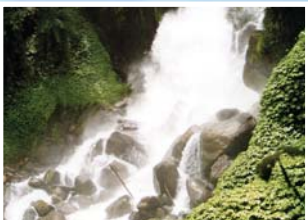


# S o u t h P a c i f i c P r o g r a m m e

Annual Report 2002



# about the organisation

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World Wide Fund for Nature South Pacific Programme (WWF SPP) is a regional non-governmental organisation working in the Pacific island countries. The Programme was set up in 1990 as part of WWF's endeavour to work effectively and appropriately locally and globally. The office's mandate is to develop and direct a strategic programme of conservation activities in the Pacific islands region, on behalf of the WWF network. The programme is managed from a regional base in Suva, Fiji. In 1998 and 1999, country programme offices were established in Cook Islands, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea to increase local input into programme work. In 2002, the South Pacific Programme is working on 6 programmes, employing 95 technical, field and administrative people in four island countries, with a total annual budget of around FJD 5 million.

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WWF South Pacific Programme Annual Report 2002

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# spp vision



Pacific islands and oceans in which ecological processes, nature and biodiversity are conserved and in harmony meeting the long-term needs of Pacific Island People's.

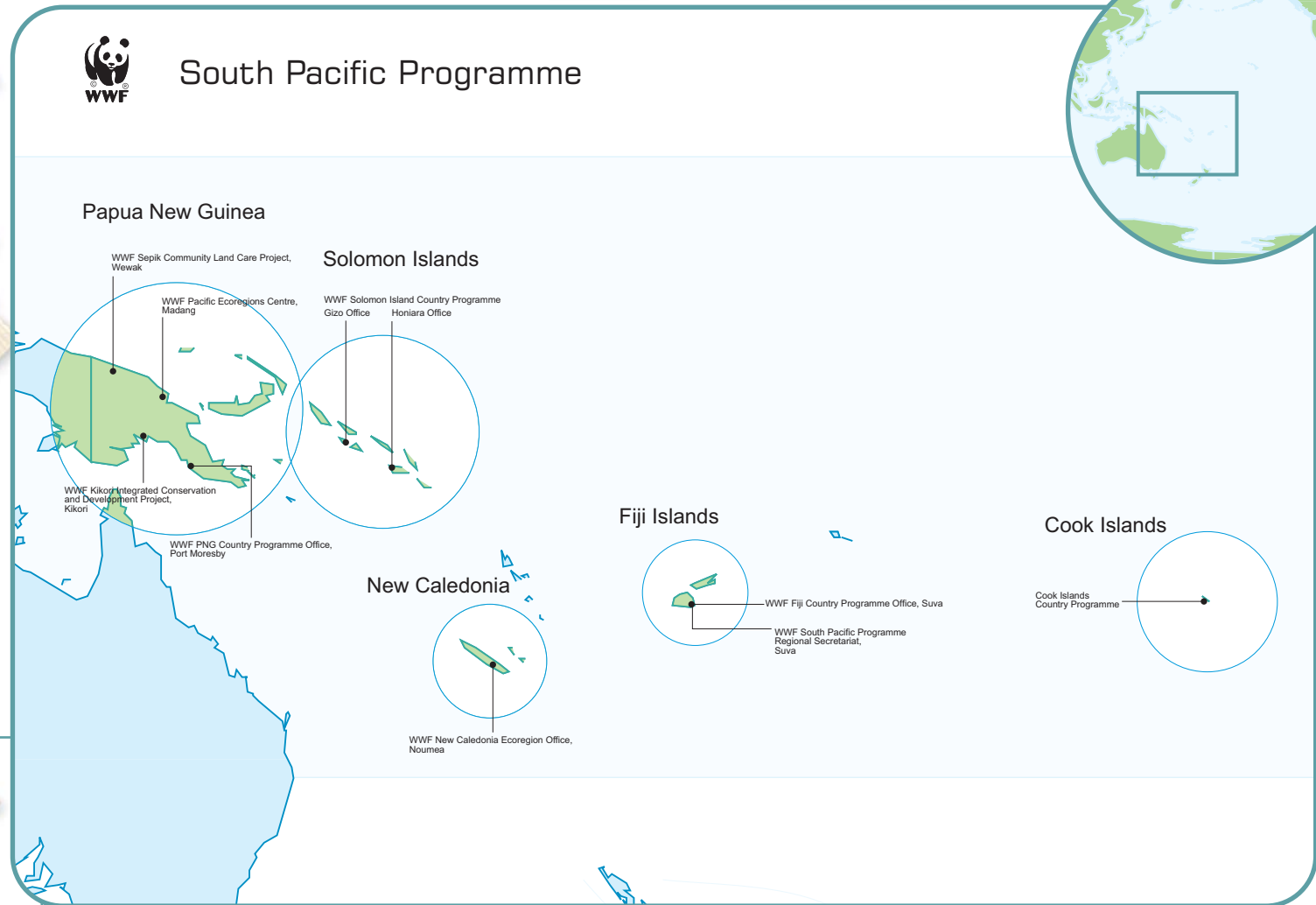
There is supportive legislation and policies that protect the customary cultural and heritage rights of the Pacific Island People's, ensures the environment is managed in a sustainable manner and promotes the socio-economic development of Pacific Island Countries.

There is cooperation and networking between Pacific island governments, business and industry, non-governmental and other civil society organisations and Pacific Island People's to maintain conservation and sustainable development.

Future generations are guaranteed the use of natural resources to sustain their lives and their children's lives.

# spp goal

To support Pacific Islands People's to conserve and sustainably manage our natural inheritance for present and future generations.



# word from the representative



This Annual Report is only the second report that WWF South Pacific has produced in over 14 years in the Pacific, there have been many changes in that time, both with WWF's work and with conservation within the Pacific Region. First, I wish to acknowledge certain individuals whose contribution in the past has been instrumental to the current success of WWF's work. Specifically, I would like to thank Peter Ramshaw, who started the programme in the early 90s, Peter Hunnam, who developed the programme for over 6 years and David Hulse, who steered the programme through a period of rapid growth and decentralisation.

This Annual Report for 2001-2002 reflects WWF's commitment to people and nature within the Pacific while also focusing our efforts on a number of focal ecoregions.

In the course of the year, WWF South Pacific engaged in new areas of work; working with partners in Papua New Guinea on Whale conservation saw the declaration by

the PNG Prime Minister of their Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) as a whale sanctuary. Our work with other organisations on Marine Conservation Areas including our membership of the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas network (FLMMA) - that was awarded the Equator Award at the recent World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) is a great example of how collaborative efforts can make a real difference.

This year saw the regional conservation team expand to bring in new skills and expertise - in the areas of Climate Change, Sustainable Livelihoods, Capacity Building, Policy, and Fisheries which has enabled us to work with other regional organisations to promote the interests of the Pacific globally. WWF's collaboration with the regional South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) on the World Water Forum and South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) with WSSD were two good examples of this regional collaboration.

The development - in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders - of long term visions for biodiversity and support for the sustainable livelihoods of Pacific island communities will be the focus of our efforts over the next few years.

2002 has been a challenging year, but one (when I talk to staff in the 5 countries in which we operate) that has been both enjoyable and satisfying. As a Pacific NGO, with over 95 staff - 96% of which are Pacific Islanders - WWF South Pacific has a responsibility of the next year to work in ways that supports Pacific Island Governments and other partners in conserving the biodiversity and the culture, that both make the Pacific so special and which sustains the lives of over 8 million people.

Dermot O'Gorman  
Representative, South Pacific Region

spp  
exco committee



Front row L - R: Sanjay Kumar, Seri Hite, Isabelle Louis, Kelly Kalit, Sereana Cokanasiga.  
Back row L - R: Bernadette Masianini, Kesia Tabunakawai, Dermot O'Gorman.

Exco is the Executive Committee of WWF South Pacific Programme, the committee sat for its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in July, 2002. The committee holds meetings two to three times a year to discuss development of the overall programme.

# wwf focal ecoregions in the pacific

There are 92 Global 200 ecoregions in the Asia Pacific region. 16 of these ecoregions are found in the Pacific region and they contain some of the most unique and diverse forms of life on the planet.

WWF South Pacific has identified 5 of these ecoregions to work in :



**In each of these focal ecoregions, the ultimate goal is to conserve the ecoregion's biodiversity.**

Using current information and in conjunction with partners, each ecoregion's conservation programme will establish a vision for the long-term conservation of the ecoregion's biodiversity. A set of targets will address the full range of socio-economic improvements necessary within the ecoregion and will also contribute to the achievement of the targets of WWF's six globally important issues – forests, oceans and coasts, freshwater, species, toxics and climate change. Improving the livelihoods of local communities that live within the Pacific Ecoregions will help ensure sustainability and promote alternatives to environmentally damaging development.

How will ecoregion work be carried out?

Work in each of the 5 focal ecoregions in the South Pacific are currently at varying stages. For instance, in the Forests of Niugini complex and Bismarck Solomon Seas focal ecoregions, biological assessments are now underway. In the Bismarck – Solomon Seas ecoregion where WWF's past efforts have included various awareness and community based activities, the organization will also develop a policy programme. For the Fiji Barrier Reef ecoregion, WWF will work with partners to build on the range of actions that have taken place over the years and currently being implemented locally. This will include an intensive reconnaissance of the area to develop a biodiversity vision for an integrated conservation plan for the ecoregion as a whole.

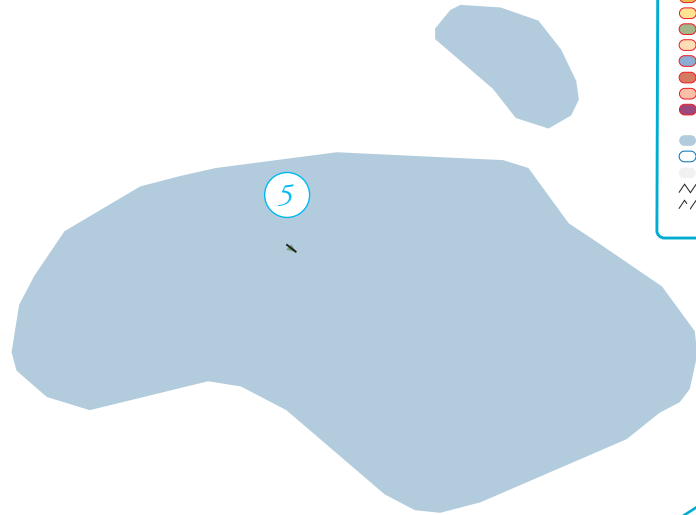
WWF South

Pacific will apply the principles of ecoregion conservation to achieve the vision and targets of each ecoregion's programme. It will employ the tried and tested methods that WWF has used over the years –

- ▶ protected area establishment
- ▶ environmental education
- ▶ capacity building
- ▶ advocacy for policy changes
- ▶ sustainable livelihoods

but on a geographically larger scale and engaging a broader range of issues and partners than ever before. In addition, as we analyse the pressures bearing upon Pacific Ecoregions certain "common" problems could emerge, for example trade rules, perverse subsidies which drive resource depletion, and other socio-economic issues. Some of these common problems will be addressed on a global basis as and when appropriate.

# Pacific Global 200 Ecoregions



**Terrestrial Major Habitat Types**

- Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests
- Tropical & Subtropical Dry Broadleaf Forests
- Tropical & Subtropical Coniferous Forests
- Temperate Broadleaf & Mixed Forests
- Temperate Coniferous Forests
- Boreal Forests/Taiga
- Tropical & Subtropical Grasslands, Savannas & Shrublands
- Temperate Grasslands, Savannas & Shrublands
- Flooded Grasslands & Savannas
- Montane Grasslands & Shrublands
- Tundra
- Mediterranean Forests, Woodlands & Scrub
- Deserts & Xeric Shrublands
- Mangroves

● Marine Ecoregions  
○ Freshwater Ecoregions  
□ No Data

— International Boundaries  
/ Disputed Boundaries, Lines of Control, or alignment unconfirmed. [Boundaries based on UN sources]

# 16 Ecoregions in the Pacific

## Freshwater

- New Guinea Rivers and Streams** – Papua New Guinea, Indonesia
- New Caledonia Rivers and Streams** - New Caledonia
- Lakes Kutubu and Sentani** – Papua New Guinea, Indonesia

## Marine

- Bismarck-Solomon Seas** – Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Indonesia
- New Caledonia Barrier Reef** – New Caledonia
- Fiji Barrier Reef** - Fiji
- East Polynesian Marine** - Cook Islands , French Polynesia

## Forests

- Southern New Guinea Lowland Forests** - Papua New Guinea, Indonesia
- New Guinea Montane Forests** – Papua New Guinea, Indonesia
- Solomons-Vanuatu-Bismarck Moist Forests** – Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
- New Caledonia Moist Forests** – New Caledonia
- South Pacific Islands Forests** – American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Niue, Samoa, Tonga, Wallis and Futuna Islands
- New Caledonia Dry Forests** – New Caledonia
- Northern Australia and Trans-Fly Savannas** – Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Australia
- Central Range Subalpine Grasslands** – Papua New Guinea, Indonesia
- New Guinea Mangroves** – Papua New Guinea, Indonesia

## WWF Pacific Ecoeregions Centre ▶

To support ecoregions conservation efforts in the Pacific, WWF has established the Pacific Ecoregion Centre in Madang PNG. The main functions of the Centre are to share lessons, link efforts and explore conservation in a larger context. The centre is a resource for a new style of conservation that brings people together across projects, organisations and borders. It is a product of a partnership within the WWF network between WWFAustralia, WWF UK, WWF US, WWF Netherlands and WWF South Pacific.



## Conservation Partnerships

Effective conservation of biological diversity is dependent on a wide and diverse range of stakeholders acting collaboratively. For ecoregion conservation to be successful required the formation of partnerships, of which WWF will be only one of many stakeholders.

Today large scale forces such as consumption, technology, investment and trade policies, corruption and limited capacity drive the threats facing conservation areas in the Pacific. Working independently, organisations cannot by themselves respond adequately to these pressures.

To address these problems coherently, it is necessary that interested and affected people cooperate. Sectors and institutions that may not be traditional partners must work together to achieve a common goal.

In the Pacific, consultation and stakeholder dialogue processes that build consensus and facilitate new partnerships are required in developing all stages of Ecoregional Action Plans.

# sustainable development



WWF's activities in the Pacific region target reconciling human development needs with conservation actions. This involves a thorough understanding of the interactions between social, economic and ecological factors and requires diverse disciplines and expertise to ensure that conservation and sustainable development work in unison. This reconciliation of human development needs with conservation of natural systems relies to a significant extent on the engagement and commitment of key stakeholders – from local people living off the land and sea to governments, multilateral donors and development agencies, corporations and society at large. Behind the proximate causes of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, lie a variety of social, economic and political and cultural factors that influence resource use decisions at all levels. To successfully halt biodiversity loss, the underlying root causes must be understood and addressed. Pacific islanders have strong cultural and economic links to their local environment. Supporting local community to implement natural resource management and strategies and promoting sustainable livelihoods alternatives has and will continue to be, one of the basic building blocks of WWF's approach in the Pacific. WWF works in partnerships that reduce poverty inequity while also tackling biodiversity loss and environmental degradation.

## Community Resource Conservation:

The community-based approach to conservation is the hallmark of WWF's work in the Pacific region. Recognition that the communities' livelihoods, customs and traditions are intertwined with natural resources is the basis on which this approach to conservation is based. Traditional skills and practices are increasingly recognised and built into nature conservation activities and plans. The community-based conservation initiatives have provided numerous learning about the different communities and conservation practices and methods to both WWF and the Pacific communities themselves. Experience with local leadership in community-based conservation indicates clearly that sustainability depends on local residents having the necessary skills to lead and manage activities on their own.



*The Kikori Project and the Sepik LandCare project are assisting communities with sustainable livelihoods by providing support for vanilla farming as an eco-enterprise activity for communities in the Kikori and Sepik areas.*

## Capacity Building:

Partnerships are the foundation on which WWF's conservation activities are centered. Improving staff, partners and other organisational staff skills and the improving of organizational systems and structures reflect WWF's growing commitment to tackling conservation issues. WWF has developed a regional capacity framework supporting regional and ecoregional programmes that is targeted at building capacity both internally within WWF and externally with conservation partners.



*WWF has trained community members in the Gizo Marine Conservation Area to carry out reef check surveys as a participatory monitoring component of the project. These 'trained' community members are now training other community's in reef check surveys.*



▲ Global Equator Award presented at WSSD 2002 in recognition of work towards Poverty Eradication

## Poverty Alleviation and Environment:

Environmental sustainability is a major factor in poverty reduction and sustainable livelihoods in the Pacific region. Poverty is often a consequence of degraded rural environments resulting from unsustainable human activities. Healthy natural environments sustain rural and urban economies and can be viewed as the 'social security' of rural populations. When the productive functions of healthy rural environments degrade, or when people lose access to those productive environments, movements to cities in search of alternative livelihoods exacerbates urban poverty. Environmental degradation therefore not only undermines sustainable livelihoods and impacts the rural poor by disproportionately affecting their health, basic needs and security, but also aggravates poverty in already stressed urban environments. Reducing poverty among Pacific Island Communities is an integral and ongoing initiative of WWF South Pacific Programme.

# mainstreaming conservation in the pacific



WWF South Pacific Programme through its policy team advocates the lessons learnt from the field to influence policy changes at the national, regional and international level. In the Pacific, WWF SPP has worked primarily on the regional level and supported country programmes on specific national issues.

WWF SPP has been engaged in supporting the implementation of regional and international environmental agreements through capacity building, information dissemination and the formulation of appropriate national plans, policies and programmes. Activities include support for the development of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans in several Pacific island countries, Climate Change, and the establishment of sanctuaries for endangered species and threatened ecosystems such as whales, and marine ecosystems.

For the conservation of biodiversity to be fully appreciated and actively pursued at national and regional level, WWF SPP also supports national and regional efforts to mainstream conservation into national and sectoral plans, policies and programmes. In this, WWF SPP has participated in several of the Pacific Regional policies working groups to produce the Regional Energy, Marine, and Water Policies as well as the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation, Climate Change Programme. WWF SPP has also worked with regional organizations on intellectual property rights, agriculture, fisheries, and trade. With most of the regional policies/strategies endorsed or in the development process, WWF SPP continues to work closely with the increasing country and ecoregional programmes to translate decision into national policies and programmes which support its field-based activities and the global WWF mission.

With civil society engagement at regional and international very limited, WWF SPP will continue to coordinate and enhance Pacific civil society participation in areas such as Climate change, Biodiversity, and CSD processes such as WSSD and BPOA+10. WWF SPP has also initiated work in engaging international financial institutions and donor agencies such as EU, ADB and World Bank to reduce the impacts on the environment from their aid and lending processes.



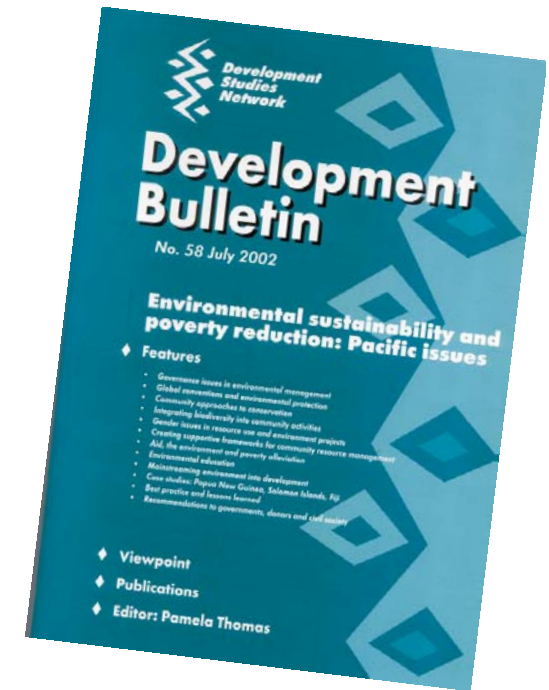
## World Summit on Sustainable Development

WWF South Pacific has been engaged in sustainable development work through a Foreign Commonwealth Office funded project – “The global summit on sustainable development, regional voices and global partnerships: Solomon’s Islands Component.”

The project was designed to increase awareness of the Solomon Islands by increasing its involvement through participation in national, regional and international preparation, and producing national analytical assessments towards WSSD.

WWF also facilitated the engagement of NGO’s in the preparatory process for WSSD through National Multi-Stakeholder Consultations, attendance on the regional Inter-Governmental Organisation working groups, and participating in all the preparatory meetings and the Summit itself.

Drawing from the outcomes of the World Summit and making them work for the Ecoregion is work that the South Pacific Programme office is committed to achieving. Advocacy for policy changes has required WWF to engage on a broad range of issues that will facilitate the ultimate goal to conserve the ecoregion’s biodiversity.



WWF SPP in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific and the Australian National University organized a workshop on Poverty and Environment in the Pacific. The workshop was held at the University of the South Pacific in Suva and was attended by scholars, academics, development experts and members of civil society.

The role of ecologically sustainable development in poverty elimination were discussed with workshop papers and recommendations published by the Australian National University in its development bulletin. The bulletin was distributed to Pacific island governments as a resource for informed discussions towards preparations for Pacific contributions to the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

# marine conservation in the pacific



**SOUTH PACIFIC marine habitats and the natural resource base they support are under siege** as human population growth, over consumption, destructive fishing practices, poorly planned coastal development, pollution, limited political will and insufficient conservation resources take their toll. These threats and a myriad of both natural and anthropogenic forces are leaving a wake of depleted and damaged marine ecosystems. WWF believes that with proper management, marine systems can be extremely resilient and this has been demonstrated with small marine areas having shown remarkable increases in productivity once they are protected and properly managed.

The challenge for WWF in the Pacific is to conserve a network of critical areas across a range of marine systems, while simultaneously supporting capacity, resources and political will for long-term conservation management across the region. Marine Conservation forms a large component of WWF's conservation work in the region. WWF partnerships in Ecoregion Action Programmes for the Bismarck Solomon Seas, the East Polynesian Reefs and the Fiji Barrier Reef, are focused on working with NGOs, government agencies, communities and the private sector to ensure that conservation actions leave much greater and more lasting results that benefit the environment, the communities and Pacific island economies.

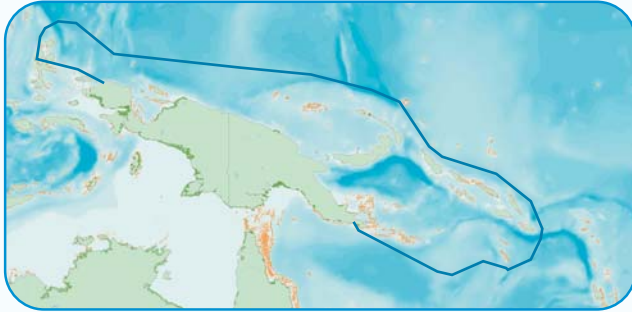


*“The Pacific has been described as the last frontier, its depth still largely unexplored, its total resources unknown. This boundless body of water contains great biological diversity, the most extensive coral reefs in the world, seabed minerals and the largest sustainable tuna fishery.”*

*Honourable Laisenia Qarase,  
Prime Minister of Fiji*

*Address at the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly, 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2002*

## Bismarck Solomon Seas Ecoregion (BSSE)



► Bismarck Solomon Seas Marine Ecoregion

As the “Heart of Melanesia” the Bismarck Solomon Seas Ecoregion (BSSE) covers the coastal waters, lagoons, reefs and islands of the Solomon Islands, the Northern coasts of Papua New Guinea and Papua, Indonesia. Beginning at the Birdsheed (Papua) in the west this exceptional region includes the Admiralty and Bismarck archipelagos (PNG) and all the reefs and islands that fall within the Solomon Islands Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

### Key threats to the BSSE are:

- Destructive fishing practices, exploitation by distant water fleets (unregulated, illegal and unreported fishing),
- Over harvesting of inshore fisheries by locals for subsistence and commercial gains,
- Increasing populations putting pressure on unplanned coastal development.

Despite political boundaries, distances and cultural and economic differences, WWF in PARTNERSHIP with key stakeholders is collaborating towards DEVELOPING A SHARED VISION for this unique environment that will promote sustainable management and use of these resources.

## East Polynesia Ecoregion

WWF’s vision for the East Polynesian Ecoregion (Cook Islands and French Polynesia) is centered on protecting networks of Marine Protected Areas.

Major threats identified to the East Polynesian Ecoregion are:

- Increasing populations that put pressure on fisheries resources, coastal development and pollution
- Vulnerability to over fishing by distant water vessels.



# focal marine ecoregions

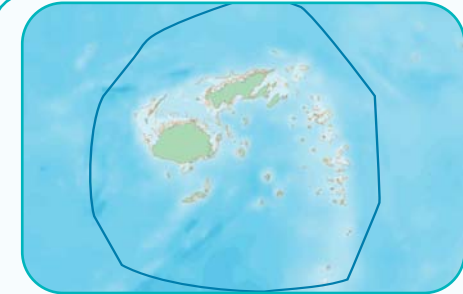
## Fiji Barrier Reef Ecoregion

*Fiji’s Exclusive Economic Zone defines the Fiji Barrier Reef Ecoregion (FBRE) in the Global 200.* 60% of Fiji’s 800, 000 population live close to and depend on the sea for their livelihoods. The customary tenure system in Fiji enables natural resource owners to have complete control over utilisation of resources within all of the inshore fishing areas or *i qoliqoli*. **Rising economic hardship and population pressures within communities are exerting greater pressures on the resources and often the need to survive overrides sustainable use.**

**WWF is building capacity** at the community level to ensure sufficient expertise exists within the Ecoregion to manage newly protected areas.

- WWF has assisted with advocacy for policy changes resulting in the gazettal of the Ulunikoro Marine Conservation Area, the first marine conservation area to be gazetted in Fiji, October 2002.
- WWF has also worked with the communities of Navakasobu and Korovuli towards achieving sustainable livelihoods through the restoration of the Kuta Ponds, June 2002.

Marine Map Source: ReefBase: A Global Information System on Coral Reefs. <http://www.reefbase.org>



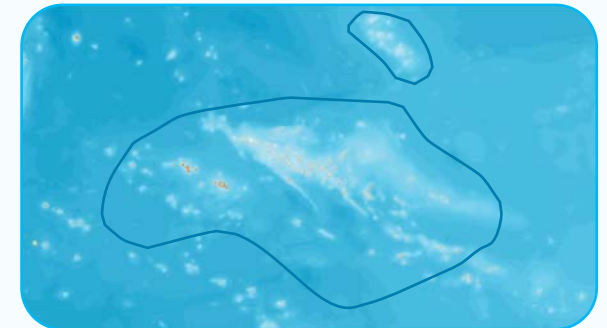
◄ Fiji Barrier Reef Marine Ecoregion

## Partnerships in Conservation

WWF is part of the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area Network (FLMMA) of communities, NGOs, Academic institutions and government agencies working in marine conservation in Fiji. Through the FLMMA network, organisations get together to discuss their sites for problems, solutions and achievements in determining the conditions under which locally managed marine areas can contribute to conservation. This not only helps them improve their management strategies but also encourages them to make goals clearer thus strengthening their will to succeed. **The FLMMA network was awarded the Equatorial Prize at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, September 2002**

*WWF’s membership of FLMMA is the conduit to attain the 20% of MPA network targeted as the Fiji Country Programmes contribution to the WWF global milestone.*

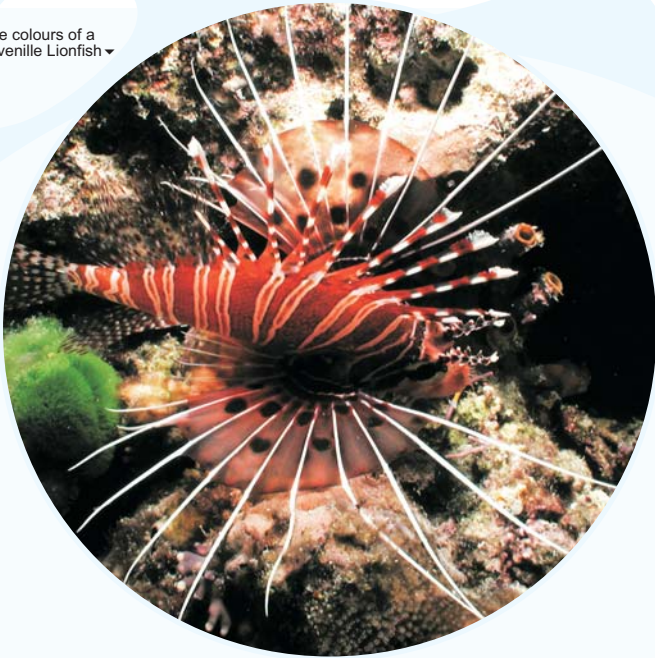
Escalating tourism development in the last decade has realised a partnership between the Muri Community, Cook Islands and WWF to initiate a marine conservation plan for the community. In French Polynesia, the government and the community have established marine protected areas in Moorea, Tahiti.



East Polynesia Marine Ecoregion ►



The colours of a Juvenile Lionfish ▾



Giant Manta Ray ▾



## Towards Marine Certification

Coral Reefs are invaluable resources to local communities in the Pacific region, serving as sources of food, jobs and livelihoods. Coral reef products and aquarium fish is the basis for the livelihoods of many coastal communities in the Pacific region. The unsustainable and destructive use of these precious resources jeopardizes the potential of coral reefs to sustain local communities for future generations. WWF sees certification as an appropriate mechanism for establishing and supporting the sustainable collection of marine aquarium products. Certification will promote collection practices designed for minimal long-term impacts and will ensure that coral reefs will provide sustainable resource base communities to satisfy the international consumer demand for aesthetic natural products. A report on the ornamental reef products trade in Fiji and status of the coral harvesting industry was completed and distributed to the government and industry. WWF is working with communities in Fiji and the live rock industry towards marine certification.



◀ Diver recording transect data

Leopard Shark ▶



## Building a team for Marine Conservation

The Marine Conservation programme has expanded from three full time marine officers in 1999, to the current staff of eleven people spread between the four countries of Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, and is still growing. Focusing initially on tackling issues that are leading to unsustainable fishing practices, paper parks and species exploitation, the Marine Conservation programme seeks to work together in partnerships with Government Agencies and Departments, Scientific Institutions, communities and other national and regional organizations, at all levels to address these issues.

A dynamic regional marine strategy and action plan to undertake relevant marine research, marine reviews, identifying funding opportunities and disseminating lessons learnt with its partners and the WWF network is in progress. Lessons that will be documented include the preparation and process associated with large-scale planning and implementation. Innovative conservation approaches such as the use of learning tools that “measure success” and address some of the major threats in the Fiji Barrier Reef, Bismarck-Solomon Seas and East Polynesian Marine Ecoregions will also be documented.

This is an exciting period for the programme and there are still many new hurdles to overcome. The challenge for the marine programme within the South Pacific Programme will be the development of fisheries technical and policy components to the existing programme, these will address new threatening issues that are becoming more apparent in our region. A communications strategy will further our profile and share our achievements with our partners. WWF believes that with proper management through participatory processes; our conservation actions will leave a much greater and more lasting effect that will benefit the environment, the communities and Pacific island economies and people.



## MARINE PROTECTED AREAS: small ACTIONS, BIG results

The use of community based Marine Protected Areas in Cook Islands, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea is gaining momentum as a key management tool for communities to manage their marine resources.

### Rau'i in the COOKS ISLANDS

The **Rau'i** is a traditional marine environment protection system that involves traditional leaders banning the harvest of marine resources in designated areas. The Aroko Rau'i Area in the Cook Islands is 47 hectares and falls within the scope of the Muri Marine management project. Enthusiastic support from the Muri people for this activity will culminate in a lagoon management plan for the community.

### Ulunikoro Marine Conservation Area, Kadavu, FIJI

Local resource owners established a marine conservation area system by strengthening traditional systems of use and management, the total Traditional Fishing Ground managed by the community is 18km<sup>2</sup>. **Ulunikoro Marine Conservation Area is Fiji's First gazetted Marine Conservation Area.**

### Sinub and Tab Islands, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

WWF's testing of water quality in Madang Lagoon supports the existing Wildlife Management Areas of Sinub and Tab Islands. Sinub and Tab Island WMA is a partnership with local communities and Wetlands International.

### Marine Conservation Areas (MCA), SOLOMON ISLANDS

WWF provided technical support to stakeholders of Gizo area – local communities, Government, NGOs, dive shops – to establish the **Gizo Marine Conservation Area** that fully protect four coral reef sites. In its support for MCA, WWF is

- ▶ Building capacity within communities and stakeholders for collection, analysis and dissemination of technical information,
- ▶ working with Dive Gizo and partners to install 20 mooring buoys to protect reefs from anchor damage,
- ▶ and carrying out coral reef awareness programme for communities using a theatre group for outreach.

Supporting the Tetepare Descendants Association (TDA) to develop marine resource management plans for **Tetepare Island**, the largest uninhabited island in the South Pacific. WWF is assisting by providing support for:

- ▶ ReefCheck and Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) survey training for TDA,
- ▶ a comprehensive assessment of marine habitats and species and
- ▶ the establishment of participatory monitoring programme for Tetepare Island

WWF is also working with communities, Government and dive shops to establish **Charapoana passage** MCA aimed at protecting seasonal spawning aggregations of coral trout. WWF is supporting a training program to monitor spawning aggregations and an awareness programme for fisher communities focusing on fish biology and behaviour.

# forest conservation in the pacific



The challenge for conservation in the Forests of New Guinea Ecoregion is how best to protect this remarkable island and the life support systems it provides for New Guinea's people and the planet. The removal of natural forest cover poses the most significant threat to New Guinea's forest and its biodiversity. Industrial logging is to blame for much of this degradation and loss, with almost 21 million hectares of forest in PNG alone included in existing or proposed logging concessions. Clearance of forest for oil palm and the development of open cast mines pose further threats to the maintenance of the New Guinea's forests and rivers and the well being of the people dependent upon them.

Few places on earth rival the diversity of New Guinea. 28 terrestrial ecoregions cover habitats as varied as tropical heaths and grasslands, cloud forests, savannas, mangroves and swamp forests. Glacier melt waters flow into tropical rainforests and mangroves from high mountains greater than 5,000m.

In partnership with WWF Sahul, the PNG Country Programme recognises that resource management efforts must fit with the lives and ambitions of village people.

WWF through Forests of New Guinea Ecoregion's Sustainable Management and Livelihoods Programme has been one of the leaders in the strengthening of NGOs and civil society where forestry issues are concerned in PNG. As a result, **an increasing number of stakeholders are calling for an end to illegal logging, the sustainable management of forest resources and a better recognition of landowners rights.** WWF has been able to provide leadership, technical assistance and examples of good practice in conservation and forest management, which have benefited organizations and communities outside of our direct project areas. Consequently many of the objectives, which WWF initially identified, are now being worked towards by an increasing number of organizations and individuals with little input from WWF.

*"It is from the forest that we get our medicine,  
its is from the forest that we get our food,  
it is from the forest that we get our dreams  
and our connection to nature..."*

*William Takaku, Director, PNG National Theatre Company  
in the Hunstein Range: Integrity Enterprise, Culture and Conservation in the Upper Sepik,  
Papua New Guinea.*



# focal forest ecoregions



## Forests of New Guinea Ecoregion

### PNG 1st country to adopt WWF ecoregion planning system

With assistance from the WWF Pacific Ecoregions Centre, PNG has become the first country in the world to adopt the WWF ecoregions as the basis for its environmental planning systems.

Secretary of PNG's Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), Dr Wari Iamo, made the formal announcement when addressing the WWF Asia Pacific Ecoregions workshop in Madang on 22 April 2002.

The Government's decision was a result of collaboration between DEC, WWF and other conservation organizations in assessing the most effective model for conservation planning.

The DEC "Conservation Planning Regions" based on the WWF ecoregions now provide a common framework for conservation and development between the government of PNG, WWF and other international resource management agencies such as the ICUN, UNEP and The Nature Conservancy.

To add to the firsts, PNG is now aligning a number of its conservation activities around ecoregions / "Conservation Planning Regions" including the national planning framework for the PNG National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan; assessments of threatened species and forest communities; and protection plans for conservation priority areas.

The ecoregions map identifies areas of the very highest biological importance on the planet. New Guinea, with its unique tree kangaroos, birds of paradise and over 20,000 species of plants, is recognised as one of the top priorities for global conservation action.



▲ Forests of New Guinea



▲ *Pittosporum tanianum*, thought to have been extinct - now Rediscovered @ B. Suprin

▲ Dry Forests of New Caledonia. Map source: The Dry Forests of New Caledonia - Conservation and Sustainable Management / Programme Forêt Sèche

## New Caledonia Dry Forests

New Caledonia's Dry Forests today covers 1% of the original surface of 4,500km sq. of Dry Forest. On a global scale, New Caledonia's Dry Forests belongs to the highest-ranking group of habitats classified in terms of biological significance and pending extinction. The outstanding nature of New Caledonia's Dry Forest is its high density of rare and endemic species.

A determined effort by WWF and partners which include the French State, the North and South Provinces, the New Caledonia Government, the New Caledonia Institute for Research and Development, the University of New Caledonia, the Centre for Environmental Awareness and WWF France formed a partnership that will stop the gradual erosion of its most endangered plant formation: the Dry Forests. The team is built around a strong long term commitment on an international level given New Caledonia's reputation as a haven of rich biodiversity.

### *New Caledonia Dry Forest: Rediscovery of an endemic plant!*

In 1994, the species *Pittosporum tanianum* was declared extinct to science. Seven years later in May 2002, Bernard Suprin, a botanist from the Office of Natural Resources (Southern Province), a partner of the New Caledonia Dry Forest programme, found 2 trees on Lepredour Island. Metallic protection has been implemented around the 2 existing plants, and a project of fencing has been started, a first fruit has been harvested and seeds extracted for replanting.



## WWF Kikori:

The Kikori Integrated Conservation and Development Project (KICDP) is working with communities within the Kikori Basin to devise and **implement community-based conservation strategies**. To complement this work, the project is promoting rural development activities and building community capacity targeted at reducing the pressures of the local community on the natural resources of the area. The Conservation Science Section (CSS) within the KIDCP provides advice on conservation and resource management issues to assist the implementation of the project and carries out activities like biodiversity surveys. The CSS surveys have resulted in the discovery of 4 undescribed mammal species (3 rats and 1 Murexia), around 20 species of frogs, around 12 species of freshwater fish and countless species of moths and other insects. The results of these surveys have helped the project to identify areas of conservation significance upon which to focus their attention. Information obtained during the surveys has been used to develop educational materials that build local landowner pride in the unique fauna and flora found on their land. The CSS also conducted surveys in specific habitats for the following groups of plants and animals: palms, orchids, marine mammals and migratory shorebirds and waders.

*Two significant outcomes of the survey work conducted by the CSU in partnerships with other specialists has been the designation of Lake Kutubu as a Wetlands of International Significance on the Ramsar Convention and the designation of the Gulf area as a Significant Bird Area on the East- Australasian Flyway.*

## Kikori Programme produces first Eco - "How to do it" manual

WWF Kikori Programme has produced a manual that promotes a cash crop from an 'eco' perspective. The 148 page **"The Big Picture of Making a Vanilla Business"** is richly illustrated and pays special attention to vanilla flower pollination and bean curing. The manual was written for the Kikori Programme work with the people of the Bosavi region and was conceptualized after it was found that existing vanilla manuals were not clear on important processing steps or treated vanilla as a less environmentally friendly crop. The manual also focuses on the sustainable resource use and sustainable development interests of WWF in assisting people start their own smallholder vanilla growing business. A *Tok Pisin* version of this manual is currently underway.

This vanilla manual is the second eco-enterprise training manual produced by WWF Kikori Programme. The first manual was a **"How to make an insect business"**. This manual is about butterfly farming and unsustainable harvests of commercially viable PNG beetles and other insects. This "How to make an insect business" manual was written in collaboration with staff of PNG Insect Farming and Trading Agency based at UNITECH.

## Forests of the Transfly:

The Transfly is one of the most remote and least developed area in New Guinea. Lying between the Fly and Digul rivers, the area is a mosaic of important wetlands and monsoon forests. Of particular concern are the globally rare New Guinea monsoon forests. Monsoon forest (seasonally dry forest) is the most threatened forest type in the tropics. The New Guinea monsoon forests are almost entirely restricted to the Transfly region and have a very different floristic composition to that of other New Guinea lowland forest types. They contain an exceptionally high number of endemic plant and animal species. The Oriomo River monsoon forests in the eastern Transfly, for instance, are known to harbour five locally endemic tree species listed in the IUCN Threatened Trees register. WWF is working with local communities in the TransFly to establish new conservation areas to conserve these threatened species.





## New Guinea Forest Summit:

The island of New Guinea has the last remaining tract of virgin tropical forests. Threats from weak planning, inadequate regulation of development and a need to increase support and recognition for community-based conservation areas and sustainable approaches to forest use has led to the planning of a New Guinea Forest Summit. WWF plans to address these concerns through a Forest Summit that calls on the head of states of Papua New Guinea and Papua to commit to the establishment and strengthening of a network of community-based conservation and to pursue wise management of forest resources through certification. WWF believes that a New Guinea Summit will provide equally significant benefits to the forests and peoples of the world's third largest rainforest block.



## Forest Certification in Papua New Guinea:

PNG is further developed than other Pacific island countries in terms of 'development of National Forest Management Standards and in the certification of community-based forest management'. With communities taking control over the use of their forest resources, adhering to Forest Certification ensures the sustainable harvesting and use of forests. WWF with other NGOs has actively supported Forest Certification and is part of the effort to develop certification of timber and non-timber forest products in PNG.



## Ecoforestry in Papua New Guinea:

WWF is working towards reforming the system of forest planning and management in PNG. By supporting community Forestry activities that promote sustainable livelihoods, WWF proves itself to be a serious partner to Government agencies, other NGOs and to the communities. Communities are more likely to benefit from income generated from eco-forestry than from income generated by large scale logging. In contrast to logging income, eco-forestry income is under the control of the community, according to its needs; an income stream that is moreover accompanied by an increasing knowledge base.

*In April 2002, WWF and the Ecoforestry Forum of PNG hosted an Ecoforestry tour by NGO and Community Leaders from Papua, Indonesia. The visit covering three provinces in PNG, Madang, West New Britain and Morobe was aimed at strengthening cross border collaboration between the 2 countries and to share experiences.*



# freshwater conservation in the pacific



For many communities throughout the South Pacific, wetlands are a source of life. Solomon Islanders see their freshwater wetlands and mangroves as essential providers of building materials, fish and crustaceans, in Fiji, freshwater ponds sustain water plants which are key to the continuation of traditional weaving practices and in Papua New Guinea, many communities depend on Freshwater resources for their livelihoods and maintain important cultural identities associated with rivers. WWF wetlands programmes in the Pacific are aimed at addressing both ecological, cultural and sustainable livelihood needs.

*“The community embraced us wholly and we made them part of our lives, personal and professional. This is what conservation is for us, it is about life, about knowing the people you work with; their dreams and heartaches, it is about overcoming obstacles and moving on to achieve a planned course of action for a conservation dream”*

*Penina Rogoyawa-Namata,  
Project Assistant - Wetlands,  
Fiji Country Programme.*

## Sepik Community Landcare Project

The Sepik is probably the largest uncontaminated freshwater wetland system in the Asia-Pacific region. There are no large mining projects, no industrial plants and no large timber extraction projects operating within the region and compared to other areas of New Guinea, much of the area has a low rate of population growth. There is an increasing interest in income generating activities as communities realise that in order to improve the quality of their daily lives, or to provide educational opportunities for their children, they need a source of income.

With bases in Wewak and Ambunti, WWF is working with communities identifying activities that will help them develop while conserving their natural resources and protecting their biological diversity. WWF has helped the communities of the Ambunti District in the Hunstein Range by installing water supplies, organizing adult literacy training, providing medical assistance to the communities and installing radio telecommunications in the Wildlife Management Areas.

Fishing on the mighty Sepik River. ▶



◀ One of the major projects undertaken by the Sepik CLC Project was the installation of water supply tanks in the most remote communities of the Hunstein Wildlife Management Areas.



## Disappearing weaving grass – focus attention on wetland use in Fiji

WWF worked with women in Navakasobu and Korovuli villages to record their weaving knowledge of the plant *Eleocharis dulcis*, or kuta in Fijian. To understand why kuta disappeared from traditional gathering areas, an action plan was devised and the kuta wetland habitat was restored. As a result the interest in wetland as a kuta habitat and kuta weaving resurged. This led to national exposure of wetland management in Fiji, providing local organisations and government added impetus to sign the Ramsar Convention. In June 2002, the first grass bundles were harvested from the restored kuta pond, custom required its presentation to the local chief.

WWF has also contributed to strengthening the capacity of the women of Navakasobu and Korovuli to replicate their conservation lessons with women in other wetland area habitats; sharing lessons that enable natural resource owners to conduct workshops in wetland awareness and actions to improve kuta growing conditions as well as income generating activities from kuta products.

Melaia Batisova with one of the kuta bundles (lokhta) from the first harvest. ▶



◀ Women and children of Navakasobu, the future. The Navakasobu and Korovuli women were one of the recipients of the Women's World Summit Foundation's "Prize for Women's Creativity for Rural Life". Awarded in October 2002.

## Tonda Wildlife Management Area - PNG

The Tonda Wildlife Management Area (Tonda WMA) is PNG's first and largest conservation site and PNG's first RAMSAR site (a wetland of national importance). Adjacent to Tonda, across the international border with Indonesia, is Wasur National Park, which shares many of the same habitats.

High seasonal rainfall and impeded drainage, coupled with the low-lying nature of the topography means that the Transfly region contains a large variety of wetland systems – some of the largest in the Pacific region. The region also contains some of southern New Guinea's largest rivers. The TransFly wetlands and associated catchments are also threatened by large-scale forestry activities, expanding settlements, developing road networks and large scale plantations. More insidious threats such as invasive species – especially notorious wetland weed species such as water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) and giant sensitive plant (*Mimosa pigra*) are also threatening the ecological integrity of linked wetlands across the international border.

**Tri-National Wetlands Agreement.** Tonda is part of the Tri-National Wetlands Programme, which links Tonda with neighbouring Wasur National Park in Papua, Indonesia and Kakadu National Park in Australia. The Tri-National Wetlands programme focuses on capacity building to share skills, and resources to tackle mutual threats. The programme is developing collaborative management and research projects to enhance management of the three Ramsar listed wetland conservation areas. A Memorandum of Understanding between the three governments was signed at the WSSD Prep. Com. 4 held in Bali, June 2002. The first Gift to the Earth for the Pacific, which celebrates the commitment of the governments and communities of the three conservations areas was also presented to the participating nations of the programme.



## World Water Forum

WWF was contracted by the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) to coordinate NGO input for a regional consultation meeting on sustainable water resources management. The regional consultation was part of the preparation for the 3rd World Water Forum to be held in Kyoto, Japan, 16 - 23 March 2003. WWF consulted NGO's in the region and analyzed Multi-stakeholder reports and the National Assessment Reports carried out by Pacific Island Countries in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. WWF presented a synthesis of the issues and areas of action as identified by the NGO's at the regional meeting. Common issues from the countries that responded (Fiji, PNG, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, Tonga, Solomon's, Cook Islands, and Samoa) were Quality (water borne diseases), Quantity (lack of integrated water resource management policies), Supply (poorly maintained pipes) and Awareness (sustainable water use).

# protecting species of the pacific



## Protecting Mitiaro Coconut Crabs

WWF Cook Islands Programme is working with the people of Mitiaro Island, Cook Islands, to plan and manage the use of *birgus latro*, commonly known as the coconut crab (*u'nga*). The depleting crab population on Mitiaro led the islanders to seek WWF's assistance for the sustainable harvesting of this natural resource and island delicacy.

Awareness programmes on the biology and life cycle of the crab, its breeding and spawning seasons as well as habitat preservation were held for the Mitiaro islanders. A management plan has been drawn up and WWF is now working with the islanders to formalize the conservation area for the *u'nga*.

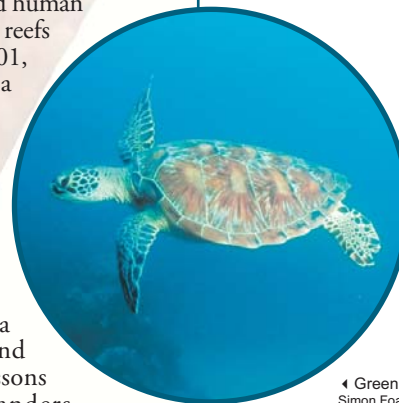


*birgus latro*, commonly known as the coconut crab. ◀

## Turtle Conservation in the Cook Islands

Two main turtles that frequent Cook Island waters are the green turtle and hawksbill turtle. Populations of both species remain endangered as people particularly in the outer islands are still unaware of the critical status of these animals and continue to exploit them. In the northern group of the Cooks where the turtles nest, over fishing and human activities causing pollution, the destruction of the coral reefs and over-harvesting of turtle eggs continue. During 2001, WWF Cooks Islands Programme has established a reputation of championing Turtle Conservation awareness.

Working closely with the Whale Research of Hawaii, WWF in partnership with local institution launched 2 awareness campaigns highlighting the need for community participation in turtle and marine conservation. The campaigns focused on school children; primary to college level and were implemented within the school curriculum throughout the country. An increased awareness of marine life and particularly sea turtles and humanity's role in the conservation and sustainable use of such natural resources were the lessons learned by the young generation of Cook Islanders.

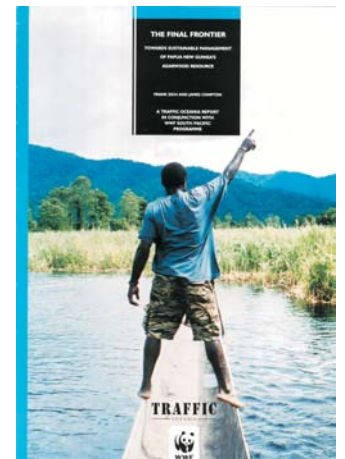


◀ Green Turtle.  
Simon Foale © Lonely Planet

## Gaharu Wood

One of the Sustainable Livelihoods component of the Forests of New Guinea (FoNG) Ecoregion Action Programme is the sustainable harvest of the indigenous tree Eaglewood (*Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops spp*). The perfume producing heartwood of this tree is sold for up to USD 10,000 in Arab countries. The PNG government has set a minimum price of USD 500 per kilogram for top grade eaglewood. However most communities are receiving a fraction of this price and are at the point of extinguishing their resource with little hope of regeneration. WWF's aim is to ensure that natural products are harvested in ways that can be sustained for future generations and bring the optimum prices with the least social disturbance.

WWF has been a key partner in three investigations into the distribution of and trade in eaglewood in the Hunstein Range (published Aug01), the Keram River region of Madang Province (Jan02) and Yapsie area of Sandaun Province (Mar02). These were undertaken jointly with TRAFFIC, the PNG Forest Research Institute and the Australian Commonwealth, Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). These reports have been very well received and provide a significant amount of the information necessary to prepare species conservation plans for PNG. They have confirmed that Eaglewood stands are coincident with some of the poorest communities in the country on the north and southern foothills of the mountainous spine of PNG mainland. Unsustainable levels of harvesting in the Sepik catchment, gross unfair payments by buyers and illegal border trade have also been described. The first expedition led to the description of a new Eaglewood producing species in New Guinea – *Gyrinops ledermanii*. The TRAFFIC/WWF policy recommendations have been adopted without change by the PNG Forest Board to guide government policy.



# pacific eez's as whale sanctuaries



WWF is campaigning for Pacific island countries to declare their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) as **Whale Sanctuaries**. WWF aims to have a network of whale sanctuaries declared by Pacific island governments by 2004. As support towards the establishments of new EEZ Sanctuaries, WWF facilitates links and discussions with donors and associated centres. For Pacific island countries who have declared their EEZs as sanctuaries, WWF is able to provide assistance by producing management plans and helping develop appropriate legislation for the declared sanctuaries.

## First for Melanesia

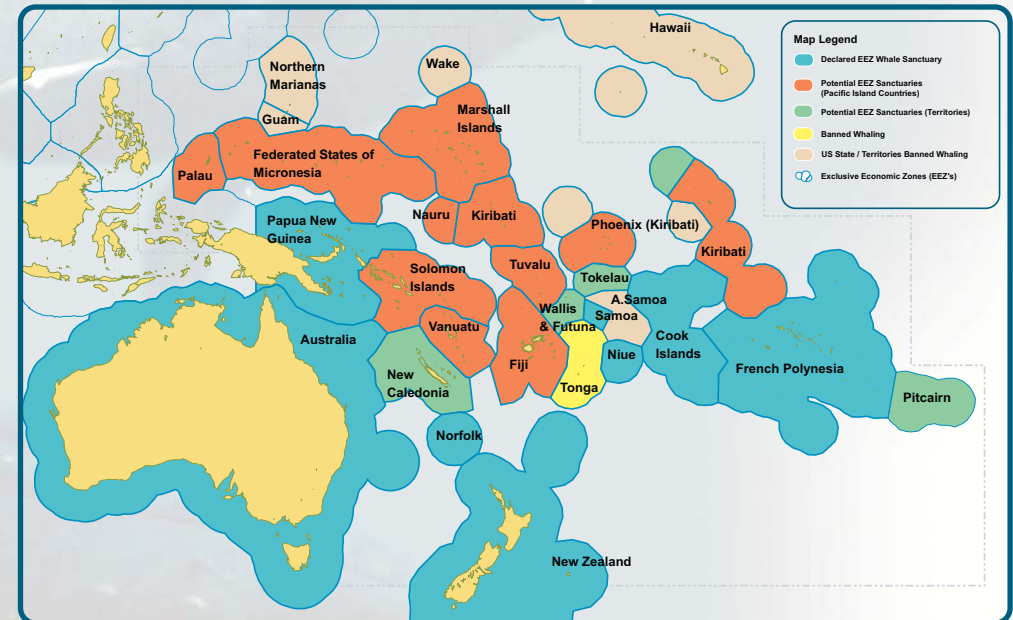
PNG was the first Melanesian country to declare its EEZ a whale sanctuary. The government's commitment coincided with WWF South Pacific Whale Sanctuaries Campaign that was launched at the 2002 PNG Marine Mammals workshop organised by the PNG National Museum Art Gallery, Ocean Alliance, University of Papua New Guinea, Conservation International, WWF and supported by the United States Embassy in Port Moresby



Whales are endangered mainly from human induced threats. These living marine mammals use the Pacific Ocean as a breeding ground or as a migratory route to their feeding grounds in the Southern Whale Sanctuary, Antarctica. A whale sanctuary provides a safe refuge for whales and other severely depleted and vulnerable species a safe refuge from human threats to their survival.

The majority of Pacific Islander's lives revolve around the Pacific ocean, its resources providing protection, food and income for the regions inhabitants. Declaring whale sanctuaries will assist with healthy seas that will continue to provide sustenance for Pacific livelihoods today and for the future.

pacific waters: haven for mammals



*"Our decision will help protect some of the whale species that are at risk from commercial hunting. It will also help protect the marine environment. Whales are part of the ocean food chain, and if one link in the chain is removed, other sections are put at risk."*

*Sir Mekere Morauta, PNG Prime Minister, speech when declaring the PNG EEZ a whale sanctuary. February 2002.*

# climate change in the pacific



The vulnerability of Pacific island nations makes developing appropriate responses to the impacts of Climate Change on Pacific island ecosystems and livelihoods a priority for SPP's Climate Change programme. WWF is working on improving national, regional and global understanding of the impacts of climate change on Pacific biodiversity and livelihoods and facilitating the implementation of appropriate adaptation measures and carbon emissions reductions.

## Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency for the Pacific islands

Energy is the main user of fossil fuels in the Pacific Islands, which also makes it our main source of green house gases. WWF is currently initiating discussions with potential partners for an energy efficiency project. As a first step, an energy audit will be conducted in the WWF South Pacific Office, in a bid to reduce our use of fossil fuels.

## Community based adaptation planning

WWF South Pacific plans to build climate change adaptation planning into its existing Community Resource Conservation and Development manual. The aim of this project is to build upon WWF South Pacific's existing Community Resource Conservation manual, to provide field workers with a tool kit for working with communities on the issue of climate change. This 'tool kit' will be developed by WWF South Pacific staff, drawing upon the experiences with communities in at least four Pacific Island countries.

## Climate Change Video

Through TVE's Truth Talking Project, WWF South Pacific produced an awareness raising video on the impacts of Climate Change in Pacific island countries. Focusing on the islands of Fiji and Kiribati, the video portrays the questions posed by young Pacific islanders as they ponder the threat of Climate Change on their islands and their lives. The film has already been broadcast on Secretariat of the Pacific Community's (SPC) PACIFIC WAY Programme which broadcasts on television stations throughout the Pacific region.

## Pacific Voices in the Global Forum

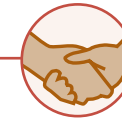
WWF South Pacific coordinated a signature campaign that was able to generate more than one million signatures towards WWF's global climate campaign in 2000. The signatures were from all over the Pacific region and were mostly the voices of young people. As a response to requests for more information that accompanied the signatures, WWF is producing a poster of Climate change impacts in the Pacific for distribution to schools throughout the region.

## Capacity Building

WWF South Pacific has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the United Kingdom based Foundation of International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD). This MOU sets out a programme where the three organizations will work together to further build the capacity of South Pacific nations to negotiate multilateral environmental agreements. Climate change and biodiversity negotiators will be brought together, to strengthen their understanding of international agreements and treaties related to both these issues.



# conservation partnership programmes



WWF has many working partnerships in the Pacific region. There are formal institutional partnerships with Memorandums of Understanding that set joint objectives, share visions and common collaboration on working together between WWF and institutions or organisations. Some of our formal partnerships are with the following:

## TRAFFIC

The concerns of TRAFFIC and WWF in PNG converge on a number of issues within the broad parameters of monitoring trade in wildlife and wildlife products. These include trade in timber and non-timber forest products, corals, live reef fish, endemic birds and reptiles. In addition, TRAFFIC's expertise on the workings of CITES – (Conference of the Parties for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species), is recognized as an asset to WWF when dealing with the PNG CITES Authorities and their representatives. Planned activities to address these issues would be carried out collaboratively with relevant government agencies, academic institutions and local non-government organizations.

## Live and Learn

Live and Learn and WWF through this partnership agree to co-operate on matters concerning nature conservation, environmental education, capacity-creation, sharing of data and information on issues of mutual interest and benefit.

This partnership is a collaboration on environmental education in the Pacific, based on the recognition that environmental and development education is closely linked with the sustainable development, nature conservation and natural resource management of South Pacific islands.

## Wan Smol Bag

The Development Theatre project is a project within WWF SPP that is primarily implemented by the Vanuatu NGO Wan Smolbag Theatre through a joint WWF/WSB management committee. This project began in October 1999, was a close working relationship between WWF and Wan Smolbag to strengthen the environment capacity of theatre groups. The project is targeted at ensuring that effective environment education programs are based on sound scientific information, capitalizing on linkages between various regional and international environment education initiatives and that there is a result in change attitudes, effective resource use and improved natural resource management.

## Wetlands International – Oceania

Wetlands International and WWF SPP's main objective of the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed in June 2001 was to foster increased cooperation and collaboration between the Parties in regard to wetland conservation in WWF priority Ecoregions within the Pacific Islands region. This collaboration with Wetlands International - Oceania especially concerns marine issues in Melanesia and ensures an enhanced delivery of outcomes of conservation activities that are of mutual interest.

## Television Trust of the Environment

In 2001, WWF South Pacific officially became the South Pacific Video Resource Centre (VRC) of Television Trust of the Environment. TVE's goal is to use broadcast television and other audio visual resources to raise environmental awareness worldwide. The South Pacific Video Resource Centre has access to TVE's films and distributes them to schools and Television stations in the region.

## Other Very Special Partnerships

PIANGO; PACFAW; Pacific Regional NGOs; PCRC; SPREP; SOPAC; Forum Secretariat; FSP; FSPI; GREENPEACE; SPC; UNDP; FIELD; Samoa Govt (Dept. of Land, Survey & Environment, CROP Agencies; Department of Environment; PSC; American Embassy in PNG; Bismarck-Ramu Group; Conservation International; Conservation Melanesia; Coral Cay Conservation; GCRMN; ICLARM; ICRI; ICRN; IFAW; JCU; MAC; MSC; Mahonia Na Dari; MoF; NFA; Ocean Alliance; PNGDA; SIDT; Tetepare Descendants Association (TDA); The National Museum of PNG; TNC; UPNG; Cook Island Curriculum Advisory Unit; Environment Services; Communities on Mitiaro, Muri, Mauke, Mangaia; Taporoporoanga Ipukarea Society; USP – IAS, MSP, IMR, Biology Department, Geography Department, IMA; Ministry of Fijian Affairs; Ministry of Fisheries & Forests; Kadavu Provincial Council; Ono Tikina District Council; Conservation Agencies Networking Group (a group of government and non-government organizations working in conservation); WCS; GEF; Royal Fiji Navy; Women in Fisheries; FFA; Village Development Trust (VDT); Solomon Island National Government; Dept. of Agriculture & Livestock (DAL-East Sepik); National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI); Pest Control (e.g. water hyacinth), Department of East Sepik (DES) – Planning, Forestry, Fisheries, Health, Education; Department of Environmental & Conservation (OEC) – Crocodile Surveys; Save the Children Fund (SCF); Pacific Island Ministries (PIM); CUSO PNG; Help Resources; Pacific Heritage Foundation (PHF); Christian Radio Missionary Fellowship (CRMF); Greenlight Trust, Ambunti District Council of Women (ADCOW); Ambunti District Local Environment Foundation (ADLEF).



## The Programme

The core of the South Pacific Programme Office is the Secretariat, guiding support to conservation activities, setting standards, maintaining financial accountability, communications and administrative procedures. Each programme has a manager or coordinator who is responsible for day-to-day management and administration of activities, infrastructure, staff and funds. The administration of the South Pacific Programme has evolved since 1999. In 2000, decentralization of authority took place. This initiated the restructuring of the South Pacific Programme and with it came the appointment of Country Managers in Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Fiji. Country Managers were responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of their programmes. They were also responsible for line management of Project Managers in their respective countries.

In the same year, the Executive Committee (EXCO) made up of the Asia/Pacific Director, the SPP Representative and the Country Managers was established. The function of the Committee was to direct and monitor the progress of the South Pacific Programme. In February 2002, the Secretariat Management Team was formed to administer and manage the South Pacific Programme operation. The team included the Representative, Programme Finance Manager, Communications Manager and the Human Resources & Administration Manager. In July 2002, the inclusion of the Secretariat Management team into the Executive Committee was endorsed.

In 2001, the South Pacific Programme saw the beginning of the new era of Ecoregion Conservation and the appointment of Ecoregion Coordinators in the Forest of New Guinea, the Transfly Ecoregion and Bismarck Solomon Seas Ecoregion. The Climate Change & Energy programme was established in June 2002. The South Pacific Programme has set-in-motion its global priority targets and global 200 ecoregion sites by implementing its 2002-5 year conservation plan.

## WWF People

The South Pacific Programme has 95 staff to deliver conservation in 4 Pacific Island countries; Cook Island, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. The South Pacific Programme Regional Secretariat is based in Suva, Fiji. The programmes based in the Secretariat are: Finance, Human Resources and Administration, Communications, Capacity Building and Sustainable Livelihoods, Regional Policy and Climate Change and the Regional Marine Programme. Papua New Guinea Country Programme as the largest programme has a structure which comprises the country manager, conservation manager and 6 project managers. The Forest of New Guinea and Transfly Ecoregion Coordinators are also based in PNG. The Solomon Islands Country Programme has offices in Gizo and Honiara, Fiji Country Programme is based in Suva, Fiji and the Cook Islands Country Programme has its office in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.



## WWF and Pacific island governments

Relationships with all Governments within WWF Country Programmes improved substantially. WWF's MoU with the Fiji Government signed in 2000 has strengthened relationships and has seen new partnerships with the fisheries and tourism ministries. WWF's profile in the Solomon Islands has been raised with the opening of an office in Honiara for the Solomon Island programme and relationships with the government recognised through the signing of MoU with the Government – the first MoU in 2 years. A recognition of WWF's work in the region has been the invitation of WWF staff onto WSSD delegations for the Cook Islands, Fiji and Solomon Islands.



## WWF Network

The development of new partnerships within the network and the maintenance of existing partnerships continue to be a priority for WWF South Pacific. There was a new partnership developed with WWF US for the Forests of New Guinea Ecoregion Action Programme and a partnership with WWF Netherlands to an agreed programme in the Transfly ecoregion for FY03.

WWF Australia continued to provide financial support through its partnership with AusAID and some technical support for forests in Papua New Guinea. Discussions have already started with WWF France for an MoU with the New Caledonia Programme. The relationships with WWF UK is in transition with the completion of funding for 4 projects coming to an end in FY02, major investments by WWF 4-5 years ago are now starting to pay off.

# communications in action



The Communications unit supports the delivery of WWF's conservation work in the Pacific region through the use of communication tools. From dissemination of information to conservation campaigns, communications plays an important role in creating awareness of conservation concerns within Pacific island communities and governments. Communications engages with the programmes within WWF South Pacific in ensuring that messages reach targeted audiences and that an overall conservation result is achieved.

Visit

**www.wwfpacific.org.fj**



for updated information on WWF work in the Pacific.

**South Pacific Video Resource Centre (VRC)** is housed within the Communications Unit. Television Trust of the Environment (TVE) films are made available to schools and Pacific Island Television Stations. This year, the VRC engaged in a traveling film festival taking films to rural schools in the western parts of Fiji. The film festival was well received by the students and teachers grateful for the audio visual learning opportunity. With support from TVE's Truth Talking Project, the VRC was able to produce a video documentary titled **Voices from the waves** - a film on the social-cultural impacts of Climate Change in the Pacific. The film is aimed at **raising the awareness** of the impacts of Climate Change **on Pacific livelihoods**. Voices from the waves will also be made available to some audiences globally, to create an awareness of climate change impacts already being experienced in the Pacific.

The website was set up in 2000 and provides information on WWF programmes, projects, and conservation campaigns in the Pacific.

## Publications, Posters and Newsletters for conservation



## Campaigns



## Videos





WWF South Pacific Programme Income & Expenditure Statement

For The Year Ending June 30, 2002 and June 30, 2001  
( in Fijian Dollars)

**Governments and Aid Agencies**

- AusAID
- NZODA
- DFID
- CIDA
- DANIDA
- DGIS
- EU
- UNESCO
  
- UNOPS
- World Bank
- Environment Aust
- British Embassy

**Foundations**

- PACKARD FOUNDATION
- Mac Arthur FOUNDATION
- RUFFORD FOUNDATION
- THREE OAKS FOUNDATION
- FIELD (Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development)
- NFWF (National Fish & Wildlife Foundation)

**WWF Network**

- WWF INTERNATIONAL
- WWF AUSTRALIA
- WWF UNITED STATES
- WWF UNITED KINGDOM
- WWF NETHERLANDS
- WWF SWITZERLAND
- WWF NEW ZEALAND
- WWF SWEDEN

	FY2002	FY2001
<b>Income</b>		
Corporate Donation	1,635,809	148,247
Government and Aid Agencies	1,385,632	1,905,432
Foundations	566,022	1,052,348
WWF Network	2,032,349	2,157,083
Other Donations	165,411	115,064
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,785,223</b>	<b>5,378,174</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Forest Conservation	1,810,342	1,513,987
Marine Conservation	2,200,657	2,001,453
Freshwater	511,765	803,246
Climate Change	81,984	55,786
Species	62,583	0
Capacity Building	110,675	98,564
Others	429,803	85,310
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>5,207,809</b>	<b>4,558,346</b>
<b>Excess of Income Over Expenditure</b>	<b>577,414</b>	<b>819,828</b>
<b>Add Funds available at the beginning of Financial Year</b>	<b>1,821,390</b>	<b>753,924</b>
<b>Fund available at the end of Financial Year</b>	<b>2,398,804</b>	<b>1,573,752</b>

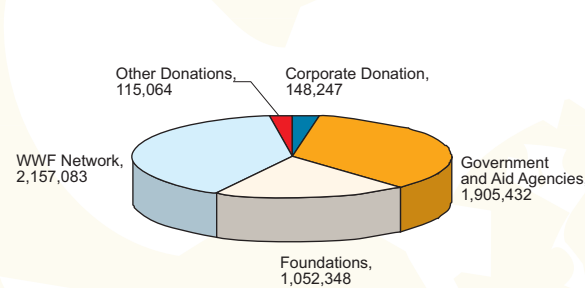


WWF South Pacific Programme Balance Sheet

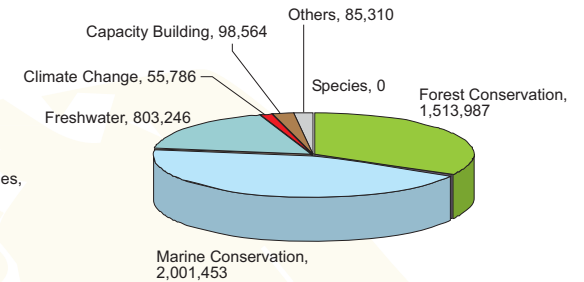
as at June 30, 2002 and June 30, 2001  
( in Fijian Dollars)

	FY2002	FY2001
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	466	475
Bank	1,994,919	1,173,889
Advances	429,948	256,005
Accounts Receivables	188,092	367,987
Prepayments	0	0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,613,425</b>	<b>1,798,356</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payables	214,621	224,605
Accrued Expenses	0	0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>214,621</b>	<b>224,605</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>2,398,804</b>	<b>1,573,751</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Restricted Funds	1,632,239	1,018,962
Unrestricted Funds	766,565	554,789
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>2,398,804</b>	<b>1,573,751</b>

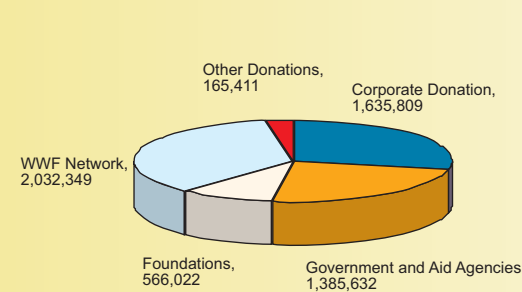
Income FY2001



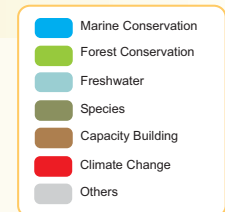
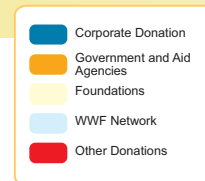
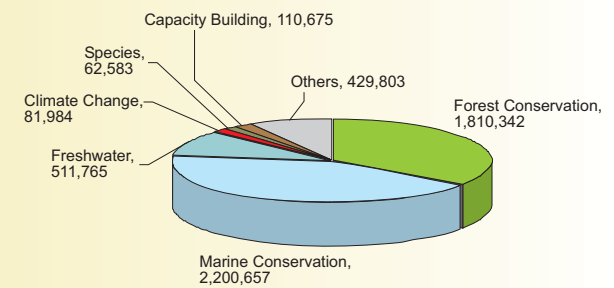
Expenditure FY2001



Income FY2002



Expenditure FY2002



# wwf spp office addresses

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# south pacific programme staff



notes







WWF is the world's largest and most experienced independent conservation organisation. It has 4.7 million supporters and a global network active in 96 countries.

WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- conserving the world's biological diversity
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable
- promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.



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