



Sustainable Development of Marine Resources through Effective Management of 30% of its seas by 2020

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TYPE

New

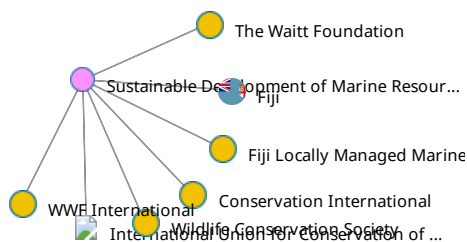
REGIONS

Pacific

PRIORITY AREAS

Biodiversity
 Oceans And Seas

PARTNERS



Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area Network (FLMMA), World Wide Fund for Nature – South Pacific (WWF), IUCN, Conservation International (CI), Waitt Foundation.

DELIVERABLES

Deliverable	Date
To effectively protect 30% of Fiji's seas by 2020.	2020

RESOURCES

Type	Details
Financing (in USD)	Fiji Department of Fisheries has funding to work with local communities to formally gazette a number of community managed LMMAs. The Waitt Foundation has committed some initial seed financial support to WCS, to support the process for establishing offshore
Staff / Technical expertise	Civil society groups have both Fiji and international experience establishing marine protected areas. The Waitt Foundation has supported key science and an economic valuation of the Vatu-i-Ra Seascape in Fiji.

DESCRIPTION

The objective of the partnership is to effectively manage 30% of Fiji's seas by 2020, through the strengthening of inshore locally managed marine areas (LMMAs) and the establishment of offshore, multiple-use marine protected areas (MPAs). What is unique about this partnership is that the Fiji Government and civil society are working strongly together to achieve this ambitious target that exceeds Fiji's commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi Target 11.

Since SIDS 2005, Fiji has seen a rapid expansion of the management of inshore areas and as of 2014, 78.2% of Fiji's coastal traditional fishing grounds are now managed, covering 1.8% of our Exclusive Economic Zone. To meet its 30% SIDS commitment, the Fiji government will increase its investment in the effective management of inshore areas which are vital to the livelihood and food security of our people. At the same time the Fiji Government will expand its focus and establish offshore MPAs to effectively manage the unique biodiversity, fisheries and other ecosystem services the ocean provides Fiji and the wider global community. This commitment is reflected in the recently Cabinet approved Green Growth Framework for Fiji, and commits the government to "establish deep water MPAs targeting 30% of offshore areas by 2020."

METHODOLOGIES

Inshore – the Fiji government will strengthen its support to FLMMA and other civil society groups to increase the effectiveness of inshore LMMAs. In Fiji, LMMAs are within traditional fishing grounds and have the following features: (1) communities design and implement management measures to meet local objectives; (2) the LMMAs are managed through customary rules and do not necessarily have any formal legal status; and (3) communities are encouraged to take an adaptive management approach. Better enforcement and surveillance support will be provided to local communities to ensure LMMAs better address livelihood and food security needs.

Offshore - a number of potential areas of interest have been identified for Fiji, some of which were identified as

Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) under criteria set by the Convention on Biological Diversity. Potential areas, for example include the Vatu-i-Ra Seascape, the Great Sea Reef and Lau Group. The 2020 Working Committee will lead a collaborative and integrated planning process, to identify and establish offshore MPAs that will involve and benefit a range of stakeholders including vitally important industry partners, with interests in improving the management of offshore areas and reducing conflicting or incompatible uses.