

Enhancing the sustainable management and protection of Samoa's Protected Area Network

Type of priority area	Marine Protected Area	Terrestrial Protected Area	Key Biodiversity Area
Primary objective	Governance	Management Effectiveness	Livelihoods
Target groups	Local Communities	Farmers/Fishermen	National or local PA agency
Main activity focus	Sustainable development	Survey/Data knowledge management	Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME)



BIOPAMA RRIS Link

https://rris.biopama.org/country/ws

WDPA ID

Project Lead

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment - Samoa

Description of the project:

There are two main activities; firstly to conduct a PAME assessment of Samoa's protected area network using the Management Effectiveness and Tracking Tool. Given the higher percentage of Samoa's protected area with limited and zero updated information, our goal is now on collating and updating the management effectiveness of the existing PAs listed in the current WDPA list for protected areas for Samoa. For this project, we propose to use the RAPPAM tool to get an overview of the management status for at least 20 PAs.

Protected & Conserved Areas

conservation area, Salelologa lowland coastal forest

Secondly, is the procurement of much-needed resources to improve the effectiveness of services for current PAs management efforts through surveys and maintenance work. The sustainable management of PAs continues to be a priority action for Samoa; thus we need to improve terrestrial PA infrastructure and facilities with the purchase of essential equipment and tools such as chainsaw, brushcutter, electric high pressure and ladder. As for the management of marine and coastal ecosystems/biodiversity, is the purchase of the marine survey boat to support various marine undertakings for protected areas.





Diagnostic Tools Used

- Samoa's Sixth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2018
- Samoa Ocean Strategy 2020-2030 Integrated Management for the Future of Samoa's Ocean



The BIOPAMA AC Objective(s) Addressed

- Enhance the management and governance of priority protected areas by addressing existing limitations;
- Enforce the legal framework required to achieve effective biodiversity conservation in PAs;
- Support local communities' initiatives aiming to enhance the livelihoods of local people whilst
 effectively contributing to protected areas management.

Priority Need Addressed

- The need to collate and document updated management and ecological status of at least 20 PAs
- Allows and enables effective assessment and field surveys to be conducted for the selected protected areas.
- Improve on the lack of resources (equipment/tools) and thus effective delivery of services for conservation and management works for protected areas (terrestrial and marine)

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The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas - approx. 200 words

Positive outcomes are anticipated from the implementation of activities under the project, especially in improving the quality of our services on sustainable management and conservation of both terrestrial and marine PAs. Outcome of the PAME assessment will obtain data and information on the management and ecological status of at least 20 terrestrial PAs. Furthermore, it provides opportunity to improve knowledge and awareness as well as strengthen support and engagement of communities for conservational works such as restoration of heavily degraded areas, control of invasive species and biodiversity monitoring.

With the provision of well-equipped equipment and tools, this ensures improved operation through efficient and effective maintenance services and landscaping of terrestrial PAs in order to enhance ecosystem services and maintain environmental scenery beautification. The fully-equipped marine survey boat will help improve management of marine and coastal ecosystems/biodiversity conservation through; (i) regular research and monitoring/surveys/restoration activities (ii) management/conservation of species of interest and conservation concern including invasive operations, and (iii) effective surveillance and enforcement of marine PAs in order to improve compliance with existing regulatory mechanisms and measures.

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BIOPAMA assists the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to address their priorities for improved management and governance of biodiversity and natural resources. BIOPAMA provides a variety of tools, services and funding to conservation actors in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. The BIOPAMA grant-making facility is managed by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and supports projects on the ground to strengthen the management and governance of protected and conserved areas, with a total budget of 21 million Euros.

