

CRISP Coordination Unit

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**CRISP**



Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific  
Initiative Corail pour le Pacifique Sud

# First CRISP programme Consolidated Report

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# CRISP



Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific  
Initiative Corail pour le Pacifique Sud



The CRISP Programme is being implemented as part of the policy developed by the Pacific Regional Environment Programme in order to contribute to the protection and sustainable management of coral reefs in Pacific Island countries.

The Initiative for the Protection and Management of Coral Reefs in the Pacific (CRISP), sponsored by France and prepared by the French Development Agency (AFD) as part of an inter-ministerial project from 2002 onwards, aims to develop a vision for the future of these unique eco-systems and the communities that depend on them and to introduce strategies and projects to conserve their biodiversity, while developing the economic and environmental services that they provide both locally and globally. Also, it is designed as a factor for integration between developed countries (Australia, New Zealand, Japan, USA), French overseas territories and Pacific Island developing countries.

The initiative follows a specific approach designed to:

- associate network activities and fieldwork projects;
- bring together research, management and development endeavours;
- combine the contributions of a range of scientific disciplines, including biology, ecology, economics, law and the social sciences;
- address the various land and marine factors affecting coral reefs (including watershed rehabilitation and management);
- avoid setting up any new body but supply financial resources to already operational partners wishing to develop their activities in a spirit of regional cooperation. This is why the initiative was prepared on the basis of a call for proposals to all institutions and networks.

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This approach is articulated through a series of thematic objectives, which are:

- **Objective 1** : Improve knowledge of the biodiversity, status and functioning of coral eco-systems.
- **Objective 2** : Protection and management of coral eco-systems on a significant scale.
- **Objective 3** : Develop the economic potential represented by the use values and biodiversity of coral eco-systems.
- **Objective 4** : Dissemination of information and knowledge; capacity-building and leadership with local, national and international networks.

The CRISP Programme comprises three major components, which are:

#### **Component 1 : Integrated Coastal Management (ICM)**

- 1A: Marine biodiversity conservation planning
- 1B: Marine Protected Areas
- 1C: Institutional strengthening and networking
- 1D: Integrated coastal reef zone and watershed management

#### **Component 2 : Development of Coral Ecosystems (DCE)**

- 2A : Knowledge, beneficial use and management of coral ecosystems
- 2B : Reef rehabilitation
- 2C : Development of active marine substances
- 2D : Development of regional data base (ReefBase Pacific)

#### **Component 3 : Programme Coordination and Development (PCD)**

- 3A : Capitalisation, value-adding and extension of CRISP Programme activities
- 3B : Coordination, promotion and development of CRISP Programme

CRISP is funded by the following partners:



## TABLE OF CONTENTS



Programme summary table	▶4
The opinion of the scientific advisers	▶5
General programme progress review	▶6
The monitoring and evaluation system	▶7
Synoptic programme dashboard	▶9
Simplified report component 1	▶10
Simplified report component 2	▶12
Simplified report component 3	▶16
Geographical approach	▶18
Partnerships	▶21
Communication and representation	▶22
Conclusions and prospects	▶23





## THE OPINION OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISERS



Clive Wilkinson  
Scientific Advisor, Australia

This first review of the CRISP Programme gives me an opportunity to shed some light on a number of outputs that were not planned as such when the programme was launched and which seem to be valuable already. I wish to refer first of all to the political role of this initiative which has attracted the attention of a number of governments, including those of Australia and the USA, to take a closer interest in the Pacific. The CRISP ambition to bring together partners who were not familiar with each other led to some delay in implementing activities, and is influenced by bilingualism and different professional cultures. The language barrier sometimes leads to minor misunderstandings, which take time to clear up, sometimes more than one would imagine. The benefit of this delay is nevertheless the existence of links which will definitely survive beyond the programme. I am referring here to links established

***“CRISP is already producing results which we had not forecast...”***

between international NGOs (BINGOS for ‘BigNGOs’) and regional NGOs (LONGOS for ‘LOcalNGOs’) and scientific organizations with which they were not accustomed to working, as each did not really realise until today what the other could contribute to achieving common objectives. This is also true in relation to what two bodies as different as a Fiji NGO and a French consultant can obtain in terms of mutual benefit, as for example is the case in component 2B.

I would make a final comment concerning my favourite area which is coral reef status monitoring and which does not normally enjoy favourable consideration from donors.

I welcome France’s interest in and support for GCRMN and the establishment of the ReefBase database which, with the imminent implementation of the French software COREMOIII, will be three crucial assets in our ability to collect the information necessary for managing eco-systems and promoting the coral reef cause with the public and decision-makers. It is an honour for me to continue to be associated with the development of this original and ambitious programme”.



Bernard Salvat  
Scientific Advisor, France

This first report by the Coordinator reviews progress as at 31 July 2006. Some readers may be surprised that it is not timely and that the results are variable from component to component. In the context of this programme, the goal of which is to promote regional cooperation, such a reaction would fail to take into account the time needed to persuade external partners as well as the legal and linguistic (two languages always needed) complexities of the agreements. The last agreement was only signed in July 2006. The collaboration set in motion between French and non-French partners, sometimes before they had even received the funding provided for in the agreements, is itself a success that demonstrates the interest that the French CRISP Programme has engendered. The participation of NGOs such as CI or WWF, the United Nations Foundation and institutions such as the World Fish Center or USP (Fiji), to name only the non-French partners, is a demonstration of the interest shown in the CRISP Programme from outside, as confirmed and recorded at meetings of ICRI (International Coral Reef Initiative), where CRISP is now an active partner. Over and above this politically desired regional cooperation, the cooperation achieved has made it possible to double the funding available for the programme, which is having

***“It is very satisfying to see that CRISP is engaged with ICRI, in addition to the official French representation.”***

and will have an impact on the outputs achieved. Some more time is needed to secure official cooperation with Australia, United States, New Zealand and Japan, who could not respond to the call for proposals, but whose imminent participation will demonstrate the political scope of CRISP.

Tangible outputs are now being produced in the form of written reports: an eco-regional analysis in New Caledonia, an aquaculture guide and a reef rehabilitation manual, with many others to follow.

The Coordinator and project managers are working closely together to improve cooperation. The Scientific Advisor closely monitors the scientific aspects of programmes and outputs. This mainly concerns the programme’s scientists, without neglecting managers or consultants. Field research, data analysis, report writing and publication will inevitably take 2 to 3 years. The outputs in this area for the moment

therefore amount to reports and papers presented at workshops and symposia. The partners have been made aware of the need to publish these outputs in scientific publications.

Coordination and collaboration between the Scientific Advisor and the Coordinator, and also with the AFD Programme Manager, was addressed at many individual and group meetings, in addition to exchanges of electronic mail. With decision-making still being the responsibility of the Programme Manager and Coordinator, the opinions of the Scientific Adviser were always welcomed and the exchanges were productive, in particular on international aspects, jointly with my colleague Clive Wilkinson.



## GENERAL PROGRAMME PROGRESS REVIEW

Originating in a French political commitment to contributing to the development of the Pacific Island states, the Initiative for the Protection and Sustainable Management of Coral Reefs in the South Pacific was prepared by the French Development Agency as part of an inter-ministerial arrangement as from 2002, in close collaboration with the Permanent Secretariat for the Pacific (Office of the Prime Minister). A call for proposals was issued in June 2003 and all responding parties were included in the programme architecture, which was finalised in June 2004, for approval in July by the governing bodies of the AFD and French GEF. This programme was given the CRISP acronym from September 2004 onwards and officially launched by the Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development, M. Serge Lepeltier, at the annual SPREP meeting and Meeting of Ministers of the Environment which was held in Papeete in the same month.

Initially restricted to the PICs (eligible for AFD and French GEF funding), CRISP project funding was extended to French Pacific Oversea Territories (FPOT) as a result of additions to the initial French funding through contributions from partners such as CI, WWF and UNF, who were not subject to the same eligibility constraints and who thus asserted their wish to take part in the programme. These new arrangements and action prospects were addressed when an AFD expert took part in meetings of the national committees of IFRECOR (Initiative Française pour les Récifs Coralliens - French Coral Reef Initiative) in Mayotte in May 2004. The FPOTs thus joined the dozen or so PICs as programme beneficiaries.

A technical workshop to launch the CRISP Programme was funded by the French Pacific Fund and held in Nouméa in January 2005 in order to draft an initial action plan. Pending the signing of the AFP and french GEF funding agreements, this action plan was refined by harmonising the input from all stakeholders and adding new funding ; This process had a major impact

on Component 1, which initially comprised two sub-components (MPAs and watersheds) funded by the french GEF, which over time had evolved into a structure with four main projects using CI counterpart funding and extra grants from IFRECOR. A substantial contribution from IRD (US 140 ESPACE) was included alongside the CIRAD input in the integrated coastal management activities, whose cross-cutting action makes Component 1 more coherent. Also, the presence of counterpart funding, especially from CI, made it possible to begin some activities in mid-2005, although the funding agreements had not by then yet been signed and the special conditions had not been satisfied. It was nevertheless decided to postpone until mid-2006 the provision by technical partners of information making it possible to draft an initial CRISP Consolidated Report so as to include contributions from technical partners who only really became operational from January 2006. Only two components (2D and 3A), whose implementation was conditional on the signing of the last CRISP funding agreement between AFD and UNF, which was only finalised in July 2006, could not contribute to this report properly.

In order to prepare a six-monthly summary report on 30 June, the programme's pyramid-shaped organisation provides for six-monthly reports to be submitted by all project managers to their supervisor by 15 July for compilation and submission to the CRISP Coordination Unit at the end of July. These reports are analysed and a general report is then compiled by the CRISP Coordination Unit for publication in September. The finalisation of this initial report was only possible from late September because of delays by a number of component leaders for whom are the discipline of this initial exercise required a period of adaptation.

The synoptic results of this initial evaluation are therefore now presented in this document.

## THE MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

The continuous evaluation of the CRISP Programme is a responsibility of the Coordination Unit (CCU) based at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in Nouméa (New Caledonia). This continuous evaluation process was carried out through the field visits conducted by the Coordinator (4 to 31 July 2006), and the introduction of a reporting system, as described below. The field visits followed an opportunistic timetable and geography designed to optimise travel. This continuous assessment was supplemented by periodic assessments from visits by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as the programme's main donors. The first supervisory mission took place from 18 September to 6 October 2006 (report available from Dominique Rojat, AFD, [rojatd@afd.fr](mailto:rojatd@afd.fr)). These two measures will be supplemented by an independent evaluation, the cost of which has already been provided for and which will take place at the end of the programme.

The monitoring and evaluation system was designed by the Coordination Unit in 2005 and submitted for the approval of technical partners at the first meeting of the CCU Support Committee (CAC) held in Suva (Fiji) in March 2006. This system was then approved by AFD and FFEM during the Programme Coordinator's visit to Paris in April 2006.

The system is designed to assess progress against objectives and outputs contractually agreed to by the technical partners under funding agreements signed with the AFD. Annexed to these agreements are project descriptions and a logical framework, comprising project success indicators. Most of these indicators remain generous and the monitoring and evaluation system is endeavouring to distil from them more accurate indicators on progress on all activities within projects. Achieving this level of accuracy can be difficult but it does guarantee that robust general indicators emerge from the process of aggregation and consolidation of the basic indicators.

The three-year CRISP Programme monitoring and evaluation structure involves 6 six-monthly evaluations. Initially scheduled for the period between July and December 2005, the first evaluation was postponed to the first half of 2006 in order to include a number of technical partners whose activities had been postponed by delays in signing the funding agreements. The 6 six-monthly evaluations relate

to three annual action plans (2006, 2007 and 2008). These action plans are produced in the form of tables (one per project) incorporating the various project activities, which are themselves divided into separate actions. Each action is assessed by using one or more indicators depending on its importance. The indicators are proposed by the project managers, discussed if necessary, and then approved by the CCU. A way of checking an indicator is also proposed, together with an achievement timetable to which the project leader gives a commitment, either the first (+6 months) or the second half-year (+12 months) as part of the annual action plan. Once the report becomes due (mid-year or end-of-year) the project manager himself assesses progress on or achievement of the indicator by quantifying it on a scale of 6 (0%, 20%, 40%, 60%, 80% or 100%). One column is reserved for the CRISP Coordinator who attributes a coefficient (0,25/0,5/0,75 or 1) to the result obtained with activities in order to reduce the share of some activities which are seen as secondary in terms of the objectives pursued, in the overall evaluation, which thus becomes a weighted average for assessing all activities. In addition, a distinction is made between resources deployed by technical partners and outputs achieved, as expressed in the examination of two kinds of indicator (of resources and outputs). This approach makes it possible to produce a CRISP Programme dashboard providing, on a six-monthly and component-by-component basis, an assessment on a scale of 0 to 100% of resources deployed and outputs achieved by each partner. For the first six months, only assessments of activities scheduled for achievement in the first half-year are assessed. Only the end-of-year evaluation covers all activities.

In a concern for brevity, only outputs achieved by component and project are described in this document. These general project-by-project outputs nevertheless rely on more refined assessments (by activity or action) compiled by the CCU.

A practical example of the monitoring and evaluation system is given below in order to gain a better understanding of the indicator consolidation system.

**EXAMPLE :**

Sub-component 2A (knowledge, management and development of reef and lagoon ecosystems) is divided into five projects. The first, Project C2A-1 – economic development of reef post-larvae resources (fish, crustaceans), is divided into four activities. The first activity is described below, and is itself divided into three actions which are assessed using resource and output indicators.

Activity C2A-11 – Basic research on fish and crustacean post larvae capture and development.

**COMMENT :**

The action involving the writing of a thesis as part of the CRISP Programme on the improvement of reseeded techniques has been given a lower weighting because it remains marginal to the initial goal of making possible the establishment of a post-larvae marketing chain by Pacific fishers in order to access an alternative source of income. The indicator verification tools are provided to the CCU who compiles them (mostly in the form of electronic files). For this example of evaluation occurring in the first half-year of an annual action plan, only evaluations for the indicators on activities scheduled for the first half-year are taken into consideration in the overall average. The total indicator evaluations (+6 and +12) are obviously taken into account in the second annual report.

AREA	ACTION	INDICATOR	VERIFICATION TOOL	DATE	WEIGHTING	EVALUATION
RESOURCE	Produce fish post-larvae identification guide for French Polynesia	Obtain comprehensive iconography base	Copy iconography base (C2A111a)	+6	1	100%
	Develop commercial crustacean capture	Pilot study in Wallis	Pilot study report	+6	1	60%
	Improve post-larvae reseeded techniques	Launch doctoral thesis	Enrolment (photocopy student card) (C2A113a)	+6	0,5	100%
MEAN					90%	84%
RESULT	Produce fish post-larvae identification guide for French Polynesia	Final document	PDF version of guide (C2A111b)	+6	1	100%
	Develop commercial crustacean capture	Instal private operator in Wallis	Operating permit	+12	1	0%
	Improve post-larvae reseeded techniques	Launch doctoral thesis	First thesis committee meets (copy of report)	+12	0,5	0%
MEAN					100%	100%



# SYNOPTIC PROGRAMME DASHBOARD

The quantification and mean of indicators of resources and outputs achieved by activity makes it possible to conduct an assessment by activity, project and (sub)-component, which are presented in the table below, but only from the project level upwards. Rectangles in the evaluation columns should be read two by two, with the upper rectangle giving the assessments of resources mobilised and the lower one outputs achieved. For greater clarity, a colour-code is given to the assessment on a scale of five (corresponding to the intervals between the values 0, 20, 40, 80 and 100% given to indicators in the monitoring and reporting system).

assessment	very bad	poor	medium	good	very good
color-code					

Outputs	Description	Operators	Evaluation	Components	Contractors	Evaluation
1A1	Strategy for conservation of marine biodiversity	WWF, CI		1	CI	
1A2	Support to MPAs	WWF, CI, FSPI, ASMPA, IFRECOR				
1A3	Networking	CI, FSPI				
1A4	Integrated Coastal management	IRD, CIRAD				
1A5	Coordination	CI				
2A1	Capture and rearing of postlarvae	EPHE, UNC, USP		2A	CNRS-EPHE	
2A2	Management of reef fisheries	IRD, USP				
2A3	Reef monitoring	EPHE, USP				
2A4	Popularization of information	IRD				
2A5	CO2 and ecotourism	EPHE, USP				
2B1	Pilot sites (Fidji et Tuvalu)	SPI, FSPI		2B		
2B2	Manual/Book	SPI				
2C1	Improvement of legal framework	IRD		2C	IRD	
2C2	Taxonomy	IRD, YSP				
2C3	Collection/Analysis	IRD				
2C4	Capacity building	IRD, USP				
2D1	Setting up of Database	WFC, EPHE, SPREP		2D	UNDP	
2D2	Implementation of REEFBASE SP					
2D3	Delivery of products					
3A1	Institutional strengthening	PROE		3A		
3A2	Pilot studies					
3A3	Dissemination of CRISP outputs					
3B1	Coordination and monitoring	CCU		3B	FCI-SPC	
3B2	Promotion and communication					
3B3	Development and extension					



## SIMPLIFIED REPORT COMPONENT 1

## PROTECTED MARINE AREAS AND INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT



*Goal : to link community-based marine management, marine resource conservation strategic planning and coastal zone (watershed and coastal reef) management to contribute to sustainable South Pacific Coral reef development*

- Financial Partners : AFD, FFEM, CI, WWF-France, IFRECOR
- Technical partners : CI, WWF-France, WWF-South Pacific, FSPI, CIRAD-Forêt, IRD, IFRECOR-PF, ASMPA (Samoa), Pro-Science.
- Main collaborators : users and communities, CSIRO, ANU, Service environnement (W&F), PTPU, UPF, Provinces and DTSI (N-C)

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### ► GENERAL SITUATION

The funding agreement inherent to the implementation of this component was signed in July 2005 between AFD and Conservation International and provides an extra 1,2 million € in addition to the 2 million € granted by FFEM. This agreement comprised a suspense clause conditional upon the approval by AFD of all subsidiary funding agreements between CI and the delegated project managers for Component 1: WWF, FSPI, IRD, the Government of Samoa and the Proscience association. A supplementary agreement had to be signed between CI and the territorial administration of Wallis and Futuna in order to incorporate some supplementary funding from IFRECOR. The preparation of all these agreements, plus the frequent sending back-and-forth of documents, made even more complex by the need to translate all documents into French and English and by the departure of certain key staff (for example the director of CIRAD), produced a situation

in which the delegated project management agreement between CI and CIRAD was not signed at the end of September 2006, preventing AFD from transferring money to CI. These delays in releasing funds were nevertheless offset firstly by the presence of counterpart funds from CI and WWF and also by financial support from the Coordination Unit, especially in New Caledonia, enabling the implementation of some of the planned activities. They also helped to carry out an overall reorganisation of the component by involving a major player (IRD) in support of the action of CIRAD on watersheds. Some of the CI funding was thus made available to these two institutions for them to work together on an integrated coastal management activity with a cross-cutting dimension, which makes it possible to address the actions and objectives of Component 1 more coherently.



## ■ PROJECT 1A Marine Biodiversity Conservation Planning

The major output obtained from this project is the conducting of an eco-regional analysis (ERA) in New Caledonia. This analysis comprises three stages:

- (1) mapping of marine biodiversity,
- (2) mapping of hazards and threats and lastly
- (3) definition of areas requiring priority protection.

This approach is precious for the background of the preparation of the UNESCO proposal that must include information (i) proving the value of the area and (ii) describing the measures taken to protect and manage it. In endeavouring to describe the richness of marine biodiversity in New Caledonia, the ERA proved to be of precious assistance in the application documents. The delay in the signing of the agreements nevertheless penalised the involvement of WWF to conduct this analysis within a timeframe compatible with the proposal preparation schedule. This being the case, the Coordination Unit (CCU) decided to use some of its own money in order to make this analysis possible (steps 1 and 2), the results of which proves precious for supplementing the World Heritage listing application. Reports of this assessment can be downloaded from the CRISP website ([www.crisponline.net](http://www.crisponline.net)).

## ■ PROJECT 1B Support for the Creation of MPAs or the Operation of existing MPAs

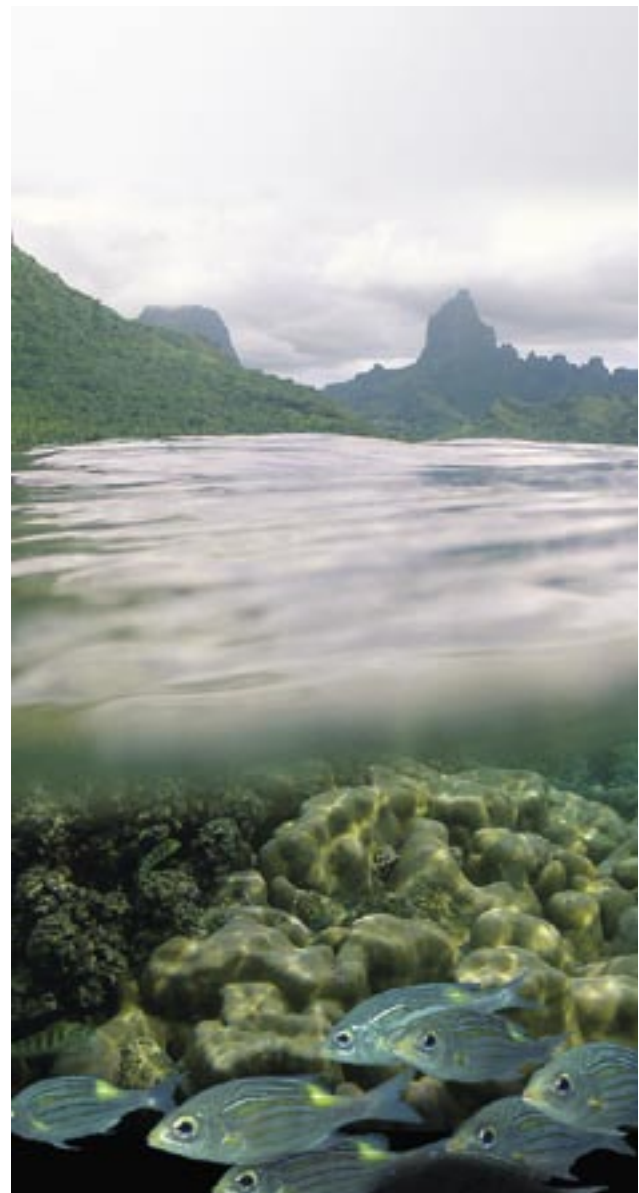
The counterpart funding from CI made it possible to provide funding support to some project managers. FSPI redistributed the funding support to its technical partners in the Solomons, Tuvalu, Kiribati and Vanuatu. This support made it possible to continue introducing MPAs in these countries, in particular through the covering of costs for the negotiation stages with the local communities, the implementation of preliminary biological studies and the training of resource persons. Funding was also provided to the management committees for the MPAs of Aleipata and Safata in Samoa so that the momentum created by the World Bank funding did not fade and for the CRISP funding to be able to arrive in the second half of 2006 and supplement the trust fund for sustainable management of these projects.

## ■ PROJECT 1C Networking and Institutional Strengthening

This project logically has not registered any special results at this early stage in the programme as it is an activity designed to capitalise on the three other projects of Component 1.

## ■ PROJECT 1D Integrated Coastal Management

The implementation of this project was heavily penalised by difficulties in establishing the contractual relationship between CI and CIRAD and IRD (administrative delays, bilingualism, reassignment of key staff, geographical constraints hampering the CI funding, etc.). As stressed elsewhere, these delays nevertheless made it possible to come up with a coherent project, based on the mutually beneficial nature of each of the two bodies, and to include Fiji, which was not originally concerned by Component 1.





# SIMPLIFIED REPORT COMPONENT 2

# KNOWLEDGE, MANAGEMENT, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CORAL ECOSYSTEMS

## COMPONENT 2-A : STATUS OF CORAL REEFS AND USE OF THEIR RESOURCES



*Goal : To improve knowledge, monitoring, management capacity and development of the resources of these ecosystems to ensure sustainable development of coral reefs.*

- Financial Partners : AFD
- Technical partners : EPHE-CNRS, IRD, USP
- Main collaborators : SPC, ECOCEAN, ENSAR, Fisheries Dept (French Polynesia), islands resorts, users and local communities.

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### ► GENERAL SITUATION

The funding agreement between AFD and CNRS was signed in April 2005 and the involvement of the University of the South Pacific followed a few months later. Synergy from the participation of the three entities (CNRS-EPHE, IRD128 and USP) thus became effective from April 2006, in particular at a workshop on coordination and rescoping of activities that took place in Suva, Fiji. A significant number of activities have already been conducted as part of this sub-component.

### ■ PROJECT 2A-1 :

#### **Capture and economic use of post-larvae (reef fish and shellfish)**

This project comprises work in French Polynesia and more substantial activities in Fiji. The part in French Polynesia went ahead as planned and produced a «Guide for the identification of fish larvae in French Polynesia» due to be published in the second half of 2006 in collaboration with the Polynesian Fisheries Department. This handbook is a precious tool for professionals wishing to engage in the economic development of post-larvae. The authorisations for installing capture gear were obtained in Fiji at the end of 2005. The project has been operating at full potential since July 2006 with the operation of an aquaculture farm on the USP campus, on which a French student is training Fijian counterparts to catch and raise post-larvae, while preparing a thesis on the optimisation of restocking techniques in the natural environment. This thesis is co-supervised by the University of Perpignan and the USP, who have signed a partnership agreement enabling formalisation of the exchanges of students, which is due to develop. At the same time, a village site has been identified for a technology transfer operation and the beginning of technically and socio-economically monitored field operations in order to commence the testing of post-larvae trade viability in Fiji.







#### ■ PROJECT 2A-2:

##### **Improve knowledge and capacity for coral reef fishery management**

This project comprises three areas of activity, New Caledonia, Fiji and French Polynesia. It made considerable progress at the workshop held in April 2006 in Fiji, the main topic of which was the identification and scoping of activities designed to implement management indicators for reef and lagoon eco-systems (a summary report is available on the CRISP web site at [www.crisponline.net](http://www.crisponline.net)). The analytical work has commenced on the two data collection sites for the purpose of implementing indicators in New Caledonia (Voh-Koné-Pouembout and Ouvéa areas) and at a site in French Polynesia (Tikehau). A multidisciplinary task force went to Ouvéa in May 2006. In Fiji, the Muaivoso site has been identified and the preliminary work steps carried out using students and an environmental economy specialist, who are due to finalise a study on the economic value of MPAs.

#### ■ PROJECT 2A-3 :

##### **Synopsis and extension work on indicators for monitoring the health of coral ecosystems and developing a remote sensing tool**

This project has also benefited from the 'capitalising' effect of the workshop held in Suva in April 2006, which made it possible to harmonise the work of the three partners (EPHE, IRD and USP). A synoptic assessment of the situation in the Melanesian node was conducted from USP, in particular stating the needs of each country for the strengthening of the GCRMN data collection network (feeding into the biannual publication by Clive Wilkinson of the 'Status of Coral Reefs of the World' report). On the ground, the CRILOBE technical assistant made five trips (Tokelau, Kiribati, Niue, Tonga and Wallis and Futuna) concerning the extension of the Polynesia Mana network. In French Polynesia, an MPA monitoring protocol was drafted for the island of Moorea. At the regional scale, a newsletter concerning GCRMN was prepared and issued the first time in 2006.

#### ■ PROJECT 2A-4 :

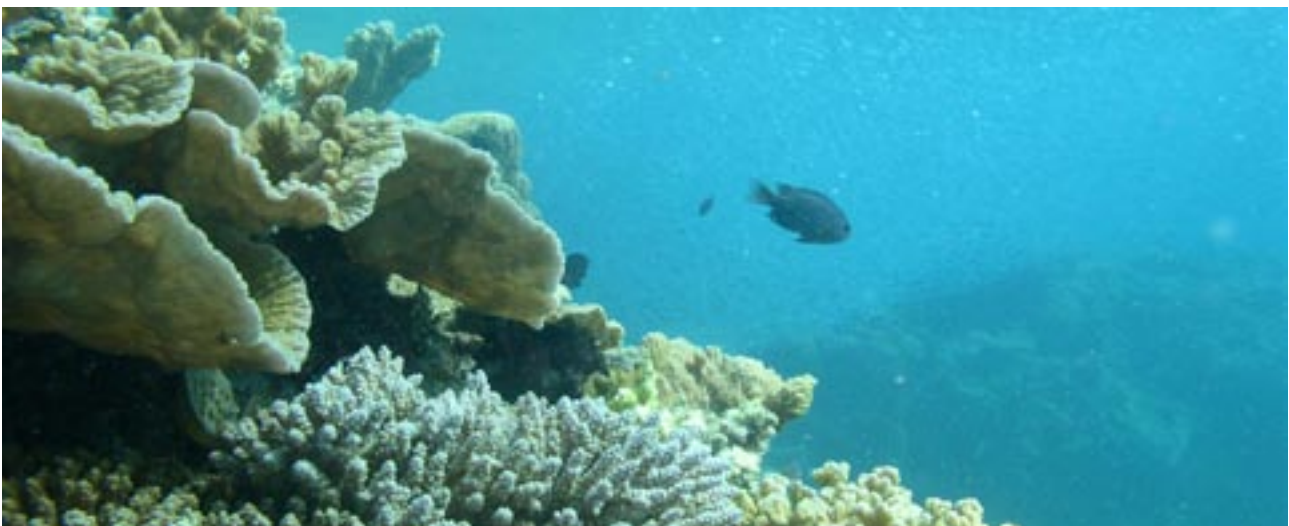
##### **Testing of novel information feedback methods for local communities and users of reef and lagoon resources**

This project is the least advanced of Sub-component 2A. The main planned output is the production of an interactive DVD with IRD for the public at large for the purpose of education on the functioning of reef and lagoon eco-systems and the need to protect them. At the same time, several students to be involved in an exchange between francophone and Anglophone institutions were identified.

#### ■ PROJECT 2A-5 :

##### **Specific studies on i) the effects of the increase in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> on the health of coral formations and ii) the development of eco-tourism**

The terms of reference for the study on the effects of the acidification of the oceans on coral constructions have been drafted, but the French service provider is still being identified. A contract has been awarded to a service provider in Fiji to conduct a study on the development of hotel eco-certification standards. The standards are ready and many Fiji tourism professionals have been contacted so as to define the optimum way of implementing a certification system, which would comprise a major staff training component. At the present time, these standards are apparently intended to be incorporated into a pre-existing environmental labelling system, which only covers the land-related aspects and to which a sub-marine module could be added. Implementation of this work should begin in Fiji in the second half of 2006, while at the same time a regional approach will be developed to export this process to neighbouring countries, with priority given to those where hotel-based tourism is developing (especially the French Pacific OCTs).





## COMPONENT 2-B : REHABILITATION OF CORAL ECOSYSTEMS



*Goal : assist in extension work on techniques to physically rehabilitate reef and coral ecosystems so as to ensure long-term survival and sustainable production.*

- Financial partner : AFD
- Technical partners : SPI-INFRA, FSPI, PCDF
- Main collaborators : users and local communities

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### ► GENERAL SITUATION

This component, which is based on collaboration between the French consultants Spi-Infra and the NGO FSPI, commenced field operations late in 2005 with the preparation of a pilot site in Fiji. The cancellation of the second site in Solomon Islands reduced the considerable lead that this component had over the rest of the programme. An alternative second site has been identified in Tuvalu. The plan to issue a handbook on rehabilitation techniques was very productively expanded by the creation of a (technical and financial) partnership with a related project implemented by the World Bank.

#### ■ PROJECT 2B-1 :

##### Launching of two pilot rehabilitation sites

A site situated on the island of Motoriki proposed by the FSPI coral reef rehabilitation expert was assessed and rehabilitated at the end of 2005. Resource persons from Fiji were trained in coral transplanting and monitoring methods. Unfortunately this site experienced a bleaching event through the abnormally high and impossible to forecast rise in water temperature in the first half of 2006. The institutional strengthening dimension of this operation however remains very valuable. The reef rehabilitation expert, the counterpart to the French scientist, left the project and was replaced by another experienced person for the purpose of starting work on the second site in Tuvalu. The identification of a third potential rehabilitation site in Samoa should be noted as a possible beneficiary of CRISP support outside the strict framework for this component, provided that the required financial resources can be found and effective cooperation established with local private sector hotel operators, in which leadership is currently being provided by the Sinaley hotel. The idea here is to rehabilitate and maintain a snorkelling site for tourists with which local communities could be associated.

#### ■ PROJECT 2B-2 :

##### Preparation of a reef rehabilitation guide

Initially planned for the latter stages of the programme, this project developed in a spontaneous way through the establishment of a partnership with the rehabilitation and remediation task force directed by the world renowned specialist Alasdair Edwards of Newcastle University, who is attached to the Coral Reef Targeted Research project funded by the World Bank. This world-scope project aims to develop centres of excellence around the world in the area of scientific research on the reef environment. Comparison of the technical know-how of this task force and Sub-component 2-B made it possible to associate CRISP with the production of an online pre-manual (Internet access) made available to professionals in October 2006 as part of the ITMEMS3 (International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management) symposium, due to be held in Cozumel, Mexico. The production of a more complete handbook, which will be of higher quality and more comprehensive than anything that Sub-component 2B could have produced on its own, is also planned for 2008-2009.






## COMPONENT 2-C : DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE ACTIVE SUBSTANCES



*Goal : contribute to improving understanding and development of benthic invertebrates found in reef and coral ecosystems where these may contain pharmacologically active marine substances.*

- Financial partners : AFD, IRD
- Technical partners : IRD UMR 152 (Noumea and Toulouse) and UMR 148 (Noumea)
- Main collaborators : University of the South Pacific (Suva and Honiara), John Hooper (Australia), Nicole Boury-Esneault (France), Pr Beurrier (France)

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### ► GENERAL SITUATION

The funding from AFD has been effective since October 2005 and, after some initial difficulties, the cruise permit has been issued by the Fijian authorities. The involvement of Professor Bill Aabelsberg (USP) had a determining influence in this. A number of achievements can already be credited to this component.

#### ■ PROJECT 2C-1 :

**Upgrading island country legislation for the sharing of benefits from development of active marine substances**  
 This project concerns the countries in which living organisms are collected and two preliminary visits were respectively made during the first half of 2006 to Solomon Islands by a French expert (Professor Jean-Pierre Beurrier of Nantes University), and Fiji by two of his PhD law students. The reports are available online from the CRISP website [www.crisponline.net](http://www.crisponline.net)

#### ■ PROJECT 2C-2 :

**Improvement of knowledge of benthic reef invertebrate and algae taxonomy**  
 The IRD cruise in Solomon Islands was not funded by CRISP, which focused on the identification and development of

organisms collected, particularly algae and sponges. This taxonomic work was carried out in collaboration with an Australian expert and a fijian post-doc and the preliminary results for publication have already been compiled.

#### ■ PROJECT 2C-3 :

**Technological aspect of the identification of active marine substances (image of result diagram)**  
 The initial laboratory tests have been carried out on the effects of marine substances in the areas of inflammation, the functioning of the central nervous system, and anti-cancer and anti-malarial activity. The initial results are highly encouraging with almost 50% of substances showing activity in at least one of the areas referred to above.

#### ■ PROJECT 2C-4 :

**Institutional strengthening activity through the training of Pacific Island resource persons**  
 Two USP students, Shitahl Swarup (Fiji) and Reuben Sulu (Solomon), were trained in France on development of marine active substances (mainly from sponges), and a fijian post-doc was funded for a study on phycolology.

## COMPONENT 2-D : DEVELOPMENT OF REEF DATA BASE FOR THE PACIFIC



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### ► GENERAL SITUATION

The agreement signed between AFD and UNF in July 2006 made it possible to obtain co-funding for this component from UNF in an amount of 400,000 euros. Despite the fact that no money had been forthcoming by September 2006, WFC nevertheless began its contributions to CRISP, particularly in areas related to the establishment of a regional data base known as ReefBase. This relates to

the socio-economic monitoring of MPAs with a process of adaptation of the SocMon methodology to the Pacific or indeed the defining of terms of reference for a portal on reef fisheries. In addition, WFC skilfully anticipated the arrival of the CRISP funding by recruiting a database manager who is already working at SPC in Nouméa, in a position to recruit a co-worker and commence assembling the database without delay.



SIMPLIFIED  
REPORT  
COMPONENT 3



INSTITUTIONAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT,  
COMMUNICATION,  
COORDINATION AND EXTENSION

**COMPONENT 3-A :  
INSTITUTIONAL / TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND COMMUNICATION**



*Goal : institutional and technical support to the project's technical partners, integration, information collection and dissemination (data, approaches, methods and know-how).*

- *Financial Partners* : AFD, UNF
- *Technical partner* : SPREP
- *Main collaborators* : ICRAN, WFC, SPC, EPHE-CRIOBE, USP,  
Pacific Island governments and communities

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► **GENERAL SITUATION**

The signing of an agreement between AFD and UNF, which occurred in July 2006, made it possible to obtain co-funding from UNF for this component in an amount of 250,000 euros.

The availability of the CRISP funding was efficiently anticipated by the recruitment of a technical assessment assistant for a position of 'Coral Reef Manager' funded by the Pacific Fund (French Ministry of Foreign Affairs). This position will endeavour to implement the SPREP component of CRISP and strengthen links between this organisation and the French Pacific territories, for which a sum of 140,000 euros has been provided for in the financial contribution from UNF to CRISP.







## COMPONENT 3-B : COORDINATION, CAPITALIZATION AND EXTENSION



*Goal : coordination, strengthening and extension of CRISP activities*

- Financial partners : AFD, MAE
- Technical partner : Coordination Unit at SPC
- Collaborators : SPC, SPREP, Reef Check

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### ► GENERAL SITUATION

The signing of the agreement between the AFD and the SPC providing operational resources to the Technical Assistant appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the SPC took place in March 2005. This component was therefore the first to have become operational, in April 2005. The workload relating to the institutional facilitation work with countries and the promotion and representation of the programme at the international level were nevertheless supposed to be shared with SPREP. Delays in signing the agreement between AFD and UNF had postponed the effective involvement of SPREP in the programme until the end of 2006 and the Technical Assistant therefore took complete responsibility for this activity. The trips he made produced substantial progress in terms of developing partnerships with the developed countries of the region (in particular Australia) and other projects with objectives similar to those of CRISP (CRTR, Reef Check, TNC). As at 31 July 2006, all the programme management tools were in place and the growing need for coordination linked to the start-up of all activities can now be better handled.

#### ■ PROJECT 3B-1 : Internal coordination and monitoring and evaluation of activities

The internal coordination and monitoring and evaluation of activities conducted under the umbrella of CRISP have gradually been introduced through the preparation of the following tools, which have been approved by the technical partners and the donors. Essentially, these are:

- A coordination mechanism with the technical partners which operates as an advisory committee: the CCU Support Committee (CAC) ;
- A full-time information-sharing arrangement with AFD and SPP who are the joint supervisors of the CCU : limited secretarial support to the CCU (SAC). This also makes it possible to mobilise additional funding contributions from the Pacific Fund.

- An ad hoc reporting system based on the use of indicators making it possible to evaluate progress in the achievement of actions within activities within projects within components.

#### ■ PROJECT 3B-2 : Promotion and communication

Promotion and communication around the programme has been achieved by using the following tools:

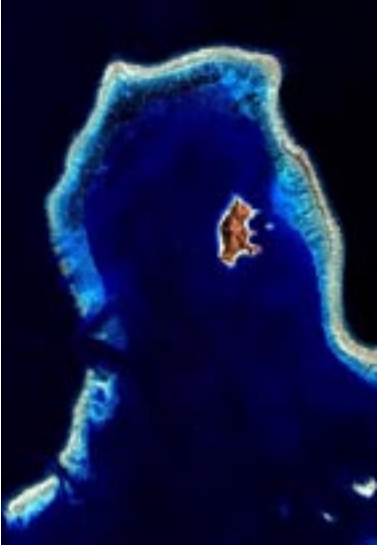
- A programme website which is in place and operational : [www.crisponline.net](http://www.crisponline.net)
- a Communication Charter approved by the partners making CRISP funding transparent in finished products and handling the intellectual property issues of various programme stakeholders.

The programme has also been promoted and its value acknowledged in most major world institutional gatherings in the area of reef conservation (see specific chapter on communication).

#### ■ PROJECT 3B-3 : Programme development

The development of the programme was influenced by financial, geographical, institutional and political factors. For the purposes of this initial report the following should be remembered:

- Additional funding was secured from IFRECOR (45 K€) and the Loyalty Islands Province of New Caledonia (40 K€) ;
- the technical and financial involvement of Australia has been obtained in principle;
- the involvement of Japan has been secured through the participation of the University of Ryukyus;
- partnerships have been formalised with Reef Check and the CRTR project;
- the basis for a geographical extension to Palau in partnership with the NGO TNC has been defined.



## GEOGRAPHICAL APPROACH

This chapter presents the main CRISP results achieved on a country basis. It should be noted that only projects and activities carried out by 31 July 2006 are included. Many partnerships and activities will be commencing in these countries over the months to come.

NB: countries are listed in alphabetical order; this order has no implications for the level of support that they have received or will receive from the CRISP Programme.

### COOK ISLANDS

No activity as at 31 July 2006.

### FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

No activity as at 31 July 2006.

### FIJI ISLANDS

CRISP projects operating as at 31 July 2006:  
C1B, C2A1, C2A2, C2A3, C2B1, C2C1, C2C4

#### Main local partners :

Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF), FSPI, USP

#### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ setting up of a CRISP office with computer equipment and one dedicated person within USP;
- 2/ setting up of an aquaculture farm within USP for raising reef fish post-larvae, accompanied by training for supervisors and technology transfer (C2A1-USP)
- 3/ launching of work on a doctoral thesis co-supervised by University of Perpignan and USP on the improvement of lagoon post-larvae restocking techniques (C2A1)
- 4/ workshop on reef fish management indicators and coral eco-system monitoring (C2A2, C2A3, USP)
- 5/ research on the development needs of the GCRMN node for coral reef monitoring in the Melanesian region (C2A3)
- 6/ preliminary study on the preparation of hotel eco-certification standards (C2A5)
- 7/ launching of pilot reef rehabilitation site on the island of Motoriki (C2B1-PCDF)
- 8/ training for Fijian resource persons in coral transplanting techniques and site monitoring techniques (C2B1-PCDF)
- 9/ legal assessment visit by two French experts (Bluene Guilloux and Karolina Zabolka, University of Nan-

tes) on the improvement of the Fiji legal framework for the development of active marine substances (C2C1) (10) training for a resource person from USP based in Fiji (Shital Swarup) on active marine substance extraction techniques (C2C4)

### KIRIBATI

CRISP projects operating as at 31 July 2006:  
C1B, C2A3

#### Main partners :

Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific Kiribati (FSPK), FSPI, CI, Ministry of the Environment

#### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ financial support to FSPK for setting up MPAs (C1B)
- 2/ financial support from CI (CRISP counterpart funding) for the preparation of an MPA management plan for the Phoenix Island group as part of a request for UNESCO listing.
- 3/ technical support visit for the incorporation of this country into the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network (C2A3)

### MARSHALL ISLANDS

No activity as at 31 July 2006

### NIUE

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C2A3

#### Main national partners:

Ministry of the Environment

#### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ technical support visit for the incorporation of this country into the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network (C2A3)

## NEW CALEDONIA

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C1A, C1B, C2A4, CCU

### Main partners:

WWF, IRD, DTSI, CPS, UNC, SOPRONER, Provinces

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006:

- 1/ contribution to the finalisation of the proposal for listing of the New Caledonian marine heritage (coral ecosystems) as part of the UNESCO World Heritage through two studies on (i) the description and zoning of marine biodiversity in the New Caledonian eco-region and (ii) mapping of hazards and threats.
- 2/ support for the preparation of management plans for the Ouvéa lagoon and small islands off Maré and Lifou (Islands Province) and in the areas around Hienghène and the Diahot River (Northern Province) (C1B-DDAT)
- 3/ production of a DVD for the promotion of the protection of coral ecosystems to the public and in schools (C2A4)
- 4/ study on the prospects for developing CRISP activities in the far south in cooperation with the private mining sector (CCU-DDAT-SOPRONER)

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

No activity as at 31 July 2006

## PALAU

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C3B (CCU)

### Main partners :

CI, TNC

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ Identification of the CRISP area of activity (C1 - MPAs) in partnership with The Nature Conservancy.

## FRENCH POLYNESIA

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C2A1, C2A2

### Main partners :

Fisheries Service, Tropical Fish Tahiti (TFT), IFRECOR, REEF CHECK, Ministry of Sustainable Development

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ production of a guide for the identification of reef fish post-larvae in French Polynesia (C2A1)
- 2/ commencement of data analysis for the implementation of reef fishery management indicators in Tikehau (C2A2)
- 3/ production of an MPA monitoring protocol for the island of Moorea by CRIOBE (C2A3)
- 4/ Implementation of a project in partnership with Reef Check for the development of monitoring of the health of coral reefs in French Polynesia through the involvement of volunteer divers (CCU)



## SOLOMON ISLANDS

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C1B, C2C1, C2C2, C2C3, C2C4

### Main partners :

Solomon Island Development Trust (SIDT), USP

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ Financial support to SIDT for introducing MPAs (C1B)
- 2/ Legal consultancy by French expert (Pr Jean-Pierre Beurrier, University of Nantes) on the improvement of the Solomon Islands legal framework for the development of active marine substances (C2C4)
- 3/ Taxonomic research on sponges and algae collected in the Solomons by IRD (C2C2)
- 4/ Initial laboratory testing of the pharmaceutical properties of active substances from benthic invertebrates collected in the Solomons by IRD (C2C3)
- 5/ Training for a resource person from USP based in the Solomons (Reuben Sulu) on the taxonomy of sponges and extraction techniques (C2C4-USP)

## SAMOA

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C1B, C2B1, CCU

### Main national partners :

Ministry of the Environment, CI, Sinalea Resort

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ Financial support for MPAs at Aleipata and Safata (C1B)
- 2/ Feasibility study for a reef rehabilitation site in the area near Sinalea resort (C2B1)

## TOKELAU

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C2A3

### Main national partners :

Ministry of the Environment

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ Technical support visit for the incorporation of this country into the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network (C2A3)



## TONGA

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C2A3

### Main national partners :

Ministry of the Environment

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ Technical support visit for the incorporation of this country into the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network (C2A3)

## TUVALU

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C1B

### Main partners:

Tuvalu Association of NGOs (TANGO), FSPI

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006:

- 2/ Financial support to TANGO for the introduction of MPAs (C1B)

## VANUATU

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C1B, C1D

### Main partners :

Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific Vanuatu (FSPV), FSPI, CIRAD

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ Financial support to FSPV for the introduction of MPAs (C1B)
- 2/ Identification of two sites suitable for the implementation of Component 1D in Vanuatu (on Malekula and Efate) (C1D)

## WALLIS AND FUTUNA

CRISP projects operational as at 31 July 2006:  
C1B, C2A1, C2A3

### Main partners :

Environment Department

### Main results achieved as at 31 July 2006 :

- 1/ Contractual formalisation of the incorporation of IFRECOR W&F funding for Component 1B for implementing the preliminary phases of the introduction of two PGEMs in Wallis and Futuna (C1B)
- 2/ Production of a crustacean larvae capture test protocol with a view to establishing an export activity (C2A1)
- 3/ Technical support visit for the incorporation of this country into the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network (C2A3)



## PARTNERSHIPS



The CRISP approach is based on a firm commitment to funding existing organisations without creating any new ones and fostering partnerships and synergy, at the regional level in particular. The attendance of the Programme Coordinator at a number of international events has made it possible not only to promote the programme but also to engage with the developed countries of the region and other projects with objectives comparable to those of CRISP. Referring only to be partnerships which are covered by written formalities, the following should be mentioned :

(1) a financial partnership with IFRECOR Wallis and Futuna in the sum of 45,000 euros, which is broadly equivalent to the amount provided by French GEF, so as to set up a PGEM on the island of Alofi. This financial surplus makes it possible to consider an extension of this sustainable marine management approach to the islands of Wallis and Futuna.



(2) a technical and financial partnership with Reef Check, an American organisation with a worldwide presence that uses volunteer divers in a coral reef health monitoring network. This organisation also promotes public awareness programmes. The partnership is based on equivalent contributions (15 000 euros) by CRISP and Reef Check in French Polynesia to develop this reef monitoring network, in conjunction with the French Polynesian Ministry of Sustainable Development.



(3) a technical and financial partnership between Component C2B and the 'rehabilitation and remediation' task force of the World Bank CRTR group. The pooling of technical and financial resources makes it possible to consider associating the CRISP Programme with making a complete guide to rehabilitation techniques available on-line in October 2006 and to print a paper version in 2006 in a higher quality and more comprehensive form than the handbook originally planned under Component C2C.



(4) a partnership to be defined between CRISP and Australia for common action in the Pacific. Australia began expressing interest in an involvement in CRISP through diplomatic channels in January 2005, and although this has taken a long time to take substance, this collaboration now seems to be a reality thanks to the unceasing efforts of the CCU in staying in touch with institutional contacts chosen by Australia, successively GBRMPA then DEH (Department of Environment and Heritage), in conjunction with the Scientific Advisor at the French Embassy in Canberra and Clive Wilkinson, CRISP scientific advisor.

It should be specified that many prospects for partnerships have emerged or are being explored or confirmed with other countries (Japan, USA, New Zealand), other projects (PROCFish, CRTR remote-sensing task force), other organisations (SOPAC, IOI, UICN, TNC) or other donors (UE, Fondation Total, McArthur Foundation, Packard Foundation), without this list being restrictive. The role of the CRISP scientific advisors has been and remains determining in this area.



## COMMUNICATION AND REPRESENTATION

Communication through CRISP materials is governed by a charter approved by the various technical partners. In addition to this tool, the CCU has conducted various programme promotion activities through press articles in New Caledonia and Pacific Island programme beneficiary countries as well as through television programmes. The preparation and broader distribution in May 2005 and then November 2005 of a programme presentation brochure in English and French was an effective adjunct to the communication effort. CRISP also enjoyed regular promotion in specialised newsletters such as that of ICRI and in international publications such as 'Status of coral reefs of the world' edited by Clive Wilkinson and of course in the IFRECOR newsletter.

A website was launched in April 2005 in order to communicate basic information about the programme. Initially hosted by the SPC, this site was transferred to the United States early in 2006 in order to make connection times quicker. In addition to being in an essential communication tool, the site is also an internal coordination instrument through the inclusion of an intranet arrangement (limited access network) which is open only to CRISP technical partners and which enables exchanges of information not accessible to the public in general. Each CRISP partner can place a material it considers interesting for other members of the programme with access to the intranet here.

**Do not hesitate to consult the CRISP website to obtain up-to-date information and register for intranet access!**

CRISP website : [www.crisponline.net](http://www.crisponline.net)

Promotion of the programme was also done through the participation of the Coordinator and/or the scientific advisors at major international meetings on coral reef conservation, i.e.:

- International technical symposia such as IMPAC1 in Australia (Geelong, October 2005), World Maritime Technology Conference (London, March 2006), the AGORA workshop (Nouméa, May 2006), the GECOREV conference (Saint-Quentin en Yvelines, June 2006),
- regional technical meetings such as the workshop on the launching of a «Reef Fisheries» portal (Nouméa, New Caledonia, December 2005), TR09 on nature conservation (Alotau, PNG, July 2005),
- more political meetings such as ICRI (Mahé, Seychelles, April 2005 and Koror, Palau, November 2005) for which the instructions to French representatives, such as on reporting, are passed on to the embassies by TDs, IFRECOR (Hienghène, New Caledonia, May 2006).



## CONCLUSIONS AND PROSPECTS

CRISP is an ambitious programme of significant size. One of its essential features is the diversity of the partners operating in sectors as varied as basic scientific research (CNRS), applied scientific research (IRD, CIRAD), university research (UPS, UPF, UNC), the private sector (consultants SOPRONER and PTPU), the world of environmental NGOs (CI, WWF), more development-oriented NGOs (FSPI, Proscience), international development organisations (SPREP, WFC, UNEP, ICRAN), territorial structures (ministries and departments of the environment, etc.) or the French and foreign diplomatic network, without overlooking the main programme beneficiaries who are the local communities.

The diversity of the partners involved and the highly innovative aspects of some of the financial partnerships, especially those between AFD and CI or indeed UNF, have led to delays in the signing of funding agreements, which until mid-2006 produced a rather uneven landscape in terms of the stage of development of activities; this explains why the first report could not address all components. The signing of the last agreements and sub-agreements in

the summer of 2006 will make it possible to produce a comprehensive report for the second half of 2006. In the medium term, these delays do not pose any real problem as CRISP is a flexible structure that can gradually integrate further funding sources as it evolves in order to meet the needs to extend some activities ensuring that the complementary roles and synergy created in this initial phase can be maintained. In the longer term, the combination of the flexibility of the main donor (in terms of possible extensions to agreements) with funding for phase two of the programme (for which the preparatory stages have already been commenced), makes it possible to take a relaxed approach to certain delays.

In the short term, the increasing activity of certain partners will require the CCU to scale up its coordination efforts as compared to external activities, which had accounted for much of its time. The long awaited involvement of SPREP should however make it possible to share responsibilities on Component 3, as planned in the initial programme design. This alliance should make it possible to meet needs both in terms of internal coordination and external development of CRISP.

### LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>AFD</b>	French Agency for Development	<b>IFREMER</b>	French Institute for Sea Development
<b>AIMS</b>	Australian Institute for Marine Sciences	<b>IMPAC</b>	International Marine Protected Areas Conference
<b>ANU</b>	Australian National University	<b>IOI</b>	International Ocean Institute
<b>MPAs</b>	Marine Protected Areas	<b>IPFC</b>	Indo-Pacific Fish Conference
<b>ASMPA</b>	Aleita Safata Marine Protected Area	<b>IRD</b>	French Institute for Research and Development
<b>CGIAR</b>	Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research	<b>ITMEMS</b>	International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management Symposium
<b>CI</b>	Conservation International	<b>LMMA</b>	Locally Managed Marine Area Network
<b>CIRAD</b>	International Center for Agronomic Research for Development	<b>MAE</b>	French Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>CNRS</b>	(french) National Center for Scientific Research	<b>MEDD</b>	Ministry for Sustainable Development
<b>SPC</b>	Secretariat of The Pacific Community	<b>MNHN</b>	National Museum of Natural History (of Paris)
<b>CRIOBE</b>	Insular Research Center and Environment Observatory	<b>NC</b>	New Caledonia
<b>CRISP</b>	Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific	<b>NZ</b>	New Zealand
<b>CRTR</b>	Coral Reef Targeted Research Project (World Bank)	<b>PCDF</b>	Partner in Community Development Fiji
<b>CSIRO</b>	Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organisation	<b>PGEM</b>	Marine Environment Management Plan
<b>FPOT</b>	French Pacific Oversea Territories	<b>PICs</b>	Pacific Islands Countries
<b>ENSAR</b>	National School for Halieutic Sciences of Rennes (France)	<b>PROCFISH</b>	Regional Programme for Coastal and Oceanic Fisheries
<b>EPHE</b>	Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes	<b>SPREP</b>	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
<b>FCI</b>	France Coopération Internationale	<b>PTPU</b>	Pae Tai - Pae Uta
<b>FGEF</b>	French Global Environment Facility	<b>RT</b>	Round Table on Nature Conservation
<b>FSPI</b>	Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International	<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>GCRMN</b>	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network	<b>SocMon</b>	Socio-Economic Monitoring of MPAs
<b>GECOREV</b>	Symposium on co-management of natural resources	<b>SOPAC</b>	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
<b>IAC</b>	Caledonian Agronomic Institute	<b>SPP</b>	Permanent Secretariat for the Pacific
<b>ICRAN</b>	International Coral Reef Action Network	<b>TNC</b>	The Nature Conservancy
<b>ICRI</b>	International Coral Reef Initiative	<b>IUCN</b>	World Conservation Union
<b>ICRS</b>	International Coral Reef Symposium	<b>UNC</b>	University of New Caledonia
<b>IFRECOR</b>	Initiative Française pour les Récifs Coralliens	<b>UNF</b>	United Nations Foundation
		<b>UPF</b>	University of French Polynesia
		<b>RU</b>	Research Unit
		<b>UPS</b>	University of South PACific
		<b>WFC</b>	World Fish Center
		<b>WWF</b>	World Wildlife Fund for Nature



## Abstract

Officially launched by France in September 2004, the Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Coral Reefs in the South Pacific (CRISP) was implemented following a technical workshop that took place in Nouméa in January 2005 for the purpose of preparing an overall action plan. 2005 was used for preparing and arranging the signature of funding agreements between SPC, CNRS, CI and IRD. The signing of the last funding agreement between AFD and UNF, governing the implementation of components 2D and 3A respectively by WFC and SPREP, occurred in July 2006. These two components are therefore not covered in this report, which describes activities conducted by other components as at 31 July 2006.

The presence in the CRISP arrangements of counterpart funding from CI (1,2 M€) and WWF (0,4 M€) made it possible to make an effective start on two projects from CRISP component 1. The first project concerns the planning of marine and biodiversity conservation, in which New Caledonia took an interest from June 2005. The eco-regional analysis conducted by WWF has already produced two reports, the first on marine biodiversity mapping and the second on hazard and threat analysis. The second project under component 1 concerns support for introducing MPAs and was carried out with pre-funding from CI in four different countries, these being Samoa, Tuvalu, Solomon Islands and Kiribati through the partnership network promoted by FSPI. Two MPAs already operating in Samoa (Aleipata and Safata) also received precious financial support during their consolidation phase.

Component 2A and 2B enjoyed AFD funding in autumn 2005, which made it possible to register a major level of contribution to CRISP. An initial project under component 2A saw the installation of an aquaculture farm on the premises of USP in Fiji with skills transfer and operations ultimately contributing to the setting up of alternative economic fishery activities for reef fish larvae intended for the aquarium market (including an activity on Wallis).

The other projects of component 2A produced preliminary results on coral eco-system management and monitoring on the basis of indicators being tested in New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Fiji. Missions were also carried out so as to include a number of other regional countries in the Polynesia Mana reef surveillance network (Wallis and Futuna, Tonga, Tokelau, Niue and Tuvalu). On the basis of a partnership between the French consultancy Spi-Infra and the Fijian NGO PCDF, component 2B established a pilot reef rehabilitation site on the island of Motoriki, Fiji in late 2005. This enabled local resource persons to be trained in transplantation techniques and monitoring of submarine work sites over time. Component 2C, implemented by IRD, benefited from financial support from AFD late in 2005, which made it possible to approve the development of the organisms collected during the last cruise in Solomon Islands from the point of view of taxonomy and gather very positive preliminary results concerning the isolation of active marine substances (AMS). The legal and institutional strengthening dimensions were also focused on through two expert missions to Solomon Islands and Fiji in order to determine the basis for improving the legal framework for developing AMSs and also by training for a Solomon Island student in mainland France.

The last component to contribute to this report is component 3B, the CRISP Coordination Unit (CCU). As at 31 July 2006, all the programme's coordination and monitoring tools were ready. A major project communication and promotion effort has been conducted since the January 2005 workshop and this has borne fruit. It has led to the creation of synergistic partnerships with other projects having similar goals (CRTR, Reef Check), thus meeting the CRISP commitment to avoiding duplication through a regional and international approach. There is a growing desire on the part of the developed countries of the region to come into the CRISP Programme, in particular Australia, USA and Japan and this should be confirmed in the coming months.