

**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**

**SAMOA  
NARRATIVE REPORT**

**Summary of key outputs (June 2003 to June 2004)**

- Report of PPA completed and distributed
- Baseline study undertaken and report produced.
- Legislative review completed and editing by PCU/SPREP is underway
- Web site; IWP-Samoa and all other donor-funded projects' information and related documents are uploaded into the website of the MNRE (Lead Agency). The IWP-Samoa team is in the process of developing its webpage in the same website ([www.mnre.gov.ws](http://www.mnre.gov.ws)).
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**General Overview of IWP Project, objectives, and activities for 2003/2004.**

Since the end of Train The Trainers' workshop in Fiji 2003, the IWP-Samoa team concentrated on framework of awareness focusing on different aspects of environment issues that contribute to the reduction in low water quality such as wastes, chemicals, deforestations and others. Different representatives from each division of the ministry and Samoa Water Authority (SWA) participated in this program aiming at different village groups of men, women, youth and untitled men.

The Participatory Problem Assessment (PPA) consultations had invited the views and understanding of communities about their water quality problems. This as well highlighted them that the resources are locally owned by them and the management of these are right in their hands.

The rehabilitation of catchment areas at the two pilot sites was an initiative agreed upon between the lead agency and communities; still an on-going activity awaiting possible solutions analysis.

## **Specific activities and achievements 2003/2004**

### *Communications*

The variety of tools and materials have been used to raise awareness, collect information and communicate with local and regional personnel involved in the project.

- Meetings with communities through Community Committee (CC) to encourage their participation in different activities proposed by the Project Team (PT).
- Change of membership of CC (e.g leader) to facilitate communication between PT and community members.
- NTF meetings to discuss the progress of IWP at every quarter. The NC reported on activities and achievements of the program in the past quarter.
- The Newsletter issues since beginning of 2003 have been distributed to NTF members and ministry divisions. Also available on MNRE website.
- The MNRE website was launched in September 2003, IWP (and other donor-funded projects) are incorporated into this with an intention of developing its own webpage
- Radio programs arranged by MNRE on Tuesday nights (9pm) invited IWP to elaborate on the progress of the program. These programs are aired on Samoa Broadcasting Corporation (SBC) 540 AM station.
- A training on social marketing was held in January 2004 to introduce the tool to the MNRE staff and other relevant stakeholders who managed to participate (e.g SWA).
- Narrative reporting at every quarter facilitates the progress of activities between SPREP and participating countries.

### *Stakeholder analysis and participation*

The stakeholders participation within the community level turned out well during PPA consultation. Both sites (Lepa & Apolima Island) were divided into traditional groups (matai, women, untitled men and youths); the idea was to give everyone a chance to talk and express their opinions instead of being dominated by a single level such as matai as an example. Their views were compiled and discussed together to make a single decision for each site.

- PPA report produced; identifies problems and their root causes with community identified solutions. Analysis is under-way to choose an option that is economically and socially desirable and financially viable.
- The socio-economics information is yet to be completed and compiled into a report.

The membership of NTF as at initial stage of program was selected based on their relevancy to the program. The NTF meetings are the opportunities for the IWP-Samoa team to encourage the members to actively participate in the activities of the program. The invitations for meetings are addressed to the superiors and copied to the respective members for transparency reasons. The idea was to inform the superiors of the value and importance of their participation in the program.

- The relevant stakeholders such as SWA, Health, MNRE staff and Project Coordinators of other environment projects participated in awareness programs arranged for the two communities. Their presentations and

participation were chosen based on environmental issues identified as concerns in the communities.

#### *Root cause analysis/PPA*

- The NC, Project Assistant and the facilitator attended the TTT training conducted the four workshops, each for each group as mentioned above. The work was divided among the three staff to ensure the smooth flow of discussions. Flip charts were used to write the issues raised in a “problem tree” style. The 4 groups findings were compiled into one report for each site.

#### *Baseline work*

- Some of socio-economic baseline information had been collected during initial reconnaissance survey, the report is yet to be completed with information gaps to be filled. The information was collected through interviews with households, institutions (e.g. hospitals and schools) within communities and observations.
- The participation of project team in policy committee of lead agency (MNRE) and other stakeholders (SWA) represented the ideas to protect Samoa’s freshwater resources. The policies such as Water Services, Climate Change, Chemicals, Deforestation and others highlight the values of water in life through conservation and protection of catchment areas. Few of these policies have already been endorsed by cabinet.

#### *Economic assessments*

- The NC participated in the three week training course on community-based resource economic held at USP-Fiji in February 2004. The IWP Resource Economist, Ms. Paula Holland assisted the NC in prioritizing steps to move forward with the assessment. The possible options for solutions identified by the two communities will be chosen after the assessment, and this would 100% involve the two communities.

#### *Action/management plans*

- The management plan awaits the result of the economic assessment which would select the best option to be the solution to the root causes of the problems. At the moment, rehabilitation of two catchment areas is underway awaiting the assessment, and two community committees are working on this task.

#### *Lessons learned*

##### Community Level.

- Community meetings in different groups allow everyone to have a say rather than having them in one huge gathering. Young people especially is easy to give up in situations where their views are not considered at all. Everyone’s point of view is considered valuable for a best decision.

- Regular follow-up/monitoring on activities given to the community committee is required and considered important. This helps to judge the weight of their commitment and participation. Some people promise this and that during discussion / or meetings but end up in doing nothing.

#### National level

- NTF members are supportive if well informed of the program progress, and should be invited to attend any visit to the pilot sites. This would give them chances to see the reality of things discussed in meetings.
- Priorities should be given to NTF membership in any consultancy jobs within the program prior to outsiders. Some members might offer it as a contribution or at a lower cost.
- Consultation with relevant stakeholders on sensitive issues such as policy and legislations is required. These are multidisciplinary issues and would affect all levels of local and national communities.

#### *National level policy considerations*

- Legislation review completed in December 2003 with consultations with heads of ministries, private sectors and NGOs for final comments prior to finalization of report. It is now with PCU for editing and publishing; should be in place by the end of third quarter 2004.

#### *Monitoring activities*

- Negotiations with SWA in underway for monitoring of water quality on regular basis to provide project with scientific data to show quality trends. Since rehabilitation is underway, quality data will best describe the effects of such solution to water quality.
- The project team monthly monitors the planting responsibilities given to the CC of each site, two inspections were done in May and June, and fair achievements were achieved.
- A freshwater survey is planned by the MNRE-DEC, and IWP-Samoa will contribute to the cost as it would be much related to Samoa's focal area. The survey will definitely cover the two pilot sites.

#### *Partnerships/co-financing arrangements*

- Partnerships with other environment projects within the MNRE is quite strong, project personnel assist each other in sharing ideas, information and costs of linked activities among projects.
- Sharing of equipments (printers, copiers and vehicle) within DEC is well administered and performed. Responsible officers for these assets monitor this on a regular basis to avoid abuse usage.
- The MNRE website is established with all divisions and externally funded projects integrated into it. The IWP is in the process of developing its own webpage within the ministry's.
- An NGO (METI) is closely working with IWP-Samoa in discussions of marsh land project at Apolima-uta; part of Apolima Island community. The NC has been involved in meetings of that project and vice versa for METI's representative.

### *Capacity building initiatives*

- Social marketing training held at SPREP in January 2004 for staff of MNRE, SWA and project team.
- The NC participated on a three week course at USP-Fiji on community-based resource economics. The new skills learnt have been helpful in assessing the solutions to choose the best option for each root causes.
- The PA participated in diving lessons conducted by local diving company, this would equipped staff with skills to assist other internal programs within the ministry, it was funded by another project.
- Number of internal meetings arranged by account section and other divisions have contributed much for project team, especially with administrations of funds and information.

### *Other activities*

- Consultancy should be encouraged to be used in areas where there is lack of expertise. This will not only strengthen the capacity of NCs at the assistant role (learn by doing) but would benefit the lead agency and government as a whole with the generated information and knowledge.
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## Appendix A

### Updated Summary Table

▪ June 01	MoU signed
▪ Dec 01	NC recruited
▪ Jan 02	NTF convened
▪ Feb 02	Review of Environment-related legislation commenced
▪ Dec 01 – May 02	Discussions on way forward with PECs assessment
▪ Apr 02	NC participates in National Coordinator’s meeting (NCM-1)
▪ June 02	First Country Visit Report (majority input from PCU)
▪ June 02	PEC report presented at NTF
▪ July 02	Review of environment-related legislation completed
▪ July 02	NC travels to Cook Islands to participate in Nature Conservation conference and IWP briefings
▪ Aug 02	“Selection” of focal area – freshwater
▪ Aug 02	Lepa and Apolima “selected” by NTF
▪ Sept 02	PCU/DEC Meeting on issues to be addressed
▪ Nov 02	IWP Samoa undertake “community profiling”
▪ Nov 02	NC participated in NCM-2
▪ Jan 03	Nursery construction at Apolima and Lepa
▪ March/April 03	Discussions with USP, DEC and NUS personnel regarding community facilitation training and technical advice
▪ May 03	NC and Senior Capacity Building Officer fo MNRE participated in social participation and consultation workshop held in Suva, Fiji.
▪ Jun 03	NC and ACEO-EC attended MPR2 and NCM3 in Tonga
▪ Jun 03	Started social participation and assessment consultation (PPA) with two sites – to identify by the communities their problems and solutions. Apolima Island identified that roaming pigs and deforestation (for plantations) were the major root causes of their low water quantity and quality. Lepa site identified their damaged reservoir and its location is the main root cause, as well as the roaming animals and deforestation for cultivation are other causes.
▪ Jul 03	Reserve boundary tree planting at two sites. This was initiated by lead agency to direct plantations and cultivation away from the streams. These were discussed with community prior to their establishments.
▪ Aug 03	IWP-Samoa audit of 2002 funds 7 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting
▪ Oct 03	8 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting – last meeting of the year
▪ Nov 03	Rehabilitation planting at two sites
▪ Dec 03	NTF visited the two sites to check and see the activities and

	project assets at the communities
▪ Jan 04	Social Marketing workshop for Samoa held at SPREP – participants from MNRE staff and Samoa Water Authority attended.
▪ Feb 04	NC attended the Economics for community-based environmental programme held at USP Suva, Fiji for 3 weeks  Project Assistant visited two sites to continue tree planting – Lepa was not through due to other village commitments at time.
▪ Mar 04	Negotiated with PCU to finalise workplan and budget for 2004  Planning to recapture the information gaps for social assessment report – mainly economic information to carry out assessment for the solutions suggested by the two sites communities. This exercise is planned to be carried out in the next quarter.
▪ April 04	Meeting with Community Committee to encourage their roles and responsibilities in continuing the activities such as rehabilitation planting.
▪ May 04	9 <sup>th</sup> NTF meeting – first one in 2004  Negotiation with relevant stakeholders such as Samoa Water Authority (SWA) for technical assistance in identification of a best option to implement the solutions identified by the communities.  Collected socio-economic informations for cost and benefit analysis for options at Lepa pilot site.
▪ June 04	10 <sup>th</sup> NTF meeting  Audit for 2003 funds to be completed.
Number of NTF's convened to date	10 (5 in 2002, 3 in 2003, 2 in 2004)
Total dollar disbursements:	
▪ 2001	\$1 000.00
▪ 2002	\$36,158.06
▪ 2003	\$54,174.26
▪ 2004 (to date-2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter)	\$29,000.00
▪ Total to date	\$120,332.32
Current Status (June 2004)	<i>Refinement of design and implementation strategy at two communities.</i>

## Appendix B

### Meetings

*Project sponsored meetings [includes training sessions, conferences etc.]*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Report available?</b>
<i>2003</i>		
Every quarter	National Task Force	Yes - National Office and PCU
	Pilot Site Communities	
<i>2004</i>		
26 – 28 Jan	Social Economics workshop	Yes – National Office
9 – 28 Feb	Economics for Community-based Project management in the Pacific	
10 <sup>th</sup> May	National Task Force	IWP office & PCU
18 <sup>th</sup> June	(9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> meeting)	
Feb & May	Pilot Site Communities	