

Progress Against The Pacific 2009 Action Plan

The following table summarizes key activities undertaken as part of the implementation of the Pacific 2009 Action Plan. The table has been compiled from feedback provided by individual Pacific Island Countries (however, it should be noted that not all Pacific Island Countries provided feedback and there may be additional activities undertake that are not included below).

The Activity Numbers and Title correspond directly to Activities identified in the Pacific 2009 Action Plan.

CREDIBILITY										
Action Plan Activity # and Title	Level	Dates and Venue	Description	Outcome/Results	Comments	Secondary “Strategic Objectives”				
						CR	CO	CB	CT	CY
1. Increase membership of the Convention where that would aid conservation of Pacific Heritage	Regional	16 April 2009	Cook Islands became the 186th State Party to the <i>Convention</i> on 16 April 2009.	Pacific region now has 14 member states, compared to only two in 2000.	The World Heritage Centre is working closely with the remaining countries yet to ratify the <i>Convention</i> .	×	×			
2. Make substantial progress in establishing tentative lists and drafting World Heritage nominations	Regional	2009	Tentative List development.	Eleven of the fourteen Pacific State Parties now have Tentative Lists, compared to only one in 2004. Several countries have also recently reviewed and updated their TL’s including Fiji, Australia, New Zealand, Palau and Vanuatu.		×	×			
	Regional	2004 to ongoing	Support for preparation of World Heritage nominations.	Australia provided assistance for nine projects between 2004 and 2008 related to nominations and also for projects relating to		×				

				existing and potential World Heritage Sites in the Pacific.						
2.2 Audit of nomination processes, through a case study of a new nomination, to identify the costs and benefits to heritage conservation of nomination	Regional	Ongoing	'Cost-Benefit Analysis of World Heritage Nomination' case study.	This case study examines Vanuatu's Chief Roi Mata's Domain world heritage nomination to assess the cost-benefits to countries in supporting World Heritage nominations in the Pacific.	The study is one of four activities approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st Session (Christchurch, 2007), for implementation under the World Heritage Fund for the biennium 2008-2009.	×				
2.5 Undertake thematic and comparative studies for cultural heritage values to support listing and nomination processes.	Regional	April 2008	ICOMOS Thematic Study 'Cultural Landscapes of the Pacific Islands'.	This is the first regional thematic study on Cultural Landscapes in the Pacific region. It is an overview of cultural landscapes in the Pacific Islands and the defining characteristics that account for their commonalities as well as their diversity.		×			×	
2.7 Identify opportunities for serial and transboundary nominations and undertake one natural and one cultural case study nomination.	Regional	Hawaii, January 2007; Puna'auia, October 2007	'Regional Natural Heritage Programme for a Central Pacific Transboundary Heritage Site' - transboundary nomination workshops.	Held between Kiribati and Cook Islands (January 2007), and French Polynesia and Cook Islands (October 2007). Outcomes were that thus far PICs preferred to develop unilateral nominations and opted to revisit transboundary nominations at a later date.	Support for this programme was also provided by Australia.	×		×		
2.8 Facilitate any nominations that countries wish to progress.	Regional	June 2008	Inscription of new sites from the Pacific on the World Heritage List.	Three sites from Pacific inscribed: • Kuk Early Agricultural Site (Papua New		×	×			

				- Guinea), - Chief Roi Mata's Domain (Vanuatu), - Lagoons of New Caledonia (France).						
	Regional	February 2009	Submission of new nominations for sites to the World Heritage List	Five new nominations received in 2009: - Phoenix Island Protected Area (Kiribati), - Australian Convict Sites (Australia), - Bikini Atoll (Marshall Islands), - Ailinginae Atoll – Aelonin-ae "Island of Currents" (Marshall Islands) - Yapese Stone Money Sites in Palau and Yap (a trans-boundary nomination from Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia).		×	×			
	National	Ongoing	Identification and preparation of nominations	Ongoing preparations of nominations include: Levuka (Fiji)	Fiji report that their nomination preparation has been affected by changes in lead secretariat and staff turnover, limited human resources and technical capacity.	×		×		
	Regional	2005, 2006 and 2008	Support and assistance provided to other countries for WH nominations.	Australia provided advice to Vanuatu on preparation of WH nomination in 2005-6.		×		×		

				- Australia provided assistance for PNG expert and assistance to undertake community liaison and social mapping as part of the Kuk WH nomination in 2006. - Australia provided consultancy to assist with preparation of the Phoenix Island Protected Area World Heritage nomination, Kiribati in 2008.						
2.8.2 Resources are made available for the necessary preparatory work, including development of management plans.	National	n.d.	Establishment of WH unit within Government.	Fiji has established a World Heritage Unit within their Department of Culture and Heritage with 3 staff member and assistants from Australian volunteer (VIDA) to strengthen the secretariat in terms of capacity building and world heritage policy development.		×		×		
	Regional		Asia-Pacific Focal Point website established.	Model management plans have been made available to Pacific World Heritage practitioners through the Asia-Pacific Focal Point website, hosted by Australia.		×		×		

CONSERVATION										
Action Plan Activity # and Title	Level	Dates and Venue	Description	Outcome/Results	Comments	Secondary "Strategic Objectives"				
						CR	CO	CB	CT	CY
3.1 Undertake a study of one new member PIC to identify the best way to integrate WH into existing heritage conservation programs and identify the value that WH processes can provide to heritage conservation.	Sub regional	2008	Participation in the SPREP project on the trial reporting format to streamline reporting under biodiversity related conventions in the Pacific region.	Samoa participated in consultations held in Apia, Samoa and the trial of the draft reporting template.			X			
3.2 Integrate WH considerations into the current round of national capacity self assessment (NSCA) processes being funded by UNDP.	National		National Capacity self assessment (NSCA).	Samoa has completed their NCSA and identified capabilities under the Convention on Biological Diversity and other Conventions as cross cutting issues.			X			
3.5 Provide information on existing and ongoing surveys of natural and cultural values – GIS etc.	National	2008	Surveys of natural and cultural values in Samoa and Fiji.	- Freshwater Survey conducted by IUCN/CI in Samoa lead to inclusion of site under Samoa's TL. - Fiji national cultural mapping, to document and record all aspects of culture with a focus on identifying intangible heritage and sites of local significance, has			X		X	X

				been completed for 24 villages on the island of Ovalau in partnership with the Ministry of Fijian Affairs partnership. This has resulted in increasing community awareness on the importance of preserving heritage.						
4.1 Identify sites for which the preparation of a management plan is a priority, and facilitate the plan production.	National		Identification of sites with in the TL requiring management plans.	Samoa identified two sites in the TL and formulated management plans in order to progress nominations. Fiji, Cook Islands and Vanuatu are all progressing management plans for potential World Heritage sites.			×			
4.2 Address specific threats in sites and potential WH sites to prevent loss of values.	Regional	2008 – ongoing	Provision of assistance for capacity building training in best practice management.	Australia is assisting the Solomon Islands to build capacity for best practice management of the East Rennell World Heritage Site including training to improve governance and decision-making by communities and governments and to enhance community-based management and monitoring of the property's natural resources.	Funded under AusAID's Pacific Governance Support Program.		×	×		×

CAPACITY BUILDING										
Activity Title	Level	Dates and Venue	Description	Outcome/Results	Comments	Secondary “Strategic Objectives”				
						CR	CO	CB	CT	CY
5. To identify clear priorities and means for each country to improve their capacity building;	National		Various activities including implementation plans, gap analyses and governance arrangements.	• Implementation plans have been prepared by Fiji, Samoa. • Gap analysis completed by Cook Islands • Legislation and governance arrangements developed and imbedded by Fiji, Samoa, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.				X		
6. Improve capacity of people involved in heritage conservation in PICs.	Regional	Port Vila 2005	Capacity Building workshop on ‘Thematic Frameworks for World Cultural Heritage in the Pacific’	Resulted in a comprehensive document identifying three major themes for the development of cultural nominations within the Pacific and defined priorities for thematic studies that would assist States Parties of the region in preparing cultural nominations.	The report of this workshop is accessible at the following Web address: http://whc.unesco.org/uploads/activities/documents/activity-7-1.pdf			X		
	Sub-regional	Apia, Samoa, 24 – 29 April	Capacity Building workshop on the process for the nomination of	The workshop involved approximately 25 heritage professionals from Samoa, Tonga and Niue and				X		

	2006	properties to the World Heritage List	resulted in capacity building of these participants.						
Regional	Honolulu , Hawaii, 29 January to 2 February 2007	'Our Sea of Islands' sub regional marine workshop	This forum was aimed at building local and regional pride within Oceania, whilst enhancing natural and cultural heritage through information sharing, relationship building, and adaptive use of management tools.	It was funded by the World Heritage Centre from the Italian Funds-in-Trust and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of USA					
Regional	Cairns, Australia October 2008	'Pacific Islands World Heritage workshop' on site management.	The workshop also reviewed the progress of the Pacific 2009 programme, and resulted in: • development of draft documentation to form the basis of the next medium-term Pacific programme for 2010–2015 and its associated Action Plan. • formulation of draft Terms of Reference for the Pacific World Heritage Fund feasibility study • delivery of capacity building training in site management and World Heritage List nomination preparation				×		
National	Palau, Papua New Guinea, Federated States	Series of four strategic workshops on development of national action plans and strategies for managing World	Outcome was capacity building of PICs members in developing national action plans.	Parties that contributed funding assistance included Italian Funds-in-Trust, Nordic World Heritage Foundation, Dutch Funds-in-Trust,			×		

		of Microne sia and the Marshall Islands	Heritage.		and the Australian and New Zealand Governments.					
National			National Training Courses facilitated by individual PICs.	The following training courses contributed to capacity building at the national level within PICs: • Introductory workshop on World Heritage (Cook islands, April 2007) • Technical workshop on OUV (Fiji, April 2006) • Technical workshop on the identification, preparation, conservation and management of potential World Heritage sites (Samoa, April 2006). • Technical workshop on OUV (French Polynesia, August 2007) • Technical workshop on site nominations (French Polynesia, September 2007)		×		×		
Regional	2004- 2008		Funding and support provided for PICs representatives to attend capacity building events.	Australia provided funding assistance for: • Ten PICs representatives to attend WH Committee meetings in 2007 and		×		×		

				2008; - An ICOMOS expert and two PICs representatives to attend UNITAR training workshops in Japan on WH management and conservation in 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2008; 1 PICs representative to deliver a paper at Australia ICOMOS conference in 2007.						
6.1 Develop appropriate approaches to WH management capacity building that suit the Pacific region, and implement them.	Regional	Ongoing since 2004	Twinning programs and study tours between PICs, in order to build capacity cross-nation and improve communication.	Over twelve twinning/study tours have been undertaken: - French Polynesia – New Zealand (French Polynesia, September 2007), - French Polynesia – Rapa Nui (French Polynesia, July 2008), - French Polynesia – Hawaii (French Polynesia, September 2008), - Federated States of Micronesia – New Zealand (Tongariro, NZ, February 2007), - New Zealand – Solomon Islands (Solomon Islands, 2006), - New Zealand – Australia (Australia, several visits since				X		

				2004 and February 2007), • New Zealand – Cook Islands (Cook Islands, August 2005), • New Zealand – Rapa Nui (Rapa Nui, August 2005), • Fiji – New Zealand (Fiji, November 2005), • Vanuatu – New Zealand (Vanuatu, 2007) • Hawaii – New Zealand (Hawaii, July 2008)						
7. Improve administration of the World Heritage Convention within States Parties and across the region.	National		Various activities including implementation plans, gap analyses and governance arrangements.	• Implementation plans have been prepared by Fiji, Samoa. • Gap analysis completed by Cook Islands • Legislation and governance arrangements developed and imbedded by Fiji, Samoa, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.				×		
7.5 Assist countries to integrate the responsibilities they have for nominated sites into national legal and governance processes.	Regional	Ongoing	Provision of assistance in strategy for development of national heritage legislative framework in Solomon Islands.	Australia has provided support to East Renell WH site to assist identify a strategy for developing a national legislative framework for protected areas in the Solomon islands.			×	×		

	Regional	2004	Provision of support to integrate policies and legislation in the Solomon Islands.	Australia has provided support for placement of a DEWHA officer as an AusAID Youth Ambassador in the Fiji Dept of Culture to assist with the integration of responsibilities for the WH site into national processes, including reform of WH policies, legislation and developing nominations.			×	×		
7.6 Undertake awareness programmes and provide information to increase political and bureaucratic support for world heritage administration and implementation.	National, regional and international	Levuka, Fiji June 2007	Visit by the Director World Heritage Centre	Increased public awareness on the Convention.	Deferred visit by Director General Mr. Matsura to Levuka also created awareness on the importance of sites for nomination for world heritage listing and assisted in getting funding and political will.			×		
	Regional and international	2007	Production of the Pacific World Heritage book and calendar, undertaken by New Zealand and contributed to by Pacific Island Countries.	1000 copies of the book and calendar were distributed to delegates at the 31 st session of the Committee, as well as other stakeholders in New Zealand the Pacific region.	Pacific delegates were involved in the creation of the publications – helping with the writing of the stories and supplying photographs – however communication within the region is still very difficult, as is obtaining high quality photographs of heritage in the region.			×	×	

COMMUNICATION										
Activity Title	Level	Dates and Venue	Description	Outcome/Results	Comments	Secondary "Strategic Objectives"				
						CR	CO	CB	CT	CY
8.2 Develop and implement education and communication programmes for young people, communities, and other stakeholders.	Regional	Pacific region, 2004	Launch of the Pacific regional version of the World Heritage Education Kit, entitled "Our Pacific Heritage".	The Kit serves as a vital resource to create World Heritage awareness among school students and young people in the Pacific.					×	×
	Regional	Palau and Fiji in March 2005	Trainer workshops on use of the "Our Pacific Heritage" Education Kit for secondary school teachers.	Samoa has been actively delivering the program within local schools since April 2005.	Local modules will be developed to supplement the Kit and more teacher training workshops are being planned in the Pacific.			×	×	×
9. Strengthening partnerships for financial and technical capacity building.	Regional	Since 2004	Strengthening of regional communication networks.	IUCN Oceania office has been established in the Pacific, hosted by the Fiji National Trust. Also there has been ongoing strengthening of PIMA (Pacific Islands Museum Association) and ICOMOS Pasifika since 2004.				×	×	×
	National	Since 2004	Strengthening of national communication and consultation networks.	Samoa has undertaken an extensive program of consultation with local communities regarding world heritage nominations since 2004. The Solomon Islands have established several community consultative associations who are				×	×	×

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				directly involved in the day-to-day management of their World Heritage properties and other potential sites.						
9.3 Use the Asia Pacific Focal Point for WH to act as a dissemination point for information about WH, and to actively connect needs and providers, including by developing databases on training available, volunteers and organizations.	Regional	Upgrade -d in 2007. Ongoing	Establishment and operation of the Asia-Pacific Focal Point website, managed by Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, Australia.	Provision and dissemination of World Heritage information and resources through out the region.	Web address: http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/apfp/			×	×	