COMPONENT 3B - Project 3B2

Promotion of the programme

April 2009

REPORT

PARTICIPATION OF THE CRISP to PSI 2009









The CRISP Coordinating Unit (CCU) was integrated into the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in April 2008 to insure maximum coordination and synergy in work relating to coral reef management in the region.



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 and 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.

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 ecosytems
- 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 dissemination of CRISP results
- 3B: Coordination, promotion and development of CRISP activities

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Secretariat of the Pacific Community

CRISP is funded by the following partners :



THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CRISP PARTNERS TO PSI 2009 WAS SUPPORTED THROUGH A GRANT OF 20,000 EUROS PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE THROUGH THE FRENCH PACIFIC FUND.





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BRIEF OVERVIEW ON PSI 2009

A FRENCH EVENT

CRISP Programme dedicated 20 000 Euros from the Pacific Fund (SPP) to the manifestation. The CRISP Coordinating Unit in Noumea allocated special grants to eight scientists presenting their work during poster or oral presentations and to five others for their participation to a special CRISP side-event, organized through component 2C on Bioprospection. The organisation of this workshop on « Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of Genetic resources in the Pacific » was primeraly funded by CRISP, in association with IRD, UC Berkeley Gump Station and the Smithsonian Institution via the Consortium for the Barcode of Life.



Hotel Sheraton, PSI venue in Papeete, French Polynesia.

Special financial help was also allocated to Tamatoa Bambridge (CNRS) for the organisation of a workshop on Governance titled « Management of marine resources and habitats (lagoons and coral reefs) in Polynesia: between legitimacy and efficiency » that took place at the CRIOBE headquaters in Moorea. Lastly, CRISP coordinator Eric Clua took part in the workshop organized by Pr. Bernard Salvat (EPHE) and Randy Thaman (USP) on « Cooperation in Science and Education in the Pacific ».

PSI 2009 was a major event for the CRISP programme. France, French Polynesia, and the Pacific Science Association organized this 11th Pacific Science Intercongress in conjunction with the 2nd Symposium on French Research in the Pacific, on the theme : « Pacific countries and their ocean facing local and global changes ». A theme that logically called for a strong CRISP participation. The inter-congress main covered topics were:

- 1. Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development
- 2. Climate Change and Ocean Acidification
- 3. Health Challenges in the Pacific : Infectious diseases, Non-communicable diseases and the Health workforce
- 4. Culture and Politics : The Stakes of Modernity
- 5. Governance and the Economy : Future challenges for the Pacific

CRISP ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE

Adolphe Colrat (left), French High Commissioner of the Republic in French Polynesia represented President Sarkozy during PSI 2009 official opening reading his introductory speech. Here, with Georges Handerson, Environment and Sustainable Development Minister (right) of French Polynesia.

CRISP HIGHLIGHTS DURING PSI 2009

CRISP SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

The CRISP program was represented by 9 collaborators for a total of 10 contributions (5 oral presentations and 5 posters presentations), most of them being integrated in the first session titled Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development.

WORKSHOP ON REGIONALCOOPERATION

Eric Clua, CRISP coordinator, took part in the workshop on Regional Cooperation organised by Bernard Salvat (EPHE) and Randy Thaman (USP). His presentation titled « CRISP and Regional Cooperation » was programmed during the session II dedicated to International Research and Scientific Organizations and Initiatives.

CRISP BOOTH

The CRISP Programme was well represented during the inter-congress. A dynamic team constituated by Julie Petit (CRIOBE), Asenaca Valemei (USP), Cherie Morris (USP) and Eric Clua (CCU) animated the booth all week long. Displayed at the CRISP booth were CRISP program posters, reports and DVDs including specific information on the ReefBase Pacific new release.

ABS WORKSHOP

CRISP Component 2C dedicated to Bioprospection and led by Cécile Debitus from IRD Toulouse co-organized, with Neil Davies (UC Berkeley Gump Station) and David Schindel from the Consortium for the Barcode of Life (Smithsonian Institution) a workshop on ABS (Access and Benefit Sharing). With a dozen scientific contributions and more than 50 participants, the day long workshop has been a real success.

WORKSHOP ON GOVERNANCE

The worshop « Management of marine resources and habitats (lagoons and coral reefs) in Polynesia: between legitimacy and efficiency » co-organized by Tamoa Bambridge (CNRS) and Rod Dixon (USP) at the CRIOBE headquaters in Moorea (6th and 7th of March), was sponsored by IFRECOR and CRISP.

CRISP BOOTH

Julie Petit (CRIOBE), Asenaca Valemei (IMR) and Cherie Morris (USP) with CRISP's coordinator.

► A COMMUNICATION TOOL

The booth was an opportunity for the programme to promote its publications and recent products. Julie Petit (CRIOBE Moorea), Asenaca Valemei (IMR USP) and Cherie Morris (USP) assisted Eric Clua (CCU) at the CRISP booth over the week-long conference in Tahiti. Displayed at the CRISP booth were CRISP programme posters, reports and DVDs including specific information on the ReefBase Pacific project.

On average, thirty people per day visited the booth and browsed through the materials displayed. Majority of people were interested in the CRISP mid-term report and the Reef-Base flyers. Many people enquired about the ReefBase Pacific DVD and had a chance to see a demo of the ReefBase Pacific 2.0 version just released. Others asked about the Pacific Coral Reef Atlas and several people wanted copies of country maps.

Most of the reports, flyers and DVD's were distributed during the week.

CRISP documentation remains available anytime on www.crisponline.net

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CRAN

CRISP Coordinating Unit

May 2008

MID TERM REPORT

A new version of ReefBase Pacific database on DVD is now available with an online updating system.

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTION

A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION

The CRISP Coordinating Unit (CCU) allocated special grants to enable its collaborators to present their work at PSI 2009. Thus, CRISP was represented by 9 scientists (IRD, WWF, CRIOBE and Marine Ecology) contributing with 5 oral presentations and 5 posters presentations, most of them included into the Session 1 of the inter-congress on Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development. The table below summarized the CRISP participation.

THE CONTENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS ARE PROVIDED IN ANNEX 1 (ORAL & POSTER PRESENTATIONS) FROM PAGE 15 TO 24.

Ecosystems session room 1: Long term monitoring						
Helen SYKES	A Cause for Optimism: Identification of threats and resiliency on Pacific	Poster	Annex 1f			
	Reefs through establishment of a long term reef monitoring network in					
	Fiji: The Fiji Coral Reef Monitoring Network (FCRMN).					
Ecosystems session room 2: Biological Processes and Sustainable Development						
Nicolas BURAY	Études comportementales et de vulnérabilité de la population de requins		Annex 1g			
	citron (<i>Negaprion acutidens</i>) sur le site de « feeding » d'Opunohu à					
	Moorea, Polynésie française.					
Ecosystems session room 2: Natural Products and Eco-toxicology						
Kirti PATEL	Sarasinosides of the Sponge Amorphinopsis excavans from Solomon	Oral	Annex 1c			
	Islands					
	Ecosystems session room 3: Aquaculture and Fisheries					
Nicolas	Toward appropriate methodologies and indicators to assess the impact	Oral	Annex 1a			
GUILLEMOT	of coastal fisheries on reef fish communities in New Caledonia (South					
	Pacific)					
Haizea JIMENEZ	Structure spatio-temporelle des populations d'invertébrés benthiques	Oral	Annex 1d			
	des platiers récifaux pêchés du Grand Nouméa					
Haizea JIMENEZ	Spatio-temporal structure of harvested tropical reef invertebrates: A case Poster		Annex 1h			
	study on New Caledonian reef flats					
Ecosystems session room 3: Conservation Ecology						
Isabelle JOLLIT	Analyzing spatial structure of recreational coastal reef fisheries in New	Oral	Annex 1e			
	Caledonia for management purposes					
Culture and Politics session room: Society and Environment						
Jean-Brice	"Heritage": the New Cultural and Institutional Challenge of	Oral	Annex 1b			
HERRENSCHMIDT	Environmental Governance in the Pacific Islands.					
Poster session 4						
Ahab DOWNER	Analyse éco-régionale marine de la Nouvelle-Calédonie	Poster	Annex 1i			
Cherie MORRIS	2008 South West Pacific Status of the Reefs	Poster	Annex 1j			

Outcomes of the event are available at: https://intellagence.eu.com/psi2009/psi2009.pdf

ABS WORKSHOP

A CRISP SIDE-EVENT

Cécile Debitus (IRD Toulouse/Papeete), head of CRISP Component 2C dedicated to Bioprospection, Niel Davies (UC Berkeley - Gump Station) and David Schindel (Consortium for the Barcode of Life - Smithsonian Institution), joined forces to organize the workshop on « Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources in the Pacific ». The day-long session was designed to touch a large audience, from scientists to stakeholders, working on various issues related to biodiversity. The side-event, offering 10 presentations, was a real success attracting 56 participants from 16 different countries.

Surrounding CRISP Coordinator ABS workshop organizers: Neil Davies (front row, left), Cécile Debitus (front row, second from right), David Schindel (back row, middle), Jean-Pierre Beurier (front row, right).

ACCESS & BENEFIT SHARING

How to ensure that local populations from Pacific Island Countries enjoy a part of the profit generated by the development of ressources discovered in their marine environment... is the main question. Bioprospection and the identification of Active Marine Substances, used for example by the pharmaceutical industry, inevitably raise complex Access and Benefit Sharing issues. This workshop was an opportunity to share experiences and legal expertises on the situation within different Pacific countries.

expertises on the situation within Dr David Schindel, Consortium for the Barcode of Life, Smithsonian Instidifferent Pacific countries. Dr David Schindel, Consortium for the Barcode of Life, Smithsonian Institution, co-organizer of the workshop.

ABS Workshop AGENDA

Oral and Poster presentations are presented in Annexes 2, from page 25 to 33

PSI 2009 Side-Event "Access and benefit sharing of Genetic Resources in the Pacific"

Organizers: Cécile Debitus (IRD), David Schindel (CBOL) And Eric CLUA (CRISP) Co-Sponsors: CRISP, Biocode, CBOL, NRC, IRD

6th March 2009

8h15: Wellcome and introduction talk by George Henderson, Minister of envirnment, French Polynesia 8h30: Welcome and introductions, goals of the Event; David Schindel (Smithsonian Institution), Eric Clua (CRISP)

Session 1: Legal Framework (Chair - Davies)

9h00: Current issues in International Intellectual Property Rights; Paul Uhlir, National Research Council 9h15: International intellectual property Law on biotechnology and its relationship with biodiversity, Mickaël Macé and Bleuenn Guilloux, University of Nantes 9h30: Legal aspects of traditional knowledge, Carole Martinez, IUCN France

9h45: Pacific concepts of property ownership and implications for biodiversity research, Bruno Saura, UPF

10h00 - 10h30: coffee break

Session 2: ABS Legislation in the Pacific (Chair - Debitus)

10h30: The law of the protection and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in the Pacific Presentation of the results of the Law project of component 2C (biodiversity and marine natural products) of the CRISP program: "legal aspects of use and benefits of natural marine resources"; Jean-Pierre Beurier, University of Nantes

11h30: ABS and Mega-diverse Developing Countries; Perry Ong, Director, Institute of Biology, University of the Philippines, Diliman

11h45: ABS in Melanesia - Legal aspects related to marine bioprospection in Melanesia: example of Fiji, Salomon and Vanuatu Islands; Bleuenn Guilloux, CDMO, University of Nantes

12h00: lunch break

Session 3: Research and ABS (Chair - Beurier)

13h30: Access and Benefit Sharing and the Convention on Biological Diversity: Perspectives from Non-Commercial Research; David Schindel, Smithsonian Institution 13h45: Intellectual Property issues associated with genetic resources and natural product development; Janna Tom, Univ. California Office of Technology Transfer

Session 4. Case Study - Moorea Biocode (Chair - Schindel)

14h15: Aspects of the Moorea Biocode Project; Sabine Brels, University of California Berkeley Gump Station 14h30: Panel Discussion (Biocode Consortium)

- Tea Frogier and Jean-Yves Meyer, French Polynesia Research Department
- Paula Meyer, Emmanuelle Gindre, French Polynesia Environment Department
- Len Hirsch, Smithsonian Institution
- Neil Davies, UC Berkeley Gump Station
- Hinano Teavai-Murphy, Association Te Pu Atitia

15h15 - 15h45: coffee break

15h45: Open discussion 17h00: Session adjourns

CRISP COORDINATOR'S CONTRIBUTION

Workshop on REGIONAL COOPERATION

COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND EDUCATION IN THE PACIFIC

Bernard Salvat (EPHE) and Randy Thaman (USP) gathered 18 speakers for a busy

half-day workshop on regional cooperation. Most regional actors were represented during three distinct sessions. The first session was dedicated to International Conservation NGOs with the presence of: François Martel - Cl, Kesaia Tabuna-kawai - WWF South Pacific, Etika RUPENI - Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI), Cheries MORRIS - The World Fish Center, FishBase/ ReefBase, Posa SKELTON and Richard SMITH - PACINET/ BIONET. The second session welcomed the representatives of International Research and Scientific Organisations and Initiatives: Gerard Siclet - French Academy of Sciences, Fabrice Colin - IRD Noumea et Pacifique, Grant McCall - ISISA/ PACIFIC STUDIES, Lex Thomson - SPC and CRISP's coordinator, Eric CLUA. Third session opened the stage to Pacific Regional Organizations and Universities with: John Burke Burnett and Nancy LEWIS - Pacific Science Association, Arthur Webb - SOPAC, Milika Sobey - USP, Allan TYE - SPREP, Susan Paisley - UNESCO Pacific Office, Philippe Froissard - European Commission, Ted Fong - ECONESIANS. The

Bernard Salvat (EPHE) et Randy Thaman (USP), co-organizers of the workshop.

François Martel, Conservation International.

workshop was closed with a «General Discussion and Presentation of Resolutions to the Congress on Improved Cooperation in Science and Education for Sustainable Development in the Pacific Islands ».

CRISP COORDINATOR'S CONTRIBUTION

Workshop on GOVERNANCE

About 50 persons made the trip to Moorea to attend the workshop. Front seat : Carole Martinez, IUCN France.

Tua Narii, Mayor of Rapa, presenting: The rahui in Rapa: what legitimacy, what efficiency?

Etika Rupeni, FSPI, presenting: Management of Marine Resources in Vanuatu, Salomon and Fiji: lessons learned.

MANAGEMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES AND HABITATS (LAGOONS AND CORAL REEFS) IN POLYNESIA: BETWEEN LEGITIMACY AND EFFICIENCY

The CRISP programme also provided financial support to the organisation of a two-day workshop on « Management of marine resources and habitats (lagoons and coral reefs) », a major issue in the Pacific, where numerous communities are dependant on these resources for food. Organized by Tamatoa Bambridge (CNRS) and Rod Dixon (USP), co-funded by IFRECOR, and held at the CRIOBE headquaters on Moorea Island, this event scheduled more than 20 presentations focusing in particular on the role of traditional models of resource management in Polynesia (also known as "rahui" in French Polynesia and in New Zealand, or "ra'ui" in Cook Islands). The workshop was articulated around two main topics: Combine traditional models of resource management with current scientific knowledge & Traditional management of land and lagoon and the State: a fragile equilibrium. Large sessions were also dedicated to discussions.

Ecosystems session room 3: Aquaculture and Fisheries

SUMMARY

Toward appropriate methodologies and indicators to assess the impact of coastal fisheries on reef fish communities in New Caledonia (South Pacific)

The ongoing creation of a nickel mining complex will soon increase demographic pressure on the rural Northwest coast of New Caledonia (Southern Pacific Ocean). As a consequence, fishing pressure on reef fish resources is expected to significantly rise in this area, and there is a need to identify relevant indicators for a long-term monitoring of these resources. This paper aims at examining the impact of fishing activities on reef fish communities in New Caledonia, by analysing the structure of fish assemblages along a gradient of fishing intensity. Underwater Visual Censuses (UVC) and fisher interviews were conducted in two study areas showing contrasted exploitation levels: Northwest and Southwest lagoons, the latter being already subjected to high fishing pressure. In situ data was then analysed with relation to spatialized fishing data. Because of a high spatio-temporal variability of reef fish assemblages in New Caledonia, the use of functional groups and eco-trophic guilds was preferred to a taxonomic approach. Our results highlighted an effect of fishing intensity on fish assemblages, with significant interactions between size and functional structures in terms of biomass and density. These analyses allowed identifying relevant indicators that could be used for a longterm monitoring on the Northwest coast study site. As a step toward their use for local management, it also provided clues for establishing reference points associated with these indicators. Nevertheless, UVC methods remain not fully appropriate to alone characterise fishing impacts. In situ complementary methods (e.g. video observations) may provide supplementary data on targeted species and exploited biotopes that cannot be surveyed by UVC. Furthermore, validation of UVC data and future monitoring should still be based on fish landing surveys, especially targeting informal fishers.

Culture and Politics session room: Society and Environment

SUMMARY

« Heritage »: the New Cultural and Institutional Challenge of Environmental Governance in the Pacific Islands.

• Integrated Management of the Environment : Globalization of the « Heritage » Concept

The environmental challenges becoming global, everyone agrees on the need for promoting their integrated management at all scales. The Environment is now conceived as a "Heritage" that is to be transmitted to the next generations as a necessary condition for Human sustainability. These concepts seem obvious and universal. In fact, they are developed by dominant world ideologies and impose new gaps and issues.

Governance and Environment: the Complex Equation

Importing external concepts, Environmental programs in the Pacific Islands face cultural and institutional gaps. Different governance risks then occur. Many examples show that they, consciously or not, promote social and cultural changes and modify the legitimacies in decision systems, at all scales from village to national organizations. Some tools can be useful to fill gaps, such as information sharing between stakeholders, but the lack of investments in Environment management, as a sustainable development basis, remains a critical issue.

• International labels, networks and "development brokers": how to regulate the Big Pacific Islands Environmental Market?

The pressure put by the environmental programs on the South Pacific states governance is a real issue. The Pacific Islands Environment becomes a big and wild Market and all the environmental stakeholders are de facto involved in the international cooperation arena. The need for synergies, integration of scales and states control and monitoring requires funds, especially on social and cultural monitoring capacity.

Sarasinosides of the Sponge Amorphinopsis excavans from Solomon Islands

In the course of the ongoing program of CRISP on the isolation of new bioactive metabolites from marine sponges collected in the South Pacific, the study of the marine sponge Amorphinopsis excavans from Solomon Islands aorded a mixture of sarasinosides. Six compounds were isolated and their structures were determined thanks to LC/MS and LC/MS/MS data. Only one of these molecules was new: sarasinoside B4, which is an isomer of sarasinoside B1.

The structure elucidation of these compounds, which dier either by the sugar or the aglycone moiety, was carried out on the basis of 2D NMR experiments and MS/MS data. Sarasinosides consist of five sugars, e.g. N-Ac-galatosamine, glucose, xylose and N-Ac-glucosamine. The aglycone moiety diers in the presence and position of the double bonds. To our best knowledge, sarasinosides have been yet isolated only from marine sponges of the genera Asteropus and Erylus.¹⁻⁴ We report for the first time the isolation of a new sarasinoside; sarasinoside B4 in the marine sponge species Amorphinopsis excavans together with five known sarasinosides.

Ecosystems session room 3: Aquaculture and Fisheries

RESUME

Structure spatio-temporelle des populations d'invertébrés benthiques des platiers récifaux pêchés du Grand Nouméa

Les ressources marines constituent un apport alimentaire, économique ou récréatif important pour les pays en voie de développement des îles du Pacifique sud. Parmi elles, les invertébrés peuvent représenter une grande partie des espèces cibles pour les populations locales. Ils sont ramassés en plongée ou à pied pendant les marées basses. La pêche à pied se pratique de façon informelle et ciblent de nombreuses espèces, c'est pourquoi elle est difficile à quantifier. De plus, la perturbation entraînée par le piétinement des pêcheurs peut à son tour affecter l'écosystème. Les conséquences biologiques et écologiques de cette pratique sont encore mal connues et l'application d'une approche écosystémique incluant l'homme, la ressource et l'environnement semble nécessaire pour une gestion durable des ressources marines.

Dans ce cadre général, cette étude, faisant partie d'un travail de thèse, se propose de décrire la structure spatio-temporelle des populations d'invertébrés benthiques des platiers soumis à différents niveaux de pression de pêche en prenant compte des habitats occupés par les espèces. Elle met l'accent sur les changements des descripteurs biologiques tels que la densité et la biodiversité spécifique, ainsi que des descripteurs fonctionnels tels que la taille et le régime alimentaire sous influence de la pêche. On s'attend à une diminution de densité et de biomasse des espèces cibles ainsi que des changements de biodiversité de l'ensemble de la communauté benthique. L'étude est appliquée aux platiers côtiers et platiers d'îlots du Grand Nouméa où la pratique de la pêche à pied est essentiellement récréative et de pression différente. Les premiers résultats décrivant la composition de la communauté benthique en fonction de la pression de pêche et de l'habitat seront présentés.

Ecosystems session room 3: Conservation Ecology

SUMMARY

Analyzing spatial structure of recreational coastal reef fisheries in New Caledonia for management purposes

The coral reefs in New Caledonia have long been used by local populations for nutritious, economical and recreational purposes. The recreational fisheries produce one of the most impacting effects on coral reef ecosystems, especially in the south west lagoon around Noumea the capital and economic center of the country. Indeed, in this area are concentrated 70% of private boats, 75% of them practise recreational fishing.

The aim of this communication is to analyze three recreational fishery geosystems in the South West Iagoon and test their suitability for environment management purposes, including AMP management.

Fishery geosystems depend on social, natural and management environments. Their identification was based on questionnaires and maps filled by fishers themselves. In 2005, 500 questionnaires and maps were collected. These data have been compared to aerial observations implemented in 2006. Spatial analyses were conducted on both methods within a Geographical Information System. Statistics such as active fishing fleet, fishing effort and total catches... were estimated on an annual basis which permitted to generate a typology of fishers.

The ways of life (rural, peri-urban and urban) of fishers were found to be a major structuring factor in the spatial distribution of the activity and in the fishers' behaviour. Our observations suggested that they have been shaped by socio-economic changes since the 1900s.

Eventually, the analysis of recreational fishery geosystems validated the suitability of spatial approaches to coral reef fisheries management. These analyses provide local stakeholders with original management clues for marine resources sustainability. The experience gained in the south west coast could then be profitable to the management of the coral reef ecosystems including the monitoring of AMP and local ongoing nickel mining project. The need for management is all the more important since part of the lagoon has recently been classified as UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Ecosystems session room 1: Long term monitoring

SUMMARY

A Cause for Optimism: Identification of threats and resiliency on Pacific Reefs through establishment of a long term reef monitoring network in Fiji: The Fiji Coral Reef Monitoring Network (FCRMN)

The Fiji Coral Reef Monitoring Network (FCRMN), a node of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) includes scientists, tourism operators, and community members. Long term monitoring of reefs across the Fiji Islands for nine years included mass temperature-related coral bleaching events, cyclones, and Crown-of-thorns seastar (COTS) outbreaks.

Survey protocols used variants of Point-Intercept Transects for coral cover, and Belt Transects for indicator fish and invertebrate populations. Percentage hard coral cover was used for regional and time-line comparisons. More detailed protocols allowed comparisons by coral life-form category. Data was compiled through the Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific (CRISP).

Coral cover fell dramatically in 2000 – 2002 after two mass bleaching events, plus regional COTS outbreaks, but recovered to pre-bleaching levels by 2005. Cyclones affected localised coral health in shallow waters, but caused no large scale or permanent damage, and in some cases served coral recovery by lowering water temperatures and clearing new substrate for settlement.

Overall, Fiji's reefs appear to be remarkably resilient to sudden catastrophic events, a cause for optimism. Major "chronic" continual impacts on coral reef health: Eutrophication, Siltation (deforestation / coastal development), Over fishing

Occasional or sporadic "acute' impacts on coral health: Temperature-related bleaching, Predation and disease, Cyclones

Features contributing to coral resilience: Geographically remote from industrialised land masses, Large physical reef diversity, Connectivity of habitats and genetic stocks, Few overtly destructive fishing practices, Network of locally managed marine protected areas.

Annex 1g: POSTER PRESENTATION PSI 2009

Ecosystems session room 2 : Biological Processes and Sustainable Development

Remerclements: DIREN Polynésie, CPS, CRISP, Fond pacifique, TOPdive Moorea

Ecosystems session room 3: Aquaculture and Fisheries

(2) Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), UR CoRéUs, 52 avenue Paul Alduy, 66850 Perpignan, France.

Annex 1i: POSTER PRESENTATION PSI 2009

Poster session 4

tère phase : 2005

NTRODUCTION

DRESENTATION DE LA METHODE

Atelier d'identification des sites qui prèsentent les plus forts enjeux patrimoniaux, ces aires de conservation prioritaires (ACP) ont êté identifiées au cours d'un atelier de travail rassemblant l'ensemble des scientifiques du territoire.

La première phase de l'analyse écontejonale destinée à identifier les sites à forts enjeur patrimonieux a renocé qui un préliminaire de bibliographie et d'enquêtes auprés des scientifiques, d'estiné à rasembler les données existances loidversité, les espèces remarguisées, la fonctionnalité des milleux... sur le travail d'un certain nombre d'experts ayant des synthèses spécifiques sur certains thèmes (benthos, poissons, mammières marins, oiseaux, etc), et enfi arun at travail, ayant pour objectif d'erasembler les scientifiques et les aperts du lagon de-calédonen pour identifier, sur la b leur connaissance experte, les zones les plus remarquables du lagon, sur lesquelles doivent porter en priorité les effic

L'analyse écorégionale du lagon de la Nouvelle-Calédonie comporte 3 phases

ns le cadre de l'initiative pour les récifs coralliens du Pacifique sud (CRISP), lancée en 2005 par l'AFD et ses enaires, le WWF-France a souhaité développer un projet pour la protection des récifs et des lagons néo-doniens. Ce projet s'inscrit dans la composante 1 du CRISP (aires marines protégées et gestion côtiére grée), pilotée par Conservation International.

Le projet développé par le WWF-France a 3 objectifs

Objectif 1 : réaliser l'analyse écorégionale marine (AER) de la Nouvelle-Calédonie. L'AER est destinée à identifier, à une échelle géographique cohérente, un réseau d'aires prioritaires, d'intérêt majeur pour la conservation de la biodiversité et des ressources marines, et à rassembler les acteurs (scientifiques, politiques, communautés locales) autour d'une vision et d'une stratégie communes pour leur protection.

Ce travail d'analyse écorégionale a été conduit en étroite coordination avec le processus d'inscription du lagon de Nouvelle-Calédonie au Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO et a fourni les bases pour l'élaboration du dossier d'inscription. Il a notamment permis de patricipar à l'identification et à la description des sites à inscrire au Patrimoine mondial et de fournir des éléments sur leur valeur universelle.

ijectif 2 : accompagner les Provinces dans la création et la gestion d'aires marines prolàgées. La zone du nt Panié pour la Province nord et la réserve Yves Merlet, pour la Province sud, ont été retenues. Les projets ns ces deux zones sont en cours.

Objectif 3 : renforcer les capacités des gestionnaires et capitaliser les expériences en matière de création et de gestion d'aires marines prolégées (AMP).

L'AER marine de Nouvelle-Calèdonie, commencée en 2005, est achevée à ce jour. Les résultats ont fait l'objet d'un rapport de synthèse, rédigé par le WWF-France.

RESULTATS GLOBAUX

Atelier d'identification des ACP

- atelier a été organisé par le WWF ance, avec la collaboration de l'IRD la DTSI et du CRISP, Il a rassemble
- la DTSI et du
- ASE entifiques de divers organismes du ire : IRD, UNC, CPS et différentes iations : opération cétacés, l' C, Corail vivant, bureau d'études, associ

- apportées par l'extrême rich lagon néo-ca

DHASE 3

Atelier " Vision & Stratégie " ; Niveaux de pressions et menaces

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Le croisement de l'importance des aires avec l'intensité des pressions a été réalisé et validé de façon collégiale par l' ensemble des 150 participants à l'atelier « on & Stratégie ». Il révèle que les sites de la baie de Prony, le lagon centre-ouest, puis le lagon du Grand Nouméa et le site de Hienghène doivent concentrer tous les efforts de protection.

La Vision à l'horizon 2050

Vision partagée el validée par les participants lors de l'ateller « Vision & Stratégie », le 15 novembre 2007

Ge lagon néo-calédonien dispose de valeurs naturelles et culturelles que nous voulons protèger et gérer durablement pour assurer le développement harmonieux des populations locales actuelles et futures. Cette volonté s'exerce en synergie avec les autres démarches visant à limiter les effets des changements mondiaux susceptibles d'anéantir nos efforts d'anéantir nos efforts régionaux de conservation.

Résultat : 19 aires de conservation prioritaires (ACP), classées selon un critère d'intèrêt défini à dires d'experts, selon 3 niveaux : international, régional ou local. L'appartenance d'une ACP à tel ou tel rang d'intérêt dépend de sa valeur en terme de biodiversité et de ressources naturelles. Les aires les plus importantes sont classées en intérêt intérnational, et signifie que cette richess en peut d'ter etrouvée ailleurs sur la planéte, d'où l'importance de leur conservation prioritaire (rouge). Les ACP de rang d'intérêt régional indiquent une importante valeur biologique au sein du Pacifique sud (orango). Enfin, les ACP de rang d'intérêt iceal signaler des richesses à l'échelle de la Nouvelle-Calèdonie (vert).

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Résultat : 20 pressions et menaces, liées à des perturbations d'origine naturelle ou anthropique ont été recensées. Cette étude a porté sur les activités pour lesquelles les données étaient disponibles. Les principales pressions exercées sur les récifs de Nouvelle-Calédonie sont :

les apports terrigènes liés à l'érosion,
les rejets d'eaux usées et des infrastructures liées à l'urbanisation,
le braconnage et la surexploitation des ressources marines sur certains

OBJECTIF 3 : Une politique régionale de communication et d'éducation environnementale sur le lagon favorise l'adhésion des décideurs, des populations locales et du grand public.

OBJECTIF 5 : Des moyens de recherche et de suivi des priorités de conservation et des pressions et menaces majeures sont mis en place. Domaine stratégique II : CONTRIBUTION des AMP à la GESTION des RESSOURCES et au DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

OBJECTIF 1 : L'environnement institutionnel et juridique des AMP est adapté au niveau de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et de la région.

OBJECTIF 2 : Un réseau cohérent d'AMP est géré de facon coordonnée à l'échelle de la Nouvelle-Calédonie.

OBJECTIF 1 : Des mécanismes participatifs sont mis en place pour poser les bases d'un développement local durable.

- OBJECTIF 2 : Les ressources halieutiques des AMP sont valorisées et utilisées tout en assurant leur régénération et en respectant les équilibres écologiques, au profit d'une pêche durable. OBJECTIF 3 : Le réseau des AMP contribue à promouvoir une gestion durable des ressources partagées

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Les Voix de l'action : recommandations et orientations stratégiques

Les voies de l'action ont été regroupées selon 3 grands domaines stratégiques : Domaine stratégique I : RENFORCEMENT INSTITUTIONNEL et GESTION des AMP

aine stratégique III : RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE à partir des AMP

OBJECTIF 4 : Des moyens du suivi et de contrôle des AMP sont mis en place.

OBJECTIF 1 : Les connaissances de l'écologie du lagon et de la biologie des espèces emblématique sont renforcées.

Au sein de chacun de ces domaines, plusieurs objectifs ont pu être définis, eux-mêmes déclinés en 26 recommandations et une liste d'orientations par type de pression/menace.

CONCLUSION

Tous les résultats issus des différentes phases ont été intégrés dans un document de synthèse reprenant l'ensemble de la méthode de l'AER. A l'issu de l'AER marine de la Nouvelle-Calédonie, il a été :

- présenté, précisé, validé et hierarchisé les 19 aires de conservation prioritaires du milieu marin de la Nouvelle-Calédonie, en rediscutant de leurs limites et de leurs niveaux d'intérêt (international, régional, local) et de pression/menace, - étabil une vision commune pour la patrimoine marin calédonien à l'horizon 2050. - proposé une liste de recommandations et/ou orientations pour la préservation et la gestion du lagon.

Ce travail considérable d'expertise collégiale prendra tout son sens dans la mise en œuvre effective des orientations de gestion

ouccurent. Dans cette perspective, le document synthétique de l'AER sera proposé à la signature des autorités et pouvoirs publics pour contribuer au cadre de référence des actions de conservation du milieu marin pour les prochaînes décennies.

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Etudes des pressions et menaces

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Poster session 4

SUMMARY

2008 South West Pacific Status of the Reefs

Fiji, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Tuvalu report monitoring data for this report; Nauru has not conducted recent monitoring. The Coral Reef Initiative for the Pacific (CRISP) has provided funding for monitoring activities in this region.

A broad range of observers (scientists, students, dive guides and communities) assist with reef monitoring. Substrate cover changes from 2003 to 2007 were due to eective management or local disturbances, coral predation and natural disasters. Average coral cover at monitoring sites was: 45% in Fiji; 27% in New Caledonia; 43% in Samoa; 30% in Solomon Islands; 65% in Tuvalu; and 26% in Vanuatu. Densities of edible fish and invertebrates remained generally low (0-10/100m2) in 4 countries reflecting high subsistence and commercial fishing pressure. Butterflyfish, parrotfish, surgeonfish and damselfish were generally most dominant. High densities of parrotfish were reported from 4 countries.

A network of temperature loggers has been established within the Node to collect long-term data on temperature relationships with coral bleaching.

There are multiple stressors, including coral predation, temperature variation, coral bleaching, cyclones, tsunamis and earthquakes. An earthquake and tsunami in April 2007 damaged reefs and other coastal habitats in the Solomon Islands. The major human disturbances are over-fishing, pollution, sedimentation, eutrophication and coastal development. In response, communities and resort owners are managing local marine areas such that coral health and fish populations are improving.

There is a need for long-term monitoring to understand the changes in reefs. Most monitoring is coordinated by Fisheries Departments, without sucient resources, capacity or funding. The non-participation of Nauru in an example.

Session 1 : Legal Framework

Current Issues in International Intellectual Property Rights

Intellectual property rights (IPRs) have been getting longer, broader, and stronger ever since their inception several hundred years ago. This trend has accelerated greatly in recent decades as many parts of the world have begun to transition from industrial to post-industrial "knowledge" economies. The trend has been reflected in the international treaties of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and other more specific intergovernmental organizations, and implemented through national legislation, regulations, and policies. Although usually developed and adopted first by OECD countries, many developing countries have been implementing the same laws as well. These various laws have been promoted almost exclusively by large multinational industry sectors, such as pharmaceuticals, software, publishing, and film and music. The actual interests and applicability of these laws to less developed countries, have tended to be disregarded or marginalized in the push for expansive exclusive property rights.

In very recent years, there have been a number of developments at the international and national levels that have sought to balance the interests between rights holders and the public, and between the wealthier and poorer countries. Some of these efforts have taken place within the public law domain of intergovernmental organizations, such as the Development Agenda at WIPO, while others have been sector-specific or nationally focused. One important approach that has emerged in the past few years is in private contract law, which seeks to promote the voluntary adoption of agreements between parties of "some rights reserved", instead of the full restrictions of the statutory IP regimes. Such "common use" contracts seek to property the rights that are most important to the owner of the IPRs, while allowing users of the intellectual property greater freedom to access and reuse it in more socially beneficial ways.

This presentation will provide an overview of these developments in public and private law in the intellectual property arena, and particularly as they relate to the interests of developing countries and the nonprofit research community.

Session 1 : Legal Framework

International intellectual property Law on biotechnology and its relationship with biodiversity

Biotechnology is defined in the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1992) as any technological application that uses biological systems, living organisms, or derivatives thereof, to make or modify products or processes for specific use. It involves the development by scientists of biological resources directly extracted from their natural environment or stored for research purposes.

International law protects inventions by the classical system of patents. Article 27 of the Agreement on Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS, 1994) provides that an invention can be protected only if it is new, involves an inventive step (non obvious) and is capable of industrial application (useful). TRIPS is part of the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Any WTO Member State may exclude from patentability inventions, the prevention within their territory of the commercial exploitation of which is necessary to protect ordre public or morality, including to protect human, animal or plant life or health or to avoid serious prejudice to the environment. It is also possible to exclude from patentability, animals, plants and essentially biological processes for the production of plants or animals. Inventions based on mcroorganisms remains patentable and depend on a specific regime of deposit for States parties to the Budapest Treaty (1977-1980).

The Doha Declaration (2001) opens a new path for biodiversity protection since raises the question of the relationship between TRIPS and CBD. In this context, The TRIPS Council coordinates discussions between Member States on the disclosure of the country of origin of biological resources or traditional knowledge used to create a biotechnological invention.

Session 1 : Legal Framework

Legal aspects of traditional ecological Knowledge

Since 1970, a call highlights the respet of indigenous' rights and a new offense is now denounced Biopiracy! As, the new Convention on Immaterial Heritage was adopted in 2003, a question is emerging: is there a place for a new multicultural law on traditional ecological knowledge?

Cultural heritage, values and practices strengthen identities and are also a rich and diverse source of creativity and innovation wich are essential in the face of rapid changes taking place in the World and particularly in Pacific Community. But, natural and cultural heritages can not be dissociated. The UNESCO's Convention on World Heritage underscores this reality like the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) that puts together Biodiversity and traditional knowledge (Art.8J). Twenty years later, Pacific Islands Ministers of Culture proclaimed "protection of traditional knowledge and culture is a priority" and endorsed the Regional Framework for the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Culture.

Behind numerous international instruments, what is the real state of legal art on tradional ecological knowledge? Facing "spontaneous economic law", traditionnal knowledge needs to be understood as a social fonction not only a patentable content.

While discussions are continuing at WIPO IGC on a Sui generis system, the Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing of the CBD debates on Certificate of Origin. Relevant and efficient measures need still to be taken to recognize the status and economic support for the indigenous and local communities that are the creators, the repository of traditional knowledge, which have collective ownership. A Model Law is developed under the auspices of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) for the protection of traditional ecological knowledge. At the level of national laws, several States have enacted or are enacting legislation in the area of traditional knowled-ge protection, for instance Brazil, India and Vanuatu.

Session 2: ABS Legislation in the Pacific

The Law of protection and reasonable use of marine biodiversity in Melanesia: the cases of Vanuatu, Fiji and Solomon Islands

The selected states of the juridical part of Component 2-C of CRISP Project are State-Islands that have a democratic western political system and a Melanesian culture. The juridical system is mixed with British common law rules and customary law regulations.

These three States recognize a «customary marine property» until the limit of the border reef. In the particular case of Fiji Islands, a concept of customary fishing zone is observed.

The sample-States are parties to many international conventions focusing on protection and use of marine biodiversity. They ratified the United Nations convention on the law of the sea (1982) and global respect its prescriptions. They are also parties to international and regional conventions concerning fisheries and have special bills on this topic.

Each of them have special recent bills concerning protection of the environment, but regulations are incomprehensive. The particular problem of marine environment protection is lacking. The endangered marine species are included only in the international trade regulation or fishing regulation only.

The protection of marine coastal zones is uncompleted and the marine protected areas system is rarely used.

Acknowledgment : we thank the CRISP and AFD (Agence Française de Développement) for funding this project.

Session 2: ABS Legislation in the Pacific

Access and Benefit Sharing: Views from the Philippines, A Mega-diverse Developing Country

The Philippines is one of 17 megadiversity countries in the world and a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992. In 1995, it became the first country in the world to develop policies and regulations as well as to implement these with regards to Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), one of the cornerstones of the CBD. This happened with the issuance of Executive Order 247 (EO 247) which became known as the Philippine Bioprospecting Law. It was implemented for six years and ultimately some of its more controversial provisions were either repealed or amended when a new legislation (the Wildlife Conservation Act) was passed which incorporated lessons learned from the implementation of the EO 247.

The EO 247 distinguished between Academic Research and Commercial Research and the appropriate agreements were designed and signed. Throughout its short lifespan, only one academic research agreement and one commercial research agreement were signed. Under the new Wildlife Act, only commercial research was identified as needing stringent requirements while academic research were treated separately but still regulated. To date, no commercial undertakings had been made under the new law. On the other hand, while academic research was treated differently, there were still requirements to secure collecting permits which were contingent on securing Prior Informed Consent (PIC) from the relevant stakeholders.

The experience of local and foreign academic researchers from the noncommercial sector in the Philippines on ABS and its impact on academic research will be highlighted, while other issues and concerns will also be discussed.

Annex 2f: ORAL PRESENTATION ABS WORKSHOP

SUMMARY

Session 2: ABS Legislation in the Pacific

Legal aspects related to marine bioprospection in Melanesia: example of Fiji, Salomon and Vanuatu Islands

Our study within Component 2-C on marine active substances of the Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific focuses on the law which apply to marine bioprospecting in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Marine Scientific Research (MSR) is subject to and unequal rules which are not necessary appropriate to this specific activity. The three States have adopted the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982) without adapting its prescriptions to modern MSR.

Solomon Islands' Law on research (1982) deals with research in general. Fijian Marine Spaces Act (1978) regulates MSR only in the Economic Exclusive Zone. In Vanuatu, there is no specific law on the MSR. Vanuatu's Environmental Management and Conservation Act (2002) is composed inter alia of a part on bioprospection which can apply. Despite the good quality of their legislations, the MSR remains poorly identified in this Melanesian States. In practice, this activity is generally considered as a fishing activity or a preliminary exploitation of biological resources. This constitutes an impediment to research and development.

Patent Law is heterogeneous. Fijian Patents Act (1879) is outdated and does not always correspond to international standards. Unlike Fiji, Vanuatu is not a member State of the World Trade Organisation but paradoxically complies with its requirements in its Patents Act of 2003. Industrial Property Bill of Salomon Islands (2002) has still not been adopted by the Parliament. All these laws are "market oriented", which does not necessarily correspond to the reality of small island developing countries. The lack of capacity allocated to research and development still hampers innovation and investment, particularly in the biotechnology sector.

Acknowledgment : we thank the CRISP and AFD (Agence Française de Développement) for funding this project.

Session 3: Research and ABS

Access and Benefit Sharing in Non-commercial Biodiversity Research

Two of the most contentious issues associated with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) are the regulation of access to genetic resources and the equitable sharing of benefits associated with the use of those resources. The CBD has set a 2010 goal for creation of an International Regime for Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) and a series of six meetings are scheduled for 2008-2010 with that goal in mind. There is great concern in the research community that the International Regime might make no distinction between commercial research (such as pharmaceutical bioprospecting) and non-commercial research (biotic surveys, inventories, ecological studies). This could lead to severe restrictions on access to biological specimens and could hamper international research collaborations.

The Consortium for the Barcode of Life (CBOL; www.barcoding.si.edu) held a week-long workshop on ABS in non-commercial research and has prepared reports that will be introduced into the negotiations of the International ABS Regime. These reports:

- Explore the distinctions between commercial and non-commercial research;
- Describe the benefits and benefit-sharing associated with non-commercial research;
- Consider the risks of lost benefits perceived by developing countries; and
- Outline voluntary compliance measures that could assess and mitigate these risks.

This half-day session will present summaries of the main issues associated with ABS and the development of the International ABS regime. A case study of a non-commercial research project in French Polynesia will be presented, in which the different perspectives of the diverse stakeholders will be explored:

- The researcher;
- The sponsoring university;
- A local government agency; and
- The local community.

Session 3: ABS Legislation in the Pacific

Intellectual Property Issues Associated with Genetic Resources and Natural Product Development

Research universities fulfill multiple roles in the innovation ecosystem. While they operate primarily in the early stages of discovery and innovation, universities are in the distinctive positions of collecting unique materials and data, bringing materials into the laboratory for further study, sharing research data and efforts with other researchers within the research laboratory and across borders in other countries, developing new discoveries that may eventually alleviate societal maladies, as well as transferring these discoveries to industrial partners who can bring them to market for the public benefit. In the course of fulfilling these roles, the university enters into research and license agreements that define the myriad relationships with the broad range of partners involved, from research sponsors, material providers, research collaborators and commercial licensees. Careful attention must be paid in particular to the intellectual property terms of the individual agreements as they often interrelate with one another.

Access to unique genetic resources provides an incentive for universities to conduct research and learn more about the basic properties of the material. Intellectual property rights provide an incentive for industry to invest the effort and resources into the lengthy and risky process of developing a healthcare product in the rare event of such a discovery. During the collection process, universities must respect and balance the needs and desires of the material provider remaining mindful of potential future applications of the material that are noted during the discovery process. However, high level discussions in the international arena may significantly impact the university's ability to forge these various relationships for a particular material or product.

This presentation will explore the multiple roles of the research university and the delicate balance of obtaining access to genetic resources and sharing benefits with the source community, while maintaining an incentive for potential commercial development of a healthcare product that can be utilized by the general public. Such arrangements could benefit developing countries as material providers as well as society which otherwise may not have had access to the material and the creation of new knowledge. Examples of benefit sharing arrangements with Pacific Rim countries will be discussed.

Acknowledgment : we thank the CRISP and AFD (Agence Française de Développement) for funding this project.

Session 4: Case Study

ABS aspects of the Moorea Biocode Project

The Moorea Biocode Project (MBP) is a scientific research program intended to make the exhaustive inventory of the genetic resources of Moorea island in French Polynesia using the new "Barcoding" approach. This project aims at complying with the obligations of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) regarding the access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their utilization (ABS).

In 1992, CBD recognized the "sovereign rights of States over their natural resources " with the obligation for them to regulate ABS obligations . According to its 2004 Autonomous Status , French Polynesia has the jurisdiction over its genetic resources but there is no ABS legislation in force even if a draft text is in suspense since 2006. France is not showing the way to its overseas territories without having adopted itself any ABS legislation implementing CBD provisions .

In the frame of the Biocode Project, the CBD recognized rights of French Polynesia and of "indigenous and local communities" over genetic resources are respected through cooperative agreements concluded between French Polynesia and a community based organization with the University of California Berkeley (UCB), administratively responsible for the Gump research Station in Moorea. In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is under discussion between the members of the "Biocode Consortium" and French Polynesia to facilitate the transfer and traceability of genetic resources ensuring the free sharing of the Project's results in making them publicly available. This MOU is intended to pave the way for providing a future model of Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) for the non-commercial research on biodiversity and help French Polynesia to build its own ABS politics with the objective of facilitating scientific research for biodiversity conservation purposes.

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Origin of participants		
Australia	2	
Canada	1	
Chile	1	
China	1	
Fiji	2	
France	11	
French Polynesia	14	
Guam	1	
Hawaii	1	
Japan	1	
New Caledonia	2	
New Zealand	3	
Papua New Guinea	1	
Philippines	2	
Taïwan	1	
USA	10	

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2ND SYMPOSIUM ON FRENCH RESEARCH IN THE PACIFIC

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF MR. NICOLAS SARKOZY PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

PARTICIPATION OF THE CRISP TO PSI 2009

THE 11" PACIFIC SCIENCE INTER-CONGRESS

SUMMARY

PSI 2009 was a major event for the CRISP programme who dedicated 20 000 Euros from the French Pacific Fund (SPP) to the manifestation. France, French Polynesia, and the Pacific Science Association organized this 11th Pacific Science Intercongress in conjunction with the 2nd Symposium on French Research in the Pacific, on the theme : « Pacific countries and their ocean facing local and global changes ». A theme that logically called for a strong CRISP participation.

Acknowledged by the French President Nicolas Sarkozy, the CRISP programme took this great opportunity to present some of its achievements.

The CRISP Coordinating Unit in Noumea allocated special grants to eight scientists presenting their work during poster or oral presentations, mainly during the first session on « Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development ».

Extra funding was also provided to five other collaborators for their participation to a special CRISP side-event, organized through component 2C on Bioprospection. The organisation of this workshop on « Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of Genetic resources in the Pacific » was primeraly funded by CRISP, in association with IRD, UC Berkeley Gump Station and the Smithsonian Institution via the Consortium for the Barcode of Life.

Special financial help was also allocated to Tamatoa Bambridge (CNRS) for the organisation of a workshop on Governance titled « Management of marine resources and habitats (lagoons and coral reefs) in Polynesia: between legitimacy and efficiency » that took place at the CRIOBE headquaters in Moorea

Lastly, CRISP coordinator Eric Clua took part in the workshop organized by Pr. Bernard Salvat (EPHE) and Randy Thaman (USP) on « Cooperation in Science and Education in the Pacific ».

The inter-congress main covered topics were:

- 1. Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development
- 2. Climate Change and Ocean Acidification
- 3. Health Challenges in the Pacific : Infectious diseases, Non-communicable diseases and the Health workforce
- 4. Culture and Politics : The Stakes of Modernity
- 5. Governance and the Economy : Future challenges for the Pacific

