et notamment la Polynésie française, à proposer un financement pour soutenir les Solutions fondées sur la Nature pour l'adaptation au changement climatique.

16 Days Of Activism: Organic agriculture as a pathway to ending violence against women and girls in Tonga,
Relief web, 01.12.24

https://reliefweb.int/report/tonga/16-days-activism-organic-agriculture-pathway-ending-violenceagainst-women-and-girls-tonga

Format News and Press Release SourceSPC
OriginView original Empowering women and girls is critical to ending violence and creating safer, more inclusive communities.

In Tonga, where traditional gender roles often limit opportunities for women, the Pacific Community's (SPC) Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project is working with farmers across Tonga, with special attention on women in agriculture to enhance women's economic opportunities through organic farming and agroecology, and more importantly, challenge the systemic inequalities that potentially perpetuate gender-based violence.
As part of the global call to action under the 2024 theme for 16 Days of Activism Against GenderBased Violence ——SPC's work in Tonga underscores the vital connection between organic agriculture and women's economic empowerment. Economic dependence is a significant driver of gender-based violence, leaving women vulnerable in relationships and limiting their ability to make autonomous decisions.

Through POLFN's Mahuleva Organic Learning Farm Centre on Tongatapu and the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre on Vava'u Island, women are accessing critical resources, training, and mentorship to build sustainable livelihoods in organic agriculture. These centres provide women with more than just practical skills in value-adding – organic farming methods, and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification; creating a safe space for women to connect, collaborate, and support one another as farmers, mothers, sisters and contributing members of their communities. In Tonga, cultural and systemic barriers, like land ownership norms, have long limited women's participation in agriculture.
Through partnerships with local stakeholders such as the Tonga National Youth Congress, POLFN has reframed farming as a family-oriented enterprise, ensuring women are recognised as key contributors. This inclusive approach challenges stereotypes and power imbalances that fuel violence against women.
POLFN Project Manager, Mr Timoci Nakalevu, says, "By encouraging trans-generational change and farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing, POLFN's networks provide mentorship, solidarity, and a sense of community—breaking the isolation that often traps survivors of violence." Aligned with the objective of 16 Days of Activism to end gender-based violence, POLFN demonstrates how organic agriculture can unite economic empowerment and social inclusion, creating a future where women can thrive free from gender-based violence, which includes family violence and sexual violence such as marital rape. For each woman embracing organic farming, she plants not just crops but also seeds of resilience, hope, and a world where violence has no place. The POLFN Project is funded through the multi-donor agency, the Kiwa Initiative.

The Kiwa Initiative is funded by the European Union, AFD - Agence Française de Développement, Canada's International Development – Global Affairs Canada, the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. About POETCom The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community is the peak body for the organic movement in the region, a not-for-profit organisation with active members, farmer associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, the private sector, research institutions and works with governments across the Pacific Island region. POETCom is hosted by the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Suva, Fiji.

16 Days Of Activism: Organic agriculture as a pathway to ending violence against women and girls in Tonga, SPC, 01.12.24

https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/blog-post/2024/12/16-days-of-activism-organic-agriculture-as-apathway-to-ending

Empowering women and girls is critical to ending violence and creating safer, more inclusive communities. In Tonga, where traditional gender roles often limit opportunities for women, the Pacific Community's (SPC) Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network (POLFN) Project is working with farmers across Tonga, with special attention on women in agriculture to enhance women's economic opportunities through organic farming and agroecology, and more importantly, challenge the systemic inequalities that potentially perpetuate gender-based violence.

As part of the global call to action under the 2024 theme for 16 Days of Activism Against GenderBased Violence ——SPC's work in Tonga underscores the vital connection between organic agriculture and women's economic empowerment. Economic dependence is a significant driver of gender-based violence, leaving women vulnerable in relationships and limiting their ability to make autonomous decisions.
Through POLFN's Mahuleva Organic Learning Farm Centre on Tongatapu and the Ovava Organic Learning Farm Centre on Vava'u Island, women are accessing critical resources, training, and mentorship to build sustainable livelihoods in organic agriculture. These centres provide women with more than just practical skills in value-adding – organic farming methods, and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification; creating a safe space for women to connect, collaborate, and support one another as farmers, mothers, sisters and contributing members of their communities.

SPC LRD In Tonga, cultural and systemic barriers, like land ownership norms, have long limited women's participation in agriculture. Through partnerships with local stakeholders such as the Tonga National Youth Congress, POLFN has reframed farming as a family-oriented enterprise, ensuring women are recognised as key contributors. This inclusive approach challenges stereotypes and power imbalances that fuel violence against women. POLFN Project Manager, Mr Timoci Nakalevu, says, "By encouraging trans-generational change and farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing, POLFN's networks provide mentorship, solidarity, and a sense of community—breaking the isolation that often traps survivors of violence."

Aligned with the objective of 16 Days of Activism to end gender-based violence, POLFN demonstrates how organic agriculture can unite economic empowerment and social inclusion, creating a future where women can thrive free from gender-based violence, which includes family violence and sexual violence such as marital rape. For each woman embracing organic farming, she plants not just crops but also seeds of resilience, hope, and a world where violence has no place. The POLFN Project is funded through the multi-donor agency, the Kiwa Initiative. The Kiwa Initiative is funded by the European Union, AFD - Agence Française de Développement, Canada's International Development – Global Affairs Canada, the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. About POETCom The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community is the peak body for the organic movement in the region, a not-for-profit organisation with active members, farmer associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, the private sector, research institutions and works with governments across the Pacific Island region. POETCom is hosted by the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Suva, Fiji. For more information, visit: The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community The Kiwa Initiative - Climate Resilience in the Pacific Islands thanks to Nature-based Solutions (NbS) L'Initiative Kiwa - La Résilience Climatique dans le Pacifique grâce aux Solutions fondées sur la Nature (SfN) Blog Category Blog Post Division Human Rights and Social Development Land Resources Markets for Livelihoods POETcom Polynesia Regional Office Countries Tonga

Date: 03.12.24
Country: Fiji

IUCN Oceania Highlights Success in the Kiwa Initiative, Fiji Sun, 03.12.24

https://www.pressreader.com/fiji/fiji-sun/20241203/281672555511513

IUCN Oceania Highlights Success in the Kiwa Initiative

Union internationale pour la conservation de la nature
03 déc. 2024 · Source: IUCN Oceania

He International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Oceania Regional Office is proud to announce significant progress under the Kiwa Initiative, revealed during the 9th Kiwa Steering Committee Meeting at the Novotel Hotel in Lami, on November 27th and 28th.

This gathering brought together key stakeholders to discuss their achievements, challenges, and strategies for future success.

IUCN Oceania Regional Director, Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago, emphasised the vital role of the Kiwa granting facility, stating, "The Kiwa granting facility is the quickest way to get donor investments to our people and to maximise impact."

This facility ensures that financial resources are allocated effectively, directly benefiting local communities and enhancing their capacity to implement conservation projects.

During the meeting, Ms. Toelupe Tago also elaborated on the importance of grant management and administration.

"Effective grant management is essential to ensure that funds are used efficiently, towards meet

Ting the needs of our people on the ground, in alignment with the guidelines and procedures of both IUCN and the Kiwa donors", said Ms Toelupe Tago.

Our ability to build compliance against these guidelines and procedures is premised on our relationship building an engagement not just with our donors, but also with our grant recipients.

On the topic of Capacity Building, Ms Toelupe Tago remarked, "A vigorous capacity building strategy is key" highlighting that the strategy would empower local communities and enhance their capabilities to manage projects successfully.

Additionally, investing in training and resources for local teams is fundamental to achieving longterm sustainability in conservation efforts.

When discussing the need to leverage resources, Ms. Toelupe Tago also noted, "The ability to leverage existing resources can enable greater impact and sustainability."

Stakeholders were encouraged to think creatively about how to use available assets to support conservation initiatives.

The importance of adopting different approaches and strategies was emphasised at the meeting "Adopting different approaches can lead to different outcomes.", Ms Toelupe Tago shared.

The idea of adopting different approaches will encourage innovation and adaptability in project implementation, allowing for adaptive solutions that meet specific community needs.

IUCN Oceania Kiwa Initiative team with the IUCN ORO Regional Director, Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago (fourth from left) and Tania Ammour from IUCN HQ (first left), at the Novotel Hotel in Lami, after the Day 2 of the Kiwa Steering Committee meeting on November 28, 2024.

By recognising that a one-size-fitsall approach doesnot always work, stakeholders will be motivated to explore different methods to address unique challenges faced by various communities.

This flexibility improves conservation efforts and encourages new ideas and quick responses, leading to better and more lasting results.

IUCN Oceania GIS team Inia Corerega (second from right), Simione Naivalu (fourth from left) and the Kiwa Initiative Capacity Building Officer, Filomena Vuetaki (second from left), with the Kiwa Initiative C3 Fiji team during the presentation of the Raviravi LMMA map in C3 Labasa office.

Compliance and requirements were also critical topics of discussion.

Ms. Toelupe Tago emphasised, "Relationship building and engagement is the pathway to compliance." explaining that building strong relationships with stakeholders is crucial for making sure projects follow rules and succeed.

"The success of our grantees is our success, which in turn reflects

The success of our donors.", Ms Toelupe Tago said.

A major highlight of the meeting was the introduction of a Geographic Information System (GIS) Dashboard for the IUCN Kiwa Initiative project.

Ms. Toelupe Tago described this tool as a game-changer, stating, "This dashboard will provide a centralised platform for real-time data visualisation, allowing stakeholders to monitor project progress and track key performance indicators." She added that transforming complex data into accessible visuals improves accountability and supports informed decision-making.

The IUCN GIS Officers, Inia Corerega and Simione Naivalu, played an essential role in developing the dashboard.

They highlighted that the GIS dashboard would revolutionise how we assessed and visualised our projects.

The dashboard will equip communities by providing them with the information they need to make informed decisions about their natural resources.

"By integrating spatial data, we can better understand the impacts of our initiatives and adjust our strategies accordingly," Mr. Inia said.

Mission to the IUCN Kiwa project site in Labasa, Fiji Sun, 03.12.24

https://www.pressreader.com/fiji/fiji-sun/20241203/281663965576921

Stin

Mission to the IUCN Kiwa project site in Labasa

Ecologie
03 déc. 2024 +1 plus Source: IUCN
Oceania

The visit by the IUCN Kiwa team and AFD - Agence Française de Développement donors to Labasa included a tour of the Raviravi site, which is part of the Kiwa Initiative C3 project.

During the visit, they presented a map of the seven Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) sites in the Qoliqoli Cokovata area, covering 163.32 hectares, with 89.52 hectares designated as Mangrove Protected Areas. The initiative has successfully planted 6,520 mangroves and raised 14,142 propagules at the nursery, showing a commitment to restoring their coastal ecosystems.

This information was part of the GIS map in the IUCN Kiwa dashboard for the C3 Fiji project.

Kiwa Initiative

The Kiwa Initiative aims to help Pacific Island communities become more resilient to climate change and environmental damage.

It promotes sustainable management of marine and coastal resources, allowing local communities to thrive while protecting their natural heritage. By working together, the initiative seeks to empower communities, boost biodiversity, and support sustainable development. As implementing partners for the Kiwa Initiative programme, IUCN

IUCN ORO Regional Director, Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago presenting during the Kiwa Initiative Steering Committee meeting on November 27, 2024 at the Novotel Hotel in Lami.

Oceania helps its grantees by promoting teamwork and making a bigger impact.

The organisation is always working to ensure that grantees can meet their goals, which helps both grantees and donors succeed together.

IUCN Oceania works to strengthen local communities so they can better address environmental issues and support sustainable development.

The Kiwa Initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), and has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Sur le même sujet

IUCN Oceania Highlights Success in the Kiwa Initiative
Fiji Sun 03 déc. 2024

Ajouter un commentaire

Vue Page Partager Sauvegarder Plus

Pour Contre

IUCN Oceania highlights success and collaboration in the Kiwa Initiative, IUCN 04.12.24

https://iucn.org/news/202412/iucn-oceania-highlights-success-and-collaboration-kiwa-initiative

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Oceania Regional Office is proud to announce significant progress under the Kiwa Initiative, revealed during the 9th Kiwa Steering Committee Meeting at the Novotel Hotel in Lami, on November 27th and 28th.

This gathering brought together key stakeholders to discuss their achievements, challenges, and strategies for future success. IUCN Oceania Regional Director, Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago, emphasised the vital role of the Kiwa granting facility, stating, "The Kiwa granting facility is the quickest way to get donor investments to our people and to maximise impact." This facility ensures that financial resources are allocated effectively, directly benefiting local communities and enhancing their capacity to implement conservation projects.

During the meeting, Ms. Toelupe Tago also elaborated on the importance of grant management and administration. "Effective grant management is essential to ensure that funds are used efficiently, towards meeting the needs of our people on the ground, in alignment with the guidelines and procedures of both IUCN and the Kiwa donors", said Ms Toelupe Tago. Our ability to build compliance against these guidelines and procedures is premised on our relationship building an engagement not just with our donors, but also with our grant recipients. On the topic of Capacity Building, Ms Toelupe Tago remarked, "A vigorous capacity building strategy is key" highlighting that the strategy would empower local communities and enhance their capabilities to manage projects successfully.
Additionally, investing in training and resources for local teams is fundamental to achieving long-term sustainability in conservation efforts. When discussing the need to leverage resources, Ms. Toelupe Tago also noted, "The ability to leverage existing resources can enable greater impact and sustainability." Stakeholders were encouraged to think creatively about how to use available assets to support conservation initiatives. The importance of adopting different approaches and strategies was emphasised at the meeting "Adopting different approaches can lead to different outcomes.", Ms Toelupe Tago shared.
The idea of adopting different approaches will encourage innovation and adaptability in project implementation, allowing for adaptive solutions that meet specific community needs. By recognising that a one-sizefits-all approach doesnot always work, stakeholders will be motivated to explore different methods to address unique challenges faced by various communities. This flexibility improves conservation efforts and encourages new ideas and quick responses, leading to better and more lasting results. Compliance and requirements were also critical topics of discussion. Ms. Toelupe Tago emphasised, "Relationship building and engagement is the pathway to compliance." explaining that building strong relationships with stakeholders is crucial for making sure projects follow rules and succeed. "The success of our grantees is our success, which in turn reflects the success of our donors.", Ms Toelupe Tago said.

A major highlight of the meeting was the introduction of a Geographic Information System (GIS) Dashboard for the IUCN Kiwa Initiative project. Ms. Toelupe Tago described this tool as a gamechanger, stating, "This dashboard will provide a centralised platform for real-time data visualisation, allowing stakeholders to monitor project progress and track key performance indicators." She added that transforming complex data into accessible visuals improves accountability and supports informed decision-making. The IUCN GIS Officers, Inia Corerega and Simione Naivalu, played an essential role in developing the dashboard. They highlighted that the GIS dashboard would revolutionise how we assessed and visualised our projects. The dashboard will equip communities by providing them with the information they need to make informed decisions about their natural resources.

"By integrating spatial data, we can better understand the impacts of our initiatives and adjust our strategies accordingly," Mr. Inia said. Mission to the IUCN Kiwa project site in Labasa

The visit by the IUCN Kiwa team and AFD - Agence Française de Développement donors to Labasa included a tour of the Raviravi site, which is part of the Kiwa Initiative C3 project. During the visit, they presented a map of the seven Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) sites in the Qoliqoli Cokovata area, covering 163.32 hectares, with 89.52 hectares designated as Mangrove Protected Areas.

The initiative has successfully planted 6,520 mangroves and raised 14,142 propagules at the nursery, showing a commitment to restoring their coastal ecosystems. This information was part of the GIS map in the IUCN Kiwa dashboard for the C3 Fiji project. The Kiwa Initiative aims to help Pacific Island communities become more resilient to climate change and environmental damage. It promotes sustainable management of marine and coastal resources, allowing local communities to thrive while protecting their natural heritage. By working together, the initiative seeks to empower communities, boost biodiversity, and support sustainable development.

As implementing partners for the Kiwa Initiative programme, IUCN Oceania helps its grantees by promoting teamwork and making a bigger impact. The organisation is always working to ensure that grantees can meet their goals, which helps both grantees and donors succeed together. IUCN Oceania works to strengthen local communities so they can better address environmental issues and support sustainable development. The Kiwa Initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), and has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Projet PERENNE : opération bambou,
La Calédonie Agricole, décembre 2024/janvier

Projet PERENNE : opération bambou

Après le chantier de plantation écocitoyen organisé par WWF-NC chez Rudy Roy, agriculteur et élu à la CAP-NC, les actions de PERENNE se poursuivent. Fin octobre, une opération d'enlèvement d'embâcles à Néméara a mobilisé deux sections du RSMA : 50 m³ de bambou ont été dégagés de la rivière. Une fascine en bambou avec des poteaux de bois de fer a ensuite été posée par la CAP-NC. Les équipes de Bwara, WWF-NC et de la maison de jeunes de Néméara ont pris le relais pour poser 100 mètres de fascine apportés par le RSMA et planter 500 palétuviers. Une seconde opération sera nécessaire pour terminer ce chantier de grande envergure. Et pour info, d'autres chantiers sur des exploitations agricoles sont en préparation pour 2025, avec les mêmes objectifs : protection des sols et préservation des ressources en eau et de la biodiversité.

PERENNE : des formations pour une montée en compétence, La Calédonie Agricole décembre 2024/janvier 2025

PERENNE : des formations pour une montée en compétence

Dans le cadre du projet, fin octobre, les partenaires associatifs producteurs de plants, Wa Ereteu et l'association Bwärä Tortues Marines, ont bénéficié d'une formation délivrée par le pôle Végétal de la CAP-NC pour renforcer leurs compétences dans la gestion de leurs pépinières : multiplication et entretien des plants, préparation des substrats, organisation spatiale de la serre, évaluation du coût de revient d'un plant... Un volet consacré à la gestion administrative de projet a été assuré par le WWF antenne Nouvelle-Calédonie pour renforcer la capacité des deux associations à produire les rapports financiers à leurs bailleurs.

Maximising resources,
The Fiji Times, 07.12.24

THE ability to leverage existing resources can enable greater impact and sustainability in our communities. This was highlighted by Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago, the regional director of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Oceania during the 9th Kiwa Steering Committee Meeting held at the Novotel Hotel in Lami last week.

The gathering brought together key stakeholders to discuss their achievements, challenges, and strategies for future success. While emphasising on the vital role of the Kiwa granting facility, Ms Toelupe Tago said it was the quickest way to get donor investments to our people and to maximise impact. "This facility ensures that financial resources are allocated effectively, directly benefiting local communities and enhancing their capacity to implement conservation projects," she said. She also elaborated on the importance of grant management and administration. "Effective grant management is essential to ensure that funds are used efficiently, towards meeting the needs of our people on the ground, in alignment with the guidelines and procedures of both IUCN and the Kiwa donors. "Our ability to build compliance against these guidelines and procedures is premised on our relationship, building an engagement not just with our donors, but also with our grant recipients."

On the topic of capacity building, Ms Toelupe Tago said a vigorous capacity building strategy was key. She highlighted that the strategy would empower local communities and enhance their capabilities to manage projects successfully. Stakeholders were encouraged to think creatively about how to use available assets to support conservation initiatives.

Kiwa Initiative highlights children's advocacy through social media,
IUCN, 13.12.24

https://iucn.org/story/202412/kiwa-initiative-highlights-childrens-advocacy-through-social-media

The Heritage in Young Hands (HIYH) annual meeting took place today at the National Trust of Fiji (NTF) Conference Room. Partners and donors, including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Oceania Kiwa Initiative, World Wildlife Fund Pacific, University of the South Pacific, and LajeRotuma Initiative, joined NTF team to discuss the progress and future of the HIYH programme.

The meeting aimed to give updates on the HIYH programme, share experiences in environmental education, review the current curriculum, and plan activities for 2025. A major highlight was the support from IUCN and the Kiwa Initiative programme, which has been essential for the HIYH programme. Elizabeth Erasito, Director of the National Trust of Fiji, said the support from IUCN was commendable. "Since they came on board, we have greatly benefited in communication, visibility, grants, and funding." The HIYH programme started in 2016 with Shangri-La Yanuca Island and aims to raise awareness about the environment among children. It is part of the Kiwa Initiative's project focused on building coastal resilience at the Sigatoka Sand Dunes.

During the meeting, IUCN Oceania Kiwa Initiative Communications Officer, Shreeya Verma presented on the importance of social media for environmental advocacy. In her session, titled "Children's Voices - Kiwa Perspective," she shared insights from social media sessions she had conducted with HIYH eco campers in May and September 2024. She explained that social media helps children speak up for a cause they care about. "Social media is a powerful tool for advocacy. It empowers children to advocate for causes they care about," she said.
Recalling her sessions with the children during the Eco camps, Ms. Shreeya noted, "The joy on the children's faces when they learn something new is priceless. It shows that they are eager to make a difference." She highlighted a specific moment when the children were asking questions about how to create environmental messages. She said, "Their curiosity showed how eager they are to learn and make an impact. It's inspiring to see them wanting to become advocates for the environment." Ms. Verma also highlighted the importance of teamwork among the Junior Rangers. "Working together builds friendships and deepens their understanding of environmental issues. Collaboration is key to making a real impact," she said. Shreeya emphasised the role of social media in this process, saying, "These platforms allow young people to share their experiences and connect with a wider audience, amplifying their voices." She encouraged everyone to support these young advocates, stating, "Every child has the potential to inspire change. We just need to give them the platform." She added that by sharing their stories online, they can motivate others to take action in their communities and raise awareness about environmental issues.

The Junior Rangers shared their thoughts, saying that social media has become a strong tool for them. Jason Tutani, NTF Education Programme Manager and HIYH coordinator, pointed out the need to use more social media platforms to increase their visibility and advocacy efforts. Looking ahead, the partnership between the National Trust of Fiji and the Kiwa Initiative will continue to grow. With the help of partners and the energy of young advocates, we are working toward a sustainable future for our heritage and environment.

The Kiwa Initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the Oceania Regional Office of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: 15.12.2024
Country: Samoa

Kiwa Initiative highlights children's advocacy through social media,
SPREP PROE, 15.12.24

.https://pipap.sprep.org/news/kiwa-initiative-highlights-childrens-advocacy-through-social-media

The Heritage in Young Hands (HIYH) annual meeting took place today at the National Trust of Fiji (NTF) Conference Room. Partners and donors, including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Oceania Kiwa Initiative, World Wildlife Fund Pacific, University of the South Pacific, and LajeRotuma Initiative, joined NTF team to discuss the progress and future of the HIYH programme.

The meeting aimed to give updates on the HIYH programme, share experiences in environmental education, review the current curriculum, and plan activities for 2025. A major highlight was the support from IUCN and the Kiwa Initiative programme, which has been essential for the HIYH programme. Elizabeth Erasito, Director of the National Trust of Fiji, said the support from IUCN was commendable. “Since they came on board, we have greatly benefited in communication, visibility, grants, and funding." The HIYH programme started in 2016 with Shangri-La Yanuca Island and aims to raise awareness about the environment among children. It is part of the Kiwa Initiative's project focused on building coastal resilience at the Sigatoka Sand Dunes.

During the meeting, IUCN Oceania Kiwa Initiative Communications Officer, Shreeya Verma presented on the importance of social media for environmental advocacy. In her session, titled "Children’s Voices - Kiwa Perspective," she shared insights from social media sessions she had conducted with HIYH eco campers in May and September 2024. She explained that social media helps children speak up for a cause they care about.

IUCN Oceania highlights success and collaboration in the Kiwa Initiative,
SPREP PROE, 06.12.24

https://pipap.sprep.org/news/iucn-oceania-highlights-success-and-collaboration-kiwa-initiative IUCN

Oceania Regional Director, Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago, emphasised the vital role of the Kiwa granting facility, stating, "The Kiwa granting facility is the quickest way to get donor investments to our people and to maximise impact."

This facility ensures that financial resources are allocated effectively, directly benefiting local communities and enhancing their capacity to implement conservation projects. During the meeting, Ms. Toelupe Tago also elaborated on the importance of grant management and administration. "Effective grant management is essential to ensure that funds are used efficiently, towards meeting the needs of our people on the ground, in alignment with the guidelines and procedures of both IUCN and the Kiwa donors", said Ms Toelupe Tago. Our ability to build compliance against these guidelines and procedures is premised on our relationship building an engagement not just with our donors, but also with our grant recipients.

On the topic of Capacity Building, Ms Toelupe Tago remarked, "A vigorous capacity building strategy is key" highlighting that the strategy would empower local communities and enhance their capabilities to manage projects successfully. Additionally, investing in training and resources for local teams is fundamental to achieving long-term sustainability in conservation efforts.

Un collège de Bourail parle de ripisylve, ZCO MAGAZINE - Décembre 2024

Un collège de Bourail parle de ripisylve

Dans le cadre du projet PERENNE, piloté par le WWF et la Chambre d'agriculture et de la pêche, onze éco-délégués de 5e et 6e du collège Louis-Léopold Djiet ont tenu deux ateliers à la Roche Percée pour la Fête de la science 2024. L'un d'eux portait sur le rôle de la ripisylve, cette barrière naturelle à maintenir entre la rivière et les zones cultivées, sur une largeur de 20 mètres allant jusqu'à 50 mètres, pour prévenir tout phénomène d'érosion. Lors de chantiers de plantation écocitoyens, chez les exploitants sélectionnés et situés à proximité de la Néra, les jeunes gardiens des rivières (Kaavûû Nérhëë) participent ainsi à sa restauration.

DECISIONS MADE AT THE 2ND CABINET MEETING HELD ON 21ST JANUARY, 2025,
Fiji Government 21.01.25

https://www.fiji.gov.fj/Media-Centre/Speeches/English/2ND-CABINET-MEETING-DECISIONS-21-JAN?fbclid=IwY2xjawH9Y5FleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHWAlAt8Hxp8fcpMdJegLCXVpwiM2JfUwxDE9-6ut4z5fWKh2FpHYh-Pvgw_aem_v5fTtPX0HyL5aznw-3TlvA

[...]

17. Pacific Ecosystem–Based Adaptation to Climate Change Project Cabinet endorsed Government's engagement in the Pacific Ecosystem-Based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC+) project implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in Taveuni. Funding from the SPREP under the PEBACC+ project will provide an opportunity for the Ministry of Forestry to support the restoration of the Forest Reserve Blue Line and connecting Riparian water catchments in the Taveuni Forest Reserve. The project is funded through the Kiwa Initiative from France, the European Union, Canada, New Zealand and Australia and is being implemented in collaboration with the Governments of Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, New Caledonia Wallis and Futuna and in partnership with conservation and community development NGOs.

Protecting our wetlands with IUCN Oceania and Kiwa Initiative
IUCN 31.01.25

https://iucn.org/fr/node/43291

This year's theme, "Protecting Wetlands for Our Common Future," highlights the vital role wetlands play in keeping our environment balanced and promoting our well-being. Wetlands are critical marine habitats that support biodiversity and provide livelihoods for coastal communities. content hero imagePhoto: The Kiwa Initiative projects C3 Fiji and Blue Ventures promotes wetlands that focus on Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to enhance climate resilience and biodiversity conservation. The Kiwa Initiative promotes wetlands through various projects that focus on Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to enhance climate resilience and biodiversity conservation.

Two Notable Kiwa Projects on Wetlands:
In Timor-Leste, wetlands are known for their rich marine life, which is essential for healthy ecosystems. These ecosystems support fisheries that are crucial for food security. As climate change poses risks to our environment, wetlands help protect coastal areas from erosion and other challenges. Projects like the Kiwa Initiative Blue Ventures focus on using nature-based solutions to safeguard these important ecosystems. They promote customary-law management practices to increase the areas of wetlands protected by local communities. Additionally, they emphasize mangrove protection, as planting and conserving mangroves improve wetland health and biodiversity.

In Fiji, wetlands, especially mangroves, are essential for our communities. They shield coastal areas from storms, provide resources for livelihoods, and support diverse wildlife. Through the Kiwa Initiative C3 Fiji project, based in Labasa, the community has learned how important mangroves are in connecting land and sea, creating natural barriers and habitats for many species. Last year, C3 Fiji celebrated World Wetlands Day by engaging local schoolchildren, from kindergarten to Class 8, to raise awareness about wetlands. The project members taught them how these ecosystems are directly linked to our health and well-being. This hands-on learning empowered the next generation to understand the value of wetlands and inspired them to take action to protect them.

These projects, implemented by IUCN Oceania under the Kiwa Initiative, establish a commitment to preserving wetlands and promoting sustainable development in the Pacific region. Let's continue to work together to protect and restore our wetlands for a healthier and more sustainable future. A simple way to help is by reducing waste, especially plastics, which can harm wildlife and ecosystems. The project is part of the Kiwa Initiative, financed by the European Union, Agence Française de Développement, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). Their combined goal is protecting resources, reinforcing coastal defences, and strengthening resilience of communities in the Oceania region. The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Projet PERENNE : Opération bambou : mission accomplie ! La Calédonie Agricole Février/Mars 2025

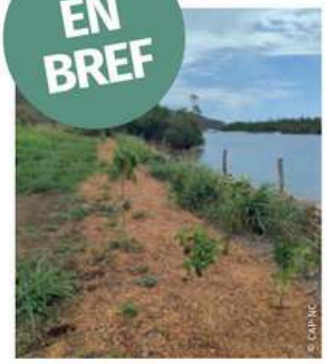
Projet PERENNE

Opération bambou : mission accomplie !

Les 12 et 13 décembre, dans la continuité du projet PERENNE, une équipe composée du WWF-NC, Bwara Tortues Marines, la ville de Bourail, Bourail Élagage et la CAP-NC s'est mobilisée pour finaliser l'enlèvement de 150 m³ de bambous brûlés dans la Douhencheur (affluent de la Néra). Grâce à cette intervention, le cours d'eau est désormais libéré et son écoulement naturel rétabli, marquant une étape clé dans la restauration de cette zone. Les bambous récoltés sont actuellement en cours de broyage : le broyat obtenu sera valorisé en tant que paillage sur les futurs chantiers de plantation, contribuant ainsi à la production de plants et à la régénération des sols.

Journée technique : Gestion de l'érosion en bord de rivière
La Calédonie Agricole Février/Mars 2025

EN BREF



Journée technique

Gestion de l'érosion en bord de rivière

Dans le cadre du projet PERENNE financé par initiative Kiwa, la CAP-NC, en partenariat avec WWF-NC et Repair, organise une journée dédiée à la gestion de l'érosion en bord de rivière, mardi 11 février à l'antenne de Nessadiou. Destinée aux agriculteurs et acteurs du territoire, elle vise à échanger sur les bonnes pratiques et les solutions concrètes pour mieux prévenir et gérer l'érosion des sols. Au programme : un atelier théorique pour comprendre l'érosion, ses origines, son coût pour les exploitations et les solutions techniques à mettre en œuvre, ainsi qu'un point sur le cadre réglementaire en vigueur. Il sera suivi de visites de terrain sur des sites restaurés.

Inscription auprès du pôle Alimentation et Développement durable :
tél. 24 31 60 / 85 17 82 - devdurable@cap-nc.nc

In its Indo-Pacific strategy, France should engage more with Pacific islanders,
ASPI The Strategist 12.02.25

https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/in-its-indo-pacific-strategy-france-should-engage-more-with-pacific-islanders
1/2

France is still expected to unveil a long-awaited update to its Indo-Pacific strategy. This should be an opportunity for it to do more in the region.

Its current Indo-Pacific strategy relies on two visions: one is more defence-industry-oriented, focusing mainly on the Western part of this supra-region, and another is geographically and thematically more comprehensive.

But France should also consider a bottom-up approach in the Pacific, focussed on engaging with Pacific islanders.

Even if the word 'inclusive' was no longer used in President Emmanuel Macron's speech in January, the idea is still in the air, as he said 'there is no confrontation [with China]'. But an updated idea of inclusivity should extend beyond China to not only Pacific island countries but also local actors.

In the Pacific, for now, Paris relies on little-known liaison officers (in Hawaii, Singapore and South Korea) plus officers of the Directorate of Cooperation of Security and Defence, in Indonesia and Fiji. Now France is increasing its presence.

For example, last year, the ambassador to the Pacific moved from mainland France to New Caledonia.

France is also doing more in terms of defence. In 2023 Macron announced the Pacific Academy, which will provide training for regional military and internal-security officials. As security competition increasingly extends to police forces—with Australia and China signing deals with various Pacific island states—France's contribution is channelled through a Pacific police attache based in Canberra.

France is also engaged in the region's climate threats, having launched the Kiwa Initiative at the 2017 One Planet Summit in Paris.

Furthermore, two years after Australia's decision to shift to Britain and the United States as its future submarine partners soured relations with France, Canberra and Paris signed a new roadmap for bilateral cooperation in 2023. The roadmap promotes cooperation in the fields of defence, climate and education, with an emphasis on the South Pacific.

As momentum builds behind an updated French Indo-Pacific strategy, it is time to pay more attention to Pacific island countries. To that end, France should highlight the idea of empathy and shift the focal point away from US-China competition to topics more aligned with the local concerns, particularly those related to human security—protecting rights, health and prosperity.

For example, French and Pacific citizens are facing the same challenges at sea including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, rising sea-levels and possible ill-effects of deep-sea mining. France has long experience in maritime domain awareness. This means it can contribute to regional maritime security efforts.

In its Indo-Pacific strategy, France should engage more with Pacific islanders,
ASPI The Strategist 12.02.25

2/2

Satellites of France-based Unseenlabs can locate ships using radio-frequency detection, complementing US maritime domain awareness activities in the region. And France was the first to provide assistance after the natural disasters in Tonga in 2022 and in Vanuatu in 2024 through the established France-Australia-New Zealand trilateral aid mechanism.

In January, the French-led military Exercise La Perouse, named after a French naval explorer, kicked off with eight other Indo-Pacific navies. In the spirit of the explorer, who criticised those who 'write their books by the fireside', France should consider other avenues to engage with Pacific islanders themselves.

For a start, France should be more attentive to the Pacific young leaders. If not, other countries will not wait to offer them grants and to profit from their burgeoning expertise.

Secondly, in an age of information warfare, contributions to regional media, offering translations and different views, have heightened importance. The Pacific Islands News Association has previously provided a French version of its newsletters. Reviving this could be reconsidered.

Thirdly, local leaders, NGOs and keepers of ancestral knowledge should be closely involved and associated with the process of applied research.

To sustain such dialogues, Paris might soon rely on Noumea's emerging (geo)political science research community. Similarly, the University of French Polynesia could be organising a third edition of its conference series on Great Powers in the Pacific.

Even at the regional level, Indo-Pacific strategies are not so open or inclusive, despite a new focus on the Global South. While minilateral forums create the impression of a close-knit and liberal diplomatic community, exclusively built around like-minded, great and middle-ranked powers, the time has come to gather more widely. With this aim, there is no need to reinvent the diplomatic wheel when one can, for example, build on the promising Pacific Dialogue on Security in Suva.

Taking inspiration from the long-discussed centrality of the Association of Southeast Asian nations, a think tank supported by regional universities or an annual 1.5 dialogue—such as those in Singapore, Manama, Dakar and Munich, but enriched with more local participants—might offer opportunities for Pacific island states to recentre talks around themselves and set the agenda.

Sur les berges de la Néra : le projet PERENNE
NC1ere radio - La Touche verte de l'été

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/nouvellecaledonie/programme-audio/la-touche-verte-de-lete-c00ac4b0-f4b4-4541-ae18-13ad599fc018/?fbclid=IwY2xjawIfnSVleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHWuV5AxK7Oj1zCA171g2uJgtsXefujsjmn5xSyNl1Fas2mhZGVoDtzoK0g_aem_4PT2Qvj8Pcr-UjsgC9RqgQ

Journaliste :
Bonjour à tous !
Aujourd'hui, direction les ripisylves, ces forêts en bord de rivière qui jouent un rôle clé dans l'équilibre de nos écosystèmes : elles limitent l'érosion, filtrent les polluants avant qu'ils n'atteignent le lagon et abritent une biodiversité exceptionnelle. Mais ces milieux sont fragilisés par les incendies, les défrichements et les espèces envahissantes. Pour y remédier, le projet PERENNE a été lancé en 2023 par le WWF Nouvelle-Calédonie avec la Chambre d'agriculture et de la pêche, de nombreux partenaires et le soutien de l'initiative KIWA.

Son objectif ? Restaurer les ripisylves du fleuve Néra à Bourail, dans un bassin agricole où les berges ont été fortement dégradées.

Malgré la crise, 2024 a été une année d'actions concrètes :
• Près de 2000 arbres plantés lors de chantiers écocitoyens à Nessadiou et Téné.
• Une formation pour les associations Wa Ereteu et Bwärä Tortues Marines, qui ont déjà atteint leur objectif de 16 000 plants produits.
• Des opérations de restauration, dont l'élimination de plusieurs centaines de m^3 de bambous obstruant les cours d'eau à Néméara pour lutter contre l'érosion.
• L'implication des collégiens de Bourail, devenus de véritables ambassadeurs de la ripisylve, qui ont produit une centaine d'arbres dans leurs pépinières.

Vous l'aurez compris, le succès du projet repose sur la diversité des acteurs impliqués : le WWF, la Chambre d'agriculture et de la pêche, la Ville de Bourail, le District de Ny, le Comité de gestion de la ZCO, le RSMA, le Conseil de l'eau, les associations, agriculteurs et autres volontaires engagés sur le terrain. Cette approche collaborative est essentielle pour assurer la pérennité des actions menées. En 2025, 7 nouveaux chantiers de plantation sont déjà prévus, avec l'ambition de faire de PERENNE un modèle reproductible sur tout le territoire. Restaurer ces ripisylves, c'est protéger nos rivières, préserver nos sols et renforcer une agriculture durable. Un vrai pari pour l'avenir !

Pour suivre le projet, rendez-vous sur les pages du WWF Nouvelle-Calédonie et de la CAP-NC. Et pour tout savoir sur l'état de notre environnement, rdv sur oeil.nc

Environmental Restoration in Aileu: Harvesting the Fruit of Hope
IUCN 18.02.25

https://iucn.org/blog/202502/environmental-restoration-aileu-harvesting-fruit-hope

Aileu Municipality is a municipality with four sub-districts such as Remexio, Lequidoe, Aileu Vila and Laulara. Aileu municipality has a population of approximately 55,000. It is located in the north -western mountain region, affected by mass deforestation, landslides and erosion, food insecurity, as well as a collapsed watershed and catchment system.
Herminia Pinto, Permatil Project Coordinator

Remexio Sub District is one of the target areas for implementation of Scaling-up climate adaptation strategy, including water source restoration, environmental rehabilitation and sustainable food system. The project is implemented by Permaculture Timor Lorosa'e (Permatil) and funded by the Kiwa Initiative programme, managed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The Kiwa Initiative's Permatil project in Timor-Leste is a permaculture-based initiative that aims to improve food systems and climate resilience in the Aileu Municipality. The project aims to increase the knowledge, skill and attitude around affective watershed and water source management, environmental rehabilitation and resilient food system across Timor-Leste with one of the specific objectives is scaling-up environmental rehabilitation and creating food resilience as adaptation to climate change.

Permatil, in collaboration with the community members from six targeted villages in Remexio Sub-District, initiated water conservation activities in early 2024. To enhance the impact of these efforts, in early 2025, we distributed a total of 2,760 water conservation and fruit saplings to 63 households. These saplings were planted across 18 hectares of land within the sub-district.

Paulina Mery, a community member from Acumau Village, expressed her gratitude to Permatil for selecting her as a recipient of the saplings. She shared her happiness about the timely distribution, which was perfect for planting. Ms Mery said, "I received rambutan, orange, durian, and casuarina trees". She added, "the water conservation trees were planted around the water springs, while the fruit trees were planted on my own farm".
Community members from the six villages are very enthusiastic about planting the saplings during the wet season. They are hopeful that the trees will grow well to provide a source of income in the future
Permatil Kiwa Initiative project titled "Scaling up climate adaptation strategies, including water resource restoration, environmental rehabilitation, and sustainable food systems" is a local project under the Kiwa Initiative. The initiative is funded by the European Union (EU), Agence Française de Développement, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

The Kiwa Initiative has established partnerships with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Oceania Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Date: 20.02.2025
Country: Fiji

Conversation about the Oceania Planetary Health Forum Fiji One - 20/02/25

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1434196131319778&rdid=KiUgi1S4UbWSkUmq

Wish Pacific's Project Manager, Timoci Naivalulevu and Professor Aaron Jenkins continue their conversation about the upcoming Oceania Planetary Health Forum 2025, which aims to bring together people from different sectors to make decisions about health and well-being.

Wish Pacific's Project Manager, Timoci Naivalulevu and Professor Aaron Jenkins continue their conversation about the upcoming Oceania...

Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn By dubaikhalifas https://jethrojeff.com/ 1/2

Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn Youtube Iucn: "the kiwa initiative aims to strengthen the resilience of ecosystems, economies and communities in the pacific island countries and territories (picts). We created this animation to highlight the purpose and importance of nature based solutions and their potential impact on human rights within pacific island.

Kiwa Initiative Nature Based Solutions For Climate Resilience Project Iucn Iucn congratulates the fiji government's innovative approach to addressing the impacts of climate change to our coastal communities in designing a hybrid seawall that integrates nature based solutions and local materials which is cost effective and strengthens community participation and ownership", shared mason smith, regional director of. The specific objective of this funding is to improve access to very small to medium sized funding targeting nature based solutions for climate change adaptation in the pacific while mainstreaming gender equality and a human rights based approach. the second call for proposals is now closed. subscribe to the kiwa initiative local projects. The iucn kiwa initiative team based in suva fiji will ensure that we achieve the goal of improving pacific islands ecosystems, economies and communities' resilience to climate change through improved ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation using nature based solutions via grants and technical assistance. The kiwa initiative is a multi donor program that aims to build resilience to climate change through nature based solutions (nbs). it is based on simplified access to climate change adaptation and nbs financing for local and national authorities, civil society and regional organizations in the pacific countries and territories, including the.

Kiwa Initiative Promotes Gender Equality In Nature Based Solutions For Land Restoration Story The iucn kiwa initiative team based in suva fiji will ensure that we achieve the goal of improving pacific islands ecosystems, economies and communities' resilience to climate change through improved ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation using nature based solutions via grants and technical assistance. The kiwa initiative is a multi donor program that aims to build resilience to climate change through nature based solutions (nbs). it is based on simplified access to climate change adaptation and nbs financing for local and national authorities, civil society and regional organizations in the pacific countries and territories, including the. The kiwa initiative provides access to financing and technical assistance for the implementation of projects based on nbs, at the local or regional level. in this way, it contributes to building the resilience of communities, ecosystems and economies of pacific island states and territories to climate change. The nature based solution (nbs) grant funding of eur326,077 (fjd$700,000) signed monday in suva will go towards the rehabilitation of six project sites in fiji. "this award will assist the government of fiji in increasing the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities to climate change by constructing nature friendly climate adaptation.

Cop 27 Side Event The Kiwa Initiative Or How To Address Climate Change Adaptation And Nature The kiwa initiative provides access to financing and technical assistance for the implementation of projects based on nbs, at the local or regional level. in this way, it contributes to building the resilience of communities, ecosystems and economies of pacific island states and territories to climate change. The nature based solution (nbs) grant funding of eur326,077 (fjd$700,000) signed monday in suva will go towards the rehabilitation of six project sites in fiji. "this award will assist the government of fiji in increasing the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities to climate change by constructing nature friendly climate adaptation.

Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn By dubaikhalifas https://jethrojeff.com/ 2/2

Welcome to our blog, where Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn takes center stage. We believe in the power of Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn to transform lives, ignite passions, and drive change. Through our carefully curated articles and insightful content, we aim to provide you with a deep understanding of Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn and its impact on various aspects of life. Join us on this enriching journey as we explore the endless possibilities and uncover the hidden gems within Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn.

Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative and Nature-based Solutions in Fiji with IUCN Kiwa Initiative's project : Learn more about POLFN ! Kiwa Initiative Local Projects in the Pacific (Part 1) Coastal protection / Nature-based seawalls, led by the Ministry of Waterways Fiji Nature-based solutions animation by the Nature-based Solutions Initiative Nature-based solutions Let's build the Kiwa Initiative Community together Introduction to the Kiwa local project Building coastal resilience / Dune ecosystem in Fiji Kiwa Initiative Local Projects in the Pacific (Part 2) The role of healthy coastal ecosystems in Pacific Islands climate adaptation Improving Livelihoods through Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Climate Systems,led by KGWan Kiwa Capacity Building Needs Assessment Webinar Introduction to the Kiwa regional project PEBACC+ Rio Doce Panel - A nature-based solutions approach at a landscape level

Conclusion

After exploring the topic in depth, it is obvious that this specific publication offers beneficial data in connection with Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn. In the full scope of the article, the scribe displays a wealth of knowledge pertaining to the theme. In particular, the discussion of this factor stands out as particularly informative. Additionally, the post is exceptional in disentangling complex concepts in an intelligible manner. Furthermore, the reporter contains tangible illustrations that augment the contents usefulness. An additional feature that makes this composition outstanding is the extensive analysis of an array of aspects related to Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn. The writers rigorous method validates that followers receive a thorough understanding of the subject matter. Thanks for spending time on the publication. If you have any inquiries, feel encouraged to make contact employing email. I am enthusiastic about your messages. In conclusion, for further insights, highlighted below are various related entries that are engaging:Hope you enjoy them!

Related images with explainer video animation kiwa initiative and nature based solutions in fiji with iucn

Explainer Video Animation Kiwa Initiative And Nature Based Solutions In Fiji With Iucn Youtube

Kiwa Initiative Nature Based Solutions For Climate Resilience Project Iucn

Kiwa Initiative Promotes Gender Equality In Nature Based Solutions For Land Restoration Story

Cop 27 Side Event The Kiwa Initiative Or How To Address Climate Change Adaptation And Nature

Kiwa Initiative Afd Agence Française De Développement

Kiwa Initiative Capacity Needs Assessment For Implementing Nature Based Solutions For Climate

Kiwa Initiative Brochure The Pacific Community

When Nature Based Solutions Nbs Improve Food Security In Fiji Tonga The Solomon Islands And

Nature Based Solutions Project To Boost Climate Resilience In Fiji News Iucn

Les Solutions Fondées Sur La Nature Initiative Kiwa

Kiwa Initiative Promotes Gender Equality In Nature Based Solutions For Land Restoration Story

The Kiwa Initiative Launches New Projects And Additional Contributions From Its Donors To

Related videos with explainer video animation kiwa initiative and nature based solutions in fiji with iucn

Date: 26.02.2025
Country: Fiji

The Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, Hon. Filimoni Vosarogo officiates as chief guest at the Oceania Planetary Health Forum
Fiji Government - 26/02/25

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3812280435769367

The Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, Hon. Filimoni Vosarogo officiates as chief guest at the Oceania Planetary Health Forum at Shangri-La, Yanuca.

Ministry of Environment commits to strengthening Climate and Health resilience

Fiji Village - 26/02/25

Fiji's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen environmental policies and climate resilience, emphasizing the urgent need for a unified approach to planetary health.

While addressing the Oceania Planetary Health Forum, Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources Filimoni Vosarogo outlined four key focus areas to strengthen inter-ministerial collaboration which is to empower communities in environmental restoration, advancing research through a Fiji-based planetary health centre and scaling up climate and health resilience initiatives.

Vosarogo also emphasized the importance of proactive measures rather than reactive responses to crises, which will be guided by the principles of the Vanua, ensuring that decisions align with Fiji's cultural and environmental values.

He says the Ministry expressed gratitude to the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the French Development Agency, and Bloomberg Philanthropies for their support in driving these initiatives forward.

The Minister adds that as Fiji continues to face the growing impacts of climate change, all policymakers, researchers, community leaders, and global partners are urged to collaborate in building a healthier, more resilient Pacific.

Vosarogo urges unified action on climate change
FBC News - 27/02/25

Minister for Lands Filimoni Vosarogo has highlighted the critical need for unified action to address the interconnected challenges of climate change, ecosystem degradation, and emerging health threats.

During the Oceania Planetary Health Forum, Vosarogo highlighted the deep connection between the health of the people and the health of the planet.
He says that the Pacific's understanding of this relationship is rooted in the concept of the Vanua, which embodies the sacred bond between people, land, and identity.

Vosarogo: Our voice is critical
Fiji Times - 28/02/25

THE region's work towards aligning policies with the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent is at the forefront of discussions at the Oceania Planetary Health Forum in Sigatoka.

While highlighting the importance of the forum, Lands and Mineral Resources Minister Filimoni Vosarogo said in aligning their strategies, the region's policy makers needed to consider how they could leverage benefits and deliver transformative results.

"Policies developed in the Pacific must deliver and be based around equity, sustainability and evidence-based decision-making, but we can only create such policies if we have the will and drive to reassess and reshape our approach — challenging business as usual," Mr Vosarogo said.

He said the Pacific-led approach to global challenges was vital.

"Pacific Island nations are guardians of vast ocean territories, stewards of unique ecosystems and leaders in the advocacy for climate action.

"Our voice is critical in shaping the various elements that constitute what we can refer to as the global planetary health discourse."

Mr Vosarogo said PIC leaders, including Fiji, had been leading with a clarion call for transformative climate action, while many intergovernmental agencies were calling for unified plans of action for health, environment and climate change, particularly in small island states.

He said initiatives such as WISH-Fiji's recent presence at two world health summits demonstrated that Pacific-led research and community-driven solutions could inspire change worldwide.

The minister also called on participants for their commitment to taking action.

"Within this context, Fiji's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change commits to: strengthening inter-ministerial collaboration aligning environmental, health, and economic policies to support nature-based solutions and integrated watershed management, ensuring local leadership in environmental restoration, sustainable agriculture and climate adaptation and scaling up climate and health resilience initiatives."

The three-day Oceania Planetary Health Forum (OPHF) held at the Shangri-La's Fijian Resort & Spa is being hosted by the Fiji National University's Institute of Pacific Health Research (FIPHR), the University of Sydney, Monash University and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Date: 07.03.2025
Country: International

Women at the forefront: tackling invasive species in East Rennell
IUCN 07.03.25

https://iucn.org/story/202503/women-forefront-tackling-invasive-species-east-rennell

The East Rennell World Heritage Site (ERWHS) covers about 30 percent of Rennell Island. In 2013, the site was declared 'in danger' due to problems like lack of protection, few job opportunities, possible logging, and invasive species. A 2018 study found that the invasive black rat was common on the island, threatening crops, livelihoods, and local wildlife. Six native birds and some snails were especially at risk.

To tackle these problems, The Kiwa Initiative BirdLife International included women and people with disabilities in managing invasive species. In 2022, they held a community workshop to explain the project's goals and hired a local coordinator to help find rangers. At first, four male rangers were chosen from the villages of Tevaitahe, Niupani, Tegano, and Hutuna. They were trained to set up rat control areas and monitor wildlife.
The project also encouraged women to help with data collection and monitoring. With support from their communities, women joined the rangers in their work. This allowed women to play an important role in controlling the rat population and protecting their environment.

By involving women in this project, BirdLife International not only tackles the invasive species problem but also empowers women in their communities, showing their important contributions to conservation. To address the threats to ERWHS, BirdLife International partnered with the Lake Tegano World Heritage Site Association (LTWHSA), an Indigenous community group. The management committee includes representatives from the villages of Tevaitahe, Niupani, Tegano, and Hutuna, making sure women and youth are involved in decisions. The project aims to manage invasive species, improve livelihoods and ensure food security for local communities. This helps improve both the environment and the well-being of the people living there.
Recognizing the importance of inclusion, the project encourages discussions about engaging women and youth. Women expressed a strong desire to participate in data collection and rat removal efforts. With community support, rangers ensured that women had equal opportunities to join the monitoring activities. Since mid-2023, about twenty women from the four villages have been trained to monitor rat bait consumption. They, along with the rangers, receive daily pay for their work.

Guided by an Environmental Monitoring Plan, rangers check and replenish bait in about 40 hectares of garden areas across the villages. This plan allows both rangers and community members, including women, to track changes in local wildlife and assess the effectiveness of rat control, particularly for vulnerable species like the endemic Rennell shrikebill. Men typically monitor birds in the mornings, while women handle crop and bait monitoring throughout the day, balancing their family responsibilities.

One woman in particular, Joy Teahemasi from Niupani Village, has been recognised for her strong organisational skills, particularly when it comes to monitoring data. Joy has been recruited to lead on the data entry, working closely with the Local Project Coordinator. Her contribution and those of the other women, are helping to demonstrate the roles women can play in projects alongside men from their communities.

Date: 07.03.2025
Country: International

Women at the forefront: tackling invasive species in East Rennell

IUCN 07.03.25

Joy shares her story:

"After graduating from university, I found it hard to find a job in town, so I went back home. A few times our community high school asked me to do some work for them like typing exam papers and other admin work. Then when this project started, I submitted my letter of interest to the Lake Tegano World Heritage Site Association to work on the rodent control program. I was happy that they accepted it. Basically, my work is to collect monitoring data from the Rangers and compile and enter them in Excel. Sometimes I argue with Rangers when they don't write the data properly and that makes it hard for me to enter the data. But we always help each other, and once I am satisfied with their reports, I also liaise with the Local Project Coordinator who checks their Timesheets. When I started my work in entering data, I used to fill the data on sheets of paper which was very tiring. I am very thankful that the Coordinator allows me to use the project laptop. As a result, I have really improved my skills in using a laptop and know how to properly record data. I understand the different functions of Excel and other programs. Not only that, but I have also learnt a lot about the endemic birds and the importance of protecting our environment from harmful predators. The only challenge I see is getting more women to be part of the Lake Tegano World Heritage Site Association Committee. Otherwise, this project is indeed supporting us to gain more knowledge about monitoring and collecting data. If this project is extended, or if there's any more projects like this, I will encourage and recommend more ladies to be engaged."

Birdlife International has also appointed a female staff member to co-lead the project. This is important because it gives women in the village someone they can trust to talk about the project and any issues they may have. The project is designed to support women and help them navigate community norms in a culturally sensitive ways.

Women at the Centre of Solutions for Climate Change IUCN 07.03.25

https://iucn.org/blog/202503/women-centre-solutions-climate-change

Climate change impacts us all, but its effects are often felt more acutely by women. From farming to fishing, women play important roles in resource management throughout the Pacific Islands. They are crucial for climate change adaptation because of their ties to the land and the water. Shreeya Verma content hero image

Photo: Seagrass survey for the Kiwa Initiative Blue Ventures project in Timor-Leste.

At the Kiwa Initiative, we understand that effective climate action depends on women's empowerment. Our strategy includes deploying Nature-based Solutions (NbS) throughout the Pacific Island nations, which tackles gender inequality in addition to environmental challenges. When their surroundings change, women are often the first to realise it. They become the foundation for both community health and food security. Women's perspectives result in more workable and sustainable solutions when they engage fully in climate adaptation initiatives.

Communities become stronger and more resilient when women are supported. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Kiwa Initiative collaborate to advance gender equality in environmental projects. This collaborative works seek to elevate the voices of women and guarantee their access to the resources and instruments required for climate adaptation. IUCN Oceania is in charge of a number of projects aimed at empowering women. These programmes inspire women to take the lead in climate change in their communities by offering them support, resources, and training. We promote local leadership and stimulate creativity by giving them the information and abilities they need. Supporting women in their leadership and innovation positions is a must as we address the issues brought on by climate change.

This goal is the focus of the Kiwa Initiative, which makes sure that women are at the cutting edge of developing sustainable solutions in the Pacific. We are laying the foundation for a time when everyone can prosper while coexisting peacefully with the environment by working with IUCN. Our mission is perfectly aligned with this year's International Women's Day theme, "Accelerate Action." Women are key to climate resilience; therefore, we must move swiftly to empower them. We would want to congratulate all the diligent females who work with nature in our local projects. Your work is valuable in protecting women's rights and taking the lead in developing long-term solutions.

Building a future where everyone can prosper while preserving the environment is our shared goal with IUCN. Let's continue to advance women's rights and sustainability for all.

Govt declares the Niuas 'organic islands'

Talaona'O Tonga - 09/03/25

The Cabinet has approved the declaration of the Niuas as organic islands, the first in the country, aiming to eliminate the use of harmful chemicals and pesticides.

Minister for Agriculture, Hon. Dr. Siosiua Halavatau, expressed concern during a government press conference last Friday over the excessive use of "poison, chemicals, pesticides" and emphasized the need to "develop a system to solve problem."

Local organic produce displayed during the 2018 Niuafo'ou Royal Agricultural Show.
The initiative involves collaboration with key stakeholders, including the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the Tonga National Youth Congress (TNYC), and Live & Learn Environmental Education.
Halavatau said a significant aspect of the plan is the revitalization of the Ministry's laboratory, with an investment of half a million pa'anga funded by the New Zealand government, dedicated to testing pollutants, analyzing food, and detecting pesticide residues.

"We will consult and engage the residents as we develop the organic standards," Halavatau said. He added that legislation will follow but the initiative will kick off from now.
Minister for MEIDECC, Hon. Dr. Taniela Fusimalohi said that testing of water samples collected from various sites being inspected around the country is expected to be done at the ministry's restored lab.
Following the Niuas, islands in Vava'u and Ha'apai are also slated for organic designation marking the government's venture into establishing organic islands.
This move aligns with a broader Pacific trend. In 2013, Fiji's Cicia Island was declared organic, becoming the first in the Pacific to do so. Similarly, Vanuatu's Emae Island achieved organic status in 2016, reflecting a regional shift towards sustainable agriculture.
Tonga's commitment to organic practices not only aims to protect the environment but also to promote healthier agricultural methods, setting a precedent for other Pacific nations.

Date: 17.03.2025
Country: Fiji

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE HON. MOSESE BULITAVU'S REMARKS AT THE LAUNCH OF THE LIVE AND LEARN PROJECT - 17.03.25

https://www.publicnow.com/view/5025AFD5E719C74C18972E3B99FB32E8B5FB8E06?1742190433

Ni Sa Bula Vinaka, and Good Morning I am pleased to join you this morning to officiate the launch of the Live and Learn KIWA Empower project. As we all fully understand, climate change is the greatest threat we face here in the Blue Pacific. And we all recognise how important it is to work collaboratively and with urgency to mitigate the impacts and protect our people and environments from harm.
The impacts of climate change for the Pacific region have many implications that will impact our future but the degree to which our future will be altered is largely contingent on the action we take and the foresight we employ to navigate these risks.
From the loss of livelihoods to diminished food and water security, to the loss of biodiversity - there are no bounds to the disruption if we are not resolute in our efforts to embed climate protection and solutions into our development efforts and daily lives. Most of the population in Fiji, particularly in rural areas, depends heavily on agriculture and fishing.
This makes them extremely vulnerable to rising sea levels, ocean acidification, extreme weather events, and shifting rainfall patterns. Unsustainable resource management practices further worsen the situation, threatening food, and water security, especially in isolated communities.
Today, this event-the launch of the Regional Kiwa EMPOWER Project implemented by Live & Learn Fiji in three Pacific countries-further underscores the shared commitment and dedication of our donor partners, national stakeholders, and communities to work together in addressing climate change through nature-based solutions.
The Kiwa EMPOWER Project will be implementedin Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu and will benefit approximately 20,000 people (both directly and indirectly) in twenty-four (24) communities.
These twenty-four communities were identified by their governments as highly vulnerable to climate change.

The Kiwa EMPOWER regional project is supportedby five (5) donor countries namely Australia, Canada, the European Union, France, and New Zealand who have come together to support the Kiwa Initiative.
I am pleased to work closely with Live & Learn and give my blessing to this project, as it not only addresses climate change using Nature-based Solutions (NbS) but also is expected to yield a transformative impact on the lives and livelihoods of Pacific Islanders.
This project will restore and revitalize forests, mangroves, and watersheds; it will undertake climate-smart agriculture and support sustainable land-use practices. These efforts are intended toempower the communities involved to adapt to changing environmental conditions, protect sources of food security, and improve the sustainability and resilience of their livelihoods. I believe this project's emphasis on community participation and the integration of Indigenousknowledge will foster a sense of ownership and prideand in doing so support the long-term sustainability of the interventions.

Date: 17.03.2025
Country: Fiji

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE HON. MOSESE BULITAVU'S REMARKS AT THE LAUNCH OF EMPOWER PROJECT - 17.03.25

At its core - the overall objective of Kiwa EMPOWER is to empower communities from Fiji, Tuvalu, and Solomon Islands to thrive in a changing climate by restoring ecosystems, utilising Indigenousknowledge and innovative practices, and ensuring inclusive decision-making for a sustainable future. In my capacity as Minister for Climate Change, I once again endorse and support this project and its approaches which is well aligned with the objectives of Fiji's National Climate Change Policy as well with key regional and international strategies and frameworks including the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Paris Agreement. Once again, a big Vinaka Vakalevu to the donors and implementing partners that have made this project possible.

Thank you all for being here today for the launch the Kiwa EMPOWER Project.

Date: 17.03.2025
Country: Fiji

Live and Learn Environmental Education has launched the Regional Kiwa EMPOWER Project
Fiji TV - 17/03/25

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1112016957338315

#FijiOneNews | In a groundbreaking move, Live and Learn Environmental Education has launched the Regional Agenda for the Kiwa Empower Project, ensuring that indigenous landowners in Fiji, Tuvalu, and the Solomon Islands have a stronger voice in environmental decision-making.

#FijiOneNews | In a groundbreaking move, Live and Learn Environmental Education has launched the Regional Agenda for the Kiwa Empower...

$7.5m Climate Resilience Project Launched, Fiji Sun 18.03.25

$7.5m Climate Resilience Project Launched

Live & Learn Fiji country director Doris Susau said the project would focus on food security, water management, and restoration of degraded coastal and inland areas.

By **Kaneta Naimatau**

18 Mar 2025 13:23

Minister for Enviroment Mosese Bulitavu and Minister for Itaukei Affairs Iferemi Vasu with participants durng the regional launch of the agenda for the KIWA Empowerment Project on March 17, 2025. Photo: Ronald Kumar

A £3 million ($F7.5million) climate resilience project targeting 24 communities across three Pacific Island nations was officially launched at the Tanoa Plaza Hotel in Suva yesterday.

The Kiwa Empower project, funded through the Kiwa Initiative, will implement nature-based solutions to address pressing climate challenges in Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu.

Live & Learn Fiji country director Doris Susau said the project would focus on food security, water management, and restoration of degraded coastal and inland areas.

MORE ON **NATION, NEWS**

Japan Injects $10M in Medical Aid
2025-05-02

Ministry Invests $17m in Drainage Upgrades
2025-05-02

'No to Drug Test of MPs'
2025-05-02

Decision Pending on Public Release of COI Report: PM
2025-05-02

"Nature-based solutions will be the approach to climate change issues that communities are facing," Ms Susau told this masthead.

"The key climate change issues we have identified together with our government partners are to do with food security and livelihoods, water and watershed management issues, as well as degraded coastal and inland areas."

The target communities - 20 in total - are located in the Northern Division on Vanua Levu, with 14 in Cakaudrove Province, three in Bua Province, and three in Macuata Province.

The remaining four communities include two remote atoll island communities in Tuvalu (Nanumea and Niutao) and two remote communities in Solomon Islands (Sikaiana Village in Temotu Province and Nifiloli Village in Malaita Province).
Ms Susau highlighted the inclusive approach of the project, stressing that women and young people would be actively engaged in program activities.

"We ensure that our people, our communities, they remain centre in our initiatives," she said.

The project received funding from five donor partners through the Kiwa Initiative: the European Union, French government, Australian government, New Zealand government, and Canadian government.

Implementation is expected to begin immediately following the current regional workshop, with national stakeholder engagement in Fiji scheduled for late March and early April 2025.

Date: 18.03.2025
Country: Fiji

EMPOWER project Launch
Instagram - franceauxfidji
18/03/25

Great to join 🇫🇯Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Hon. Mosese Bulitavu, Minister for I-Taukei Affairs, Hon. Ifireimi Vasu, Live and Learn Fiji, other #Kiwa Initiative partners 🇪🇺🇦🇺🇨🇦🇦🇺, Kiwa Secretariat and Agence Française de Développement - AFD - dans l'océan Pacifique Elodie Vitalis for the Regional Launch of the Kiwa EMPOWER Project.

The EMPOWER Project, which stands for "Engaging Mobilisation for Positive Outcome in Water, Ecosystem and Resilience", will support 24 communities in Fiji 🇫🇯, Tuvalu 🇹🇻 and the Solomon Islands🇸🇧 to implement nature-based solutions to manage their resources and restore their ecosystems. The project is driven by the importance of building upon indigenous and traditional knowledge and empowering local communities through capacity building. From 2025-2028, approximately 20,000 people will benefit from EMPOWER in its 3 countries of implementation.

On the occasion of the EMPOWER launch, I highlighted that the Kiwa Initiative was reaching a milestone as it was celebrating its 5th anniversary. With a budget of over 77M€, Kiwa already supports 17 local projects and 7 regional projects across the Pacific.

As the main founder of Kiwa, France 🇫🇷 is very proud that this Initiative has been able to develop into a central platform for collaboration and action, connecting a wide range of actors working together to tackle the challenges posed by climate change in the Blue Pacific.

Date: 20.03.2025
Country: Wallis et Futuna

Projet PEBACC+ : s'adapter au réchauffement climatique à Wallis en restaurant la mangrove
Wallis & Futuna la 1ere TV - 20.03.25

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/wallisfutuna/projet-pebacc-s-adapter-au-rechauffement-climatique-a-wallis-en-restaurant-la-mangrove-1571419.html

Projet PEBACC+ : s'adapter au réchauffement climatique à Wallis en restaurant la mangrove

réchauffement climatique

Mangrove au village de Utufua (Wallis) • ©Lafaela Liufau

Dans le cadre du programme régional océanien de l'environnement (PROE), 2 coordinateurs du projet PEBACC+ pour l'adaptation au réchauffement climatique basée sur les écosystèmes, sont arrivés sur le territoire ce lundi 17 mars. Cette mission porte sur les zones humides, les mangroves à Wallis, les tarodières à Futuna. Pendant plusieurs jours, ils vont suivre les agents du service de l'environnement. L'objectif, leur apporter d'autres lumières pour répondre à la question : comment protéger et restaurer la mangrove à Wallis.

Lafaela Liufau, Fatima Maniulua · Publié le 20 mars 2025 à 12h13

2 coordinateurs du projet PEBACC+ pour l'adaptation au réchauffement climatique sont arrivés ce lundi 17 mars à Wallis. Leur mission consiste à suivre les agents du service de l'environnement pour leur apporter des lumières sur la protection de la mangrove à Uvea.

À peine sur le terrain et déjà la main dans la vase. François TRON, coordinateur PEBACC+ pour la Calédonie et Wallis et Futuna, guide les agents biodiversité du service de l'environnement. Il démontre les preuves des bienfaits de la mangrove. "*Le sédiment a monté derrière le mur, on voit il y a vraiment une différence de hauteur. Il y a eu une accumulation de sédiment quelque part. Ce n'est pas une plage mais le bord de mer a monté à cet endroit. En même temps que la mer elle monte, le bord de mer a monté, et c'est exactement ce qu'on cherche. Pour se protéger face au changement climatique, tout ce qu'on peut faire qui va faire monter la terre au bord de mer, c'est favorable*".

Restaurer et protéger la mangrove...

Projet PEBACC+ : s'adapter au réchauffement climatique à Wallis en restaurant la mangrove, Wallis & Futuna la 1ere TV - 20.03.25

https://la1ere.francetvinfo.fr/wallisfutuna/projet-pebacc-s-adapter-au-rechauffement-climatique-a-wallis-en-restaurant-la-mangrove-1571419.html

Pour arriver à ce résultat, il faut restaurer et protéger la mangrove, en replantant les palétuviers dans un environnement déjà existant, propice à leur développement. Pour élargir la zone de restauration vers le large, tracer en GPS une côte de marée est indispensable. C'est-à-dire *"évaluer la surface qu'on peut restaurer à partir du littoral jusqu'au platier"*.

Une vingtaine d'hectares de mangrove à Wallis...

Wallis compte plus d'une vingtaine d'hectares de mangrove. 5 à 6 sites prioritaires ont été identifiés pour la mission. La mangrove est une ceinture de protection naturelle du littoral, un épurateur et un espace de vie pour de nombreuses espèces. En prendre soin c'est aussi prendre soin des courants fluviaux naturels aux alentours.

> *C'est comme une veine dans le corps, si jamais il y a des caillots, le médecin va les enlever, il va donner un traitement pour enlever ces caillots de sang. Dans la gestion des mangroves, c'est pareil. On ne bloque jamais le chemin de l'eau, et même si on peut enlever les choses qui bloquent le chemin de l'eau comme le bois mort ou les déchets, les poissons, les crabes ils passent, c'est très important.*
>
> François TRON, coordinateur projet PEBACC+ pour la Nouvelle Calédonie et Wallis et Futuna

Pour cette mission le choix s'est porté sur la mangrove à Wallis, la tarodière à Futuna, des zones humides dont le rôle est essentiel dans la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique.

©Wallis

Partager :

Projet PEBACC+ : s'adapter au réchauffement climatique à Wallis en restaurant la mangrove, Wallis & Futuna la 1ere TV - 20.03.25

François TRON, coordinateur projet PEBACC+ pour la Nouvelle Calédonie et Wallis et Futuna Pour cette mission le choix s'est porté sur la mangrove à Wallis, la tarodière à Futuna, des zones humides dont le rôle est essentiel dans la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique.

Video Script :

Journaliste: À peine sur le terrain et déjà la main dans la vase. François Tron, coordinateur PEBACC+ pour la Calédonie et Wallis et Futuna, guide les agents biodiversité du service de l'environnement. Il montre ici les preuves des bienfaits de la mangrove.

François Tron: Le sédiment a monté derrière le mur, on le voit, il y a vraiment une différence de hauteur, c'est très net. Si tu sors de trois mètres, tu viens même là et tu regardes là, il y a vraiment une grosse différence. Donc il y a eu une accumulation de sédiments quelque part. Ce n'est pas une plage, mais le bord de mer, il a monté ici quoi. En même temps que la mer, elle monte, lui, il a monté ici. Donc c'est exactement ce qu'on cherche. Pour se protéger face au changement climatique, tout ce qu'on peut faire qui va faire monter la terre au bord de mer, c'est favorable.

Journaliste: Pour arriver à ce résultat, il faut restaurer et protéger la mangrove en replantant les palétuviers dans un environnement déjà existant, propice à leur développement. Pour élargir la zone de restauration vers le large, tracer en GPS une côte de Maré est indispensable.

François Tron: Le GPS, il nous trace la chose. Personne interviewée: C'est évaluer en fait la surface qu'on peut restaurer à partir du littoral, jusqu'au platier. François Tron: Peut-être on peut faire autre chose avec, j'en sais rien.

Journaliste: Wallis compte plus d'une vingtaine d'hectares de mangrove. 5 à 6 sites prioritaires ont été identifiés pour la mission. La mangrove est une ceinture de protection naturelle du littoral, un épurateur et un espace de vie pour de nombreuses espèces. En prendre soin, c'est aussi prendre soin des courants fluviaux naturels aux alentours.

François Tron: C'est comme dans une veine dans le corps. Si jamais il y a des caillots, le médecin va nous enlever les caillots. Il va nous donner un traitement pour enlever les caillots de sang dans les veines de sang. Dans la mangrove, dans la gestion des mangroves, c'est pareil. Jamais on bloque le chemin de l'eau et même si on peut enlever les choses qui bloquent le chemin de l'eau, par exemple du bois mort ou des déchets, n'importe quoi, on enlève ça pour que l'eau, elle passe bien. Les poissons, les crabes, ils passent bien toujours. C'est très important.

Journaliste: Pour cette mission, le choix s'est porté sur la mangrove à Wallis, la tarodière à Futuna. Des zones humides, dont le rôle est essentiel dans la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique.

2025 5th ANNIVERSARY

KIWA INITIATIVE

Nature-based solutions for climate resilience

THIS INITIATIVE IS FUNDED BY:

EUROPEAN UNION

AFD

in partnership with Canada

Australian Aid

NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE Aid Programme

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

Pacific Community Communauté du Pacifique

SPREP

IUCN