

CRISP Coordinating Unit

October 2007

Consolidated report of the CRISP programme

1st semester 2007

CRISP



Coral Reef InitiativeS for the Pacific
Initiatives Corail pour le Pacifique



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CRISP



Coral Reef InitiativeS for the Pacific
Initiatives Corail pour le Pacifique



The CRISP programme is implemented as part of the policy developed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme for a contribution to conservation and sustainable development of coral reefs in the Pacific

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 1A: Integrated Coastal Management and watershed management

- 1A1: Marine biodiversity conservation planning
- 1A2: Marine Protected Areas
- 1A3: Institutional strengthening and networking
- 1A4: Integrated coastal reef zone and watershed management

Component 2: Development of Coral Ecosystems

- 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

- 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 :





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Contracting agencies	Funding AFD/FGEF	Co-funding	Co-funding agencies	Leading agencies	Components	Description	Outputs	Description of projects	Implementing agencies	Beneficiaries countries
CI	2000	1700	CI, WWF, IFRECOR WF, IFRECOR FP, French Pacific Funds	CI	1A	MPAs and watershed management	1A1	Planification of marine conservation strategy	WWF, CI	New-Caledonia, Polynesia, Palau and Pacific region
							1A2	Support to existing MPAs and creation of MPAs	WWF, CI, FSPI, ASMPA, IFRECOR PF	Salomon, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Tonga, New-Caledonia, Samoa, Kiribati, Papoua New Guinea, French Polynesia, Cook, Wallis&Futuna
							1A3	Networking	CI, FSPI	All Pacific countries
							1A4	Integrated Coastal management	IRD, CIRAD	Vanuatu, Fidji and French Polynesia
CNRS	1000	100	IFRECOR FP, Reef-Check, French Pacific Funds	CNRS	2A	Knowledge, management and development of reef ecosystems	2A1	Postlarvae Capture and Culture	EPHE, USP	Fidji, French Polynesia and Wallis&Futuna
							2A2	Management of Reef Fisheries	IRD, USP	Fidji, French Polynesia, New-Caledonia and Wallis&Futuna
							2A3	Monitoring of reef ecosystems	EPHE, USP	Melanesia and Polynesia
							2A4	Extension	IRD	All Pacific countries
	2A5	Specific studies: CO2 and ecotourism	EPHE, USP							
	300	50	CRTR	GINGER	2B	Reef restoration	2B1	Implementation of pilot sites	GINGER, FSPI	Fidji and Tuvalu (+Samoa)
2B2							Editing of technical manual	GINGER, FSPI	All Pacific countries	
IRD	500	400	IRD	IRD	2C	Bioprospection	2C1	Improvement of legal framework	IRD	Salomon, Fidji and Vanuatu
							2C2	Taxonomy	IRD, USP	
							2C3	Collection and screening	IRD	
							2C4	Capacity building	IRD, USP	
UNF	400	400	UNF	WFC	2D	REEFBASE Pacific	2D1	Implementation of REEFBASE nodes	WFC, EPHE, SPREP	All Pacific countries
							2D2	Implementation of REEFBASE Pacific		
							2D3	Support to GCRMN		
							2D4	Dissemination of products		
	500	500	SPREP	3A	Renforcement institutionnel, capitalisation	3A1	Institutional strengthening	SPREP, ICRAN		
						3A2	Pilot studies			
3A3						Extension of CRISP outputs				
SPC	300	850	French MFA, French Pacific Funds	French MFA	3B	Coordination et développement	3B1	Coordination and monitoring/evaluation	CCU	
							3B2	Promotion and communication		
							3B3	Development of the programme		
Total amount = 9 M Euros										

SYNOPTIC TABLE OF THE PROGRAMME AS TO THE 30th OF JUNE 2007

CRISP ENLIGHTENINGS... OF THE FIRST SEMESTER 2007

Each semester an event, a book and a publication are highlighted in the consolidated report



Noumea meeting (from Left to Right): Clive Wilkinson (RRRC), Sean Sullivan (DEWR) for Australia met with Michel Thibier (MAE) and Eric Clua (CRISP) on the french side

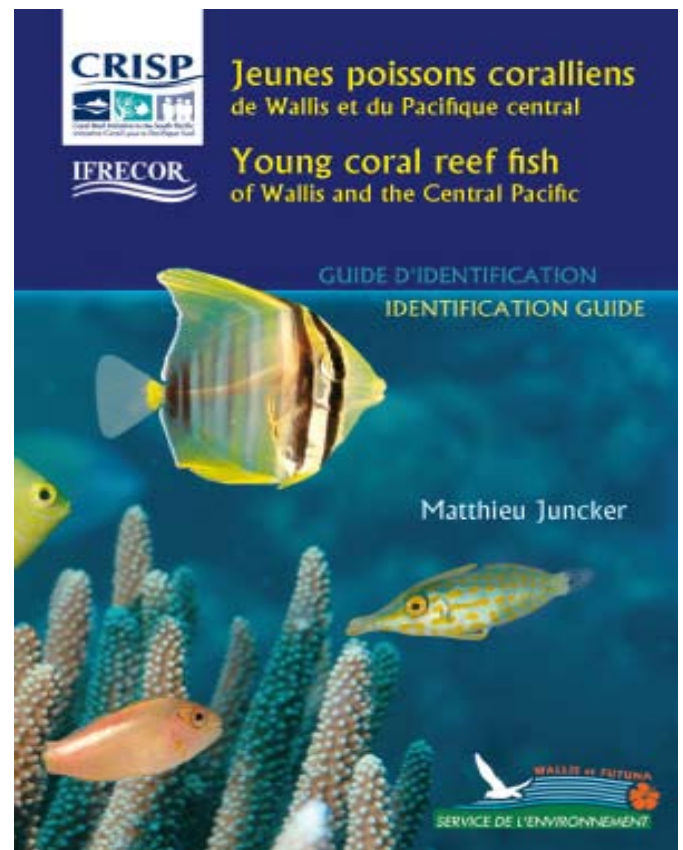
► **EVENT : Partnership with Australia**

The Australian role as partner in the CRISP programme materialized with the arrival of 3 Australians in Noumea in February 2007 in order to prepare the terms of reference for a symposium co-organized by Australia and France. Planned for September 2007 in Townsville (Queensland-Australia), this symposium is supposed to gather technical and political actors from all the countries of the Pacific area. A meeting that aims to decide priorities and technical solutions contributing to a better coral reef management in the Pacific Islands.

LITERATURE : Bilingual Guide for the

Identification of fish larvae in Central Pacific ►

Intended for French-speaking and English-speaking audiences, this guide has been co-edited thanks to a partnership between CRISP, IFRECOR, and the Environment Service of Wallis and Futuna. A PDF version is downloadable on CRISP website (www.crisponline.net).



► **PUBLICATION: the CRISP in SCIENCE**

Serge Planes, CNRS-EPHE UMR researcher involved in the CRISP component 2A, is co-signing a scientific article in the top level magazine Science, relative to his current work in Papua-New Guinea financially supported by the CRISP Coordination Unit. Conducted in collaboration with Australian and American scientists, his work looks into the coral reef fish self-recruitment phenomena, a research which is of major importance for the MPAs sizing.





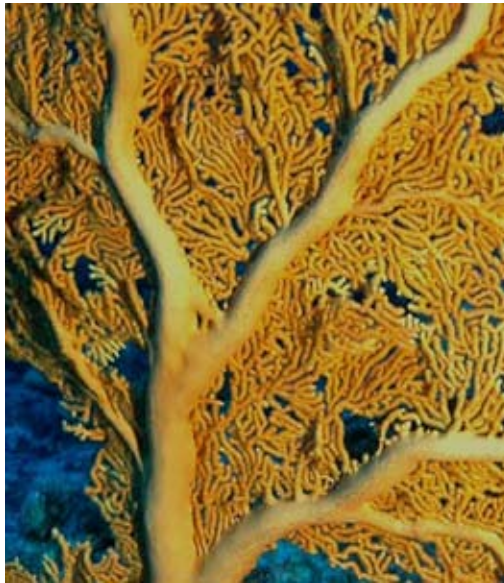
GENERAL OVERVIEW

The monitoring and evaluation system of the CRISP programme is semester based with 2 reports describing activities from January 1st to June 30th, and July 1st to December 31st respectively. Actions occurring in the field are classified according to the type of activities, which are organised into projects, structured into components. The projects are taken in charge by implementing agencies under financial agreement with the contracting agencies in charge of the different components. The pyramid-shaped monitoring and evaluation programme plans a report on the activities implemented during those two periods. In the first place, implementing agencies give an account to the contracting agencies, which is then summed up and transmitted to the coordinating unit. Each of these 2 stages take approximately one month, thus the consolidation of the reports happens two months after the end of the activities, which means either September of the same year for the first semester or March of the year N+1 for the second. The translation process generally delays for a few more weeks the publication of the document in English.

This consolidated report, for the first semester of 2007, comes out one month late because of the programme coordinator participation and involvement in the preparation of the Townsville Forum co-organised by Australia and France in September 2007 (see CRISP Enlightnings and CRISP Partnerships chapters further in this report).

On an institutional level, the first semester of

2007 is characterized by the suppression of the suspensive clause relative to the refunding for the activities of the component 1A by the contracting agency CI who is now able to receive a payment of 600 K Euros from FGEF enabling partial compensation for the 1.2 Million US\$ invested so far in the programme. This payment includes sums taken in charge by CRISP and other sums financially supported by CI on counterparts funds. The suppression of the suspensive clause has been possible because of the CIRAD withdrawal from the pre-identified delegated contracting agencies. Because this organisation has not been able to take on the totality of the activities and the geography imposed by the CRISP process within the component 1, it has been decided to allow other technical partners to take charge of the terrestrial stage of component 1.



The already operational components, C2A, C2B and C2C have carried on their activities at a steady pace, and the satisfying results augur well for a capitalization by late 2007.

The components 2D and 3D, implemented by WFC and PROE respectively are also fully operating since January 1st 2007.

Relative to the scientific outputs published thanks to the programme, it is timely to underline the fact that a publication is usually the fruit of a three year cycle dedicated to the implementation of experiments, writing and publishing. It is therefore normal not to find those outputs significantly present yet, as it will be the case in the next few months.

DASHBOARD OF THE PROGRAMME

Rectangles in the evaluation columns should be read two by two, with the upper rectangle giving the assessments of implemented means (resources mobilized) and the lower one obtained results (gained outputs). 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, 60, 80 and 100% given to indicators in the monitoring and reporting system).

Level	Very poor	Mediocre	Medium	Good	Very good
Color code					

Com-ponents	Agencies	Outputs	Simplified description	Implementing agencies	Projects evaluation	Components evaluation
1A	CI	1A1	Planification of marine conservation strategy	WWF, CI		
		1A2	Support to MPAs	WWF, CI, FSPI, ASMPA, IFRECOR		
		1A3	Networking	CI, FSPI		
		1A4	Integrated Coastal Management	IRD, CIRAD		
		1A5	Coordination	CI		
2A	CNRS-EPHE	2A1	Postlarvae Capture and Culture	EPHE, UNC, USP		
		2A2	Reef Fisheries management	IRD, USP		
		2A3	Monitoring of coral reefs	EPHE, USP		
		2A4	Extension	IRD		
		2A5	CO2 and ecotourism	EPHE, USP		
2B		2B1	Pilot sites (Fidji et Tuvalu)	GINGER, FSPI		
		2B2	Restoration guide	GINGER, FSPI		
2C	IRD	2C1	Legal framework	IRD		
		2C2	Taxonomy	IRD, USP		
		2C3	Collection and screening	IRD		
		2C4	Capacity building	IRD, USP		
2D	UNDP	2D1	REEFBASE nodes	WFC, EPHE, SPREP		
		2D2	REEFBASE database			
		2D3	Support to GCRMN			
		2D4	Dissemination of products			
3A	UNDP	3A1	Institutional strengthening	SPREP		
		3A2	Support to governance capacities			
		3A3	Economic studies			
		3A4	technical support			
		3A5	Extension of CRISP outputs			
3B	MFA-SPC	3B1	Coordination, monitoring and evaluation	CCU		
		3B2	Promotion/communication			
		3B3	Development of programme			



CONSOLIDATED REPORT COMPONENT 1A

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT



Goal: to associate community based management, strategic analysis of marine conservation and integrated coastal management to reinforce the sustainable development of coral reefs in the Pacific.

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

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► GENERAL SITUATION

The international NGO CI, contracting agency of component 1, to which it contributes up to 1.2 Million US\$, obtained the imminent suppression of the suspense clause thus allowing the first payment of 600.000 Euros by the FFEM, and therefore securing the refunding of activities begun in late 2005. This process demonstrates the interest of the CRISP plan, based on counterpart funds that, beyond a purely quantitative aspect, allow more flexibility. The imminent suppression of the suspense clause has been obtained on the basis of a supplementary clause on the funding convention between FFEM and CI, which does not require the implementation of the watersheds management stage of component 1 by the same exclusive partner anymore, in this case CIRAD, who could not take on alone all the themes and geography constraints of the land activities, thus was delaying the implementation

of the project 1A4. This key project of the component 1A is now operational under the efficient leadership of ESPACE IRD Service Unit. The effective launching of the project 1A4, in particular in Vanuatu, is now completing the numerous current activities of this major component of the CRISP. The Marine Biodiversity Conservation Planning (project 1A1) has been carried on in New Caledonia (WWF) and at a regional scale (CI), while within the framework of the project 1A2, the support of CRISP allowed strengthening of the introduction of the Marine Protected Areas in Kiribati, within a network already operating in the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Fiji. Also within the framework of this project, the action plan aiming to set up Marine Environment Management Plans (MEMP) in Wallis and Futuna was launched in the field in March 2007. Lastly, the project 1A3, with its cross-cutting dimension coordination between all players of component 1, progressed with the endorsement by all the partners of a general cooperation agreement.



■ OUTPUT 1A1

Marine Biodiversity Conservation Planning

The WWF participation, based on the Eco-regional Analysis (ERA) that will take place in New Caledonia and East and West Polynesia, has been carried out with the accomplishment of a RAP (Rapid Assessment Program) for the Diahot region in the North Province of New Caledonia. This RAP has been completing the first stage of the ERA during the first semester of 2006 aiming to describe the biodiversity of New Caledonia. The preparation of the third stage for the caledonian ERA will rely on a workshop organized in Noumea during the second semester of 2007 in order to compare data concerning the biodiversity and its impending threats. The French production (reports) about this ERA are and will be downloadable on the CRISP website (www.crisponline.net). The launching of the similar three stage process in Polynesia has had some delays, however a major partner in the Cook Islands has been identified and the terms of reference detailed, allowing a significant start of the process over the second semester of 2007. In parallel, with the assistance of PROE, CI has created a common program of marine biodiversity conservation planning on the scale of the whole Pacific. The recruiting of a GIS expert based in Apia has been postponed for several months but should happen soon.

The salary of this person will be being commonly taken in charge by CI, through their own funding, and by PROE on behalf of CRISP's finance. The project 1A1 reveals itself more and more as significant on the Pacific scale relative to the organisation of the National Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan (application of the Biodiversity Convention) and the preparation of the UNESCO World Heritage applications. Lastly, CRISP extension to Palau within the "Micronesian Challenge" and within CI-TNC partnership comes within the scope of the biodiversity management plan dynamic associated to this 1A1 project.

■ OUTPUT 1A2

Support for the Creation of MPAs or Operation of existing MPAs

The financial support to the NGO FSPI and to LMMA (Locally Managed Marine Areas) which encompasses MPA networks spread over Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu has been continued. This funding also enabled an extension to Kiribati during the first semester of 2007 with the creation of an action plan. This funding supports activities ranging from introducing MPAs (negotiating with local communities and preliminary field studies) to the monitoring of existing MPAs by the local communities using adapted tools. The two MPAs of Samoa, Aleipata and Safata, continue to show thriving signs which have

been reinforced by the financial support from CRISP providing cash funds enabling a more optimistic vision of the sustainability of this exemplary process. The first mission to implement the PGEM in Wallis and Futuna has been carried out during the first semester of 2007 by a pair of experts from New Caledonia and Polynesia, under contract with Proscience association in Papeete. The activity report is available on line on the CRISP's website (www.crisponline.net). In parallel, the process of strengthening and extending to the maritime zone of the Mont Panie MPA, North Province of New Caledonia, has been carried out with the support of a resource person recruited by WWF, financially and logistically supported by CI, in tight collaboration with ADECAL and the provincial services

■ OUTPUT 1A3

Networking and Institutional Strengthening I

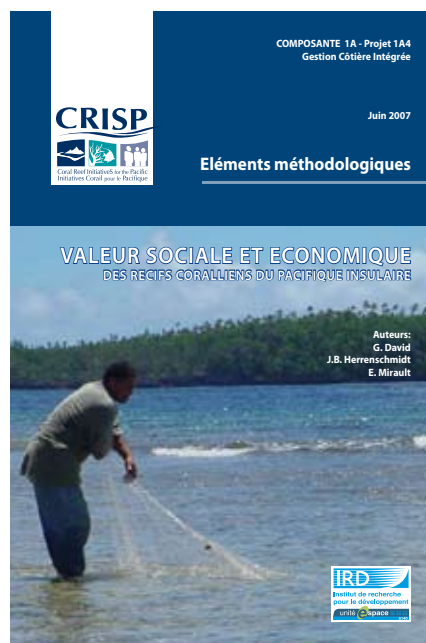
The general agreement to implement this cross-cutting dimension project of component 1 has been endorsed by all the players during the first semester of 2007 and the implementing agency FSPI has received an initial payment of 70.000 Euros from CI, enabling a vision of future strengthening of coordinated actions.

■ OUTPUT 1A4

Integrated Coastal Management

The discussions between the contracting agencies CI and CIRAD, pre-identified main player concerning the watersheds management of component 1, has not succeeded because of the constraints weighing on the themes and geography of this terrestrial stage which is supposed to take place in Vanuatu, Fiji and French Polynesia. Thus the watersheds stage will be taken in charge by different players, on the basis of collaboration with New Zealanders (Landcare Research) or the SOPAC. At a methodological level, an international workshop has taken place in Noumea in the IRD facilities organized by the GERSA project implemented by ESPACE Service Unit . In parallel,

this same project released a methodological guide relative to the evaluation of the social and economical value of coral reefs, as well as a synthesis on the possible methods to fight runoff pollution in the Pacific islands. Relative to the implementation of field activities, and monitoring several missions of IRD experts in this country, a general agreement has been signed with the Vanuatu government, enabling activities to begin on the island of Efate, where a study of land occupation has been carried out. Several reports from GERSA are already available on line on the CRISP website (www.crisponline.net)





CONSOLIDATED REPORT COMPONENT 2A

KNOWLEDGE, MONITORING, MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF REEF ECOSYSTEMS



Goal: To improve knowledge, monitoring, management capacity and development of reef resources in order to strengthen sustainable development of reef ecosystems

- Financial partner : AFD
- Direct technical partners : EPHE-CNRS, IRD, USP
- Main partnerships : SPC, ECOCEAN, ENSAR, Fisheries department of french Polynesia, Islands resorts, users and local populations

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■ PROJECT 2A-1 :

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

The polynesian stage of this project continued with the distribution of numerous copies of the "Guide for the Identification of fish larvae in French Polynesia", as well as its apparition on the CRISP website where it is downloadable (www.crisponline.net). This handbook, realized in tight collaboration with the Polynesian Fisheries Department, materializes the polynesian know-how in this field and makes this territory a precious partner for the Pacific region, concerning the economic development of post-larvae capture and culture technics within the alternative fishing



trading channels supplying the aquariophily market, aquaculture or restocking in the natural environment.

On the Fijian front, the post-larvae capture project implemented by the company Ecocean has ended after 14 months of fishing and a result of 20.000 catches. The catching has nevertheless been carried on by the

Franco-Fijian team in charge of the aquaculture farm settled on the USP campus within the framework of CRISP programme. Those catches are meant to help continuing fundamental research on the optimisation of restocking techniques in the natural environment for a thesis prepared by a French student based in Suva (this thesis is co-supervised by the University of Perpignan and the USP). Another report, written by a French student from Rennes agro-campus after a training course in that same aquaculture farm in 2006, is also available on the CRISP website (www.crisponline.net). This report relates the improvement in post-larvae rearing technics.

Note that EPHE has contributed to the publication of a booklet conceived by the association Moana Initiative financed by Foundation Total and, among others, with the financial support of CRISP Coordination Unit (see details in Partnerships chapter further down).

■ 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. Collaboration between IRD and USP continued through the organization of a workshop in Fiji planning to compare different underwater fish count methods to evaluate MPAs efficiency. This approach aims to



identify the most adapted tools for the Pacific area by finding the best compromise between reliability and easy implementation. A scientific article co-signed by French and Anglo-Saxon researchers has been submitted for publication in a science periodical and is currently being reviewed. Three IRD researchers plus 1 from USP have presented the results of their work with the CRISP during the 21st Pacific Science Congress (PSC21) who took place in Okinawa (Japan) in June 2007 (see details in the Communication chapter further down). An environmental economy specialist from USP published a first version of a report evaluating the economical value of the Navukavu MPA where a study had started in 2006 (report available on line on the CRISP website, www.crisponline.net).

■ PROJECT 2A-3 :

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

In Fiji, a postgraduate student finalized his report about the method, involving dialogue with the local communities, to define geographical limits of the traditional fishing areas. This study comes within the scope of a global improvement process in the coastal resources co-management. A second Fijian student produced a data analysis on water temperature in order to evaluate the potential for anticipation relative to the coral bleaching phenomenon within the framework of coral reef monitoring technics improvement. Two training workshops on reef ecosystems underwater monitoring technics have been launched, respectively, in Fiji, for the national Fisheries, and in French Polynesia with in CRIOBE, for ten technicians from diverse island nations. Participants from the island nations have been equipped thanks to the programme funding (essentially still cameras equipped with waterproof cases). Within the framework of the GCRMN network South-West Pacific node, USP edited a quarterly newsletter issue, and continued the synthesis of

the 2004 report on the coral reef condition in the countries part of this node. Meanwhile the person in charge of the study submitted the 2006 report on coral reef condition in Fiji (on line on the CRISP website, www.crisponline.net). Lastly, a USP researcher made a presentation of his work on the coral reef monitoring during the PSC21 in Okinawa.

■ PROJECT 2A-4 :

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

A presentation adapted to diverse audiences took place in French Polynesia on Tikehau (an island of the Tuamotu archipelago) in April 2007. Presented both by a doctorate student and a researcher associated



IRD PhD student in a school in Tikehau

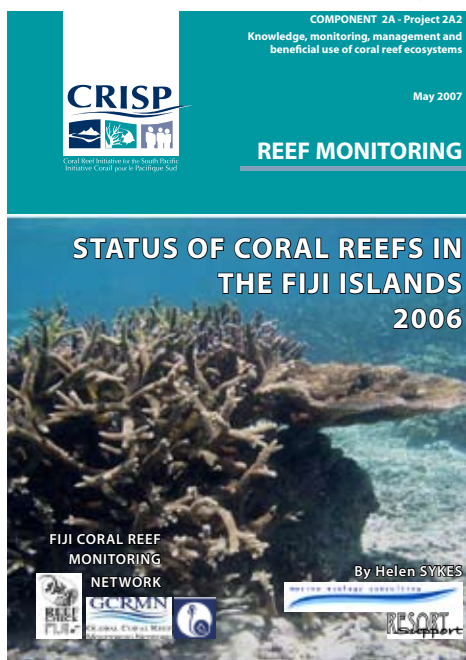
to IRD in collaboration with the territory Fisheries, it related the results of a socio-economical study aiming to better understand the uses of reef resources by the local communities. As for USP, it has progressed in the realisation of a didactic movie on the implementation of socio-economical indicators for the monitoring of the MPAs in the Pacific.

■ PROJECT 2A-5 :

Specific studies on i) the effects of the increase in atmospheric CO₂ on the health of coral formations and ii) the development of eco-tourism

Concerning the CO₂ section, the review on the "effects of the increase in atmospheric CO₂ on the health of coral formations due to anthropogenic influence", realized in 2006 by a postgraduate student from the University of Perpignan has been reactualized in order to complete a final synthesis.

Concerning the eco-tourism section, the service provider under contract with USP in Fiji to conduct a study on the development of hotel eco-certification standards has finalized the educational and contractual materials for the planned system called "Blue Star Coral Reef Friendly Tourism". The implementation of this process in Fiji is currently happening and should be reinforced during the second semester of 2007. Results of this Fijian test are expected before planning a regional approach and a possible participation of the French territories in the Pacific.





CONSOLIDATED REPORT COMPONENT 2B

RESTORATION OF CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEMS

Goal: To contribute to the capacity building of local populations for restoring and maintaining the coral reef substratum.



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► GENERAL SITUATION

The significant advance of this project compared to the other components of the programme has vanished due to the cancellation of the second pilot site in the Solomon Islands (replaced by a site in Tuvalu) and a pregnancy leave within the Ginger team during the first semester 2007. The progress is nevertheless satisfying concerning the launching of the second site in Tuvalu and the concretisation of a tripartite partnership between CRISP and, on the one hand, the World Bank closely related project (CRTR) who enabled the use of a French assessment in an English guide, and on the other hand, the national IFRECOR for the translation in French of that same guide and its distribution in the overseas French communities.

■ PROJECT 2B-1 : Launching of two pilot rehabilitation sites

The launching of the first pilot site located on Motoriki Island (Fiji) has officially ended late 2006. Following the phases of negotiation and definition of a plan of action, then a first rehabilitation mission conducted in 2006, the field follow-up continued on the Tuvalu site during the first semester of 2007. Note that the team formed by Ginger, FSPI and the local government receives more significant support from the local communities there than on the Fijian site. Specific reports on those pilot sites are available on line on the CRISP website (www.crisponline.net). Following the budget proposal submitted by Ginger,

no progress has been made on the potential third site in Western Samoa that would happen with the support of the government and local operators in the hotel business, the Sinalye Resort in particular.

■ PROJECT 2B-2 : Preparation of a reef rehabilitation guide

A guide of “practical recommendations for Coral reef rehabilitation” was completed late 2006 by the rehabilitation and remediation task force directed by Alastair Edwards of Newcastle University, who is attached to the Coral Reef Targeted Research project funded by the World Bank. This tool can be found on line on the website www.gefcoral.org or via a link on the CRISP website. The Pacific Ginger expert involved in component 2 of CRISP programme has significantly contributed to the preparation of this guide, in particular with the writing of practical cases.

During the first semester of 2007, that same expert translated the guide from English to French, aiming to be published by the second semester and to be distributed

to the overseas communities very shortly, a project conducted in collaboration with IFRECOR. This process started jointly between component 2 of CRISP programme and CRTR prefigures a new collaboration for the production of a more complete handbook in 2008-2009 which will be of higher quality and more comprehensive than anything that sub-component 2B could have produced on its own. Sandrine Job, Pacific Ginger expert, should be co-author under the guidance of Alastair Edwards.





BIOPROSPECTION (MARINE ACTIVE SUBSTANCES) CONSOLIDATED REPORT COMPONENT 2C

Goal: To improve the knowledge, development and financial feedback based on benthic reef invertebrates potentially containing marine active substances.



Financial partners : AFD, IRD

Direct Technical partners : IRD UMR 152 (units in Noumea and Toulouse), and UMR 7138 (unit in Noumea)

Main collaborators : USP (Suva), Queensland Museum (J.Hooper), CNRS (ICSN, Gif-sur-Yvette), University of Nantes, Brest and Perpignan

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► GENERAL SITUATION

The two first aspects of the project have noticeably progressed during the first semester 2007, in particular with two missions in the Pacific lead by the legal team of University of Nantes (section 2C1) and one mission collecting samples in Fiji (section 2C2). No progress have been registered relative to the two others sections.

■ PROJECT 2C-1 :

Upgrading island country legislation for the sharing of benefits from development of active marine substances

Analysis of the texts collected in Fiji and in the Solomons have been completed and the corresponding reports are online on the CRISP website (www.crisponline.net). Following the withdrawal of the Cook Islands for the third collecting mission of organisms (see report second semester 2006), the analytic phase of the legal texts has been transferred to Vanuatu where the USP legal department is settled. A mission was realised in this country during the first semester of 2007. It confirmed a certain uniformity in habits and customs concerning ownership and use of the genetical marine heritage in the melanesian zone. A positive thing when it comes to make recommendations useful for a maximum of people.

■ PROJECT 2C-2 :

Improvement of knowledge of benthic reef invertebrate and algae taxonomy

The first semester of 2007 was marked by a sample collection mission in Fiji.

■ PROJECT 2C-3 :

Technological aspect of the identification of active marine substances

The CRISP coordinator pointed out to the component manager the absence of an activity report on this project.

■ PROJECT 2C-4 :

Institutional strengthening activity through the training of Pacific Island resource persons

Two doctorate students, a post-graduate and a post-doc students coming from the countries welcoming the project, are currently being trained.





CONSOLIDATED REPORT COMPONENT 2D

DEVELOPMENT OF REEFBASE PACIFIC

GOAL: To strengthen the access to information and knowledge on coral reefs for scientists, users and managers



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• *Financial partners* : AFD, UNF
 • *Main technical partners* : UNEP, WFC
 • *Main collaborators* : ICRAN, GCRMN, SPC, SPREP, EPHE-CRIOBE, USP, IRD

► GENERAL SITUATION

The WFC team shows flexibility, in particular planning access and presentation of the database relative to reef fisheries which grew considerably and unexpectedly. The regional network enabling to collect and synthesise data is globally in place and works efficiently. As for the resource person in Apia (PROE), it should be soon operational. The collaboration with the major partners of this project is perceived positively. This crucial aspect enables the creation of synergies and avoid useless duplication.

■ PROJECT 2D-1 : Creation of a collecting and processing Reefbase Pacific data network

The new project coordinator took up his post in Fiji in April 2007. One of his first achievement was to complete the regional analysis of the needs consulting the potential users of Reefbase. The three persons recruited, respectively 2 within the USP (Fiji) and 1 based at CRILOBE (Polynesia), carried on their work collecting data. A delay is to be underlined relative to the contract for the resource person based at PROE. A solution has nevertheless been found for the institutional plan auguring for a beginning of the activities before the end of 2007.

■ PROJECT 2D-2 : Configuration of Reefbase Pacific data base, data selection and configuration

Numerous exchanges kept going between potential and unavoidable partners of this project (PIMRIS, SPC,

WWF, TNC, WCS), all having received a copy of the database configured from ACCESS software. A draft treaty on data sharing has specifically been signed with PIMRIS (Pacific Island Marine Resource Information System).

■ PROJECT 2D-3 : Supporting the monitoring network of CRMN

A very positive meeting took place in Penang (Malaysia) at the WFC headquarters in order to solve the completion of the software Coremo who had encountered some technical problems. This software, developed in Reunion Island, should enable the users to configure their data relative to the monitoring of coral reefs in a way that would integrate to GCRMN, whatever collecting method was used underwater. It will be operating at the beginning of the first semester 2008. The data of each country (not synthesized yet) for the inventory GCRMN 2004 are available on line and the preparation of the data collection method for 2007 has been determined.



■ PROJECT 2D-4 : Creating and spreading information and development of management tools

To this day this project logically does not show any convincing results, the outputs finalizing stages awaiting the synthesis of data (currently under work) and a presentation adapted to the needs. A CD should nevertheless been released before the end of the year 2007.



GOAL : To reinforce the regional dimension of the programme by providing a specific technical support, capitalizing and dispatching the programme outputs.



- *Financial partners* : AFD, UNF
- *Technical partners* : UNEP, SPREP
- *Main collaborators* : ICRAN, WFC, SPC, EPHE-CRIOBE, USP, governments and stakeholders

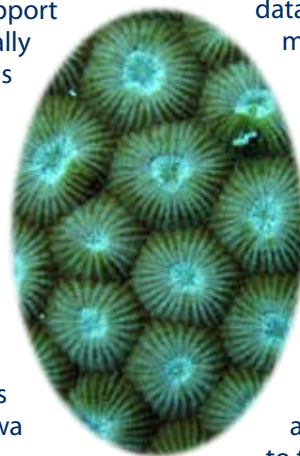
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► **GENERAL SITUATION**

The contribution of PROE to CRISP programme has significantly taken off with the arrival of a French technical assistant in charge of launching the programme and strengthening the relationship between PROE and the French territories in the Pacific area. Noteworthy progress of this aspect have been realized during the first semester 2007.

■ **PROJECT 3A-1 : Institutional support to country and territory partners**

Two French territories (Wallis and Futuna and French Polynesia) were visited during the first semester of 2007, clarifying the funding support mechanisms available to PROE, especially within the CRISP framework. A list was drawn up of the potential supports. A general agreement has been signed with the Polynesian authorities and a first funding has been allocated to a polynesian association in order to support the launching of the PGEM in Moorea. Beside those two actions, the programme has been publicized in the island nations during several missions and the French technical assistant has participated to the PSC21 in Okinawa (Japan).



■ **PROJECT 3A-2 : Support to improve coastal marine resources management**
The beginning of the activities has been postponed to

the second semester of 2007.

■ **PROJECT 3A-3 : Economical studies**

Completion of the terms of reference for an economical study to aid the Kiribati Republic has not succeeded as expected during the first semester and has been postponed to the second semester.

■ **PROJECT 3A-4 : Technical support for communication of knowledge and technics**

A general agreement has been signed between PROE and WFC in order to determine the terms of PROE contribution relative to the feeding of the Reefbase data base (Component 2D). Moreover PROE has maintained its financial and technical support of the LMMA (Locally Managed Marine Area) network, and of the MAPs socio-economical monitoring methodology finalization, named SEM-Pacifika, in tigh collaboration with NOAA and CCN (Community Conservation Network). The French AT participated in a workshop dedicated to that end in Fiji in May 2007. The latter has also run a training workshop on reef monitoring technics in Moorea (French Polynesia) in March 2007 and distributed photographic equipment to the island nation participants.

■ **PROJECT 3A-5 : Communication of CRISP outputs**
Beginning of activities postponed until the second semester of 2007.



Financial partners: AFD, MAE

• *Technical operator: CRISP Coordinating Unit (CCU) based at SPC*

• *Main collaborators: SPC, SPREP, French MFA*

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

The consolidated report for the second semester of 2006 was realized and distributed via e-mail in French (February) and in English (March). After Fiji in April 2006, the second CRISP Action Committee (CAC) was organized in Moorea in April. It enabled validation of the last version of the communication Charter and anticipation of the first actual collaboration between the different components. Three meetings of the restricted committee (AFD, SPP, CCU) on programme monitoring happened in January, March and May. A note intended for the diplomatic posts of the Pacific region was prepared by CCU and distributed by SPP in Noumea. Considerable time was dedicated to the preparation and coordination of actions for component 1 (in particular C1A2 for Wallis and C1A4 for Vanuatu)

**PROJECT 3B-2 :
Promotion and communication**

The internet website has been considerably improved, both in form and content, causing a significant increase (+120%) in connections. CCU created a compilation of TV news broadcast on RFO channel in 2005 and 2006. The chief of this programme participated in the ICRI meeting that took place in Japan (Tokyo) in April, in order to present the progress of the programme. With the support of his scientific advisers, he also took charge of the preparation and presentation of a symposium on reef fisheries management within the context of the Pacific Science Congress (PSC21-Okinawa-Japon-June), which was attended by a dozen of researchers involved with CRISP, therefore contributing to a substantial French participation. Meanwhile Polynesia and France offered to organize the next Pacific Science Congress in March 2009 in Tahiti, which was accepted (see specific report online on the CRISP website www.crisponline.net).

**PROJECT 3B-3 :
Programme development**

The partnership with CRTR project materialized with the distribution of a guide for reef rehabilitation

(English version) promoting worldwide an assessment pole developed by CRISP. The process, in partnership with national IFRECOR, to translate this guide into French has started with the intention of reaching the CTOM. Similar to the bilingual guide on reef fish larvae identification edition in partnership with IFRECOR in Wallis and Futuna. The partnership with Australia has carried on with plans for a CRISP seminar in Townsville from the 3rd to 7th of September, made possible by a 20 K Euros contribution from the french Pacific Funds in addition to the 80KE provided by Australia. Discussions with the potential New Zealander technical partner Landcare Research continue by way of a collaboration in Fiji and Vanuatu on the watersheds management theme, with the possibility of conter-part funds from within GEF funding implemented with SOPAC. In New Caledonia, the CCU has received the literature review synthesis on the specific diversity of New caledonian coral reefs and the inventory of the coral collection sheltered by IRD in Noumea. This action comes to reinforce the ERA conducted by WWF in this French territory (document available on the CRISP website, www.crisponline.net).





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 30th of June 2006 are included. Many other partnerships and activities will be commencing in these countries over the months to come.

NB1: 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. As a matter of fact, all Pacific countries will benefit from the programme in the final phase of extension of CRISP outputs.

NB2: The projects names are given in the Table p. 7

COOK (ISLANDS)

Main local partners:

WWF South Pacific, IFRECOR FP, SPREP

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Preliminary steps for the implementation of an ecoregional analysis of the Polynesian ecoregion (C1A1-WWF)
- Preliminary steps for a support for Interated Coastal Management in Aitutaki island (C1A2- WWF-IFRECOR FP-SPREP).

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

No activity as at 30 June 2006

FIJI (ISLANDS)

Main local partners:

Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF), FSPI, USP, LMMA, WWF South Pacific

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

Component 2A

- Maintenance of a CRISP office with Informatic equipment and a person dedicated to it at USP (C2A)
- Maintenance of an aquaculture farm at USP for raising reef fish post-larvae, accompanied by the training of 3 Fijian fishermen and a technician (C2A1-EPHE-USP)
- Launching of a doctorate thesis co-supervised by University of Perpignan and USP on the improvement of lagoon post-larvae reseeding techniques (C2A1-EPHE-USP)
- Village site identified for a technology transfer operation in order to test the post-larvae viability in Muaivoso (C2A1 – EPHE – USP)
- Study for improving the rearing of postlarvae in artificial conditions (C2A1 – EPHE – USP)
- Preliminary study on how to improve the legal framework of Fiji to conduct and develop the capture of post-larvae (C2A1 – USP)
- Workshop comparing different underwater fish count methods (C2A2 – C2A3, IRD – USP)
- Support the project of Coral reef Conservation of Rotuma (C2A4 – USP)

- Workshop on reef fish management indicators and coral ecosystem monitoring (C2A2, C2A3, USP)
- Thesis from a student from the University of Queensland processing of satellite images to manage coastal zones (C2A3 – USP)
- Research and monitoring on the health state of coral reefs within 7 countries of west Pacific (C2A3 – USP)
- Didactic movie to reiterate the capacity of local communities to monitor MPAs from LMMA network (C2A4 – USP).
- Preparation and test of hotel eco-certification standards (C2A5)

Component 2B

- Monitoring of a reef rehabilitation pilot site in Motoriki island (C2B1 – PCDF)
- Training for Fijian resource persons in coral transplanting techniques and site monitoring techniques (C2B1-PCDF)

Component 2C

- Training of a fujian student based at USP on extraction of Marine Active Substances (C2C4)
- Campaign at sea for collecting marine invertebrates to be used for extracting Marine Active Substances (C2C2)
- Study for the improvement of the legal framework insuring benefit sharing in the development of Marine Active Substances (C2C1)

KIRIBATI

Main local partners:

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

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Financial support to FSPK for setting up MPAs (C1A2)
- 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 (C1A2)
- Technical support visit for the incorporation of this country into the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network (C2A3)

MARSHALL (ISLANDS)

No activity as at 30 June 2006

NIUE

Main local partners:

Ministry of Environment

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

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

NEW-CALEDONIA

Main local partners:

WWF, IRD, DTSI, SPC, UNC, SOPRONER, Provinces

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Contribution to the finalisation of the proposal for listing of a segment 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 (C1A1-WWF)
- Support for the preparation of management plans for the Ouvéa lagoon and in the areas around Hienghène and the Diahot River (Northern Province) (C2A2-IRD-DDAT)
- Support for the setting up of a MPA in Hienghène (Northern Province) (C1A2-WWF-CI)
- Support for a marine biodiversity assessment in the North-west zone of Northern Province (C1A1-CI-SPREP)
- Preliminary study to put in place indicators to monitor

the fisheries of Ouvéa and in the VKP region (C2A2-IRD)

- Return of a study on mangrove crabs (C2A2-IRD)
- Study on the benefits from using underwater video methodology for fish count (C2A3 – IRD)
- Production of a DVD for the promotion of the protection of coral ecosystems to the public and in schools (C2A4)
- Study on the prospects for developing CRISP activities in the far south in cooperation with the private mining sector (CCU-DDAT-SOPRONER)
- Study on the prospects for developing CRISP activities in the Loyalty Islands (Lifou and Mare)(CCU-IRD-WWF)
- Bibliographic synthesis of the scleractinian corals species richness in New Caledonia and setting up of the corals collection based at IRD (CCU-IRD-EPHE)

PAPOUA NEW GUINEA

Main local partners:

Ministry of Environment, JCU, CNRS-EPHE, IRD

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Edition of an atlas of coral reefs for the Milne Bay area (South East) (CCU-IRD)
- Study on the self-recruitment of reef fish and sizing of MPAs (CCU-C2A2-CNRS)

PALAU

Main local partners:

CI, TNC

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Support from PAN (Protected Areas Network) and CI (in partnership with The Nature Conservancy) as a contribution of the «Micronesian challenge».



FRENCH POLYNESIA

Main local partners:

CRIOBE, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Fisheries department, Tropical Fish Tahiti (TFT), IFRECOR FP, Proscience, REEFCHECK, PTPU

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Production of a guide for the identification of reef fish post-larvae in French Polynesia (C2A1)
- Data analysis and debriefing for the implementation of reef fishery management indicators in Tikehau (C2A2)
- Support to the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network implemented by CRIOBE (C2A3)
- Production of an MPA monitoring protocol for the island of Moorea by CRIOBE (C2A3)
- Implementation of a project in partnership with Reef Check International for the development of monitoring of the health of coral reefs in French Polynesia through the involvement of volunteer divers (CCU)
- Study for the development of crustacean postlarvae in the TFT farm of Rangiroa (C2A-EPHE-Fisheries Dpt)
- Support of the PGEM MPA in Moorea (C2A2-SPREP)

SOLOMON (ISLANDS)

Main local partners :

Solomon Island Development Trust (SIDT), USP

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Financial support to SIDT for introducing MPAs (C1A2)
- 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 (C2C1)
- Taxonomic research on sponges and algae collected in the Solomons by IRD (C2C2)
- Initial laboratory testing of the pharmaceutical properties of active substances from benthic invertebrates collected in the Solomons by IRD (C2C3)
- Training for a resource person from USP based in the Solomons (Reuben Sulu) on the taxonomy of sponges and extraction techniques (C2C4-USP)

SAMOA

Main local partners :

Ministry of environment, CI, Sinaley Resort

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Financial support for MPAs at Aleipata and Safata (C1A2)
- Feasibility study for a reef rehabilitation site in the area near Sinaley resort (C2B1)

TOKELAU

Main local partners :

Ministry of environment

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

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

TONGA

Main local partners :

Ministry of environment

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

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

TUVALU

Main local partners :

Tuvalu Association of NGOs (TANGO), FSPI

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Financial support to TANGO for the introduction of MPAs (C1B)
- Setting up of a restoration pilot site in Fongafale island (C2B1)

VANUATU

Main local partners :

Foundation for the People of the South Pacific Vanuatu (FSPV), FSPI, IRD

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Financial support to FSPV for the introduction of MPAs (C1A2)
- Pre-identification of three sites suitable for the implementation of ICM (Integrated Coastal Management) in Efate island (C1A4)

WALLIS AND FUTUNA

Main local partners :

Service of Environment

Main results achieved as at 30 June 2006:

- Contractual formalisation of the incorporation of IFRECOR W&F funding for Component 1 for implementing the preliminary phases of the introduction of two PGEMs in Wallis and Futuna (C1A2)
- Production of a crustacean larvae capture test protocol with a view to establishing an export activity (C2A1)
- Study for an inventory of local crustacean (C2A1-EPHE)- Technical support visit for the incorporation of this country into the Polynesia Mana reef monitoring network (C2A3)
- Implementation of a PGEM process for the setting up of 3 MPAs in Alofi, Futuna and Wallis islands (C1A2-IFRECOR FP)

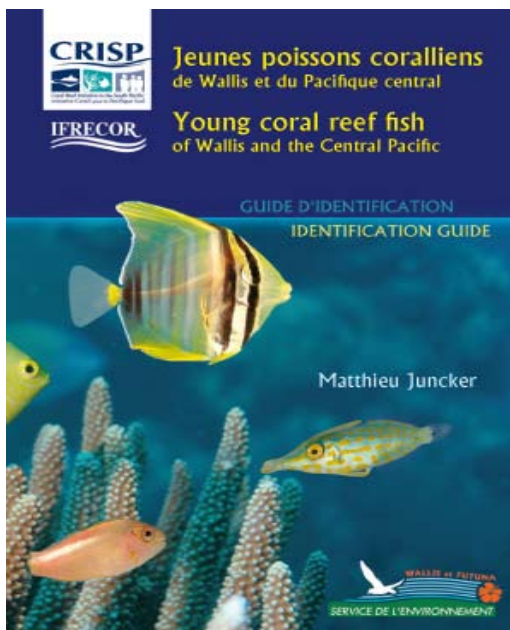


PARTNERSHIPS

The quest for synergies between institutional partners continued during the first semester of 2007, with the strengthening of pre-existing partnership and the creation of new cooperations. The main points to remember are :

■ **Moana Initiative** : CRISP financially contributed to the edition a booklet (see cover, opposite) on Post-larvae Capture and Culture of (PCC) realized by the association Moana Initiative with a grant from Fondation Total. This document aims to raise political actors and sponsors awareness on the potential of those new trading channels in the field of sustainable fishing. This document is downloadable on the CRISP website (www.crisponline.net).

■ **IFRECOR** : The Environment service of Wallis and Futuna financed, on its own funds and on local IFRECOR funding, a thesis completed in 2005 on the specific diversity of reef fish larvae coming to colonize the lagoon. This service decided to highlight this work with the edition of a larvae identification guide (see cover, below), that



would be both a tool for research or economic use of this resource and a tool to raise awareness amongst the general public on this unknown biological world. A financial partnership with CRISP enabled to envision publication of the guide in two languages (French and English) in order to make it accessible to the other countries of the Central Pacific zone interested by this knowledge, and in particular to the students from the University of South Pacific in Fiji.

■ **AUSTRALIE** : The involvement of Australia with the CRISP programme materialized with the organization of a mission in February 2007 in Noumea, where a delegation composed of Sean Sullivan (Australian Environment Ministry), Clive Wilkinson (CRISP Australian scientific advisor) and Michel Thibier (scientific advisor of the French Embassy in Canberra) came to work with Eric Clua (CRISP programme manager). The work sessions focused on the terms of reference for a symposium co-organized by France and Australia scheduled for September 2007 in Townsville (Queensland-Australia). This symposium should gather technical and political actors of the Pacific countries, in order to discuss and decide the priorities and technical solutions that will contribute in the future to a better sustainable coral reef management in the island nations of the Pacific.





COMMUNICATION AND REPRESENTATION

CRISP benefits from regular promoting activities through specialised newsletters such as that of ICRI and ICRAN or international publication such as "Status of coral reefs of the world" edited by Clive Wilkinson, as well as the IFRECOR newsletter.

Promotion and communication are happening in real time with the constant updating of the programme website : www.crisponline.net (see below a whole chapter dedicated to the website).

Promotion of the programme was also done through the participation of the coordinator and/or the scientific advisors and/or technical partners of the programme at major international meetings on coral reef description and conservation.

The big scientific event of the first semester 2007 was the 21st Pacific Science Congress (PSC21) that took place in Okinawa in Japan from June 13th to June 17th 2007. This quarterly event represented an important deadline to communicate the results of the first research activities conducted within the framework of CRISP programme. Therefore the programme coordination unit mobilized as many researchers as possible involved with CRISP, so that they could present the progress under way in their respective research fields. A total of 14 scientific contributions under the umbrella of CRISP programme have been integrated to the PSC21 Proceedings. Most of those contributions, precisely 10 of them, have been associated to the symposium on "reef fisheries management" (session 1-9) for which preparation and presentation has been entrusted to Eric Clua (CRISP programme manager) and Bernard Salvat (CRISP scientific advisor) by the PSC21 organization. This session has been very successful and efficiently supplemented by five other interventions stamped CRISP on the different congress themes, assuring important visibility of the programme within the scientific community of the Pacific. In mobilizing this dozen of scientists, mostly French, CRISP widely

contributed to a significant French participation to PSC21, which helped the very favorable reaction received by French Polynesia's application to organize the XIth Pacific Science Congress in Papeete in March 2009. A specific report is downloadable on the CRISP website (see cover, opposite).

Besides this event, CRISP was also represented on regional meeting occasions :

- ▶ by the CI representative, at the regional Forum "Sea of Islands" organized by Unesco in Hawai in January 2007 for the reinforcement of the MPAs creation process in the Pacific and the UNESCO World Heritage application.

- ▶ by the coordinator, at the ICRI general assembly in Tokyo (Japan) in April 2007, where CRISP progress has been presented to the representatives of more than 50 countries.



- ▶ by the SPREP representative, at the SEM-Pacifika regional workshop organized in Fiji in May 2007, for the improvement and adaptation to the Pacific region of SocMon methodology relative to MPAs socio-economical monitoring.

In addition to the documents mentioned in this report, the CRISP website allows the downloading of numerous products gathered under thematic such as Methodological tools, Activity reports, Mission reports, Workshop proceedings, Scientific papers, etc.



PROSPECTS

The second semester 2007 will close the programme's first year of effective working regime and a beginning of capitalization will become possible for the components who started to operate as soon as late 2005.

A halfway review in two steps will be conducted during the first semester 2008. It will rely on a first study realized during the first semester by an independent contractor recruited by invitation to tender. This phase will be followed by a joint assessment from AFD and FFEM during the second semester that will rest on the independent study and a complement of information collected during a mission in the field. The conclusions of this assessment should be available in September 2007. It is at this period that will be organized the next CRISP action committee (CAC), probably during the annual PROE meeting.

Concerning component 1A, the projects already operating on biodiversity conservation strategies definition and MPAs support will continue and extend. The projects of integrated coastal management and of MPAs networking will develop (Kiribati and the Cooks in particular), with probably the identification of a display site where several CRISP components will operate to illustrate the possible synergies created by an integrated approach.

Concerning component 2A, the project of economical use of fish post-larvae will improve the knowledge transfer among the communities, and then will switch its focus to applied research on the potential economic use of crustacean post-larvae. Two countries should be concerned in the wake of Fiji, Kiribati and the Cooks. Projects elaborating tools to manage coral reef fisheries and monitoring of coral reef health state will emphasise

the field trial stages. The realization of adapted media will continue with the project elaborating knowledge transfer tools. After a trial phase in Fiji, the project defining hotel eco-certification standards will be exported towards other countries of the Pacific in 2008.

Concerning component 2B, the effort will be directed towards the second site of reef rehabilitation in Tuvalu and the rehabilitation guide edited by the CRTR project to which CRISP contributed, translated into French with the financial support of IFRECOR, will be distributed in the French overseas territories in late 2007.

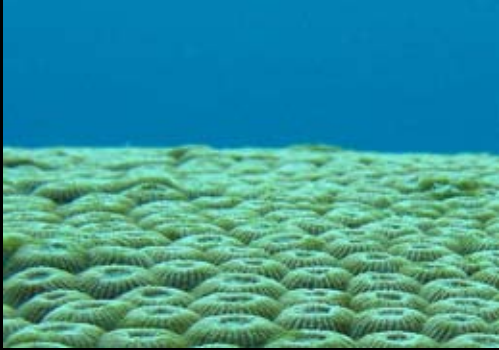
Concerning component 2C, processing and use of the samples collected in the Solomons and in Fiji will continue, as well as the legal aspect and the institutional strengthening.

Component 2D will enter, in 2007, into a phase of information capitalization and structuring of the Reefbase Pacific data base.

Component 3, which is now being PROE completely operational, will slightly gain in efficiency and will tackle, among other things, the creation of an environment economy competence pole in order to capitalize long term on a maximum of actions conducted within the framework of the project. This plan should happen through a tight collaboration between the CRISP coordination unit and the new UICN center recently settled in Suva (Fiji) benefiting from the support of a French technical assistant, Philippe Gerbeaux.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AFD	French Development agency	IFREMER	Institut Français pour l'Exploitation de la Mer
MPA	Marine Protected Area	IRD	Institut de la Recherche pour le Développement
ASMPA	Aleita Safata Marine Protected Area	ITMEMS	International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management Symposium
CI	Conservation International	LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Area Network
ICRAD	International Center for Agronomic Research and Development	MAE	Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
CNRS	National Center for Scientific Research	MEDD	Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community	MNHN	Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle Paris
CRIOBE	Center for Insular Research and Environment Observatory	MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
CTOM	French overseas Territories	PGEM	Plan de Gestion des Espaces Maritimes
ENSAR	National Institute for Agronomic of Rennes	PROE	Programme Océanien pour l'Environnement
EPHE	Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes	PSC	Pacific Science Congress
FCI	France Coopération International	SIDS	Small Island Developping States
FGEF	French Global Environment Facility	SocMon	Sociomonitoring methodology for MPAs
FSPI	Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International	SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network	SPP	Secrétariat Permanent pour le Pacifique
GEF	Global Environment Facility	TNC	The Nature Conservancy
ICM	Integrated Coastal Management	IUCN	World Conservation Union
ICRAN	International Coral Reef Action Network	UNC	Université de Nouvelle-Calédonie
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative	UNF	United Nations Foundation
ICRS	International Coral Reef Symposium	UR	Unité de Recherche
IFRECOR	Initiative Française pour les Récifs Coralliens	US	Unité de Service
IFRECOR PF	IFRECOR committee for French Polynesia	USP	University for the South Pacific
		WFC	World Fish Center
		WWF	World Wildlife Fund for Nature



Abstract of the report

The structural support offered by the CRISP programme to the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) network coming under the regional action implemented by the NGO FSPI in the Solomons, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Kiribati and Fiji has continued during the first semester 2007, as well as in the two MPAs of Aleipa and Safata in Samoa. The launching of a Marine Environment Management Plan in Wallis and Futuna progressed too, as well as the development of a maritime zone at the Mont Panie MPA in New Caledonia. On the marine biodiversity conservation description and management theme, the eco-regional analysis of New Caledonia enters its final stage, while the Ecoregional Analysis of French Polynesia is still in its first stage, which has started in the Cooks before to extend to the French islands. A literature review synthesis of coral reef diversity in New Caledonia was produced by the programme coordination unit. A common plan of action was validated by all the technical partners of CRISP component 1 in order to reinforce a regional network in the long term. The field actions of the watersheds stage of component 1 have started in Vanuatu under IRD lead.

The project in Fiji developing trading channels for the economical use of reef fish post-larvae has continued with a research on larvae rearing development. A guide for the identification of reef fish post-larvae in the Central Pacific has been co-edited by CRISP and IFRECOR Wallis and Futuna and will be shortly distributed, in particular through the University of South Pacific (USP) in Suva (Fiji). Within the context of the project for the improvement of reef eco-system monitoring tools, a workshop comparing the different underwater fish count methods took place in Fiji co-organized by IRD and USP. Another workshop, co-organized by CRIOBE and SPREP, took place in French Polynesia, to train about 10 technicians from the Pacific island nations on the reef monitoring technics. A report on the Fiji coral reefs state of health for the year 2006 was released and another report on the economical value of an MPA located to the Est of Suva in Fiji has been finalized.

The component on ecosystems rehabilitation has continued, on the basis of a partnership between the french contractor Spi-Infra and the regional NGO FSPI based on Fiji, the monitoring of the second reef rehabilitation pilot site on Funafute Island (Tuvalu) with the support of the local communities. The reef rehabilitation guide realized by a World Bank project associated with CRISP, has been translated into French in order to be distributed in the french territories through a

partnership with IFRECOR.

The research component on Active Marine Substances (AMS) implemented by IRD, has progressed on its legal aspect with the publication of two reports on the legal contexts of the Solomon Islands and Fiji relative to the sharing of potential profits generated by the exploitation of the AMS contained in the benthic organisms. In parallel, a new mission on this theme and a collection campaign of invertebrae were conducted, respectively in Vanuatu and Fiji.

The team in charge of the identification, collection and data processing ultimately bound to feed the regional Reefbase data base, is in place and operational with a coordinator based at the SPC in Fiji, two other persons based at the USP, a resource person in Polynesia (based at the CRIOBE) and a person currently being recruited in Samoa (based at the PROE). The collaboration foundations on the Pacific scale have been laid with the principal institutional partners.

SPREP has significantly reinforced its action within the CRISP with the arrival in post of the french technical assistant who endeavoured to develop as a priority an action plan in the french territories where a first financial support to French Polynesia has been officialized. The efficient implication of SPREP in the finalization process and the diffusion of the MPAs socio-economical monitoring methodology (named SEM-Pasifika) has been carried on.

Besides its standard work of monitoring and evaluation, internal communication and international representation of the programme, the coordination unit has seen during the first semester of 2007 its efforts to involve Australia in the CRISP programme rewarded. An Australian mission came to Noumea to define, in collaboration with the programme manager, the terms of reference of a workshop co-funded by Australia and France taking place in Townsville in September 2007 and aiming to chose with the Pacific countries concrete solutions to solve the problems of sustainable coral reef development. A meeting of the CRISP Support Committee (CSC) took place in Moorea in April 2007. The programme coordination unit insured an important regional visibility of the programme with its participation to the ICRI general meeting in Tokyo (Japan) in April, as well as in funding and presenting a session on sustainable fisheries during the XXIst Pacific Science Congress in Okinawa (Japan) in June 2007.