

**Pacific Invasives Learning Network  
2007 Annual Meeting  
Moorea, French Polynesia  
3 – 7 September 2007**

**Meeting Report**



Ministère du Tourisme  
et de l'Environnement

Réunion Annuelle 2007  
Moorea, Polynésie Française,  
3 – 7 Septembre.

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## Contents

Executive summary.....	4
List of acronyms .....	5
List of acronyms .....	6
Introduction to the meeting.....	7
Background.....	7
PILN 2007 Meeting .....	7
Special messages.....	8
From the Vice President of Palau .....	8
Te pu ‘Atiti’ a Association.....	9
Outputs.....	10
Results of the Technical Sessions .....	10
Marine Invasive Species .....	10
Bio-security.....	11
Weed Management .....	12
Rat Management .....	14
Pacific Ant Prevention Programme – PAPP .....	15
Monitoring, evaluation and data management.....	15
Monitoring .....	15
Evaluation .....	16
Data management.....	16
Invasive birds .....	16
Myna birds .....	16
Other invasive bird species.....	16
Regional Invasive Species Strategy .....	17
Funding and keeping a project funded.....	18
Recommendations.....	18
Emerging issues .....	19
The good ship “Restoration”.....	19
International Processes and Opportunities.....	20
Hull fouling and ballast water.....	21
US Partners and funding.....	22
The future of PILN.....	23
The next PILN meeting.....	24
Current activities and invasive species threats.....	24
Next steps.....	25
Meeting evaluation.....	26
Conclusions.....	27
Acknowledgements.....	28
Moorea, French Polynesia 3 – 7 September 2007 .....	30
Participants list.....	30
Early groups.....	39
Later groups.....	39

For all 4 groups ..... 39

## Executive summary

- A total of around 70 people participated from 13 island teams;
- The Minister for Tourism and Environment opened the meeting. The Mayor and Honorary President of Te Pu 'Atiti'a Association, a local community based organization, also welcomed the participants;
- Eight new PILN teams joined the network – Fiji, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Kiribati, Kosrae, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia and Yap – and reported on their priority invasive species issues and where they need network support;
- Five of the 6 initial founding PILN teams reported on their progress with their invasive species action plans – American Samoa, Guam, Palau, Pohnpei and Samoa;
- Priority actions and specific capacity building activities were identified in four main technical areas:
  - Marine invasive species: the priority activities for inclusion in a proposal on marine invasive species were identified in 5 areas: Information exchange, Prevention, Workshops, Outreach and PILN support;
  - Bio-security: recommendations were made in 4 areas: Awareness, Coordination, Training, Legislation and enforcement, and Increased military presence on Guam;
  - Weed management: priority actions and capacity building needs were identified in 9 areas: Plant identification, Invasive plant management, Bio-control workshop, Annotated list of resources for plant identification, Outreach needs (all taxa), Technical and learning exchanges (4 identified), Community based early detection of key invasive species, and Workshop on Guidelines for road construction / maintenance crews;
  - Rat management: Eight priorities actions were identified.
- In addition, shorter discussions were held on the Pacific Ant Prevention Programme, monitoring, evaluation & data management, and invasive birds, specifically myna birds. Priorities for action were identified, together with opportunities for skill-sharing and capacity building;
- Hands-on sessions were provided for using the Global Invasive Species Database and species prioritization systems;
- Input was given to the revision of the Regional Invasive Species Strategy in 5 specific areas: Format of strategy, Action plan, Information sharing, Awareness, Capacity;
- Four emerging issues were discussed in open space fora to produce recommendations for future actions and identify capacity building needs: the good ship “Restoration”, international processes and opportunities, hull fouling and ballast water, and US partners and funding.
- Participants discussed the future of the PILN network, and what they would like for future meetings:
  - Participants emphasized the great value of face-to-face contact, and both participants and partners found that the network has improved their ability to manage invasive species. Participants want to see more teams and more sectors involved;
  - Participants recommend bi-annual full meetings, with thematic/sub-regional meetings when needed (product focus) in between, more exchanges in between,

and to invite donors and politicians to a one-day summit at the conclusion of the full meeting;

- There are many more threats than on-going projects in all taxa, and main weaknesses identified are bio-security, inter-island quarantine, lack of in-country cooperation and political will. The range of species being targeted in current projects is broad, but the majority are concerned with rat management, ant (RIFA and LFA) management and a larger list of weeds;
- Two areas were identified overall, common to all technical areas, in training needs and database needs, and these are noted of particular concern to PILN partners and coordinator for action.
- All meeting objectives were met and of the five meeting outputs, four have been fully achieved and one requires some further work for complete achievement.
- Forty-seven people completed evaluation forms, of whom 33 were very satisfied and 14 were satisfied with the meeting. No one who completed a form expressed dissatisfaction with the meeting. A number of very useful suggestions are made for the next meeting.



Madame Maina Sage, Minister for Tourism and Environment, holding the PILN canoe



Papa Matarau, Honorary President of Te Pu 'Atiti'a Association

## List of acronyms

BL	BirdLife International, a PILN Close Collaborator
CABI	Commonwealth agricultural bureau
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEPF	Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund
CI	Conservation International, a PILN Partner
DOC NZ	Department of Conservation, New Zealand
FAA	Federal Aviation Authority (USA)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GEF	Global Environment Facility, a funding body for the CBD
GISD	Global Invasive Species Database
GISP	Global Invasive Species Partnership
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisations
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ISSG	Invasive Species Specialist Group, a PILN Partner
LFA	Little fire ant
MIIST	Marshall Islands Invasive Species TaskTeam
NFWF	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NISC	Palau National Invasive Species Council
NPAS	National Park of American Samoa, a PILN Close Collaborator
OERC	Office of Environmental Response and Coordination of Palau, a PILN Partner
PICTS	Pacific Island Countries and Territories
PII	Pacific Invasives Initiative, a programme of the Cooperative Islands Initiative, a PILN Close Collaborator
PILN	Pacific Invasives Learning Network
PISM	Pacific Invasive Species Management project, a new Global Environment Facility project.
PIST	Pohnpei Invasive Species Taskteam
PNG	Papua New Guinea
RIFA	Red imported fire ant
RISC	Regional invasive species council (Palau, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Guam and Yap State)
RISS	Regional invasive species strategy
SNITT	Samoa National Invasive Species Task Team
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community, a PILN Partner
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, a PILN Partner
TNC	The Nature Conservancy, a PILN Partner
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USDOS	United States Department of State
USFS	United States Forest Service, a PILN Partner
USP	University of the South Pacific, a PILN Partner

# Introduction to the meeting

## Background

The Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) serves teams of Pacific Island agencies responsible for invasives management, including agencies responsible for agriculture, international trade and other economic interests, as well as conservation and natural resource management. PILNs mission is to **empower effective invasive species management through a participant-driven network that meets priority needs, rapidly shares skills and resources, provides links to technical expertise, increases information exchange, and accelerates on-the-ground action.**

Founding teams come from all over the Pacific region, with representatives from all three sub-regions, Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia and include members with a long-term commitment to conservation, strong cultural understanding, and the potential to act as innovators to increase invasive species management and prevention in their nations. Participating teams determine the specific invasive species issues that they will address using the network. PILNs activities and agenda are determined by the individual and shared needs of the participants.

The official launch of the PILN took place from 22 to 26 May 2006, hosted by Palau. Members of the initial group of six founding teams from American Samoa, Guam, Niue, Palau, Pohnpei and Samoa participated, together with Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund grantees working on invasive species management demonstration projects from Palau, Samoa, FSM, the Cook Islands, Fiji, and French Polynesia, and representatives of the eight partners and two close collaborators. In total 42 people from 11 countries, states and territories attended.

In the 16 months since the launch, the network has gained great traction and teams are actively advancing their priority projects. A new close collaborator, BirdLife International, has joined the partnership and eight new countries, states and territories have requested to join the network: Fiji, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Kiribati, Kosrae, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia and Yap.

## PILN 2007 Meeting

The PILN 2007 annual meeting was held from 3 to 7 September 2007 at the Richard B. Gump South Pacific Research Station in Moorea, French Polynesia, hosted by the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Government of French Polynesia. Thirteen PILN island teams participated (Niue was unable to attend) together with representatives of the eight partners 2 of the 3 close collaborators. A total of 70 people attended; the list of participants' is presented in Annex 1.

Meeting objectives were established by the participants before the meeting and were used to define the final agenda:

- To share progress on Invasive Species Action Plans from each PILN team, analyze challenges and identify ways to address them;

- To share skills and lessons learned from field and strategic projects, especially for four priority issues - rat management, weed management, bio-security and marine invasive species;
- To identify priority issues and expert exchange needs for PILN teams;
- To facilitate collaboration and coordination between agencies, sectors and countries on priority invasive issues.

The complete final agenda is given in Annex 2. This report presents a summary of the main findings and conclusions in terms of the agreed outputs established prior to the meeting, and specifically from the point of view of PILN input to capacity building. It is intended to be a working document and many of the activities will be further defined in the subsequent weeks.

The agreed outputs of the meeting are:

- ✓ Outline of future collaboration and coordination of work in 4 main technical areas: rat management, weed management; bio-security and marine invasive species;
- ✓ Identification of key capacity building needs among network participants;
- ✓ Exchanges and technical attachments identified for priority projects;
- ✓ Support for fund raising identified;
- ✓ PILN 2008 meeting objectives defined.

There was considerable local media coverage for the meeting. On Wednesday 29 August the Minister and PILN coordinator held a press conference for local television, radio and newspaper reporters. The opening ceremony and the fire ant field trip were also reported on local television.

A summary of the weeks meeting was presented to the Te Pu 'Atiti'a Association at the closure on Friday 7 September by Ms Taati Eria of the Department of Environment and Conservation, Kiribati, who was unanimously elected by the participants as their representative.

The 2007 PILN meeting was preceded by a PILN Partners meeting and run back to back with two other activities: a workshop on social marketing run by RARE for Nature Conservation, 10 – 12 September; and a 2-day workshop to draft the French Polynesia Invasive Species Strategic Action Plan. These activities are reported on separately.

### **Special messages**

Madame Maina Sage, Minister for Tourism and Environment, and Mr Maihi Paiatua, Mayor of Pao Pao, Moorea, officially opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. In her opening remarks, the Minister emphasized the importance of invasive species to French Polynesia and the Pacific region in general, to both community livelihoods and conservation interests.

#### **From the Vice President of Palau**

Alii! Greetings from the Republic of Palau! On behalf of President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. and all the people of Palau, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your dedication and commitment to protect our valuable resources from invasive species that exist throughout the Pacific.

Palau and its neighbors share a common problem that must be addressed before it becomes a condition beyond our control. By working together, I hope that we can be successful in our efforts to ensure that our islands remain the natural wonders that they are today for the benefit of our future generations.

May this second annual meeting produce many beneficial and significant findings that will help us progress toward our common goal of an invasive-free Pacific. A successful outcome can be achieved only through the hard work of each individual here today. No matter what, always remember: Failure is not an option!! I thank you again and the President and I look forward to a positive report at the conclusion of your meeting.

Kom kmal mesulang!

Elias Camsek Chin  
Vice President/Minister of Justice  
Republic of Palau

### **Te pu 'Atiti'a Association**

The name of the association means "Stand up and put all people together". It was created to help local people transmitting traditional knowledge to new generations. The presence of UC Berkeley Gump Station in Mo'orea was an opportunity to create a place for exchanges between scientists and local experts in traditional knowledge (papa). In French Polynesia, the traditional knowledge is composed of 3 elements: 1. Humility (you are just a vector, you should get no glory about this knowledge), 2. Mana (the mystic power related to the knowledge), 3. Respect. It was a long way before 'papa' agreed to share their precious knowledge. "Papa" was afraid of losing their mana. Now, several "papa" worked in the association and share with scientists in many different areas: fishing, planting, canoe construction, sealing, culture/traditional protocol, etc.). Scientists and "papa" gained a lot by communicating and sharing experience together. The association helped traditional values to be recognized. It also helped to promote this knowledge locally and in the world. Members of the association were very happy to have the opportunity to share with Pacific scientists during the PILN.

### **"Te Pu 'Atiti'a" Traditional Song**

Te firi nei matou ehahe  
Te taura toru fenua  
Faatupu I te hau ehahe  
E te maitai e te hoeraae  
Te hei hono rau

Te firi nei.... (ter)

*Let's weave  
The three strands together  
To empower peace  
Love and unity*

*We form the lei that joins humanity*

# Outputs

## Results of the Technical Sessions

Prior to the meeting participants identified four main technical areas of concern for which they wanted to define capacity building activities: marine invasive species, bio-security, weed management and rat management. Work on these four areas formed the main activity of the 2007 meeting. In addition, shorter discussions were held on the Pacific Ant Prevention Programme, monitoring, evaluation & data management, and invasive birds.

### Marine Invasive Species

The group identified the priority activities for inclusion in a proposal on marine invasive species. Michael Browne will develop a proposal for a series of workshops to be conducted over a 2 to 3 year period. He will circulate the proposal among the break-out group members for comments and submit the final proposal to IUCN Oceania by the end of **October 2007**. The project could be run in several phases if funding is not available for the complete list of activities.

Topic	Activities
Information exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional marine quarantine position similar to regional plant protection officer (PPO): to help share information with other countries of the Pacific. It should be a formal position with SPC for 2 years. PILN teams interested should ask for a letter of support from their agencies</li> <li>- Summarizing what is known and ongoing information sharing</li> </ul>
Prevention	<p>The most important part, because once introduced, the action is very costly for other species, difficult and endangered other species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pathway analysis (all) to identify threats, need experts to help start the pathways on a regional basis</li> <li>- Develop a white list to improve quarantine/bio-security</li> <li>- Pest risk analysis for e.g. 10 common aquatic commodities (used in sea food company, fisheries, etc.)</li> <li>- Identify 15 worst marine invasives that the Pacific should look out for</li> </ul>
Workshops	<p>Two steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preliminary general workshops (Parataxonomic training and survey/monitoring methodology/ship inspection) – will design the survey and also it would help to respond to funding opportunities for management/eradication projects</li> <li>2. Specific workshops to train people to do the survey (Develop capacity to do surveys, inventory, monitoring)</li> </ol>
Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop information packages (developed tools, etc.) to 15 worst marine species including response options</li> <li>- Financial support to develop materials for local use (general issues and specific threats)</li> </ul>
PILN support	<p>PILN can help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management of ballast water from NZ and Australia, SPREP</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Generate financial support for baseline marine surveys</li> <li>- Encourage research to develop more response tools and strategies</li> </ul>
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## Bio-security

The bio-security group presented the following set of recommendations. These will be discussed by SPC, SPREP, PII and PILN who will respond to the network by the end of September 2007, identifying the activities they can realistically commit to, or are already doing.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Led by who?</b>
Awareness	PILN coordinator contact authorities in rim countries and PICTs to identify any existing material of potential use of region, especially if already in a Pacific language and provide to PILN. ISSG/GISP (and others?) to support the dissemination of that information.	PILN coordinator
	PILN to develop a system for people to access RARE trained people for advice	PILN coordinator
	SPC/PILN to compile electronic copies of public awareness material produced in region, including translations of these where necessary. Perhaps place on an existing website that is already well used. Or distribute by CD. Consider providing also hard copies.	SPC / PILN coordinator
	SPC to provide support for public awareness material production. PILN and SPC to help countries make requests	SPC
Coordination	SPREP to develop a proposal for funding for a coordinator for each sub-region (Micronesia etc). Key roles for that person include to ensure that information on what is available regionally/internationally is disseminated, to identify needs and sources of support, and also ensure coordination of activities, funding grants, etc within the sub-region. They would also facilitate communication with other sub-regions and regional organisations.	SPREP
	SPC finds a country that will approach ICAO and FAA on behalf of the region about in-flight videos	SPC
Training	PILN coordinator and SPC to identify available training courses (quarantine and related skills such as computer skills) and training resources (e.g. experts) and help countries access them. This will include helping to identify funding for use of these resources. PILN teams to provide connections to in-country training coordination mechanisms.	SPC / PILN coordinator
	PILN coordinator to provide information to PILN teams on available or pending technical manuals and help countries pick them up. SPC to help with the identification of the material.	PILN coordinator

	RISS to identify as a priority the progressive building of quarantine systems (in the way that Ausaid supported Samoa), starting with hub countries, and early recipients commit to providing training/support to non-recipients.	Alan Tye
	PILN coordinator to facilitate attachments of Samoan or rim specialists to countries that aren't early recipients, or to allow for local bio-security officers to visit and see those systems.	PILN coordinator
	SPC to develop a regionally usable certification system for quarantine staff with levels and standards	SPC
Legislation and enforcement	PILN coordinator to disseminate information on the SPC developed legislation project and help teams get their countries to pick it up. SPREP provide support for the development of regulations/protocols under the legislation in relation to environmental threats.	PILN coordinator
	RISS suggest that 2 countries – one with an agricultural export base and one with a tourism base – are supported to develop model packages for selling bio-security to politicians and sectors, including economic impact assessments	Alan Tye
	Alan Tye develop a proposal for a regional convention or resolution or equivalent on bio-security to be put through SPC, coinciding with the RISS endorsement, and find sponsors for this. Sponsors also try to get bio-security as a major item at a forum. Alan Tye will talk to Sidney Suma of SPC.	Alan Tye
Increased military presence on Guam	Provide a report on the risk Guam's invasive species pose to the region to SPC or SPREP and have a sponsor seek a resolution (e.g. from a SPC Forum) on actions that would reduce the risk (e.g. certification of snake-free shipping) and representation to the US government on the need for action.	??

## Weed Management

The group defined priority actions and capacity building needs in nine areas.

Priority activities and capacity building		Led by who?	When?
Plant identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Computer based, microscope, use of keys, etc.</li> <li>- Traveling road show so that it is country based, use PNG parataxonomy as a model.</li> <li>- Combine course with Jim Space surveys (Palau as 'test')</li> </ul>	Anne Marie / Alan Tye Lynley – possible Landcare funds	Palau – November 07

	2 – 3 workshop (“Madang parataxonomy PNG model”)	Stas, John Randall to provide information	
	Carry out a needs survey in each country or on a sub-regional basis	Jill	
	Eventually, include it in the GEF - PISM	Alan Tye	Mar 2008
	Jean Yves will translate it into French		
Invasive plant management	Adapt the DOC NZ course: - SPREP consultant will adapt the course  - Run the course (USP)	Craig, Alan Tye, Jean Yves (French translation) USP	Mar 08  Mar 08
	Weed control techniques for field crews: methods, appropriate technology – exchanges (see below)		
Bio-control workshop	Part of the Pacific invasive species strategy. Hold in Fiji. Possible funding: USDA, SPC, Landcare, TNC, others (CABI?)	Warea, Anne Marie, Konrad, Lynley	Mar / Apr 08
Bio-control of African tulip	- Affected countries: Guam, Pohnpei, Hawaii, American Samoa, Fiji, Samoa, French Polynesia, Wallis & Futuna, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, PNG - SPC are proposing exploration in Africa for an agent - Then will need funds for screening, host testing, etc	SPC	On-going
Annotated list of resources for plant identification	Including directions on how to collect specimens	Jean-Yves, Michael, Warea	Mar 08
Outreach needs (all taxa)	- Information exchange, clearing house - Joel plan to duplicate Micronesian RISC model - Liaison with countries and governments	- - Joel - Alan Tye	
Technical and learning exchanges	FSM / Kiribati learning exchange on techniques for field crews  Fiji / American Samoa, weed control in protected areas  Samoa / FSM, bio-control of <i>Coccinia grandis</i> release program  New Caledonia / French Polynesia, <i>Miconia</i> control	Jill	Nov 08 make connections, identify funding

	Hawaii is a willing host where they have the skills needed		
Community based early detection of key invasive species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Survey and training, multi-sector</li> <li>- Partners: Landcare, SPC, SPREP, FAO, TNC, Taiwan technical mission, PILN, local NGOs, community partners in-country – UN volunteers, US Peace corps</li> </ul>		
Workshop on Guidelines for road construction / maintenance crews	<p>Train the trainers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How / where to look</li> <li>- Plant identification, how to do it</li> <li>- How to take samples</li> <li>- Basic GPS / location / mapping</li> <li>- Database</li> <li>- How to pass on information</li> <li>- Trainers manual</li> </ul>	Pat B	
	<p>Palau Roads workshop – to stop weeds spreading / introduction / detection / reporting. Warea – SPC contribute US\$7,000</p>	Alan Tye, Anne Marie	Dec 07

## Rat Management

Eight priorities were identified in building capacity and information sharing concerning rats management in the Pacific.

Priorities for capacity building	Led by who?	When?
<p>2008 PILN/PII/Birdlife(BL) needed to lead mechanism for arranging and supporting skill-sharing to specific rat eradication/control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identify on-going projects – other people could learn from on-going project</li> <li>- identify appropriate recipients</li> <li>- finding funds</li> </ul>	Jill, Alan, Diane, Steve	
<p>2. Dr Joshua (Am Samoa) proposal for rat management?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- link to PILN/USDA/Diane</li> <li>- project design?</li> <li>- Funding?</li> </ul>		Connect by Oct 2007
<p>3. Rat projects already “on the books”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Birdlife and Associates: Fr Polynesia, Fiji, Palau, NC</li> <li>- PII: Aleipatas (SPREP/MNRE), Vahanga? (SOP Manu)</li> <li>- USDA: Guam, NB: fundings available for skills sharing</li> </ul>	PII / Jill	

4. Identified a demonstration project which is well-suited as a training project from Feasibility studies → Planning → Implementation → Evaluation	PII	1, 3 and 4 combined by June 2008
5. PILN/PII to compile the information available (reports, training manuals, guidelines, bio-security and prevention protocols, etc.) on rat management - Accessible to PILN teams through relevant websites (PII, PILN, SPREP, SPC, GISD, etc.)	Jill / PII	By March 2008 (on-going)
6. Compile a list of key rat management contacts	Jill/Alan	By Dec 2007
7. Share prioritization mechanisms and criteria (e.g. Pohnpei, NZ) - Plus Poly/Micro Eco Profile - Plus Galapagos, Samoa	PII / BirdLife	By June 2008
8. Identify potential media outlets (e.g. Airline Magazines, regional publications) which might publish articles on rat management. Send to SPC information officer.	Everyone, SPC	

### **Pacific Ant Prevention Programme – PAPP**

This programme is led by Warea Orapa of SPC.

Four main issues were identified concerning ant management in the Pacific:

- All countries already feelings LFA impacts
- Need to increase collaboration with bio-security
- Need more training on ant identification
- Need to identify control methods and capacity

These activities currently lack funding and are waiting for the appointment of a PAPP coordinator.

### **Monitoring, evaluation and data management**

This activity is led by PII and the ISSG / GISD.

#### Monitoring

Monitoring is an on-going process with two aspects:

- Assessing the status of invasive species
- Documenting changes in ecosystem (biodiversity, livelihoods) over time

It was identified that monitoring is a long-term process that can be qualitative or quantitative (various different methods can be used depending upon invasives and capacity: documentation, mapping, records, etc.).

### Evaluation

Evaluation is an occasional process. It consists in using information that comes from data to assess the progress in a management program with a comparison between progress and goals. It is used to help improve on-going or future programs.

It was found that evaluations are not numerous enough; they need to be done regularly during a program, e.g. every six months and the results need to be shared (e.g. visit of an expert/colleague). Also, daily capture of data would help for assessment.

### Data management

There is a need for training on systems (GIS mapping, data capture/analysis, etc.)

**A database** is needed to share high-level information: targeted species, methods, results, costs, contact people, etc.

## **Invasive birds**

### Myna birds

The group focused on introduced myna birds in order to provide input to a Darwin Initiative project proposal for submission in 2008, between the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, the Central Science Laboratory, SPREP, PII and the Government of Kiribati.

Myna birds management is a major concern for many countries in the Pacific. Capacity needs to be increased to manage these birds. Five priorities were identified in capacity building needs to myna birds:

- Research on bird ecology: dispersal and impact studies
- Research on control methods – existing and potential
- Information on the effect of management
- Information on people's perceptions of mynas as invasive
- Funding

All these priorities need to be known before doing the following:

- Awareness raising for government, public
- Training and skill share in bird management

Island size was considered a potentially important factor for management of myna birds, but not high islands vs low islands.

The group noted that there is synergy with an existing Darwin Initiative project in Fiji on protected areas, as myna birds as an issue there.

### Other invasive bird species

The group briefly considered the difference which exist between myna bird management and that of other invasive bird species:

- Many species are not very visible, e.g. nocturnal/secretive. This create difficulties in ecology research and monitoring
- Their impact and threats might not be visible
- There are big differences in ecology, impact, dispersal
- Some are protected species in other countries
- Public opinion might be a problem for eradication or control as people like them (e.g. Harrier, Cockatoo)

## **Regional Invasive Species Strategy**

The current revision of the Regional Invasive Species Strategy (RISS) is being led by Alan Tye of SPREP and this session was aimed at providing input to the revision. The following suggestions/remarks were made:

### **1.Format of strategy**

- Endorsed as an approach
- Two extra issues were identified and need to be added:
  - Preventing export of pests to other countries
  - Governance
- Good language needs to be used. It must be easily understood and should not trigger negative reactions from e.g. trade officials
- The strategy should be kept short and self-explanatory

### **2. Action plan**

- It has to be realistic
- Is it an option to get a few items endorsed by SPREP/SPC now?
- It may be useful to separate what all countries should do from a small number of items the region will do.
- The most valuable actions should be identified:
  - small islands for eradication
  - hubs for quarantine
  - islands with charismatic biodiversity to attract donors
- The creation of technical advisory groups could help develop or check the content of action plan and follow a process.

### **3. Information sharing**

- Role of PILN
- Identification full range of data management/information sharing

### **4. Awareness**

- Awareness about native biodiversity is as important as awareness about invasive species

### **5. Capacity**

- An important awareness on project is essential to get political support and more and stable funding
- Sectoral pressure – tourism, agriculture
- Regional pressure – political, trading partners, aid
- Key need is more staff in government agencies

### **Funding and keeping a project funded**

Vilikesa Masibalavu from Fiji and Joel Miles from Palau shared their experiences on fund raising with the group, after which break-out groups were formed to discuss the issues of obtaining funds and sustainable financing.

**The PILN and PII partners repeat their offer to support people with funding applications by commenting on drafts and mentoring proposal writing.**

#### Recommendations

Where?

- Good web sites to find potential donors are:
  - [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)
  - [www.vivisimo.com](http://www.vivisimo.com)
- PILN / PII have a donors database which is shared with the group. Some donors have a fixed funding cycle so you can plan your proposal writing.

Project/budget

- Ask the donor about their expectations, government/donors may want direct involvement
- Start small (short term at a small scale)
- Need to be prepared to talk publicly about the projects objectives
- Market your project/ideas to donors
- Use the same language as the donor
- Funding research can be a problem, be creative with language, for example talk about monitoring not research
- Having co-funding increases your chances of getting funding, be creative again, you can use the value of your time for example.

Donor relations:

- Identify what the donor expects: topics, use the same language, etc.
- Built personal relationship, make the donor feel welcome
- Send the donor copies of any publicity you generate, invite them to your field work, meetings etc

General Remarks/comments:

- In-country there is often a lack of coordination, so many NGOs or government agencies are applying for the same funds

- Check the restrictions for each donor, they will vary (for example, US territories, NGOs, etc)
- There is a problem of language for the French Territories, some donors only accept applications in English and require reporting in English
- There is no need for more grant writing courses, but there is a real need for mentoring, review and comments on draft proposals. This is a good role for PILN / PII.

### **Emerging issues**

Four emerging issues were tabled for discussion: the good ship “Restoration”, international processes and opportunities, hull fouling and ballast water, and US Partners and funding.

#### **The good ship “Restoration”**

Chair: Alan Saunders, PII

Alan outlined the background to the idea to buy a ship, with a helicopter, to undertake eradications around the world. Several large-island eradications recently proposed will require helicopters based on ships to complete a number of other operations – both, large islands and small atolls.

Support was expected for the idea.

#### Suggestions/comments:

- “Restoration”: a better focus for the concept rather than “Eradications” (an objective, not a goal)
- Not just an eradication but survey, research, outreach, etc., i.e. multiple roles
- Not just mammal eradications – ants, snails, plants, etc.
- There are already some vessels undertaking these roles (e.g. The Bounty Bay)
- Ship-based may not always be the best approach
- There are vessels with helicopters already available e.g. owned by very wealthy people (who may loan/donate), tuna boats, navy vessels. Challenge will be access these vessels.
- Great opportunities to involve specialist volunteers and (paying) tourists
- Advantages in developing a large-scale multi-million dollar program rather than a large number of small ones.
- Will require rigorous concept and detailed planning
- Economics of scale in such an approach – but huge initial capital investment
- Be careful that the ship doesn’t drive the programme, rather than the other way around!

<b>Follow-up activities and commitments</b>	<b>Led by who?</b>
15 people providing their email addresses as the expression of their interest to be “Kept in the logs”. Alan undertook to, at least initially, keep everyone informed.	Alan Saunders

## International Processes and Opportunities

Chair: Stas Burgiel, TNC/GISP

International Agreements and Organizations – offer potential opportunities for:

- Developing government commitments
- Securing resources (financial, technical)
- Promoting success stories
- Connect with other countries, donors, etc.
- Advancing regional priorities

International Processes that Could be Engaged

- Convention on Biological Diversity – In depth review of invasive species (May 2008 – Input from countries to CBD Secretariat by 19 November)
- International Maritime Organization – pilot project on hull fouling in the Pacific
- International Civil Aviation Organization – draft guidance on airport/line bio-security; in flight videos
- Global Environment Facility – bio-security and Global Island Partnership windows
- Ramsar – technical manuals
- UN Food and Agriculture Organization – technical manuals; quarantine (IPPC)
- Global Island Partnership
- World Trade Organization
- World Heritage Convention

<b>Follow-up activities and commitments</b>	<b>Led by who?</b>	<b>When?</b>
Following this meeting, PILN teams meet with federal agencies (foreign affairs, agriculture, environment, including representatives to international and regional bodies – need to identify focal points) to report on results of meeting in order to build relationships and to note that information will be forthcoming for submission to the CBD Secretariat	PILN teams	Immediate
Identify national and regional priorities from PILN meeting and convert into CBD speak (ensuring link with/support for RISS, Roundtable results). PILN teams and SPREP promote to CBD focal points by end of October (submissions to CBD Secretariat by 19 November)	Stas Burgiel, Alan Tye, Paula Warren	End October
SPREP identify opportunities for region and countries that could be pursued in international processes.	Alan Tye	
Strategy session convened (in NZ?) to develop strategy and match priorities to international processes and opportunities		
SPREP (with SPC) to track upcoming opportunities as identified in the international/regional strategy to notify necessary steps at international meetings (supported by SPREP, SPC, GISP, other allied countries – NZ, Australia)	Alan Tye / SPC	

## Hull fouling and ballast water

Chair: Tony Montgomery, Hawaii

Questions/ Topics discussed were:

- What are your regulations on B.W. H.F. in your country ?
- What is your local (you or your agency's) knowledge of this issue of BW/HF management?
- What are the problems with enforcement of the existing regulations?
- Would you be interested in a session/ training/ workshop that addresses BW/HF management strategies? I.e. minimizing as opposed to total prevention...

Samoa:

Port Authority only effective set of regulations

Quarantine – zero discharge without permission, allow exchange and/or treatment options. The do not check or verify records

May have some regulations on hull fouling, but uncertain.

Fisheries does not address issue

Some trained divers to carry out inspections (need specific training for tasks)

Pohnpei:

Bill – no discharge within 12 miles (zero discharge)

Nothing dealing with fouling

Marshall Islands:

Regulations for discharges

Port Authority has jurisdiction

EPA – bilge discharge

Not certain about rules for fouling

Issues with a dry dock from Fiji funded by Taiwanese government

Guam:

Port Authority and Port Police Force has jurisdiction

Allow discharge with open Ocean exchange (follows US Coast Guard regs)

No fouling regulations

Recent issues with Dry docks from Hawaii and Philippines

Military exposure with forces from Okinawa

Follow-up activities and commitments	Led by who?	When?
Need to determine who has authority in each country		
How do you inspect compliance to existing regulations? Is there capacity in the country?		
Several areas expressed uncertainty on their rules. Each area will follow-up with their own rules.		
Hawaii will send out recent ballast water rules, report form, and	Tony	

outreach materials.		
Need to develop a model regulation for the region.		
Need licensing and/or database vessels		
Should involve FFA – Forum of Fishing Agencies – probably aware of issues, but not serious about following rules or practices.		
Need more outreach/ info to authorities		
Need specific info on impacts to get more buy-in		
Send out request to PILN members to get more information about ballast water/ hull fouling regulations.		
Konrad looked up ballast water / hull fouling regulations in new Bio-security Bill for SPC. It states when reasonable, no discharge of ballast water is allowed.		

## US Partners and funding

Chair: Anne Marie LaRosa, US Forest Service

There is a competitive grant available through the US Forest Service for US partners and associated countries / states:

- Identified and supported locally
- National / regional in scope
- Address issues of national importance
- Provide meaningful outcomes on the ground

There are three themes, and at least 1 must be included:

1. Conserve working forest landscapes
2. Protect forests from harm (for example, from invasive species)
3. Enhance benefits from trees and forests

Grant sidebars / criteria:

- Meaningful collaboration for planning and implementation
- Submitted through “state” foresters
- Maximum is \$500,000 grant, with a 50% match, cash or in-kind, which should not come from US government sources.
- Maximum of 3 years funding
- Due 30 September

Several possible regional projects were discussed. It was agreed that it would not be possible to attempt to meet the September 30 deadline for 2007, and that that the group would continue to communicate and attempt to develop a regional project, to submit by **September 30 2008**. Anne Marie will continue to lead this effort.

## The future of PILN

Country based break-out groups were asked to identify three pluses for PILN on things which work well for them, and three suggestions for improvement. PILN participants and PILN partners did this exercise separately. This activity is led by the PILN coordinator and feed into the design of the PILN network post-pilot programme (after May 2008).

Results are shown below. In summary, participants emphasized the great value of face-to-face contact, and both participants and partners found that the network has improved their ability to manage invasive species. The network has helped with coordination, collaboration and confidence within teams. Participants want to see more teams and more sectors involved.

Plus	Improvements
<p><b>PARTICIPANTS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- establish and sharing SAP</li> <li>- sharing information/lessons/experience on invasive (e.g. marine), a catalyst for thinking about new issues</li> <li>- increase coordination between countries and in countries (agencies, NGO's)</li> <li>- increase confidence in ability</li> <li>- increase access to experts (free expertise) and techniques (e.g. rat eradication)</li> <li>- increase friends connections/networking</li> <li>- follow up to commitments</li> <li>- evidence that bio-control can work (<i>Miconia</i>)</li> <li>- wonderful spirit of co-operation and willingness to work together</li> </ul>	<p><b>PARTICIPANTS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- more information needed on: marine, bio-security</li> <li>- need to strengthen knowledge base on other issues, e.g. snails/slugs</li> <li>- more participants : other PICT's, more health/quarantine/custom people, more border protection, marine, scientists, friends of PILN with experience, more NGO's, invite agencies in Asia and America, invite representatives from donor agencies</li> <li>- one day at meeting with more detail about projects – success and failure</li> <li>- thematic meetings: terrestrial/marine</li> <li>- SPREP/SPC to assist Fiji with government in PILN</li> <li>- need more country exchange</li> <li>- more involvement of experts with all members</li> <li>- need to have an award system</li> <li>- report send directly after meeting</li> <li>- need an internet portal</li> <li>- link meeting with conference, e.g. NZ Bio-security Institute</li> </ul>
<p><b>PARTNERS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- helped them to do their job</li> <li>- synergies helps partners to identify regional priorities</li> <li>- support for meeting by government of FP</li> </ul>	<p><b>PARTNERS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PILN become more comprehensive</li> <li>- need more resources to run PILN : funding and personal</li> <li>- PILN could encourage to have government focal points through SAP</li> <li>- Country team commitments for next year</li> </ul>

## **The next PILN meeting**

Full annual meetings are costly and take time to organise, and other options should be considered. However, it is noted that the cost for the 2007 meeting – this one – works out to US\$3,000 per person for the PILN meeting and RARE workshop, which is excellent value for money.

Options discussed included full annual meetings, bi-annual (or less regular) full meetings, smaller meetings based on thematic topics (for example, weeds), sub-regional or country groups. Costs, time involved in organisation and the pros and cons of each option were discussed.

In conclusion the group recommends that:

- A full meeting should be organised every 2 years (the next to be in 2009) with thematic/sub-regional meetings when needed (product focus) in between;
- Donors and politicians should be invited for the presentations of the conclusions of the full meeting, the final day;
- In addition to meetings, exchanges/face-to-face should be facilitated (for example, invite your PILN colleagues to your country).

## **Current activities and invasive species threats**

Participants were invited to record their current invasive species activities and their invasive species threats on two maps of the Pacific region. This activity had three purposes:

- To provide an overview of the threats and activities in the Pacific region within the 13 countries presented at the meeting;
- To use the annotated maps created to raise awareness of the issue of invasive species at the SPREP meeting (10 – 14 September);
- To allow a rough analysis of the gap between existing activities and current threats. This gap analysis will inform the future RISS.

The full list of information posted is presented in a separate document in the meeting CD. In summary:

- There are many more threats than on-going projects in all taxa: plants, rodents, various vertebrates, various invertebrates, and in both the marine and terrestrial environment.
- Main weaknesses identified are bio-security, inter-island quarantine, lack of in-country cooperation and political will.
- The range of species being targeted in current projects is broad, but the majority are concerned with rat management, ant (RIFA and LFA) prevention, management and a larger list of weeds, of which there are a few common targets such as *Mikania*, *Merremia*, *Wedelia* and *Spathodea*.

### Next steps

What	Who	When
Liaise with Neil Davies & Berkeley, CBB to promote invertebrate risk assessments	Alan S	Dec 07
Follow up to rat working group w/ Jill & Steve	Alan S	Dec 07
Liaise with PILN partners on review	Alan S	Dec 07
Make a weed risk assessment an off the shelf product	Alan T	Dec 07
Get a good revised PISM proposal	Alan T	March 08
Finalize RISS	Alan T	May 08
Get ant DVD on TV	Ata	
Data collection & management workshop	Bill/Anne Marie	Jan 08
Survey invasive plants and ants in Wallis & Futuna	Jean Yves	Nov
New members from Wallis & Futuna	Jean Yves	Jan 08
Partners meeting report	Jill	End next week
PILN meeting report	Jill	Monday 10 Sep
Meeting DVDs and CDs out to participants	Jill	Next week
List of actions from the bio-security session to partners for input	Jill	End Sept 2007
Visit at least 3 countries	Jill	End 2007
Identify funding and people for at least 2 exchanges	Jill	End 2007
Identify funding and people for 2 more	Jill	End May 2008
Report back to all participants on meeting commitments	Jill	March 2008 (6 months time)
PILN external review input to partners	Jill	24 September
Mikania cleanup in Nov	Joe/Joel	Nov
Report to Palau NISC, RISC	Joel	Oct – Nov
Get ant DVD on national TV in Palau	Joel	Nov
Roads workshop/IS Survey	Joel/Anne Marie	Dec 07
Ant DVD on Pohnpei local media	John W	Nov-Dec
Put a press article on PILN into local press	John W	Sept
Produce IS calendar in Micronesia	Konrad/SPC	Dec 07
Marshall Island eradication Chromolaena/Mikania	Konrad/SPC	2007-8
Finalize bio-security bill, pest list database, electronic quarantine manual	Konrad/SPC/Sidney Suma	
Show ant DVD on TV	Kosrae	Nov 07
MIIST finalized draft of plan & endorsed	Lowell	Jan 08
Ant DVD on local tv	Lowell	Nov 07
Join RISC Micronesia	Lowell	08
Report on existing rules of marine hull fouling	Manoj	October
Kill rattan in Samoa	Mark	

Develop draft marine proposal	Michael	End of October
Find funding for high level information resource – begin talking	Michael	Oct
Get activities into GISD when funded	Michael	
Report to NGOs in Fiji	Milika	Sept 07
Get Projects in pipeline – weed surveys	Milika	Dec 07
Report back to SNITT	Natasha	Sept
Public meeting on ranking	Natasha	Oct
NIA-SAP goes to cabinet	Natasha	Jan 08
Draft a press release on meeting	Paula	By Monday
Following action plan commitments	PIST	On going
Rodent eradication – ant island	PIST	2008-9
Integrate questionnaire into community based management program	Sapeti	Nov
Follow up on review w/ TNC	Sean	Sept
Ant surveillance in Pohnpei/Palau – Dec	SPC	
Facilitate interface with CBD review	Stas	08
Report on PILN meeting to Kiribati Team	Taati	Sept
Finalize 1st phase and endorse action plan	Taati	Dec 07
Second phase of action plan	Taati	08
Incorporate press release into	Taati	Sep 07
Education summit – include IAS issues	Taati	Sep 27
Tony will review Michael’s proposal	Tony	
Coordinate information on hull fouling	Tony	Oct
Ant DVD to interested folks	Warea	Oct 30
Provide material for Am. Samoa – weed process	Warea	Nov
\$ to Palau for roadside workshop	Warea	Oct
Hold bio-control workshop	Warea/Anne Marie	April 08

### Meeting evaluation

Forty seven people completed evaluation forms, of who 33 were very satisfied and 14 were satisfied with the meeting. No one who completed a form expressed dissatisfaction with the meeting.

Comments on the form are summarized below in the form of a table, grouping positive comments on expectations fulfilled and benefits received, and suggestions for improvements for the next meeting.

Positive comments	Suggestions for improvements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Meeting people, making contacts</li> <li>- Learn the extent of impact and other work</li> <li>- Sharing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invite donors</li> <li>- Partners dominate discussion too much</li> <li>- Pacific islanders need to be given more</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Learn new techniques</li> <li>- Enthusiasm</li> <li>- Good balance of formal and informal sessions</li> <li>- Well organized</li> <li>- Good field trips</li> <li>- Face to face contact</li> <li>- Agreement on the PAPP objectives</li> <li>- Opportunity to lobby with partners</li> <li>- Diversity of backgrounds of participants, people from all walks of life</li> <li>- Cooperation</li> <li>- Note the use of SAPs</li> <li>- Eye opener to the small things that can be done</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>opportunity to speak out</li> <li>- Simpler agenda, sessions were rushed</li> <li>- French Polynesia team to stay over at night</li> <li>- Opportunity for team meetings</li> <li>- More time discussion individual projects</li> <li>- More marine and aquatic content</li> <li>- Field workers to speak out more</li> <li>- Invite more field workers</li> <li>- Smaller groups</li> <li>- Have a specific product at the end of the meeting</li> <li>- Field trip which actually does a management activity</li> <li>- Share success more</li> <li>- Have sub regional meetings</li> <li>- Set a date for the next meeting now</li> </ul>
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## Conclusions

During the meeting it became clear that there were some common themes which kept coming up again and again in the different sessions, namely a need for training and a need for database resources. These are of particular interest for PILN, as a regional capacity building mechanism, to seek for existing opportunities or ways to develop new ones:

### 1. Training needed

- Field-based technical trainings in each thematic area (methodology/techniques)
- Technical trainings to develop parataxonomists (suggested for plant and marine species, but might also concern other organisms like insects, etc.)
- Project design and writing course (priority, feasibility, cost/benefit, budgets)
- Grant proposal writing course (+ peer review)
- Awareness/marketing course
- Data management training (capture, analysis)

### 2. Databases/listings needed

- List of web resources for plant identification and how to use it
- List of experts (technical information about sampling, preparation and identifications)
- Database on equipment sources

In conclusion, the 2007 annual meeting saw the expansion of the network to eight new country teams and the inclusion of two French Oversea Countries, French Polynesia and New Caledonia. Activities were mostly focused on identifying capacity building needs in thematic areas of common interest, to provide follow-up to the various strategic action plans being progressed or drafted by the different PILN teams in-country.

Five meeting outputs were defined in advance of the meeting, of which three have been achieved and 2 partly achieved, see details in the table below.

<b>Output</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
Outline of future collaboration and coordination of work in 4 main technical areas: rat management, weed management; bio-security and marine invasive species	Achieved: also for the Pacific ant prevention programme, invasive birds (mynas), project monitoring, evaluation and data management, and the regional invasive species strategy.
Identification of key capacity building needs among network participants	Achieved: key capacity building needs have been identified and in the follow-up to the meeting the individuals concerned will be identified.
Exchanges and technical attachments identified for priority projects	Achieved for projects within the 4 main technical areas outlined above.
Support for fund raising identified	Achieved
PILN 2008 meeting objectives defined	Partly achieved: participants agreed that network meetings will take place bi-annually. The next meeting will be thematic or sub-regional, depending on need.

## **Acknowledgements**

We wish to express our thanks to Madame Maina Sage, Minister of Tourism and Environment for her strong support and commitment to combating the issue of invasive species in the Pacific region and specifically in French Polynesia. Without her interest and the financial support so generously offered by the Government of French Polynesia this meeting would not have taken place here, in Moorea. Matahiarii Tutavae, Chargé de Mission Environnement worked tirelessly to make the meeting happen and we are very grateful to him for his hard work.

Our hosts, the Richard Gump South Pacific Research Station in Moorea, made us all welcome, gave us wonderful food and looked after us so well for the 5 days of the meeting. Thanks to Neil Davies, Frank Murphy, Hinano Murphy, Valentine and all the staff at the Station. Julie and Apua did a splendid job as our scientific and logistic coordinators to keep the meeting flowing smoothly.

A special thanks goes to Eric Loeve who worked day and night to translate the meeting report into French.

We thank the Departments of Environment and Plant Protection, the Research Delegation, Fenua Animalia and SOP MANU organized excellent field trips which gave us all a taste of the invasive species problems French Polynesia is facing and their hard work in this area.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support which made the meeting possible from SPREP, the US Fish and Wildlife Foundation, US Department of State, Pacific Development and conservation Fund and Fonds Pacifique.

We would like to extend a special note of appreciation to the People of the Te Pu 'Atiti'a Association for receiving us, sharing their message with us and guiding our work with their wisdom.

And finally, a thank you to everyone for coming and participating 150%.

*Mauruuru roa!*

At the end of the meeting the participants sang a Fijian farewell song to the Atitia Association.

Isa isa vulagi lasa dina  
Nomu lako au na rarawa kina  
Cava beak ko a mai cakava  
Nomu lako au na sega ni lasa

Isa lei (isa lei)  
Na noqu rarawa (na noqu rarawa)  
Ni ko sa na vodo e na mataka  
(na mataka)  
Bau nanuma (bau nanuma)  
Na nodatu lasa (na nodatu lasa)  
Mai Moorea nanuma tikoga





**Annex 1.**  
**Pacific Invasives Learning Network**  
**2007 Annual Meeting**  
**Moorea, French Polynesia 3 – 7 September 2007**

**Participants list**

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## **Annex 2.**

### **Pacific Invasives Learning Network 2007 Annual Meeting Moorea, French Polynesia 3 – 7 September 2007**

#### **Programme**

##### **Objectives of the meeting:**

- To share progress on Invasive Species Action Plans from each PILN team, analyze challenges and identify ways to address them;
- To share skills and lessons learned from field and strategic projects, especially for four priority issues - rat management, weed management, bio-security and marine invasive species;
- To identify priority issues and expert exchange needs for PILN teams;
- To facilitate collaboration and coordination between agencies, sectors and countries on priority invasive issues.

##### **Outputs of the meeting:**

- ✓ Outline of future collaboration and coordination of work in 4 main technical areas: rat management, weed management; bio-security and marine invasive species;
- ✓ Identification of key capacity building needs among network participants;
- ✓ Exchanges and technical attachments identified for priority projects;
- ✓ Support for fund raising identified;
- ✓ PILN 2008 meeting objectives defined.

### Day 1. Monday 3 September

Time	Topic	Detail	Notes
0800 – 0900am	Breakfast		
0900 – 1000am	Opening ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tahitian welcome</li> <li>• Welcome by Neil Davies, Director of the Richard B. Gump South Pacific Research Station</li> <li>• Opening speech by Madame Maina Sage, Minister for Tourism and Environment.</li> <li>• Welcome from the mayor (in French with English translation)</li> <li>• Welcome by Jill Key, PILN coordinator.</li> </ul>	Master of ceremonies Neil Davies
1000 – 1030am	Break		
1030 – 1130am	Introduction to the weeks meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gump Station housekeeping</li> <li>• Overview of weeks programme</li> <li>• Introduction of the PILN teams</li> </ul>	Neil Davies Jill
1130 – 1200am	Presentation by the French Polynesia invasive species committee on the main invasive species, activities and challenges in French Polynesia, noting where they need network support.	The presentation will last 15 minutes, with 15 minutes for questions.	Presenter: Anne Marie
1200 – 100pm	Lunch		
100 – 115pm	Energiser	The thread	Facilitator: Jill
115 – 300pm	PILN teams will report on the progress in their action plans, in the case of initial founding teams, or main invasive species actions and challenges in the case of new teams.	<p>Each team will have 5 - 10 minutes to present and 5 – 10 minutes for questions.</p> <p>Initial teams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Samoa</li> <li>• Guam</li> <li>• Palau</li> <li>• Pohnpei</li> <li>• Samoa</li> </ul> <p>New teams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiji</li> <li>• Hawaii</li> </ul>	Facilitator: Jill
300 – 315pm	Break		
315pm – 430pm	Participants presentations, continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kiribati</li> <li>• Kosrae</li> <li>• Marshall Islands</li> <li>• New Caledonia</li> <li>• Yap</li> </ul>	Facilitator: Anne Marie
430 – 500pm	Introduction to the technical sessions on Tuesday and overview of the field trip options.	The purpose of the four technical topics to be discussed in break-out groups on Tuesday will be explained, so that participants can choose which	Facilitator: Jill

		one they will join. The four field trip options will be briefly described, so that participants can choose the one they are most interested in.	
500 – 515pm	Plus / delta	Wrap up of the day	Facilitator: Jill
530 – 630pm	Informal reception with invited guests from the local association Te Pu 'Atiti'a of the Atitia Center.	Through the Atitia Center, the Gump Station and Te Pu 'Atiti'a pursue common educational and research programs focused on marine and terrestrial biodiversity, traditional knowledge, culture, and the relationship between human societies and natural ecosystems.	Te Pu 'Atiti'a President Hinano Murphy.
630pm	Dinner		
Evening	On your own, for informal networking	Participants sign up for the technical sessions, and for field trips. Travel refunds and daily allowances will be paid to the PILN funded participants.	

## Day 2. Tuesday 4 September

Time	Topic	Details	Notes
700 – 800am	Breakfast		
800 – 830am	Presentation on the Pacific Invasives Initiative and PILN	Introduction to how they two partnerships work together. The presentation will be 20minutes, with 10 minutes for questions.	Presenter: Alan Saunders
830 – 845am	Introduction to regional map for invasive species.	Participants are invited, over the next 3 days, to mark their invasive species projects on one map, and their invasive species threats on another.	Facilitator: Jill
845 – 1000am	Technical sessions, part 1. The group splits into 4. Each sub-group will spend the rest of the day working towards defining network coordination and collaboration in each case.	The 4 discussion groups are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening regional bio-security</li> <li>• Next steps in invasive rat management</li> <li>• Capacity building for weed management</li> <li>• Priority actions on marine invasive species</li> </ul>	Facilitators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paula</li> <li>• Craig &amp; Diane</li> <li>• Anne Marie &amp; Pat</li> <li>• Michael &amp; Tony</li> </ul>
1000 – 1015am	Break		
1015 – 1200am	Technical sessions part 1, continued	Break out groups continued	Facilitators as before.
1200 – 1300pm	Lunch		
100 – 130pm	Energiser	Field trip protocol	Facilitator: Pat
130 – 245pm	Report back from the technical sessions part 1.	Each group will present a summary of their main conclusions so far, with 15 minutes per group and a 15 minute plenary for general discussion.	Facilitator: Anne Marie
245 – 300pm	Break		
300 – 400pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary.</li> <li>• Introduction to emerging issues sessions on Friday and sign up.</li> <li>• Plus delta and wrap up</li> </ul>	The emerging issues session on Friday is an opportunity for individual participants to convene discussion groups in areas of specific interest. How this works will be explained here.	Facilitator: Jill
400 – 630pm	Free time	Email access will be available. Activities possible include swimming, snorkeling, volleyball.	
630pm	Dinner		
730pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invasive species case study from French Polynesia</li> <li>• Field trip briefing</li> </ul>	French Polynesia offers some classic examples of invasive species management problems, including biological control. After this, a brief outline of the arrangements for the field trips will be given, including the protocol for field trip quarantine – don't bring invasive species with you, and don't take any home!	Presenter: Jean-Yves Meyer of the Department of Research

### **Day 3. Wednesday 5 September**

There are 4 options for the field trip, 2 of which start early and 2 of which start later.

#### Early groups

650am Ferry to Papeete

720am Group divides into 2 for field trips:

- Bio-security, led by the Department of Agriculture
- Weeds and Miconia control, led by the Department of Research

Breakfast will be provided during the field trip.

#### Later groups

630 - 730am Breakfast

810am Ferry to Papeete

845am Group divides into 2 for the field trips:

- Fire ant control project, led by the Department of Environment
- Rat control, led by MANU Ornithological Society of French Polynesia

#### For all 4 groups

Picnic lunches will be provided by the Gump station.

200 – 230pm Return to Papeete

230 – 405pm Free time on your own

405pm Ferry return to Moorea

630pm Dinner

#### Day 4. Thursday 6 September

Time	Topic	Detail	Notes
700 – 800am	Breakfast		
800 – 815am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recap of the week so far</li> <li>Introduction to the summary presentation to be presented to Te Pu 'Atiti'a of the Atitia Center.</li> </ul>	<p>What have we covered so far? What are we going to achieve over the next 2 days?</p> <p>Participants will elect someone from among themselves to present a brief summary of the meeting to invited guests from Te Pu 'Atiti'a of the Atitia Center on Friday evening.</p>	Facilitator: Jill
815 – 845am	Introduction to decision making tools	Risk assessment and prioritization systems are very useful tools for management decisions and leveraging funds. The systems being developed for Samoa and the Galapagos Islands will be outlined. For people with a particular interest in these systems, a hands-on session will take place at 4pm.	Presenter: Alan Tye, Chris & Natasha
845 – 905am	Introduction to the regional invasive species strategy (RISS)	The RISP provides the overall framework for invasive species work in the region.	Presenter: Alan Tye
905 – 925am	Introduction to the Pacific Ant Prevention Programme (PAPP)	The PAPP is aimed at reducing the spread of tramp ants in the region, and is currently based at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.	Presenter: Warea
925 – 1000am	<p>Concurrent break-out groups will be formed to provide inputs and discuss the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The regional invasive species strategy, and national invasive species planning processes.</li> <li>Monitoring and evaluation of projects, and data management</li> <li>Invasive ant prevention in the region and the PAPP</li> <li>Birds as invasive species, issues involved in their management</li> </ul>	In each group participants will share ideas and contribute to the development of a concrete outcome, under the guidance of a facilitator.	<p>Facilitators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alan Tye</li> <li>Michael &amp; Bill</li> <li>Warea</li> <li>Jill</li> </ul>
1000 – 1015am	Break		
1015 – 1100am	Break-out groups continued.		Facilitators as before

1100 – 1200am	Report back from the break-out groups and plenary.	Each group will present a summary of their conclusions for general discussion. 10 minutes per group, and 20 minutes plenary.	Facilitator: Anne Marie
1150 – 1200am	Selection of presenter for Friday	Participants will select the person to give the summary presentation of the week to invited guests of Te Pu 'Atiti'a of the Atitia Center on Friday evening	
1200 – 100pm	Lunch		
100 – 115pm	Group photo		
115 – 145pm	Report back continued.		
145 – 200pm	The Regional Invasive Species Council	The Micronesian RISC is a model for other regions	Presenter: Joel
200 – 245pm	How to keep a project funded	Finding funding is cited as one of the main problems in invasive species work in the region. Participants will share ideas, information and experiences on fundraising to identify how the network can provide support.	Facilitator: Sean
245 – 300pm	Break		
300 – 350pm	How to keep a project funded, continued		
350 – 400pm	Plus delta and wrap-up		Facilitator: Diane
400 – 500pm	Two hands-on practical sessions will be available to choose between, for those interested <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using the Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) as a tool for prioritisation, prevention, management and awareness raising.</li> <li>The Samoa prioritization systems and Galapagos weed risk assessment and management system</li> </ul>	An opportunity for interested people to explore in detail the use of the GISD for the prevention of new introduction and the spread of existing invasive species, working with examples from their own countries. An opportunity to discover the uses of prioritization systems and provide input to their development.	Facilitator: Michael Facilitators: Natasha, Alan Tye
500 – 630pm	Free time	Email access will be available. Activities possible include swimming, snorkeling, volleyball.	
630pm	Dinner		
Evening	Free time	On your own, for informal networking	

### Day 5. Friday 7 September

Time	Topic	Details	Notes
700 – 800am	Breakfast		
800 – 930am	Technical session, part 2. The 4 sub-groups formed on Tuesday will re-form to finalise their outputs	An opportunity for each group to re-examine the conclusions of their discussion on Tuesday and incorporate additional aspects from the field trip and today's sessions. Activities were prioritized.	Each group on their own.
930 – 1000am	Report back from the technical discussion groups and plenary	Each group will present a summary of the outputs of their technical session, 10 minutes presentation and 20 minutes discussion per group.	Facilitator: Jill
1000 – 1015am	Break		
1015 – 1045am	Report back continued		
1045 – 1100am	The regional maps	Participants will note their current activities and invasive species threats on regional maps, to be used to raise awareness at future meetings.	
1100 – 1200am	The future of PILN	What do participants want the network to be in the future? A plus / delta was carried out on PILN	Facilitator: Jill
1200 – 100pm	Lunch		
100 – 200pm	Emerging invasive species issues.	An opportunity to raise and discuss current invasive species issues or opportunities. Divide into small breakout groups by interest.	Each discussion group chaired by the convener.
200 – 245pm	PILN annual meeting 2008	What should the next annual meeting look like? Participants will discuss and decide this.	Facilitator: Jill
245 – 300pm	Break		
300 – 345pm	Next steps	Participants make commitments for actions over the next year.	Facilitator: Jill & Anne Marie
300 – 400pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap up</li> <li>• Meeting evaluation</li> </ul>	Overall meeting conclusions, and evaluation of participants' experience of the meeting.	Facilitator: Jill
400 – 600pm	Free time	Email access will be available. Activities possible include swimming, snorkeling, volleyball.	
600pm	Presentation of the meeting outcomes to Te Pu 'Atiti'a.	The presenter selected by the participants will present a 10-minute summary of meeting outcomes to invited guests of Te Pu 'Atiti'a.	Presenter: Taati Eria
630pm - late	Closure	Tahitian dancing, banquet and live band	