

# Rapid Biodiversity Assessments (BIORAPs)

## Processes and potential biodiversity conservation benefits

We will cover:

- Oceanscape – an umbrella concept
- Pacific Island countries  
Samoa, Republic of Nauru  
and Kingdom of Tonga
- Essential steps to carry-out  
a BIORAP
- BIORAP and national  
capacity
- Customary land tenure  
considerations

# Rapid Biodiversity Assessments (BIORAPs)

## Processes and potential biodiversity conservation benefits

Activities that are necessary components for the identification of priority biodiversity and ecosystems include

- Rapid Biodiversity Assessments (BIORAP's),
- Ecosystem Economic Evaluations
- Marine/Terrestrial Spatial Planning
- Site based protected area management plans.



## Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets

"Living in Harmony with Nature"

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 - A ten-year framework for action by all countries and stakeholders to save biodiversity and enhance its benefits for people



## Pacific Island Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Climate Change Adaptation: Building on Nature's Resilience



CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



Australian AID



## The Ecosystem Approach Five Steps to Implementation

Gill Shepherd

IUCN



## Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation

Version 2.0 / April 2013

## peopleand oceans

managing marine areas for human well-being



## Global Biodiversity Outlook 4

A mid-term assessment of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020



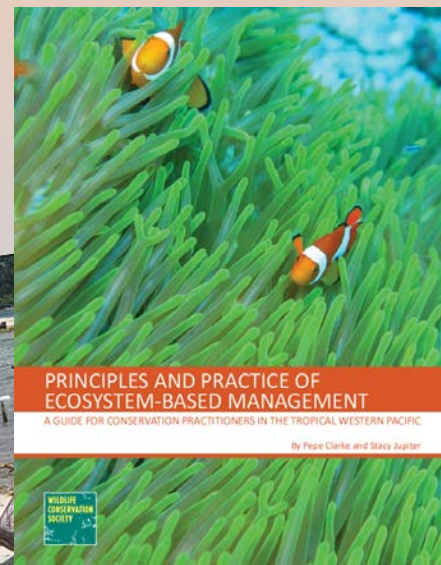
UNEP

Secretariat of Biological Diversity

2011-2020



## Options for the Application of TOOLS FOR VALUATION OF BIODIVERSITY and Biodiversity Resources and Functions



## PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT

A GUIDE FOR CONSERVATION PRACTITIONERS IN THE TROPICAL WESTERN PACIFIC

By Peter Clarke and Stacy Isipit



## Ecosystem-based adaptation and climate change vulnerability in Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands

Synthesis report



USAID

SPREP

SPC

gliz

Nature

Australian AID



The *Open Standards* are organized into a five-step project management cycle:

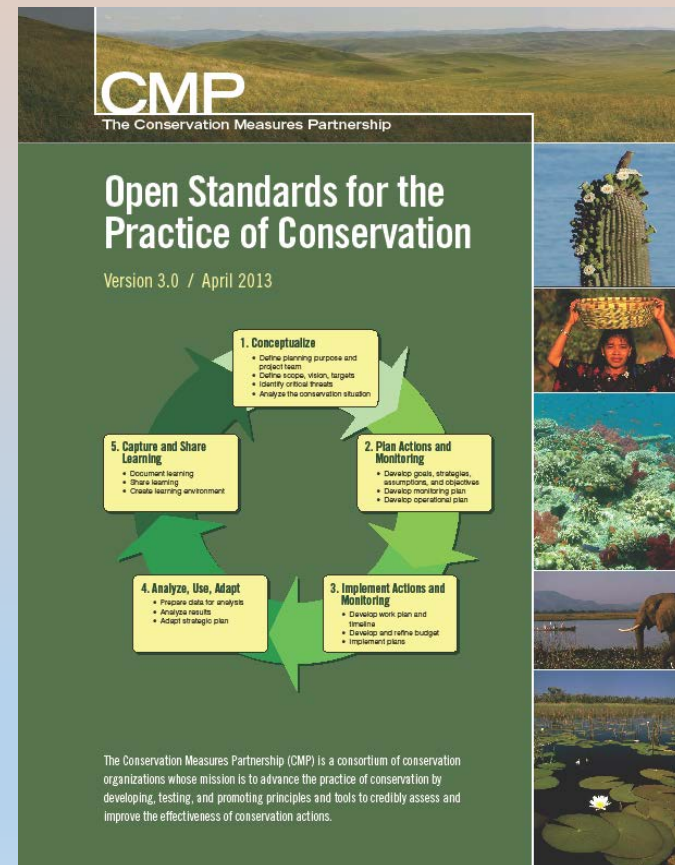
**STEP 1 Conceptualize the Project Vision and Context**

**STEP 2 Plan Actions and Monitoring**

**STEP 3 Implement Actions and Monitoring**

**STEP 4 Analyze Data, Use the Results, and Adapt**

**STEP 5 Capture and Share Learning.**

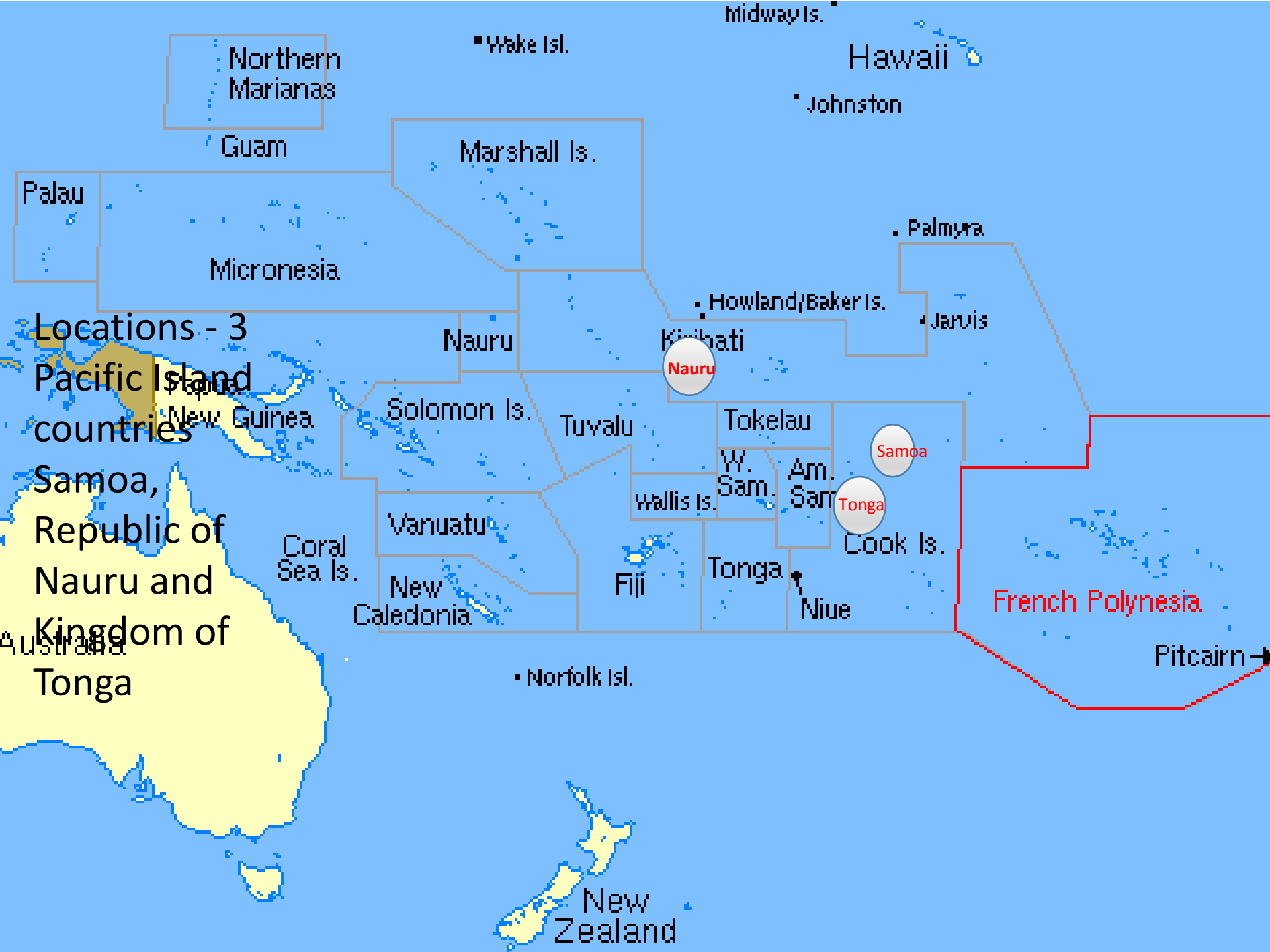


# Oceanscape – coverage

- Some 38 million square kilometers
- Over 10% of the earth surface
- Includes the largest remaining tuna stocks
- Diverse islands and peoples
- An area larger than the moon!!

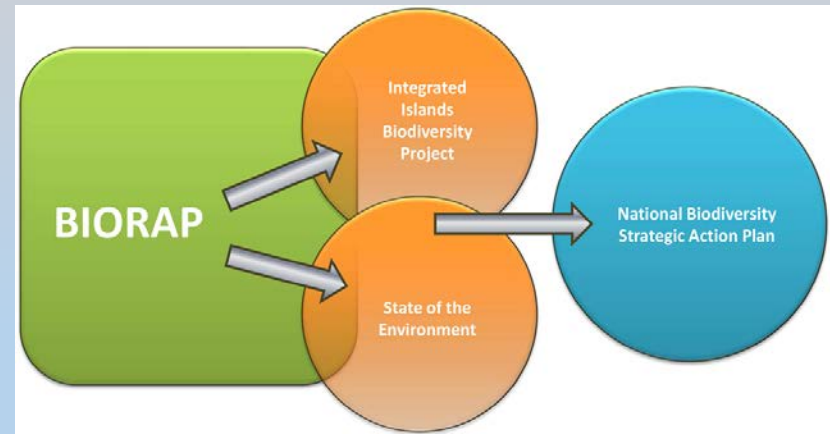


Pacific Oceanscape



# Objectives and Approach

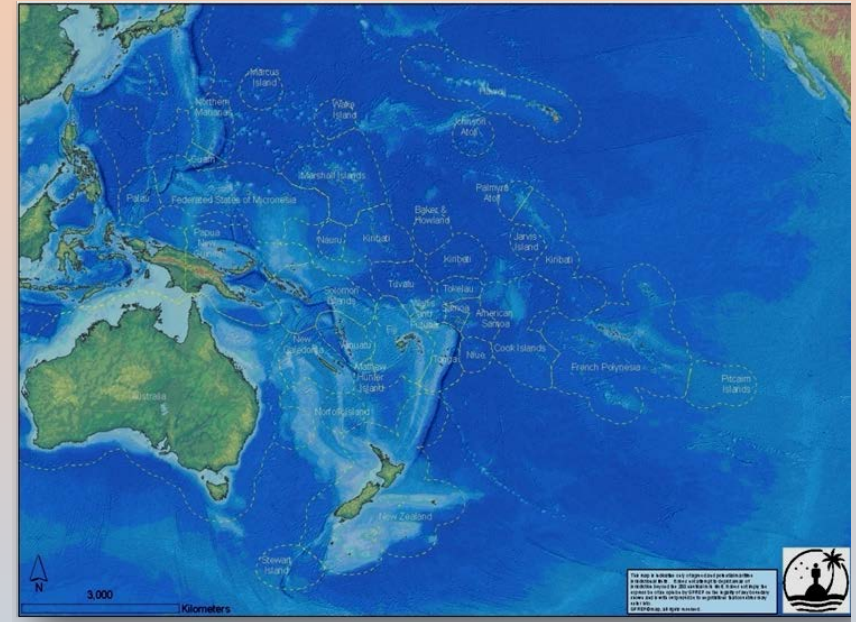
- **Objective**
- **Contribute to the conservation of ecosystems, endemic species and land / seascapes.**
- **BIORAP approach.**
- **The approach was formulated to provide baseline information for 3 points of reference:**
  1. **Approved GEF PAS Islands Biodiversity Programme of Work project document.**
  2. **State of the Environment (SOE) Reports for Samoa, Tonga and Nauru.**
  3. **CBD - National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) review process.**



# BIORAP Vision

Creation of protected areas that include:

- (i) multiple use Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) wide marine protected areas ; and
- (ii) terrestrial protected areas linked to (i) above.





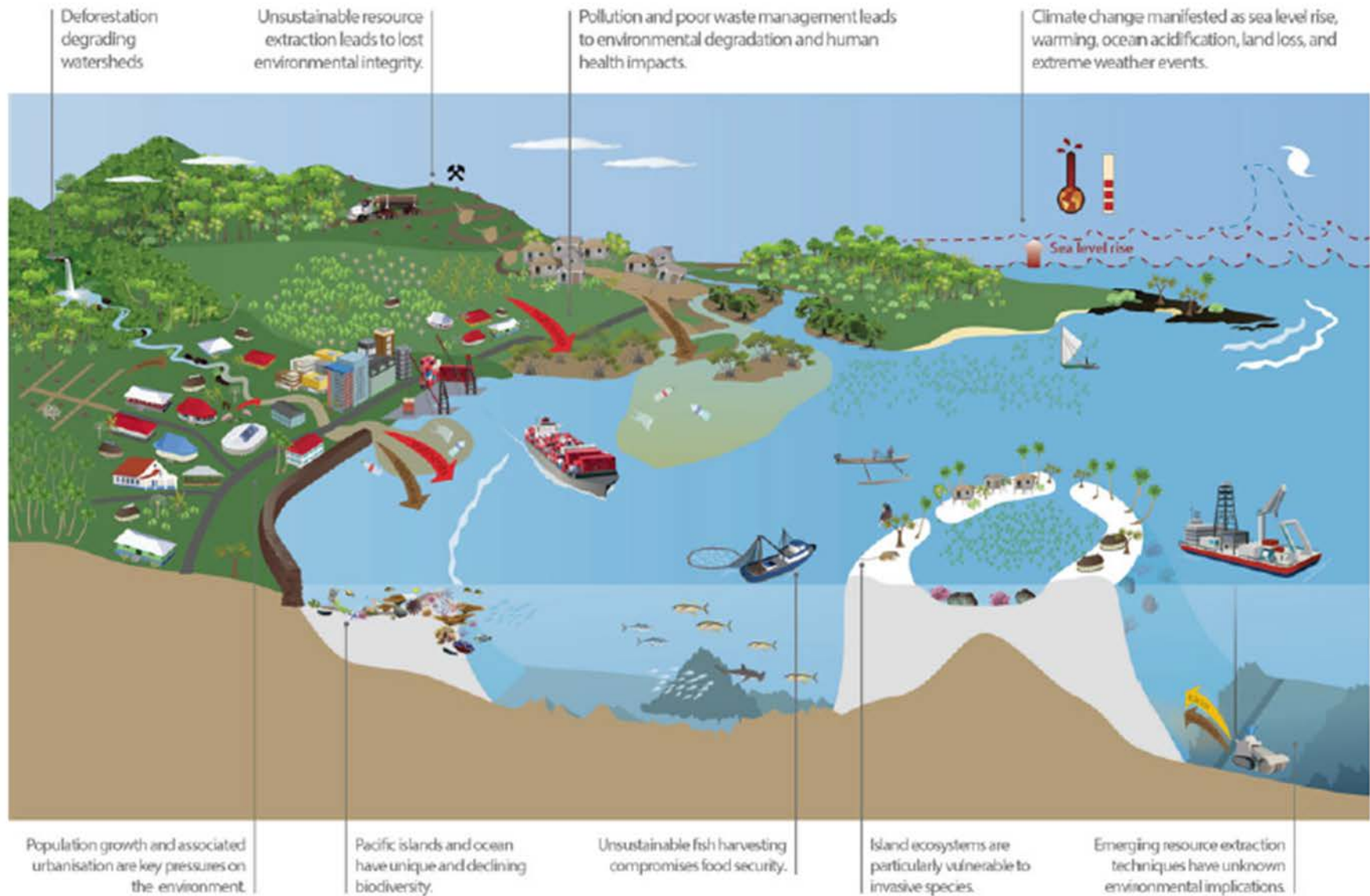
# Approach

**Specifically the approach will:**

- 1. Generate a National Rapid Biodiversity Assessment (BIORAP).**
- 2. Establish the current status of marine and terrestrial biodiversity**
- 3. Identify priority terrestrial and marine conservation areas**
- 4. Contribute to the conservation of Samoa, Tonga and Nauru's ecosystems, endemic species and land / seascapes.**
- 5. Establish the current status of marine and terrestrial biodiversity**
- 6. Identify priority terrestrial and marine conservation areas**



# Key threats to ecosystem services in the Pacific



# Climate change threats to Pacific islands

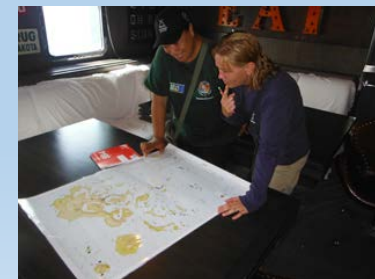
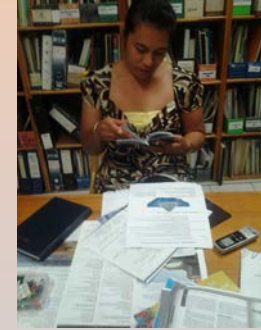
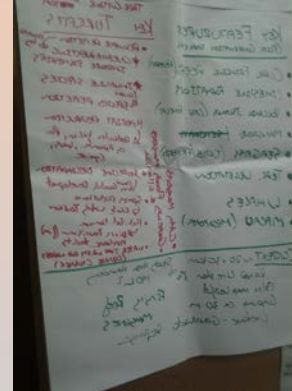




# BIORAP and national capacity building

Two principal national capacity building approaches.

1. Pre-Survey meetings and training – including Open Standards for Conservation Action
2. Working with experts during the actual surveys





**A fundamental principle of the process is a recognition that, in the final analysis, decision-making rests with resource owners and communities.**

**The BIORAP and subsequent planning efforts are simply a way of ensuring that decisions are based on the best available information**

