

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

**THE INTERNATIONAL WATERS PROJECT
IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME (SAP) FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL WATERS OF THE PACIFIC SMALL ISLAND
DEVELOPING STATES**

THIRD MULTIPARTITE REVIEW (MPR-3)

**5-9 July 2004
[Apia, Samoa]**

Fourth National Coordinator's Meeting (NCM-4)

5-7 July 2004

**FIJI
NARRATIVE REPORT**

Summary of key outputs (June 2003 to June 2004)

- Endorsement of pilot site and focal areas by National Task Force (NTF)
- Completion of community engagement and administration phases
- Initial community awareness raising workshop report completed and distributed
- Children's awareness raising and drawing competition report completed and distributed
- Mangrove replanting at the site was carried out in collaboration with OISCA
- Completion of Participatory Project Planning & Design (PPP&D) phase (Community Resource Management and Action Plan in focal areas of freshwater, waste, and coastal fisheries finalized; 26 facilitators from Dreketi district trained).
- Maintenance of IWP website
- IWP database updated
- Draft legislative review report received and sent to solicitor general's office for comments
- Completion of government and non-government organizations profile
- Finalization of 1st country report by PCU
- Scholarship student selected and commenced studies at the University of the South Pacific (USP). Progress report received.
- Mangrove Management Plan (MMP) Review workshop report completed
- Inventory of recycling companies in Fiji completed
- Initial awareness raising with the non-indigenous population in the Rewa province completed
- Production and distribution of the following general awareness raising materials completed;
 - Newspaper supplements
 - Mangrove Brochure
 - IWP T-Shirt
 - IWP Newsletters

General Overview of IWP Project, objectives, and activities for 2003/2004.

Community Activities

- With the selection of Vunisinu as the pilot community in early 2003, outputs for the period between June 2003 and December 2003 were generally focused on raising awareness on IWP and finalizing administrative arrangements, which included getting support for IWP from the various community institutions. At the beginning of this year IWP was convinced that there is sufficient community support for the PPP&D to proceed. PPP&D, which was scheduled to begin in early February, did not start until mid May because Public Service Commission (PSC) approval could not be obtained on time. Since January 2004, IWP worked closely with the PCU, NTF, PDT and the community to design and conduct PPP&D at the site. The objective of the PPP&D was to build capacity by training local facilitators on how to use participatory social analysis techniques, participatory problem analysis and project mapping exercise to identify root causes of problems relating to waste management, protection of freshwater resources and coastal and marine habitat degradation and to facilitate local project stakeholders to engage in a participatory process to analyse their environmental problems and develop local solutions. Training of local facilitators has proven to be extremely important for IWP in terms of initiating/implementing activities at the site. The PPP&D has been successful and has instigated change within the community. Some of the positive changes include community members boiling their drinking water, cleaning their compound, moving the community rubbish dump from the mangrove area and planting mangrove seeds.

National Activities

- Beginning of this year IWP commissioned a review of natural resource and environment-related legislation in Fiji. The review is intended to provide a comprehensive analysis of current legislation covering environmental and natural resources (marine and terrestrial) and other legislation, which has a bearing on natural resources. The objectives of relevant legislation, its administration, its regulatory and planning provisions as well as a summary of the functions of bodies established by the legislation was reviewed. Most of the environment legislations in Fiji are outdated.
- In June IWP initiated a consultative stakeholder meeting to review the existing MMP that lacks implementation by relevant authorities. The review and proper implementation of the plan will ensure sustainable utilization of mangrove resources in Fiji.
- A Mangrove Management Plan Review Stakeholder Consultative Meeting was organized to discuss the existing mangrove management mechanisms in Fiji. IWP Fiji intends to form and/or revive the existing Mangrove Management committee or work with the Wetlands committee that is being administered under Ramsar Convention to ensure proper implementation of the plan.

- IWP has compiled a list of recycling companies in Fiji. A meeting with the recycling companies is planned to discuss its accessibility by rural communities.

Specific activities and achievements 2003/2004

Communications

A number of communication tools/methods were used to raise awareness and disseminate information to the wide range of IWP stakeholders in Fiji.

- NTF/PDT/Scholarship committee/Legislative review committee/Workplan and Budget committee
 - Internet was used as a medium to provide for regular updates and exchange of information
 - Meetings were held at community and national levels to keep the information flows among all project stakeholders
- Community stakeholders
 - Formal meetings with the Village Development committee (VDC) and the Village Environment committee (VEC) took place throughout the year
 - Informal meetings with community members took place during grog (kava) sessions (informal sessions are more productive than formal meetings)
 - Initial awareness raising workshops was held with community members (including children)
 - Drawing competition on healthy seas was organized to raise awareness with village children
- Television (Fiji-1 and Dateline Fiji (Ministry of Information)), daily newspapers (Fiji Times, Daily post) and Radio (FM 96 and Radio Fiji 1 (rural radio station)) were used to raise awareness of IWP and environmental issues in the IWP focal areas. The launch of the pilot project and the PPP&D was quite well covered by the media. Local newspapers (Fiji Times and Daily Post) were used for advertising consultancies, staff and scholarship. IWP has held talks with the various advertising agencies (TV) and is working on the concepts on integrated watershed management.
- Newsletters have been used to provide updates on project activities to IWP stakeholders. Since June 2003, 3 issues has been printed and distributed. IWP also contributed an article on the project activities in the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) newsletter at the beginning of the year.
- Mr. Steve Menzies, IWP communication specialist met with IWP unit on 18 June to discuss communication strategy for Fiji. IWP looks forward to working with Mr. Steve Menzies. IWP is currently organizing a Social Marketing workshop.
- IWP website is regularly updated.

Root cause analysis/PPA

- Dr Joeli Veitayaki of Marine Studies Program (MSP) of USP was hired to conduct Participatory Project Planning and Design work at the site for 8 weeks. The PPP&D started on 17 May and is now complete. The root causes of the problems relating to waste management, protection of freshwater resources and coastal and marine habitat degradation in Vunisinu has been completed as part of PPP&D. The identification of problems and the root causes were participatory. Community members who were absent from the workshop due to other work commitments were given a chance to provide their input to local facilitators after the workshop.

Baseline work

- Baseline information on community institutions and stakeholders has been collected.
- Designing of baseline data collection methods is currently being discussed with PCU.

Economic assessments

- The importance of economic considerations in natural resource management was quite well covered in PPP&D. Economic assessments at the site is the next planned activity.
- The IWP project assistant participated in the three weeks training course on community-based resource economic that was held at the USP in February 2004 and found it very useful.

Action/management plans

- A resource management and action plan was produced by the community in focal areas of waste, freshwater and fisheries. The action plan looks at the solutions, stakeholders, input/output and implementation time. Most of the solutions are low-cost solutions (Low-cost/no cost solutions need to be defined by the project coordination unit), which the community feels they can implement themselves with some financial support from IWP.

Lessons learned

PPP&D

- The facilitators training workshop was a prominent step toward the involvement of people in the management of their environmental resources. The trained facilitators live in the communities and can play a crucial role in instigating change.
- The environmental problems in modernising rural areas such as Vunisinu require a combination of top down and bottom up approaches. In a situation where traditional practices are not sufficient to address contemporary issues, the incorporation of top down and bottom approaches may present be the best way of addressing the situations. The training provided new methods of addressing rural development issues and was quite well accepted by the community.
- Community workers need to have a lot of patience and need to work at the pace of the community. Community process can be slow. It is extremely difficult to mobilize

a community. Once a community has been mobilized, it is important to keep the momentum going.

National Activities

- There is a general lack of coordination/cooperation between Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and government and also between government ministries.

National level policy considerations

- IWP has held talks with the Ministry of National Planning on how IWP could assist/strengthen national level policy mechanisms. Currently there is a huge gap in information available to decision makers hence resulting in poor decision-making. Outdated legislations have led to many of the current environmental problems that the country is faced with. IWP is currently reviewing all environment related legislation in the country that hopefully will lead to an update or formation of new environment legislation.

Monitoring activities

- Monitoring plans will be put in place once baseline data has been collected/activities implemented.

Partnerships/co-financing arrangements

- Talks are underway to partner with Suva Harbour NGO to pilot activities to clean up Suva Harbour.
- IWP has already formed strong partnership with Peacecorp and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Volunteers from the two organizations are based at the IWP pilot site and have been assisting IWP with the community process.

Capacity building initiatives

- 26 facilitators from Suvalailai, Nakorovou, Vunisinu, Nalase and Nadoria villages were trained on facilitation, stakeholder participation; identifying resource management problems; (stakeholder analysis; participatory problem analysis); project planning (identifying and selecting solutions, impact assessment, considering options, project mapping as part of PPP&D. The local facilitators are intended to assist IWP with the project implementation throughout the program.
- Mr. Duncan Williams, a Master of Art student has been awarded the IWP scholarship. Mr. Williams's research aims to examine the current institutional arrangements for coastal management in Fiji.
- The National Coordinator attended a 3-day essential management course at the University of the South Pacific.
- The IWP Project Assistant participated in a three weeks course on community-based resource economic at USP.

Other activities

- IWP assisted DOE with Environment week activities
- IWP NC advised DOE on EIA Unit's activities
- NC contribute to the Barbados Plan of Action plus 10 (BPOA+10) National Assessment Report
- NC discussed NBSAP implementation with DOE

IWP Fiji Summary Table

June	<p>Environment Week Activities</p> <p>Pilot Project Site selected and focal areas endorsed by NTF</p> <p>Attended the third National Coordinator's Meeting (NCM-3) and the Second Multipartite Review meeting, Nuku'alofa Tonga</p> <p>Progress report presented to participants</p>
July	Community informed of selection
August	<p>Support from community members received in writing</p> <p>IWP assistant recruited</p> <p>Draft NGO and Govt profile completed</p>
September	<p>Legislative review consultancy advertised</p> <p>IWP Scholarship advertised</p> <p>FAQ printed in Fijian and English</p> <p>Visited the Rewa provincial office to brief the Roko Tui about IWP activities</p> <p>IWP banner and billboard</p> <p>NC attended water, communication and community practical strategies for achieving equitable and sustainable water use in the Pacific Workshop at USP</p>
October	<p>IWP Site launched (Honorable Minister for Local Government, Housing, Squatter Settlement and Environment) – About 200 people were present</p> <p>Community meetings continued</p> <p>Talks begun with Ministry of National reconciliation and Multi ethnic affairs on possible involvement of the wider Rewa community</p> <p>NC attended essential management skills Workshop at USP</p>
November	<p>NC contributed to BPOA+10 national report review</p> <p>Pilot Project site initial information collected</p> <p>Reviewed Oceanic Fisheries Management Strategic Action Phase II.</p>
December	<p>IWP community awareness workshop</p> <p>Commented on social marketing toolkit</p> <p>Quarterly narrative and financial report submitted</p> <p>Govt and NGO profile completed</p> <p>Submitted IWP 2003 and 2004 activities to parliamentary committee</p> <p>Revised NTF membership</p>

	NC and assistant IWCM workshop held at SOPAC IWP scholarship student selected
2004	
January	IWP Audit commenced CEO briefed on IWP IWP 2004 Workplan and Budget finalized IWP legislative review consultant appointed Community meetings held IWP corporate plan finalized IWP 4 th quarter newsletter printed and circulated
February	NC and assistant attended Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Forum NC attended 4 th UNU-ORI Workshop on Marine Environment Conservation in Japan Assistant attended train sea-coast course in economics Scholarship student's research proposal reviewed IWP student begins studies IWP PPP&D PSC approval obtained and consultancy advertised Draft community awareness report (English and Fijian) submitted by PCDF
March	NC attended mangrove and coral reef workshop organized by WWF IWP volunteer begins work National activities identified (planning) NC attended Social Marketing Workshop Tradewinds Suva (for a day) Quarterly narrative and financial report submitted
April	PPP&D consultant hired 1 st quarter newsletter printed and distributed
May	PPP&D work commences (2 weeks facilitators training and 2 weeks of actual workshop) Children's awareness/drawing competition completed IWP mangrove brochure and Newsletter produced IWP T-shirt produced Moving of community rubbish dump
June	PPP&D complete (Management and Action Plan (M/A) produced) Community facilitators meet to discuss M/A Plan.

	<p>Formation of village sub-committees (piggery, waste, fisheries and compost)</p> <p>Environment week - launch of IWP T-shirts, Newsletter and mangrove brochure. (International Theme: Wanted: Seas and oceans – Dead or Alive; DOE theme: Sea dumping...stop right now IWP Unit Theme: Missing Healthy Seas: Danger: Waste Overloaded: Don't Waste)</p> <p>Indian community awareness raising</p> <p>Mangrove Replanting at the site</p> <p>Mangrove Management Plan Workshop held (attended by mangrove experts like Dr Padma Lal and Dr Dick Watling)</p>
Current Status (June2004)	<p>Designing of baseline phase</p> <p>Finalization of legislative review</p> <p>Start review of the MMP</p> <p>Start awareness with wider Rewa community (working with L&L on Social Marketing)</p> <p>Start discussions on ICM issues in Fiji</p>
Country disbursement	<p>2003</p> <p>\$83, 900.00</p> <p>2004</p> <p>\$73, 785.00</p>
Expenditure to date	<p>2003 (3rd and 4th quarter)</p> <p>\$39, 152.97</p> <p>2004 (1st and 2nd quarter)</p> <p>\$55, 006.67</p>

Appendix B

Meetings/Workshops dates (All meeting records are available from IWP office at the DOE)

Date	Meetings (NTF, PDT, Scholarship, Legislative Review, Workplan and Budget and village liaison)
<u>2003</u>	
6 June	NTF
22 August	NTF
29 August	Roko Tui Rewa
28 August	Scholarship committee
29 September	PDT
15 October	PDT
18 October	PDT workshop (1/2 day Workshop)
28 October	Scholarship committee
21 November	Scholarship committee
21 November	Legislative Review committee
25 November	NTF
26 November	Peace Corps Volunteer
2 December	Initial Awareness workshop- Vunisinu Village
16 December	Peace Corps
<u>2004</u>	
14 January	Workplan and Budget
29 January	NTF/village liaison
24 February	Scholarship committee
23 January	Village liaison
1 March	Village liaison
4 March	Village liaison
4 March	PDT
19 March	NTF
26 April	PDT
6 May	PPP&D/Village liaison
12 May	Children's workshop
13 May	PDT/village liaison
3 June	PDT/village liaison
4 June	NTF
8 June	PDT
1 July	Village liaison

Summary/Dates of Community Meetings (June 2003 to July 2004)

- June 2003 – Vunisinu officially endorsed to host IWP pilot project
- August 27, 2003, meeting with Mr. Bukarau and Mr. Raimuria at DOE Office to discuss launch.
- August 29, 2003, IWP Unit, FAB and PCDF visited Rewa Provincial Office, presented sevusevu and held a meeting with Roko Tui Rewa.
- September 29, 2003, signboard placed in Vunisinu by Graphic Systems Ltd.
- October 2, 2003, launch ceremony, Hon. Minister Mataiasi Ragigia was chief guest, about 200 people attended, signboard unveiled, FAQs distributed (English and Fijian)
- October 7, 2003, meeting with Mr. Vatucawaqa to discuss community expectations
- October 15, 2003, Project Development Team (PDT) meeting to discuss IWP process and community expectations
- October 28, 2003, meeting with Mr. Vatucawaqa to discuss tentative timeline for IWP process
- December 2, 2003, Initial Awareness Workshop held in Vunisinu, facilitated by FAB and PCDF
- December 16, 2003, meeting with Ms. Ackley to discuss Vunisinu's environmental concerns
- January 23, 2004, meeting with Mr. Vatucawaqa and Ms. Ackley in Vunisinu. Awareness materials given for distribution (DOE newsletter (English), coral reef brochures, (English and Fijian), FAQs (Fijian), and plastics fact sheet (English)), discussion included presentation of a map of Vunisinu and its natural resources, IWP process, and composting workshop proposed by Ms. Ackley.
- January 26, 2004, meeting with Mr. Vatucawaqa and Ms. Ackley to discuss Ocean Forum and composting workshop
- January 29, 2004, IWP Unit visited Vunisinu for a meeting with the Environment Committee members to discuss and explain IWP process
- February 9, 2004, Mr. Vatucawaqa and Ms. Ackley were informed via phone that IWP Unit would be out of the office attending conferences – NC for one week, IWP Assistant for 3 weeks.
- March 1, 2004, meeting with Mr. Vatucawaqa to hear community concerns about delays and to explain government procedures
- March 5, 2004, IWP Assistant visited Vunisinu and met with Mr. Vatucawaqa and Ms. Ackley to distribute IWP newsletters and provide a draft awareness workshop report.
- March 10, 2004, IWP Unit and auditor visited Vunisinu to see the site.
- Children's Workshop/Drawing competition was held on 12th May 2004.
- Village meeting to discuss PPP&D was held on 6th May 2004
- PPP&D (May 6 – 28 June 2004)

Reports

IWP Fiji. (2003). A Review of Priority Environmental Concerns Report. 56 p. Location: IWP Office at DOE and PCU.

IWP Fiji 2003. Pilot project site selection Report (Independent committee). 7p. Location: IWP Office at DOE.

IWP Fiji 2003. Pilot project initial site visit report (IWP). 13p. Location: IWP Office at DOE.

IWP Fiji 2003. Community profile. 5p. Location: IWP Office at DOE.

IWP Fiji 2003. Initial Community Awareness Report (English and Fijian) – Simone Koto and Isireli Raikabula. 6p. Location: IWP Office at DOE.

IWP Fiji, 2004. Participatory Project Planning and Design Report (IWP). 23p. Location: IWP Office at DOE

IWP Fiji, 2004. Draft Participatory Project Planning and Design Training Manual (in English). 80 p. Location: IWP Office at DOE

IWP Fiji, 2004. Draft Local Facilitators Training Report (PPP&D) (in Fijian). 52p. Location: IWP Office at DOE

IWP Fiji, 2004. Draft Legislative Review. 59p. Location: IWP Office at DOE

IWP Fiji 2004. Rewa Indian Community Seminar Report. 3 p. Location: IWP Office at DOE

IWP Fiji 2004. Environment Week Report. 2 p. Location: IWP Office at DOE

IWP Fiji 2004. Draft Mangrove Management Plan Review Workshop Report. 26 p. Location: IWP Office at DOE

IWP Fiji 2003 and 2004 meeting records are kept at IWP office at DOE and PCU.

Newsletters/ Brochure

Fiji IWP Newsletter. Volume 1: Issue 1 & 2. Location: IWP Office at DOE

Fiji IWP Newsletter. Volume 2: Issue 1. Location: IWP Office at DOE

Fiji IWP Brochure. Mangroves. Location: IWP Office at DOE