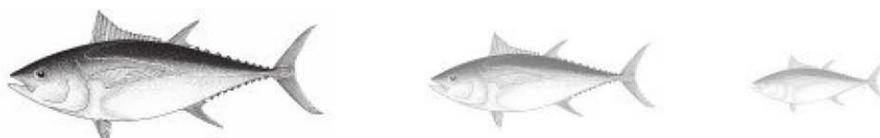


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Editorial



Bula and welcome to another edition of our newsletter. Last month, PIMRIS organised and hosted a regional meeting and training at the USP Library Conference Room in Suva, Fiji, funded by the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) Project Office in Oostende, Belgium. During the four-day programme, participants were able to learn more about the Koha Integrated Library System and e-repository development using Greenstone Digital Library software. The highlight of the meeting was the review of the 2009-2010 activities of both the ODIN-PIMRIS pilot project and the overall PIMRIS network in addition to planning activities for the next two years. A report of the meeting appears in this issue (pp.9-10).

Although the PIMRIS network has been successful over the years it is often challenged by national ministry changes, restructuring within regional agencies, high staff turnover and financial constraints associated with keeping the network as effective and active as possible. Despite all these challenges, PIMRIS is still going strong and partners are reaping the benefits of ongoing collaborative efforts.

On June 8, 'World Oceans Day' was celebrated around the globe and according to www.worldoceansday.org, approximately 400 events were held in 70 countries. In this issue, we describe how 'World Oceans Day' was honoured in Fiji (pp.3-4), by CSIRO (pp.4-5) and SPREP (pp.7-8). We also have some of the latest news on environmental and fisheries/marine activities from around the region (pp.11-13). Happy reading!

Susana Macanawai, PIMRIS Coordinator

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Waiting for a catch!

A familiar scene along riverbanks and bridges in the Suva-Nausori area.

Photo credit:
Johnson Seeto

We kindly request Fisheries Divisions in Pacific Island countries to deposit hard or soft copies of their publications (published or unpublished reports, research papers, technical papers etc.) with PIMRIS. Annual Reports are especially important. The items will be added to the PIMRIS library collection and made available online (in full-text) through the PIMRIS Regional Repository.

Directory

PIMRIS is a cooperative network of fisheries and marine resources libraries and information centres in the Pacific. Participants include national ministerial libraries and regional agencies listed below.

For additional information contact the Coordination Unit or a specific agency.

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New Faces, New Places

Farewell Eleanor!

Eleanor Kleiber, Librarian for the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) based at the SPC Headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia, left in April 2011, for her new appointment as the Pacific Specialist Librarian at the University of Hawaii, Manoa-Hamilton Library.



Photo credit: SPC website

PIMRIS thanks Eleanor for her invaluable contributions to the PIMRIS network and the region during her time at SPC and wishes her the best for the future - *on vous souhaite tout le meilleur!*

Welcome aboard Miraneta!



Photo credit: Miraneta Williams-Hazelman

Miraneta Williams-Hazelman, the Assistant Librarian at the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is our current contact until a new Manager for the Information Resource Centre in Samoa is appointed.

Miraneta Williams-Hazelman studied at the University of South Australia, Adelaide from 1995-1999 and has been with SPREP Information Resource Centre for 11 years. Her experiences under the leadership of Satui Bentin and Peter Murgatroyd will be invaluable to our partners and network and we are grateful to have her on board. Mira, as she is better known, is Samoan.

USP-Laucala Library New Library Assistant: Davina Chand recently joined the Laucala Campus main library as a Library Assistant after several years with the Fiji School of Medicine. Davina replaces Anasa Waqa who has retired.



Fiji's Totoya Reef declared sacred for 2011 'World Oceans Day'

'Daveta Tabu' marked

Dr Stacey Jupiter

We are making history today," the Roko Sau, Josefa Cinavilakeba, the chief of the Yasayasamoala Group, leaned over and said to me as we sped out to Totoya's sacred reef.

On Monday, June 6, in honour of World Oceans Day, Roko Sau declared Daveta Tabu to be Totoya's first formal marine protected area (MPA). The MPA will be a no-fishing zone for the entire district, encompassing approximately four square kilometres of Totoya's reef, including Daveta Tabu, the sacred passage.

"We have brought the communities together to restore our traditions and embrace the spirit of World Oceans Day," Roko Sau said. "We want to protect this reef for our youth and their future generations."

Daveta Tabu, the sacred passage, was off-limits to fishing by chiefly decree for decades following the burial at sea of a stillborn baby to the Tongan wife of one Roko Sau, Kubunanavanua. In the mid 1990s, the previous Roko Sau lifted the ban. However, even with the ban lifted, local fishing pressure does not appear to have made a large dent on fish populations.

Because of the remote location of Totoya and the rough conditions through the passage, our impression is that the fish populations are still in very healthy condition, with total biomass and diversity likely to exceed any other site surveyed in Fiji. Thus, the goal of the MPA will be to preserve the fish for the future and allow them to be seed stocks for generations to come.

On the Friday June 3, Roko Sau met with the chiefs from each of the four villages of the vanua of Totoya at the district council meeting. They agreed unanimously to reinstate the fishing ban and also to expand the area of the MPA which will serve the entire district. This agreement came as a natural step building on important work by the Fiji Department of Fisheries, who held initial management planning discussions with the communities of Totoya in March of this year.

Makereta Cinavilakeba, wife of Roko Sau, confided: "On Saturday, some of the locals tried to go out fishing by Daveta Tabu. They were thrown out of the boat by a wave. It is like our ancestors are recognising the good work we are doing and helping us to protect the Sacred Reef."

On the morning of the declaration, gale force winds that ripped through the bay overnight finally subsided and the sun shined brightly overhead.

Our teams from the Wildlife Conservation Society, Pacific Blue Foundation, Wetlands International-Oceania and the Waitt Institute surfaced from our last dive surveys to see a village boat from Udu Village patiently awaiting the arrival of their high chief. With them were two Cibicibi trees, a type of Fijian hardwood, which would be used to mark the eastern and western boundaries of the MPA.

Meanwhile, the village chiefs, church leaders and members of our expedition assembled in their finery and piled into boats for the ceremony on the reef.



*Roko Sau, Roko Josefa Cinavilakeba, demonstrates his leadership by installing the Daveta Tabu MPA marker. **Picture:** Roko Sau, Josefa*

On our boat, the church minister from Tovu placed his hand inside a bucket of water drawn from the reef while he blessed the MPA and the people of Totoya for the wise stewardship of their resources.

Then, to show his leadership, Roko Sau himself entered the water to place the first marker into the reef, with assistance from some of the strong young men. After the second marker was placed three kilometres to the east, there was jubilation in the air. Unable to contain their excitement, chiefs and members of the expedition alike launched themselves off the boats into the water to touch the markers to tangibly celebrate the momentous occasion. In Fiji, this action symbolises the release of individual blessings and support for the MPA.

Roko Sau and Dr Greg Mitchell, founder of Pacific Blue Foundation and organiser of the expedition, shook hands of congratulations and slight relief that all of their long hours of planning had paid off in a way that felt bigger than either could have imagined.

Roko Sau concluded: "We have declared the MPA for World Oceans Day for our future generations. But we also make this gesture to honour the ocean for its continued contribution to our Totoyan communities."

Roko Sau thanked the support and contribution by officers from the National Disaster Management Committee and the Ministry of Fisheries who went on the ground-breaking trip.

** Dr Stacey Jupiter was part of the teams from the Wildlife Conservation Society, Pacific Blue Foundation, Wetlands International-Oceania and the Waitt Institutem who witnessed the declaration of the Daveta Tabu as a MPA on World Ocean Day, June 6, 2011.*

(Source: <http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?ref=archive&id=172732>)

CSIRO celebrates 'World Oceans Day'

To celebrate World Oceans Day, CSIRO is taking its ocean research to the public with Ocean Tracks, a science-meets-game engine website that displays the paths swum by tagged fish.

Reference: 11/58

Want to know where Mirella the gold spot trevally or Nero the spangled emperor hang out? Or how about where Hitomi the bigeye tuna, Papa the whale shark, and Galileo the tiger shark patrolled the southern oceans?



"With Ocean Tracks, CSIRO is dipping its toe into this exciting space. We know there is a hunger for ocean news and this is a chance for people to make a personal connection with the research." CSIRO's Dr Andy Steven

8 June 2011

As part of World Oceans Day, CSIRO is taking its ocean research to the public

with Ocean Tracks, a science-meets-game engine website that displays the paths swum by tagged fish.

The web application shows lifelike, three-dimensional animations of fish in their underwater environment. The site offers stories of the animals and illustrates aspects of CSIRO's tagging research.

Visitors can link Ocean Tracks to their Facebook page, recommend it to their friends, and share it through other social sites and online communities.

For more than 20 years CSIRO has been a world leader in marine tagging studies. The data can show where and when animals travel and where they dwell. This information is used to guide marine conservation and fisheries management.

"With Ocean Tracks, CSIRO is dipping its toe into this exciting space. We know there is a hunger for ocean news and this is a chance for people to make a personal connection with the research." CSIRO's Dr Andy Steven

Dr Andy Steven, who leads CSIRO's Visualisation Initiative, said the rapid development of social platforms, mobile broadband services and devices meant that rich visual information was readily accessible.

"This development is transforming the way people think about and interact with their environment," Dr Steven said.

"With Ocean Tracks, CSIRO is dipping its toe into this exciting space. We know there is a hunger for ocean news and this is a chance for people to make a personal connection with the research."

The CSIRO marine tag database is unique in that it has data from conventional through to the latest electronic tags. Researchers from CSIRO and partners have tagged an armada of marine creatures – including reef fish, white and deep-sea sharks, swordfish, tunas, some sea birds and even Antarctic seals.

Ocean Tracks features three coastal and six open-ocean fish from this database.

"By transforming the data gleaned from these tags and sensors into a visual platform we're further increasing the value of the database by taking our science to the public," Dr Steven said.

"We hope Ocean Tracks will inform and inspire people about the science that's helping tackle some big issues, such as biodiversity conservation, sustainable fisheries and coastal development. Through Ocean Tracks they can feel part of the research effort."

"Data visualisation can be a powerful communication tool for demonstrating and increasing understanding of environmental knowledge, futures, and choices. CSIRO is increasingly moving to visual platforms to help the community, researchers and decision makers grasp the impact of science."

The website was produced by CSIRO with the application development by The Project Factory.

(Source: <http://www.csiro.au/news/Hitomi-the-bigeye-tuna-puts-CSIRO-research-on-radar.html>)

DEVFISH II project of EU funded \$10 million USD underway to develop fisheries in Pacific Islands

By anouk.ride - Posted on 14 March 2011



HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, 14 MARCH 2011: The European Union (EU), Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) have commenced the DEVFISH II project to provide national and regional assistance to Pacific Island fisheries.

Under DEVFISH II, the EU will provide a total funding of 8 million Euros (10 million USD) for fisheries development and control of illegal fishing.

The Development of Tuna Fisheries in the Pacific ACP Countries Project (DEVFISH) is a European Union funded regional project, aims to give Pacific Islands a fairer slice of economic benefits from tuna fishing. DEVFISH II, jointly administered by FFA and SPC, will over 5 years provide 8.2 million Euros worth of assistance for two broad purposes - fisheries development and control of illegal fishing.

Pacific Island countries need technical assistance and policy change to increase local industry development to create economic growth while increasing local jobs and food security. For example, Pacific Island countries catch just \$200 million worth of tuna from its fisheries while foreign nations fishing in the same waters catch over \$2 billion. Meanwhile, estimates of lost potential earnings from illegal fishing range from the millions to over a billion. By focusing its efforts on increasing control of illegal fishing and maximising local opportunities for business and employment, DEVFISH will make a significant impact on Pacific Island economies.

Assistance under DEVFISH will include:

NATIONAL FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES. The project will continue to implement 3 existing action plans, and to develop new national plans to outline and enable sustainable fisheries management.

TRANSPARENCY & INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT. Assistance will find new ways to strengthen industry associations and artisanal fishers' representation in decision making, and provide training and advice on fishing access agreements and licenses to national government staff.

COMPETANT AUTHORITIES. To export fish to the EU, countries need an EU-approved 'Competent Authority' to certify fish exports meet EU export standards. Support will be provided for meeting requirements associated with sanitary inspection and EU catch certification (which contain requirements to certify fish is not caught illegally).

EXPORT EXPANSION: Training and expertise to expand exports within sustainable limits will be provided - such as training fishing companies to improve vessels and fish handling practices.

FISHING COMPANY GROWTH: Focusing on small and medium enterprises, DEVFISH will provide training and technical assistance with a focus on strengthening management and filling skill shortages constraining growth and profitability, within sustainable limits.

PILOTING NEW TECHNOLOGIES: Projects may include trials of palm oil as boiler fuel in processing plants, the trial of other clean technologies, and replacement of 2-stroke with 4-stroke engines for artisanal fisheries.

(Source: Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency website: <http://www.ffa.int/node/448>)

World Oceans Day message - from SPREP Director

Statement by David Sheppard, Director of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Today, 8th of June, 2011 we celebrate World Oceans Day.

Let's reflect today on the value of Oceans to our people, our islands and our planet.

In the Pacific we are islands scattered, yet united and defined by our peaceful Ocean.

The Pacific Ocean covers 35% of the Earth's Surface. It is our lifeblood with the majority of Pacific communities living close to the sea. Pacific communities have always had a close relationship with our Ocean. Coastal marine resources provide our food and support our economic development.

The Pacific Ocean is home to many large marine animals such as cetaceans (whales and dolphins), dugongs and marine turtles. These play a significant role in the health and functioning of our coasts and ocean, and are flagship species for Pacific marine ecosystems.

Did you know that over half of the world's known species of cetaceans and six of the seven known marine turtle species occur in the region? The Pacific supports the world's largest remaining populations of dugongs, as well as important populations of green, hawksbill and loggerhead turtles.

The Pacific Ocean and its marine animals feature prominently in promotional material for Pacific tourism. There are millions of visitors to enjoy our beautiful Ocean vistas and beaches each year.

Our Ocean inspires Pacific cultures and is rooted deeply in Pacific history as it carried ancestors from island to island over years of voyaging. This cultural strength and identity is being resurrected with activities such as the Vaka Project, encouraging building of authentic Polynesian canoes and Vaka sailing voyages across the Pacific.

Many Pacific Island cultures have legends and traditional uses of marine mammals and turtles. Dugong bone and the teeth of small cetaceans have been important in certain ceremonies such as marriages and funerals.

On this World's Ocean Day, we acknowledge the many threats that are eroding the integrity of the Pacific Ocean - pollution, marine invasive species, extreme climatic events such as cyclones and elevated sea surface temperatures to over-fishing and destructive fishing.

We need to ask the question – how much more can our Ocean take?

Many marine species in the Pacific are also threatened. While humpback whales in many parts of the world are showing signs of recovery from past whaling, most of the small breeding populations in the South Pacific remain at extremely low levels.



Photo by Stuart Chape -Marine Protected Area, Chelbacheb, Palau

Of the six species of marine turtles that occur in the Pacific, two are listed as critically endangered, and three as endangered. Most of these marine species have distribution and migratory pathways that extend across and beyond international boundaries. Pacific Island countries have a shared responsibility to ensure the recovery and maintenance of viable populations of these marine animals.

Threats to the survival of these marine animals include unsustainable harvesting incidental by-catch in fisheries, habitat degradation, climate change, boat strikes, and pollution including marine debris.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is dedicated to supporting Pacific country efforts to address these threats through measures such as:

- reducing pollution through improved waste treatment and ballast water management;
- conserving marine species and working with communities through approaches such as locally managed marine areas to ease fishing pressures;
- implementing a regional marine species programme which focuses on dugongs, marine turtles and cetaceans (whales and dolphins)
- assisting countries to adapt to climate change through the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project;

Better partnerships are essential for the future of our Pacific Ocean.

The Pacific Oceanscape initiative has been endorsed by leaders of Pacific island countries. This initiative unites actions for good ocean governance and management in order to protect, manage, maintain and sustain the cultural and natural integrity of the Pacific Ocean for future generations and indeed for humanity.

Efforts by Pacific island countries and territories to protect their marine and ocean environments, including through establish nation-wide marine sanctuaries, should be expanded and encouraged.

Despite these positive initiatives many challenges remain for the Pacific Ocean and we all need to work together to protect our ocean and better manage our marine resources. The value of the Pacific Ocean is priceless, but at what cost and when will we realise this?

So today, World Oceans day, let's celebrate and honor our Pacific Ocean – a medium that unite us all!

(Source: http://www.sprep.org/article/news_detail.asp?id=941)

Pacific Year of the Dugong 2011

2011 has been declared the Pacific Year of the Dugong. This is a regional campaign aimed at increasing protection of dugongs and their habitats by raising awareness, improving knowledge and fostering to save Dugongs partnerships for conservation of dugongs and their habitats.

More details and pictures available via SPREP website: <http://www.sprep.org/biodiversity/PYOD/index.asp>



**ODIN-PIMRIS Project Review Meeting & Training
and PIMRIS Steering Committee Meeting**
University of the South Pacific – Library Conference Room, Suva, Fiji
4-7 May 2011

Susana Macanawai, Coordinator PIMRIS



Standing (*left to right*): George Matutu (Cook Is.), Eddie Marahare (FFA), Ataban Kapule (Solomon Is.), Akosita Seru (Fiji), Shalendra Singh (Fiji), Olofa Tuaepepe (Samoa), Emeline Taufalele (Tonga), Samu Nakalevu (SPC-Suva)

Sitting (*left to right*): Erema Banrere (Kiribati), Susana Macanawai (PIMRIS), Joan Yee (USP), Suzie Davies (IODE-GEMIM), Stephanie Watt (SPC-Noumea), Miraneta Williams-Hazelman (SPREP)

The Pacific Islands Marine Resources Information System (PIMRIS) meeting and training held at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Suva, Fiji from 4-7 May 2011 was attended by regional and Fiji members of the PIMRIS network and an international representative from the IODE-GEMIM (Group of Experts on Marine Information Management), all with an interest in marine and environment information management and the ODIN-PIMRIS project.

The four-day programme included a review of the ODIN-PIMRIS pilot project (2009-2010), reviewing past and planning future PIMRIS activities, training and interactive discussions on 'Disaster Planning and Recovery', 'Basics of Koha Library System and a refresher on 'Greenstone e-repository development'.

The meeting was opened by USP's University Librarian, Sin Joan Yee, who welcomed all participants including the representative from GEMIM and thanked all for their contributions and participation, especially the SPC, FFA and SPREP librarians who were financially supported by their employers to attend this meeting. She also emphasised the value of the project to the PIMRIS network in enhancing marine/fisheries information services and acknowledged the efforts of all who contributed to the project from its beginning to date and in particular the financial support given by the IODE Project Office in Belgium.

ODIN-PIMRIS Pilot Project Review Meeting

The ODIN-PIMRIS pilot project 2009-2010 has been regarded as very successful as it completed a number of planned activities and met its objectives.

E-repository training and national e-repositories were developed in marine/fisheries ministries of pilot countries (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa and Solomon Islands) using Greenstone software. Several project participants and PIMRIS partners attended IODE funded training on marine information management, disaster planning and recovery, website development etc. in Belgium. Another great achievement was the development and launch of the

Pacific Islands Marine Portal (<http://www.pimrisportal.org/>) , currently hosted by the IODE Project Office in Oostende, Belgium.

ODIN-PIMRIS plans to develop Tonga Fisheries' e-repository using Greenstone software as successfully implemented in pilot project countries and carry out training and awareness programmes on ODIN-PIMRIS activities and the Pacific Islands Marine portal by the end of 2011. Fisheries ministries in Tuvalu and Vanuatu will benefit from the same activities currently planned for their libraries in 2012 and 2013.

In the meantime, project and PIMRIS partners will continue with populating e-repositories, scanning ministry publications and making submissions to PIMRIS Coordination Unit for the regional e-repository and USP Aquatic databases. Ongoing advisory assistance on information management issues and technical advisory support will be provided by the PIMRIS CU with assistance from USP Library and donor agencies to ensure that marine/fisheries information and library services in the region are improved and sustained.



PIMRIS meeting in session - USP Library Conference Room, Laucala Campus, Suva, Fiji.



Participants during discussions at the ODIN-PIMRIS Review Meeting

Disaster Planning & Recovery Session

Part of the four-day programme included a presentation by Suzie Davies on her experiences during Cyclone Yasi that affected Queensland early this year, a group activity on the topic and an online chat with topic expert (Nancy Kraft) using IODE's Ocean Teacher's Online Classroom facility. Constrained by the lack of resources and facilities to enable proper recovery measures, regional participants were able to learn from Suzie's experience and Nancy's expertise on the importance of planning for disaster. However, as Nancy stressed during the chat, human life is more

important than property and must never be put at risk.

Four members from the region (Jainul Ali, Doreen Naidu, Tirae Tabuki & Ataban Kapule) participated in week-long training on the same topic conducted by Nancy Kraft in Oostende, Belgium.

We hope the experiences and skills learned will enable members of the network to prepare or revise a disaster plan for their own fisheries/marine libraries in preparation for any future disasters, whether natural or man-made.

[More on the meeting & training photos in next issue]

News from around the Region

Big PNG plans rattle European Tuna Industry

Factories, jobs threatened abroad

By Yehiura Hriehwazi

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea
(PNG Post-Courier, June 1, 2011) –

The entry of Papua New Guinea tuna into the European market is causing huge ripples there with factories concerned about possible closure and losing thousands of jobs. And the tuna canneries in Europe have been advised to down-size, pack-up and come set up in PNG – possibly at the Pacific Marine Industrial Zone in Madang in order to benefit from the lucrative market in their part of the world.



Photo credit: AFP (Radio Australia News website)

The most likely to be affected are 67 canning factories in Galicia – Spain and Spanish-speaking countries in Europe – that are at the risk of laying off up to 12,000 employees, according to their National Association of Canned Fish and Seafood (NACSF). The NACSF general secretary Mr Juan Manuel Vieites was quoted in their newspaper *La Voz de Galicia* as saying: "We are not opposed to the progress of developing countries, but it cannot jeopardise the production structures in Europe. If the fishing authorities of Papua New Guinea achieve their objective of transforming the island nation into the new global tuna leader in 2013, the 67 canneries in Galicia and their 12,000 employees could be greatly affected."

"PNG tuna industry expects to produce about 1330 tonnes of tuna per day over the next two years," the Spanish newspaper reported.

Last month, PNG National Fisheries Authority managing director Sylvester Pokajam presented a paper in Brussels outlining PNG's aggressive push for the European market, which grabbed the attention of the Galician tuna industry. He said there that PNG would soon have four macro-plants for canning tuna for a combined production of 1330 tonnes per day instead of the current 480 tonnes/day. This would employ a total of 20,000 workers.

Mr Pokajam said there were only three tuna processing factories operating in the country right now: RD Tuna, South Seas Tuna Corp and Frabelle PNG, producing 480 tonnes/day of processed tuna, and employing 7200 workers.

"Today, this country can sell tuna and its by-products in the European Union (EU) without tariffs and without meeting certain origin rules," *La Voz de Galicia* reported.

Galicia produces 80 per cent of canned tuna from Spain and nearly 70 per cent from the European market. In the EU market, cans of tuna from PNG are 30 per cent cheaper than those produced in Spain. And last year, those cans accounted for 15 per cent of the European market.

Galicia is pushing for European Union not to renew PNG's trade agreement, however that appears to be too late as PNG parliament last week ratified the Interim Partnership Agreement with EU – a step closer to application of the full agreement that allows PNG to land tuna in Europe duty free, but under stringent sanitary and catch conditions.

Mr Pokajam said the Spanish newspaper was wrong in stating that PNG did not meet rules of origin and catch conditions. "All the boats fishing for the European market have to be on its approved list for purposes of traceability, the rules are stringent and we follow it."

Mr Pokajam praised the former Foreign Affairs Minister and Acting Prime Minister Mr Sam Abal for taking the lead in pushing for PNG into the EU market which was followed through by the current Foreign Affairs Minister Don Polye. He said the Attorney-General's Department, Customs and his Minister Ben Semri also played leading roles in pushing PNG out of the Pacific onto the world map.

He said while other Pacific island nations were dragging their feet, PNG moved forward to enter into negotiations with EU for the partnership agreement. Mr Vieites said his group's tuna industry will collapse if the agreement with PNG is not corrected in their favour and admitted that the authorities of the European Commission have meetings with canners "continuously, but we are being ignored".

"Our positions are not being taken into account. And the situation is becoming a risk to the Galician canning industry," Vieites said.

In September 2009, the European Commission President, José Manuel Durão Barroso, recommended to the Spanish canneries to relocate part of their production to take advantage of the conditions in PNG.

(Source: <http://pidp.org/pireport/2011/June/06-02-05.htm>)
PNG Post-Courier: <http://www.postcourier.com.pg/>

Muri Lagoon action vital

If Rarotonga wants to keep Muri lagoon healthy, it has to act fast, the ministry of marine resources has warned. Preliminary findings from a new survey of Muri lagoon reveals there is a small window of opportunity for action to keep the lagoon healthy.

But that window won't stay open for much longer and it is closing fast, says marine resources secretary Ben Ponia. High concentrations of nutrients in the stream water and ground waters increase the risk of noxious algal blooms in the lagoon. The high level of ciguatera poisoning in fish can be attributed to a combination of degraded coral reefs and water that is high in nutrients.

Five per cent of the records revealed sporadic spikes in bacteria levels in the lagoon water, which is a public health concern. Over the past eight months MMR staff has been creating a marine biophysical profile of the Muri area under the supervision of MMR directors Dorothy Solomona and Kori Raumea. *More details via Cook Islands News:* <http://www.cinews.co.ck/2011/June/Wed01/local.htm#1105300107>



Left to right:
Images of Muri
Lagoon, Rarotonga,
Cook Islands.
(Source: Google
Images)

Marovo baffles: dead fish found floating in Lagoon

People of central Marovo Lagoon in the Western have baffled over the sightings of dead fish floating in the lagoon since the weekend.

Reports reaching Solomon Star early this week said since Saturday there were schools of dead fish found floating inside the lagoon area. A man from the area Lloyd Nonga said the sightings of the dead fish have caused panic amongst the villagers.

“Dead fish found here in Marovo lagoon for the last 3 days, since Saturday. “There were dead fish floating in the sea which caused panic among local communities here in the central part of Marovo lagoon,” he said.



Photo credit: Solomon Star

Mr Nonga who informed this paper via email said the exact cause that led to the death of fish stock in the area is still unknown as of yesterday. But he said locals have blamed a foreigner who is developing a tourism resort in the area.

“Locals are pointing figure to a foreigner who is married to a local Marovo woman and is developing an island on the edge of the lagoon for tourism,” he said. Unconfirmed reports said a suspected chemical used to treat timbers against white ants is likely the cause. It is unclear how the chemicals ended up in the sea. As of yesterday evening people still found more dead fish floating in front of the villages.

Mr Nonga said the incident had also resulted in a woman suffering from food poisoning. “A woman believed to be suffering from food poisoning at Chea village was evident. Village elders/leaders have restrained people within their communities not to eat fish until relevant authority come to assess the situation,” Mr Nonga said.

Following the sightings of the dead fish in the area children were instructed not to swim in the sea. Last night Mr Nonga told Solomon Star the community have notified the fisheries and environment department on the matter.

“We have sent a report along with photos of dead fish to the ministry.”

It is unclear when an assessment team will be dispatched to the area. The western provincial is yet to be informed about this incident, Mr Nonga said last night. The community wants the issue dealt with quickly. Meanwhile Mr Nonga said Honiara residence should take precautionary measures when buying reef fish from eskies sent to Honiara from Marovo for sell.

(Source: <http://www.solomonstarnews.com/news/national/11089-marovo-baffles-dead-fish-found-floating-in-lagoon>)



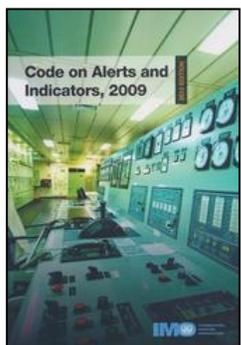
*Left to right: On Marovo Lagoon & Mangroves in Marovo Lagoon Area
(Image source: Solomon Islands Department of Commerce, Employment & Tourism website.)*

New additions to PIMRIS Library



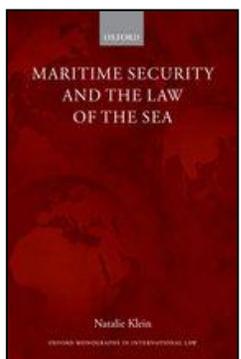
Climate change implications for fisheries and aquaculture: overview of current scientific knowledge by Kevern Cochran [et al.]. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, c2009. ISBN: 9789251063477.

This document provides an overview of the current scientific knowledge available on climate change implications for fisheries and aquaculture. It contains three technical papers that were presented and discussed during the Expert Workshop on “Climate Change Implications for Fisheries and Aquaculture” (Rome, 7–9 April 2008).



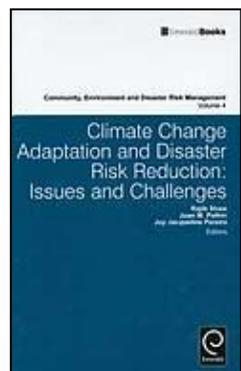
Code on Alerts and Indicators 2009 by [International Maritime Organization](#). London: International Maritime Organization, c2010. ISBN: 9789280115260.

The Code on Alerts and Indicators 2009, is intended to provide general design guidance and to promote uniformity of type, location and priority for alerts and indicators required by the SOLAS Convention, including relevant performance standards, and by the MARPOL Convention, as well as by other associated instruments and codes.



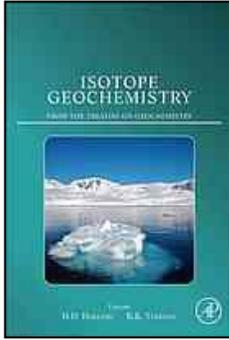
Maritime security and the Law of the Sea by N. Klein. New York: Oxford University Press, c2011. ISBN: 9780199566532.

Maritime Security and the Law of the Sea examines the rights and duties of states across a broad spectrum of maritime security threats. It provides comprehensive coverage of the different dimensions of maritime security in order to assess how responses to maritime security concerns are and should be shaping the law of the sea. The discussion sets out the rules regulating passage of military vessels and military activities at sea, law enforcement activities across the different maritime zones, information sharing and intelligence gathering, as well as armed conflict and naval warfare.



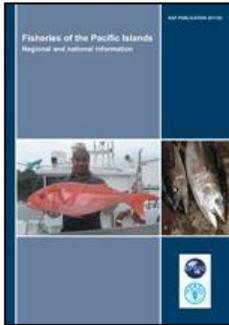
Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction: issues and challenges edited by R. Shaw, J.M. Pulhin & J. Pereira. Bingley: Emerald, c2010. ISBN: 9780857244871.

The importance of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is increasing due, in part, to recent major disasters throughout the world. CCA and DRR are closely associated and there has been significant awareness at global and national levels to make collective focus on CCA and DRR. Although there are several books on CCA, this is the first systematic academic publication to highlight the linkages between CCA and DRR, CCA-DRR synergy and interactions.



Isotope geochemistry: from the Treatise on geochemistry by Heinrich D. Holland & Karl K. Turekian. Boston: Elsevier/Academic, c2011. ISBN: 9780080967103.

After the discovery that elements were commonly composed of isotopes, there developed a range of studies of the variability of isotopic compositions in Earth materials, which was able to add to our understanding of Earth processes and history. This title describes the range of isotopic studies.



Fisheries of the Pacific Islands: regional and national information by R. Gillet. FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand. RAP publication 2011/03, c2011. ISBN: 9789251067925.

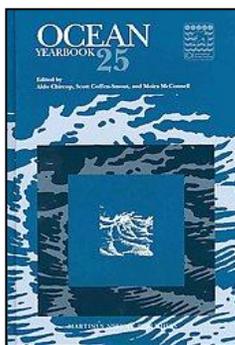
Link: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/i2092e/i2092e00.pdf>

This publication presents information on coastal and offshore fisheries in the region. The information is broken down into resource categories, the major types of fishing, the important species, the status of those resources, and the fisheries management that occurs. The book also provides supplementary sectoral and governance related information on the fisheries in the 14 independent Pacific Island countries.



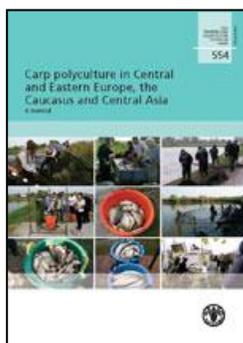
Putting into practice an ecosystem approach to managing sea cucumber fisheries by S. W Purcell. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, c2010. ISBN: 9789251066607.

This document summarizes general management principles and a general framework for developing and implementing a management plan. Through a few questions and simple indicators, managers are guided to choose appropriate sets of regulatory measures and management actions for different sea cucumber fisheries.



Ocean yearbook 25 edited by Aldo Chircop, Scott Coffen-Smout & Moira McDonnell. Ill.: University of Chicago Press, c2011. ISBN: 9789004202979.

Devoted to assessing the state of ocean and coastal governance, knowledge, and management, the Ocean Yearbook provides information in one convenient resource. As in previous editions, articles provide multidisciplinary expert perspectives on contemporary issues.



Carp polyculture in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia: a manual by A. Woynarovich, T. Moth-Poulsen & P. András. [FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper](#) No. 554. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, c2010. ISBN: 9789251066669.

This technical paper is a basic guide to carp pond polyculture practicable in the Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA) countries. It provides an overview on the guiding principles, aspects and tasks, and presents the most applicable production techniques and patterns of carp polyculture.

Conference & Workshop Notices

- 30, 1 & 4 July 2011 Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC): **Sub-Regional Planning workshop on Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island region (CCCPIR)** (Kiribati, Nauru, Tuvalu), Tarawa, Kiribati - *SPC/GIZ 'Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region (CCCPIR) Programme.*
- 25-30 July 2011 Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC): **Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee of the Pacific Integrated Water Resources Management Programme.** Rarotonga, Cook Islands – *SOPAC Division.*
- 3-6 July 2011 **Institute of Australian Geographers Conference**, Wollongong, Australia. Themed Sessions include: Remote sensing; Geospatial applications for coastal studies and management; Coastal natural hazards and geomorphology; Indigenous responses to climate change; Encountering spatial technologies etc.
<http://www.uow.edu.au/conferences/2011/iag/index.htm>
- 3-7 July 2011 **2nd International Symposium on ICZM.** The [2nd International Symposium on Integrated Coastal Zone Management](http://www.imr.no/om_havforskning/instituttet/arrangementer/konferanser/ICZM_2011/en) is scheduled for 3-7 July 2011 in Arendal, Norway. The themes are: Coastal habitats and ecosystem services; Adaptation/mitigation to change in coastal systems; Coastal governance; and Linking science and management.
http://www.imr.no/om_havforskning/instituttet/arrangementer/konferanser/ICZM_2011/en
- 21-24 August 2011 **2011 Conference on Coastal Engineering Practice.** The [2011 Conference on Coastal Engineering Practice](http://content.asce.org/conferences/copricoastal2011/) is scheduled for 21-24 August 2011 in San Diego, California, USA. Conference themes include: case histories of coastal projects; sustainable coastal development; erosion and shoreline protection; etc.
<http://content.asce.org/conferences/copricoastal2011/>
- 5-8 September 2011 **CoastGIS 2011.** The main theme of CoastGIS 2011 in Oostende, Belgium, is *Marine and Coastal Spatial Planning*. Some of the conference themes include: mobile GIS in the marine environment; advances in hydrographic survey techniques, tools and technology; open source GIS for coastal/marine applications; etc.
<http://www.coastgis.info/>
- 14-16 September 2011 **2nd Fiji Conservation Science Forum : Confronting the Climate-Biodiversity Crisis**, Suva, Fiji. Call for Oral and Poster presentations now Open!. <http://conservationscienceforum.wcsfiji.org/>
- 26-30 September 2011 OceanTeacher Academy Course MIM: **Training Course on Data Curation for Information Professionals and in-depth Digitization Practicum** (Oostende) <http://classroom.oceanteacher.org/>