

Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation

Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation 24th Annual Meeting

Friday 26 November 2021











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Main outcomes

The main outcomes of the 24th PIRT Annual meeting are:

- PIRT Members formally adopted and endorsed the PIRT Implementation and Monitoring Plan for the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025, including the 2022-2023 Work Plan for the Roundtable. This is the first such plan adopted by PIRT and a major step forward for the collective work of PIRT's Members and Working Groups.
- The working relationships amongst PIRT Members and partners was strengthened and the network was extended. PIRT welcomed new Members and formally endorsed a new Working Group.

Meeting overview

The 24th Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT) Annual Meeting was convened virtually via video conference on 26 November 2021. The meeting was organised by the PIRT coordination team, including the PIRT Chair, SPREP as the PIRT Secretariat, and the PIRT coordinator supported by UNEP. The agenda for the meeting is presented as Attachment A and the meeting participants as Attachment B.

Representation

A total of 49 participants from PIRT Members, Working Groups and partners were represented at the Annual Meeting. PIRT Members represented were BirdLife International, cChange Pacific, Conservation International (CI), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), International Union for Conservation of Nature Oceania Regional Office (IUCN-ORO), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF), Protected Areas Collaboration for Learning and Research (PAC), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), TierraMar, University of the South Pacific (USP), and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).

Other organisations represented include the Government of Vanuatu, the Koutou Nui of the Cook Islands, National Trust of Fiji, Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) Network International, South Pacific Regional Herbarium (Fiji), and Environmental Defenders' Office (Australia).

Background

This report reflects the key outcomes of the 24th PIRT Annual Meeting and is provided for the information of PIRT Members and Working Groups, as well as other interested organisations, partners, and stakeholders.

The PIRT Annual Meeting is normally a two-day event, convened in person in a different Pacific country each year. Due to the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Annual Meeting was convened virtually, with the logistics of virtual meetings requiring a much condensed time period. Many of the regular agenda items were therefore discussed via email prior to the Annual Meeting itself.

Organisation of the meeting was led by the PIRT Chair Margaret West (BirdLife International), the PIRT Secretariat represented by Amanda Wheatley and Juney Ward (SPREP), and the PIRT coordinator James Tremlett (consultant supported by UNEP). Marcela Bellettini of BirdLife International provided communications and design support.

Meeting objectives

The 24th PIRT Annual Meeting had the following key objectives:

- 1. Formal adoption and endorsement of the PIRT Implementation and Monitoring Plan for the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025, including the 2022-2023 Work Plan for the Roundtable.
- Update PIRT Members and partners on the collective work of the Roundtable since the 10th
 Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, held in November
 2020.
- 3. Renew and strengthen partnerships, cooperation and collaboration across PIRT, including amongst Members, Working Groups, and key partners and stakeholders.

Official opening

The 24th PIRT Annual Meeting was officially opened with a prayer by Mr. Vainuupo Jungblut of SPREP.

Welcome and opening remarks

Margaret West, PIRT Chair

The Chair of PIRT, Margaret West of BirdLife International, began by welcoming all participants to the Annual Meeting. Margaret noted that despite the numerous challenges of the last two years, especially the COVID-19 pandemic, PIRT has made significant progress in our collective work for nature conservation in the Pacific.

Margaret thanked UNEP for supporting the role of the PIRT Coordinator to develop the new Monitoring and Implementation Plan for the Roundtable. PIRT is also planning to recruit a Pacific Island young professional as a Youth Coordinator in 2022. Margaret also thanked the PIRT Working Groups for their continued work and innovation over the course of the year.

Kosi Latu, Director-General of SPREP

Kosi welcomed all participants on behalf of SPREP, noting that it has been a long time (two years) since the last PIRT Annual Meeting due to the disruption of COVID-19. Kosi reflected on the year since the 10th Pacific Nature Conference and the adoption of the new Framework and Vemööre Declaration, and thanked all the PIRT Working Groups and their partners for their continued work in this challenging time. He expressed hope that the situation in 2022 will allow some Pacific Island countries and territories to open their borders again, so that some of the major events planned will be able to occur in person.

Kosi asked participants to remember that PIRT is a unique coalition of very different organisations; one thing we all have in common is the vision articulated in the Framework of 'Healthy Oceans, Healthy Islands, Healthy People.' The impact of COVID-19 over the last two years is a reminder to all of us of how dependent we are on a healthy, resilient environment.

As this was Kosi's last PIRT Annual Meeting as Director-General of SPREP, he thanked all present for their support for the Secretariat. He also thanked all the previous PIRT Chairs, in particular Mason Smith of IUCN-ORO for his hard work over many years. Kosi also acknowledged and welcomed Margaret West as the new Chair of PIRT, and gave support to her leadership as the Roundtable begins its collective work of implementing the new Framework.

Kosi finished by thanking all his SPREP and UNEP colleagues who continue to contribute to the work of the Roundtable. Margaret thanked Kosi again for his indispensable support of the Roundtable over the years.

PIRT Implementation and Monitoring Plan for the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2015

James Tremlett, PIRT Coordinator

James began with a recap of the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025:

- The Framework is our regional Pacific strategy for nature conservation. It reflects the urgent need for coordinated action to address the threats to our Pacific environments, cultures, communities, and economies.
- It is the latest in a series of frameworks and action strategies that are endorsed by 22 Pacific Island countries and territories, as well as by PIRT member organisations.
- PIRT is mandated by Pacific governments to promote, monitor, and report on the implementation of the Framework.
- The Framework is for any organisation, community or individual involved in nature conservation in the Pacific, and is owned by all these collectively.
 - · Pacific governments and public sector agencies
 - Funders
 - Intergovernmental organisations
 - NGOs
 - · Private sector organisations
 - Pacific communities and civil society
- The purpose of the Framework to provide broad strategic guidance for conservation initiatives undertaken by all stakeholders in the Pacific region.

Among the key features of the regional Framework are the Principles for Conservation Implementation:

- The eight Principles are a code of conduct for implementing conservation initiatives in Pacific contexts.
- The Principles are designed as a guide for designing, establishing, delivering and sustaining conservation in the Pacific. They specify the responsibilities of different types of organisations and stakeholders.
- They apply to all conservation initiatives undertaken in the Pacific region, not only those specifically linked to the Framework.
- The Framework provides detailed guidance about what each Principle entails in a Pacific context.



The Framework also features Strategic Objectives for 2021-2025:

- The six Strategic Objectives are broad priorities for nature conservation action in the Pacific. Their purpose is to provide a coordinated strategic approach to conservation across jurisdictions in the Pacific region.
- The Strategic Objectives are not prescriptive.
 Decisions around national goals, targets and indicators for their implementation remain the responsibility of Pacific governments, supported by their partners.
- However, the Framework does give guidance regarding the best practice 'how to' for implementing the Strategic Objectives. This best practice is organised within 21 thematic Action Tracks.

The Framework also establishes linkages to the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

- Empower our people to take action for nature conservation, based on our understanding of nature's importance for our cultures, economies, and communities.
- 2. Integrate environmental and cultural considerations into the goals, processes, and trajectories of economic development in the Pacific.
- 3. Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore ecosystems, habitats, and priority natural and cultural sites.
- **4.** Protect and recover threatened species and preserve genetic diversity, focusing on those of particular ecological, cultural and economic significance.
- 5. Manage and reduce threats to Pacific environments and drivers of biodiversity loss.
- **6.** Grow Pacific capacity and partnerships to effectively monitor, govern and finance nature conservation action.

The Framework is articulated in the Vemööre Declaration:

- A call to action adopted by the governments of 14 Pacific Island countries and territories; endorsed by New Zealand, Australia, and France, and by the 14 member organisations of PIRT
- Calls for global action to address the interdependent crises of biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and climate change.
- Acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic is a stark reminder of the dependency of all our societies on healthy and resilient natural ecosystems.
- Recognises and commits to implementing the 21 priority Action Tracks by 2025 to ensure the recovery and flourishing of nature and people in the Pacific.

In this context, PIRT's new *Implementation and Monitoring Plan* for the 2021-2025 Framework was presented. A plan of action for the implementation and monitoring of the regional Framework by the Members and Working Groups of PIRT. Its purpose is to identify key strands of collective work towards this implementation, and to detail priority activities and tasks to be carried out by PIRT.

The Implementation and Monitoring Plan focuses on the collective work of PIRT Members and Working Groups. It does not provide guidance on the implementation of the Framework by parties external to the Roundtable.

- The plan identifies three key strands of work for the Roundtable:
 - 1) Collaboration to influence the conservation-development agenda
 - 2) Collaboration to guide and influence conservation action
 - 3) Collaboration to secure sustainable funding for conservation

• Each strand of work includes details of **initial planned activities** for the period 2021-2025. These are detailed in the plan itself (Attachment C of this report).

A detailed 2-year **Work Plan** has been produced to map out the delivery of these activities, with designated responsibilities and timeframes for key tasks (Attachment C of this report).

The Monitoring and Implementation Plan includes **reporting templates** for PIRT Members and Working Groups regarding their implementation of the Framework. These will be completed annually to provide a picture of progress by PIRT towards the Principles and Strategic Objectives of the Framework, as well as collaboration and coordination across the region.

	PIRT Members	PIRT Working Groups
	Organisational alignment with Framework Principles	Membership and engagement
Reporting elements	Programme alignment with Framework Strategic Objectives	Activities and outputs
	Relationship with PIRT	Relationship with PIRT
Reporting frequency	Annual	Annual

James finished by thanking all PIRT Members and partners for their contributions to the development of the Implementation and Monitoring Plan, and for the many constructive comments received on the draft circulated prior to the Annual Meeting.

Update on PIRT activities since 10th Pacific Nature Conference

Amanda Wheatley, PIRT Secretariat

Amanda began by reminding all present that it was exactly one year since the 10th Pacific Nature Conference. Despite the challenges of COVID-19, PIRT has managed to carry the energy of the conference over into 2021 and has made some major steps forward. These include:

- An enhanced coordination team, brought about through funding from UNEP for a PIRT Coordinator.
- Initiating regular meetings with the Working Group Chairs to enhance coordination and collaboration.
- Strengthening partnerships and opportunities with other agencies active in the region, such as UNEP and FAO.
- The presentation of the 2nd Pacific Islands Environmental Leadership Awards (PIELA) were presented at the SPREP Meeting.
- PIRT has established relationships with new global and regional partners who may move into full PIRT Membership, especially the French-speaking regions of the Pacific who are largely absent from the Roundtable presently.
- The new regional Framework for 2021-2025 has been published, and endorsed by Pacific governments.
- PIRT's Implementation and Monitoring Plan has been developed, a first for the Roundtable and a key stage in furthering our collective work.

PIRT Global and Regional Update

Amanda Wheatley, PIRT Secretariat

An update was given regarding key global and regional events of the last year, and those upcoming in 2022.

A particular highlight has been the voyage of the Vemööre Declaration, which in the past 12 months has been presented to the SPREP High Level Meeting, the 5th France Ocean Summit, the IUCN World Conservation Congress (presented by IUCN-ORO), and to the Climate Change COP26 in Glasgow as a collective Pacific statement on the centrality of biodiversity and nature conservation.

Events upcoming include:

- Our Ocean Conference, February 2022, Palau.
- CBD COP15, April-May 2022, Kunming, China.
- 2nd UN Ocean Conference, June 2022, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Conference (IMPAC5), September 2022, Vancouver, Canada. There will hopefully be a Pacific youth delegation to IMPAC5 supported by PIRT, and Members are encouraged to contribute to this if possible.

Mr. Sefanaia Nawadra, Head of Pacific Sub-regional Office, UNEP

Sefa introduced the relationship between UNEP and PIRT, and noted that UNEP's MoU with SPREP is likely to allow them to join as a formal PIRT Member (something not normally possible for UN agencies). There is an opportunity to draw on UNEP's networks in other regions if PIRT wishes to draw on this expertise. PIRT Members and Working Groups are also welcome to connect directly to their technical counterparts within UNEP if this can be helpful.

Mr. Kosi Latu, Director-General of SPREP

Kosi gave an update on the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow. He was encouraged to see the rising prominence of oceans within these negotiations compared to previous years. This means that the Pacific has a great opportunity within the UNFCCC system, because now every year the COP will need to discuss the links between the ocean and climate change. We should be working together and thinking about how we expand our work into this space.

Mr. Stuart Chape, Director of Island and Ocean Ecosystems, SPREP

Stuart introduced the Pacific Islands Environment Leadership Awards (PIELA), which was originally planned for the 10th Pacific Nature Conference but was postponed until the High-Level Session of the SPREP Meeting. PIELA recognises five categories: community leadership, national leadership, youth leadership, lifetime achievement, and region-wide Pacific leadership. Congratulations to all those recognised in these awards. Particular recognition was given to the late Sue Taei, who was awarded as a Champion of the Pacific.

PIRT Working Groups: Updates from Chairs

Due to the time constraints of the digital format, there were no break-out sessions for Working Groups as is a usual feature of the Annual Meeting. Instead the Working Group Chairs each gave a brief update.

Protected Areas Working Group (PAWG)

Chairs: Vainuupo Jungblut (SPREP) and Mr. Paul van Nimwegen (IUCN-ORO)

The last full meeting of the PAWG was held in person in July 2019 as part of the IUCN Oceania Regional Conservation Forum. The meeting was well attended with over 20 participants from various partner organisations. The key outcomes of this meeting related to engagement as a Working Group in the 10th Pacific Nature Conference, and with the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

In relation to the Post-2020 GBF, PAWG members stressed the need to have targets focused on (1) the social and economic conditions for successful protected areas; and (2) integrated landscape management. There was also discussion about the need to have quantifiable targets around management effectiveness, as well as linking sustainable finance to protected area targets. There was likewise discussion on public-private partnerships and the need to recognise OECMs as they occur in the Pacific.

Within the 10th Pacific Nature Conference the PAWG ran very successful sessions with high level of participant engagement.

In 2019 the PAWG was invited to consider a number of concept proposals related to the establishment of a system of regional heritage areas, and the establishment of a task force for protected area management in the Pacific. The PAWG also contributed to a number of major reports.

The PAWG experienced challenges related to the inability to meet in person during the COVID-19 pandemic. However the group continues to stay in touch related to particular projects and consultations.

The Chairs are intending to simplify their work plan, and believe there is a great opportunity to enhance and mobilise the membership of the working group in the light of the new Framework. Specific actions include:

- Becoming a more active forum for coordination, collaboration and communication related to protected areas in the Pacific.
- Establishing a regular schedule of quarterly meetings.
- Initiate dialogue within the PAWG about rebranding to function more as a network.
- Asking members to re-nominate themselves, perhaps every five years. Encourage more members from Pacific countries.
- Ensure that prospective members are prepared to give time to the PAWG.
- Strengthening the role of the PAWG with respect to the PIPAP.
- Engaging more regularly with the PIRT coordination team.

Pacific Environment Law Working Group (PaNEL)

Chairs: Maria-Goreti Muavesi (IUCN-ORO) and BJ Kim (Environmental Defenders Office)

Maria sends her apologies, and the update was given by BJ Kim.

The key challenge for PaNEL has been keeping up the momentum in the time of COVID-19. As PIRT has evolved it now makes sense for the PaNEL to likewise review their own aims and processes.

The great success for PaNEL in the past year was the IUCN inaugural Environmental Law conference. PaNEL officially supported the event in partner with other organisations and it was very well attended. It was a major encouragement for the practice of environmental law in the Pacific, and for supporting the next generation of Pacific Island environmental lawyers. The outcome statement of the conference is quite comprehensive and PIRT Members and partners are encouraged to look at this. It affirms the view that the primary role of environmental law in the Pacific is to support resource owners to take care of their places.

Panel members within IUCN-ORO are working on a grant from PIFS focused on environmental law initiatives in Vanuatu, Fiji and Solomon Islands. They are also working on a publication for judges and lawyers about environmental and climate change law. Other projects include following up on the outcomes of the conference alongside UNEP and ADB; this includes a range of education initiatives for judges across the Pacific. IUCN has also initiated an environmental law 'brown bag lunch' series and the first webinar was held in February 2021.

PaNEL is also working alongside the Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights (CELCOR) in Papua New Guinea towards the protection of the Sepik River, which is under threat from one of the world's biggest gold mines. CELCOR and PaNEL are working on an initiative to recognise the inherent rights of the Sepik as understood by the indigenous communities of the river. They are also collaborating on work to prevent deep sea mining in Papua New Guinea, alongside a proposed new coal mine and power station in Lae.

Species Working Group (SWG)

Chairs: Mark O'Brien (BirdLife International), Karen Baird (SPREP), and Helen Pippard (IUCN-ORO)

All SWG Chairs give their apologies, and the update was given by Juney Ward on their behalf.

The SWG currently has 80 members in their listserve, which is their primary communication mechanism. The purpose of the listserve is to promote the technical exchange of species knowledge in the Pacific region, facilitate networking and increase collaborative efforts in species conservation.

To promote the technical exchange of species knowledge in the Pacific region, facilitate networking and increase collaborative efforts in species conservation.

SWG conferences, meetings & trainings (attended and/or organised):

- Pacific Bat Forum: online conference to share current work and research related to bats.
 Australasian Bat Society in collaboration with SPREP and individual members.
- KBA re-assessment in Melanesia: online meetings to re-validate KBAs in Melanesia. BirdLife International.
- 4th Meeting of the Pacific Cetacean MoU: meeting of the Pacific signatories to the Cetacean MoU to provide updates on national activities and the new Cetacean Action Plan. SPREP, national government signatories, NGOs, experts, community groups.

 Seabird monitoring training workshop: held for Environment staff and Samoa Conservation Society on seabirds and monitoring techniques in preparation for the seabird survey for Samoa. SPREP, Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment, Samoa Conservation Society.

Surveys undertaken:

- Biodiversity surveys in Vanuatu: rapid assessments in Tafea and SAMNA. Surveys completed, reports pending. BirdLife International in collaboration with Vanuatu Environmental Science Society, Eco-Livelihood Development Associates.
- Avifauna surveys in FSM: using sound recorders to monitor the occurrence of bird species across each of the States and compare with 1980s studies. BirdLife International in collaboration with Edith Cowan University, FSM Government.
- Conservation of Endemic Flying Foxes of Torba and Temotu: fieldwork on 5 islands to increase knowledge about 3 endemic threatened species of bats and prepare species recovery plans. Vanuatu Environmental Science Society.
- Giant rats in Bougainville and Solomon Islands: surveys with local communities to explore best management options for the species and their habitats. Oceania Ecology Group.
- Conservation of threatened and endemic terrestrial mammals on Manus Islands: surveys on data and threats of *Melomys matambuai* and develop species recovery plan. University of Queensland.
- Identifying and protecting important habitats for Fiji mastiff bat and the Banks flying fox in Vanuatu: field work to identify vital habitats for the Fiji mastiff bat and work with local communities to implement conservation actions for both Fiji mastiff bat and Banks flying fox, contributing to the national plan of action for microbats. Vanuatu Environmental Science Society.

Management and Action Plans developed:

- Strengthening policies for dugong conservation in Vanuatu: gather data and monitor areas known for high abundance of habitat and dugong populations. Vanuatu Environmental Science Society.
- Trialing the use of STAR analysis: using IUCN Red List data to assess Threat Abatement and Restoration scores for biodiversity in Fiji. NatureFiji-MareqetiViti in collaboration with BirdLife International, Griffith University, IUCN.
- Updating IUCN Red List assessment: 4,500 Oceania species added/updated in 2020 with further 1,500 to date (2021). Over 50% species inputted were for the Magnoliopsida. Various partners.
- Regional Marine Species Action Plans: Action Plans developed for Dugongs, Sharks and Rays, Cetaceans, Turtles and Seabirds. SPREP in collaboration with SPREP members, BirdLife International. WWF.

Project highlight: Bycatch Integrated Ecosystems Management Initiative (BIEM)

- Project funded through the Pacific-EU Marine Partnerships (PEUMP)
- Focuses on bycatch in the region
- Activities includes publication of Status Review of Sea turtles in the Pacific Ocean 2021
- National workshop to develop Non-detriment findings (NDFs) for CITES listed species
- Turtle use surveys
- Development of national plans for sharks and rays and seabirds
- Sustainability study on wedge tailed shearwater harvest in Vanuatu
- Review of Pacific cetacean diversity and threats report

National government partners: Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu.
 NGO partners: BirdLife International, VESS, VEPA, WWF, WCS

Project highlight: Regional Turtle Monitoring Database (TREDS) upgrade

- Project funded through Fonds Pacifique and BIEM to enable employment of a Marine Turtle Database and Conservation Officer in SPREP
- Upgrade of TREDS to a web-based system
- SPREP, Fonds Pacifique, BIEM

Pacific Invasives Partnership (PIP)

Chair: Ray Nias (TierraMar)

PIP has a strategy that is updated every year. The strategy has three major strands:

- High-level engagement
- Regional efforts (funding, strategies, raising the profile of invasive species)
- Major project focus (currently focus on invasive ants)

PIP has a diverse membership geographically, although acknowledges the lack of Pacific Islander representation. There is a separate network (a sister network to PIP) called the Pacific Invasives Learning Network which focuses much more on in-country practitioners.

Meetings generally have a theme, and the most recent focused on the proposed new Australia Pacific Biosecurity Strategy.

Many PIP members have been heavily involved in the implementation of the GEF6-funded SPREP programme PRISMSS. Key elements of this are:

- Mainstreaming IAS strategies across the region, by all sectors
- Programme Strategy and Action Plans are in development (Predator Free Pacific, Resilient Ecosystems Resilient Communities)
- Revision of IAS guidelines

Events to come in 2022:

- 2nd Australian Biosecurity Symposium
- Continued implementation of PRISMSS

Nature Culture Working Group

Lead people: Mason Smith (IUCN-ORO), Elise Huffer (IUCN CEESP-Oceania)

The Nature Culture Working Group is a new PIRT Working Group that has been proposed by IUCN-ORO, with the objective of bringing natural heritage and cultural heritage values together in the context of Pacific conservation. A concept paper for the new group was developed by IUCN-ORO and circulated to PIRT and key partners in the region. Based on feedback received, IUCN-ORO has drafted Terms of Reference based on the format used for the other PIRT Working Groups. The PIRT Heads of Organisations endorsed these ToR prior to this Annual Meeting.

The Pacific Ocean Alliance also proposed a similar working group focusing on cultural connections to the ocean. After discussions with stakeholders, it was decided that it would be better for the two

groups to remain separate for the time being. However a representative of the POA working group will be invited to sit on the new Nature Culture Working Group.

Elise Huffer has agreed to sit as the Interim Chair as the Working Group is being established, assisted by one of IUCN's culture experts. Interested people from PIRT are encouraged to contact Elise and get involved in the establishment of the new group and development of a work plan. Elise noted that the new group will focus on cross-over and collaboration with the other PIRT Working Groups.

Heads of Member Organisations meeting

Under the normal circumstances of a face-to-face PIRT Annual Meeting, the Heads of Organisation (HOO) would meet separately to discuss some key items or decisions to be made. Given the constraints of the virtual meetings, and Zoom fatigue, the endorsement of HOO was sought via email on several key items. Several key topics were also raised that will be discussed in more detail by the PIRT HOO at a later date.

The PIRT HOO collectively:

- Endorsed the new PIRT Implementation & Monitoring Plan.
- <u>Endorsed</u> the establishment of a **new working group**, the PIRT Nature Culture Working Group.
- <u>Noted and endorsed</u> the PIRT Workplan 2022-2023. This work plan covers a two-year period to allow longer term planning, but will be revised annually at the PIRT Annual Meeting to reflect tasks achieved and changing collective priorities.
- Noted that a future discussion will be held on PIRT Membership categories and criteria.
 Early in 2022 a PIRT HOO meeting will be held to discuss potentially expanding the membership of PIRT to include national partners, as well as donors including UN Agencies.
 Criteria and governance issues relating to membership can be considered at this meeting.

Closing statements

Margaret West, PIRT Chair

The 24th PIRT Annual Meeting was closed by the PIRT Chair, who thanked all involved in PIRT currently and in previous years for their tireless work for nature conservation in the Pacific. In particular, Margaret extended thanks to: Kosi Latu for his leadership of SPREP and ongoing support of the Roundtable; Sefanaia Nawadra as head of UNEP Pacific for supporting the development of the Implementation and Monitoring Plan; to the PIRT Working Group Chairs; and to all others who contribute their time, knowledge and energy to PIRT.

Attachment A: Meeting agenda

PIRT Annual Meeting 2021

Friday 26th November 2021, 12.30-4.30pm Fiji Time

Virtual via Zoom

Agenda:

- 1. Welcoming remarks
- 2. PIRT Planning Framework and Monitoring
- 3. PIRT update
- 4. PIRT Global and Regional update

SHORT BREAK - 2nd Pacific Islands Environment Leadership Awards (PIELA) awards recording shown

- 5. PIRT Working Group updates from Chairs
 - Protected Areas Working Group
 - Pacific Environment Law Working Group
 - Species Working Group
 - Pacific Invasives Partnership
 - Nature Culture new group
- 6. Report back from Heads of Organisation Meeting (conducted via email week prior)
- 7. Closing remarks



Attachment B: Meeting participants

Name	Role	Organisation	Country		
Amanda Wheatley	Biodiversity Adviser	SPREP	Samoa		
Andrew Foran	Regional Programme Coordinator	IUCN Oceania	Fiji		
Anne-Claire Goarant	Project Manager	SPC	New Caledonia		
BJ Kim	International Program Manager	Environmental Defenders Office	Australia		
Bridget Kennedy	Deputy Director Pacific Ocean and Islands	Conservation International	Fiji		
Caroline VIEUX	Coordinator	LMMA Network International	New Caledonia		
Cherie Morris	Assistant Lecturer	Assistant Lecturer	Fiji		
Cheryl Lee Strangio	Program and Legal Administrator	Environmental Defenders Office	Australia		
Doug Humann	Executive Officer	Protected Areas Collaboration for Learning and Research	Australia		
Edmond Oswol	Research officer	Vanuatu Govt.	Vanuatu		
Elise Huffer	Adjunct Associate Professor/ CEESP IUCN Oceania Vice-Chair	USP/CEESP	Fiji		
Elizabeth Erasito	Director	National Trust of Fiji	Fiji		
Evia Tavanavanua	PA to Regional Director	IUCN Oceania	Fiji		
Gilianne Brodie	Deputy Director Institute of Applied Sciences	University of the South Pacific	Fiji		
Imogen Ingram	Treasurer & Co-Secretary	Koutu Nui	Cook Islands		
James Tremlett	PIRT Coordinator	PIRT	New Zealand		
Jamie Davies	Manager, By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Initiative	SPREP	Fiji		
Jan Steffen	Regional GIZ Focal Point	Regional GIZ Focal Point	Fiji		
Jason Tutani	Park Manager	National Trust of Fiji	Fiji		
Juney Ward	Ecosystem & Biodiversity Officer	SPREP	Samoa		
Karen Baird	Threatened & Migratory Species Adviser	SPREP	New Zealand		
Kenneth Kassem	Strategic Partnerships Officer	IUCN Oceania	Fiji		
Kosi Latu	Director General	SPREP	Samoa		
Liz Dovey	PhD scholar Fenner School of Environment &	Australian National University	Australia		

	Society & Member Institute for Climate, Energy,		
	and Disaster Solutions		
Margaret West	Pacific Regional Director	BirdlLife International	Australia
Marilyn Tagicakibau	Director Climate Action	Pacific Islands Development Forum	Fiji
Mark Christensen	Member	WCEL	New Zealand
Mason Smith	Director	IUCN Oceania	Fiji
Mereia Tabua	Scientific Officer	South Pacific Regional Herbarium	Fiji
Milika Savou	Project Officer	National Trust of Fiji	Fiji
Miraneta Williams	Knowledge Manager	SPREP	Samoa
Patricia Parkinson	Director & Principal Consultant	Environmental Law Oceania Consultancy	Fiji
Paul van Nimwegen	Protected and Conserved Areas Programme Coordinator	IUCN Oceania	Fiji
Randolph Thaman	Emeritus Professor of Pacific Islands Biogeography	University of the South Pacific	Fiji
Raymond Nias	Director	TierraMar	Australia
Rebecca Teleni	Volunteer	IUCN Oceania	Fiji
Riibeta Abeta	Ocean Mgt Officer	Ocean Mgt Officer	Fiji
Rosalie Chapple	Program Development Director	Protected Areas Collaboration for Learning and Research (PAC)	Australia
Schannel van Djiken	Marine Program Director	Conservation International	New Zealand
Scott Radway	Executive Director	cChange	Australia
Sefanaia Nawadra	Head - Pacific sub-regional office	UNEP	Samoa
Stacy Jupiter	Regional Director	Wildlife Conservation Society	Fiji
Stuart Chape	Director - Island & Ocean Ecosystems	SPREP	Samoa
Susana Waqainabete-Tuisese	Regional Director, Pacific Island Oceans Program	Conservation International	Fiji
Teri Tuxson	Assistant Coordinator	Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) Network International	Fiji
Trina Leberer	Director, Pacific Regional Partnerships	The Nature Conservancy	Guam
Unity Roebeck	Turtle Database and Conservation Officer	SPREP	Samoa
Uraia	Legal Consultant	IUCN Oceania	Fiji
Vainuupo Jungblut	Protected Areas Officer	SPREP	Samoa

Attachment C: PIRT Implementation and Monitoring Plan, including PIRT Work Plan 2022-2023

PIRT Implementation and Monitoring Plan for the

Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025

Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT)

November 2021

DRAFT ONLY – Not for distribution

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Executive summary

This Implementation and Monitoring Plan presents the priority collective actions of the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT) towards realising the ambition of the *Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025*, the principal regional strategy document for environmental conservation.

The Plan identifies three key strands of work for the Roundtable:

- 1. Collaboration to influence the conservation-development agenda
- 2. Collaboration to guide and influence conservation action
- 3. Collaboration to secure sustainable funding for conservation

Each strand of work is accompanied by details of planned initial activities for the period 2021-2025. These activities have been identified by PIRT Members and Working Groups as priorities for consolidating and strengthening the work of the Roundtable. An annual Work Plan is presented in Annex 1, and details the constituent tasks of each activity alongside designated responsibility and timeframes for completion.

This Plan also provides detail on the monitoring of this implementation. Monitoring will focus on the work of Members and Working Groups, alongside other collective outputs of the Roundtable. Proposed annual reporting templates for Members and Working Groups are included in Annexes 2 and 3, to be collated and presented to each PIRT Annual Meeting. This monitoring will allow PIRT to track our work to implement the Framework, and will demonstrate the value and importance of our collective work to our regional and international partners and stakeholders. Table 1 below summarises the reporting requested of Members and Working Groups.

Table 1: Summary of key reporting requirements from PIRT Members and Working Groups.

	PIRT Members	PIRT Working Groups
Poporting	Organisational alignment with Framework Principles	Membership and engagement
Reporting elements	Programme alignment with Framework Strategic Objectives	Activities and outputs
	Relationship with PIRT	Relationship with PIRT
Reporting frequency	Annual	Annual

Purpose and scope

This document is a plan of action towards the implementation and monitoring of the *Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025* by the Members and Working Groups of PIRT. Its purpose is to identify key strands of collective work towards this implementation, and to detail priority activities and tasks to be carried out by PIRT.

The scope of this Implementation and Monitoring Plan is limited to the collective work of PIRT Members and Working Groups. It does not provide guidance on the implementation of the Framework by parties external to the Roundtable¹.

This Implementation and Monitoring Plan will be reviewed in 2025, to align with the next iteration of the regional Framework. PIRT's work plan (Annex 1) will be reviewed annually.

¹ Note that several of the planned activities do involve provision of such guidance to key stakeholders across the region, and advocacy for strengthen implementation by these stakeholders.

Our stakeholders and partners

This Implementation and Monitoring Plan takes a strategic, targeted approach to engaging with PIRT's external stakeholders and partners, using the strengths of our various internal groups. Our various stakeholders and partners are briefly introduced below. Annex 4 also presents an analysis of these stakeholder groups.

Primary responsibility

Our primary responsibility within our work, collectively and within our own organisations, is to Pacific environments and the communities that depend on them.

External partners and stakeholders

These are a range of agencies, organisations, and other groups with influence over conservation outcomes in the Pacific. Mapping these external groups allows us to focus our collective work programme and identify potential future partners to build working relationships with. Our external partners and stakeholders include:

- Pacific communities
- Donor organisations
- Pacific governments
- Pacific public sector
- Private sector(s)
- International multilateral agencies
- Regional multilateral agencies
- Research & education institutions
- Non-PIRT NGOs/CSOs
- Cultural and religious organisations

PIRT internal groups

PIRT also has several internal groups:

- Members
- Working groups
- The 'coordination team' consisting of the PIRT Chair, Secretariat, Coordinator, Young Professional (to be recruited in 2022), and communications support.

Annex 4 also presents a brief analysis of the opportunities and challenges experienced by PIRT's internal groups. This analysis has informed the development of our work plan.

Implementing the Framework: Initial PIRT activities 2021-2025

PIRT's collective implementation of the Framework will focus on three 'strands of work' as depicted in Figure 1 below.² This section presents the aims of each strand of work, and initial activities for the period 2021-2025.

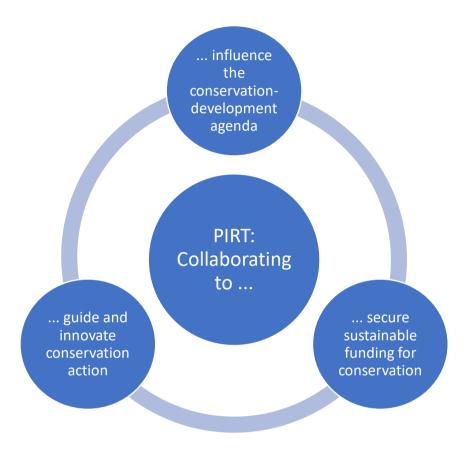


Figure 1: The three strands of work for PIRT's implementation of the regional conservation Framework 2021-2025.

² These three strands, and their constituent outcomes and activities, were identified during discussions with PIRT Members in late 2020.

The activities listed should be considered initial outputs only, with potential for expansion of the collective PIRT work programme as opportunity and capacity allows. Members and Working Groups may propose, scope, and initiate additional activities at any time, with an annual opportunity to integrate these into the PIRT Work Plan. A new annual Work Plan will be presented for endorsement by Members at each Annual Meeting.

Please see Annex 1 for the 2022-2023 Work Plan, including tasks and designated responsibilities for the activities included in this section.

Strand 1: Collaboration to influence the conservation-development agenda

Our collective work within this strand aims to:

- Ensure conservation is prioritised as a foundation of sustainable economic development in the Pacific.
- Increase the visibility of the Pacific in global conservation and development agenda-setting.
- Strengthen PIRT's collective voice.
- Increase uptake of the regional Framework between the five-yearly Pacific Island Conferences for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas.

Initial activities 2021-2025

1.1 Produce regular, coordinated joint policy briefs/position papers corresponding to elements of the Framework.

These policy briefs will present a collective position from PIRT on key issues for nature conservation in the Pacific. They will draw on the power of PIRT's collective voice to elevate the importance of Pacific conservation and to present practical guidance for action. These will be short, accessible documents targeted for use by practitioners and decision-makers in external stakeholder organisations (i.e., outside of PIRT) and in international negotiations. As a collective we will promote these to appropriate focal points in governments, regional organisations, NGOs and the private sector. These may also be targeted towards articulating collective positions and Pacific perspectives in international negotiations.

1.2 Strategically engage as a collective in discussions at regional fora with governments and regional bodies.

Increasing our collective strategic engagement with governments and regional bodies has been identified as a priority action by PIRT Members. This activity will entail scoping important regional fora ahead of time, and planning and coordination among Members and Working Groups regarding the nature and objectives of our collective engagement. Members

or their staff may volunteer to present statements on behalf of the entire Roundtable as appropriate (with the agreement of all other Members). This may include, for instance, active engagement of PIRT Members within the meetings of the Pacific Resilience Partnership in support of advancing the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP).

1.3 Facilitate targeted dialogues with 'non-conservation' organisations and sectors.

PIRT will organise and deliver dialogues on priority issues for Pacific conservation with organisations and sectors which have the ability to influence those issues. There is also a significant opportunity for mutual learning with non-conservation IGOs and NGOs whose work impacts conservation outcomes in the Pacific (for instance, development and humanitarian organisations).

1.4 Strategically widen PIRT membership.

PIRT will continue to open its membership to organisations working towards nature conservation, broadly considered, across two or more Pacific Island countries or territories. We will aim for greater representation of parts of the Pacific that are not currently active in the Roundtable. We will also strategically open PIRT discussions to supportive organisations which may not be able to become formal Members (for instance, UN agencies and other IGOs).

1.5 Build capacity within PIRT for coordination and longevity.

The PIRT coordination team will ensure there is adequate funding for long-term coordination across the Roundtable, including the Coordinator and Young Professional roles. The coordination team will also strengthen mechanisms for more efficient retention of institutional knowledge during future personnel changes.

Strand 2: Collaboration to guide and influence conservation action

Our collective work within this strand aims to:

- Increase access to, and uptake of, locally appropriate best practice in Pacific conservation.
- Increase collaborative conservation action by PIRT Members.
- Increase the capacity of PIRT Members and regional partners to work within the Framework Principles and towards the Framework Strategic Objectives.

Initial activities 2021-2025

2.1 Strengthen the role of PIRT Working Groups in knowledge exchange and providing guidance to the wider Pacific conservation community.

The Working Groups are PIRT's key mechanism for guiding and influencing conservation action in the Pacific. Where requested by the Chairs of the Working Groups, the PIRT coordination team will provide support to strengthen internal communication, administration, planning, and updating guidance documents to reflect the 2021-2025 Framework. All Working Groups will ensure that they have effective procedures for sharing their outputs with PIRT Members and other Pacific conservation practitioners.

Strand 3: Collaboration to secure sustainable funding for conservation

Our collective work within this strand aims to:

- Increase coordination between PIRT Members in accessing funding.
- Diversify the models of sustainable fundraising and financing utilised in Pacific conservation.
- Increase the resourcing available for Pacific Island environmental ministries/departments.
- Increase the visibility of the Pacific in global conservation resourcing.

Initial activities 2021-2025

3.1 Facilitate regular updates from donor organisations about upcoming funding opportunities.

Donor organisations (including PIRT Members) will be invited on a regular basis to share information about their upcoming funding opportunities with PIRT. These updates will be compiled by the coordination team and disseminated to PIRT Members and Working Groups. Where appropriate, opportunities will be shared directly to other external partners, including Pacific government agencies.

3.2 Effectively monitor the work of the Roundtable towards the implementation of the 2021-2025 Framework.

Monitoring the implementation of the Framework by PIRT Members and Working Groups is an important step in attracting more sustainable long-term funding for conservation in the Pacific. Our monitoring programme will clearly demonstrate the value of the Roundtable and our collective work to collaborate for nature conservation action, without adding an undue reporting burden to Members or Working Groups.

Monitoring our implementation

Our mandate

PIRT has a key role in the monitoring of the Framework. This stems from the mandate given in 2002 regarding the regional Action Strategy for Nature Conservation, a predecessor of our current Framework:

'The Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation is maintained as a mechanism for **promoting**, **facilitating** and **monitoring the implementation** of the Action Strategy.'

(Resolution 7, 7th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, Rarotonga, 2002)

However, we no longer have an Action Strategy: we have a strategic Framework. This is a very different kind of document. The primary difference is that it is designed to be less prescriptive, without nested targets and indicators within each objective.

The 2021-2025 Framework is **not directly measurable** in the same sense as an Action Strategy might be (noting that even monitoring the past Action Strategies was beyond the capacity of the Roundtable, or indeed the CROP agencies). This is a deliberate feature of its design, and a strength that respects the autonomy of countries and territories to establish their own targets and indicators.

What PIRT can measure

This Implementation and Monitoring Plan proposes to monitor **what PIRT is doing** to implement the Framework as a collective. Monitoring should focus on the work of Members, Working Groups, and PIRT's common work programme.

This monitoring will require a new reporting mechanism, designed to place as little as possible additional workload on any party. Reporting will be annual, in the lead up to Annual Meetings where a summary of our collective implementation will be presented.

The proposed approach relies heavily on self-reporting by representatives of Member organisations and by Working Group Chairs. Collectively this will provide a highly useful overall picture of what PIRT has achieved in the last 12 months. Over time these annual measurements will constitute a powerful portrayal of the work and value of the Roundtable.

It is proposed that **PIRT Members** will report on their alignment to each of the eight Framework Principles through a self-assessment of performance per principle, with qualitative detail on lessons learnt or plans for improvement. Members will also report on how their programmes correspond to each of the six Framework Strategic Objectives, and on their engagement with the rest of the Roundtable. A proposed reporting template for Members is presented in Annex 2.

It is proposed that **PIRT Working Groups** will report on their membership and engagement; their activities and outputs over the previous 12 months; and their engagement with the rest of the Roundtable. A proposed reporting template for Working Groups is presented in Annex 3.

As PIRT we will also measure our common work programme as presented in the annual Work Plan. Most of the proposed joint outputs are easily measurable; a summary of work achieved in the previous 12 months will be presented to each Annual Meeting.

Please also refer to Table 1 in the Executive Summary for an outline of the reporting requirements from Members and Working Groups.

Annex 1: PIRT work plan and budget 2022-2023

This work plan covers a two-year period to allow longer term planning, but will be revised annually at the PIRT Annual Meeting to reflect tasks achieved and changing collective priorities.

Please note that 'coordination team' refers to the PIRT Chair, Secretariat, Coordinator and Young Professional (YP).

ACTIVITY	TASKS	RESPONSIBILITY		20	22			20	23	
Strand 1:	Strand 1: Collaboration to influence the conservation-development agenda					Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1.1 Produce regular, coordinated joint policy	Scope priority issues for initial policy brief; formation of co- authorship group.	Coordinator								
briefs/position papers	Drafting of initial brief.	Co-authors								
corresponding to elements of	Publication and promotion through collective networks.	All PIRT								
the Framework.	Regular publication following established process (at least biannual, or more frequently for negotiations or urgent issues).	Coordinator + YP								
1.2 Engage as a collective in	Identification of priority regional fora for PIRT engagement.	Coordination team								
discussions at regional fora with countries and regional bodies.	Ongoing engagement as appropriate, led by delegated person/organisation with agreement of other Members.	All PIRT								
1.3 Facilitate targeted	Scope priority sectors and stakeholders for dialogues.	Coordinator								
dialogues with 'non- conservation' organisations and sectors.	Initial dialogue event, facilitated online between PIRT and relevant sectoral organisations.	All PIRT, facilitated by coordination team								
	Regular dialogues following established process (~biannual).	Coordinator + YP								
1.4 Strategically widen PIRT membership.	Scope potential new members and priority organisations to develop closer working relationships with.	Coordination team								
	Invite relevant organisations to join as members or take part in activities as appropriate (ongoing activity).	All PIRT								
1.5 Build capacity within PIRT for coordination and	Secure funding for Coordinator and YP roles; TORs codeveloped within PIRT.	Coordination team								
longevity.	Recruit for Coordinator and YP roles.									
	Streamline PIRT administration and consolidate key documents.	Coordinator								
	Ongoing capacity building within coordination team, according to evolving needs and priorities.	Coordination team								

Strai	Strand 2: Collaboration to guide and influence conservation action			Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.1 Strengthen the role of PIRT Working Groups in	Scope support requested by each WG and schedule delivery.	Coordination team, WG Chairs								
knowledge exchange and providing guidance to the	Strengthen essential WG admin systems where requested by WG Chairs.	Coordinator + YP								
wider Pacific conservation Update guidance documents to reflect 2021-2025 Framework community. Where requested by WG Chairs.		Coordinator + YP, WG Chairs								
	Ongoing support to WGs as requested.	Coordination team								
Strand	Strand 3: Collaboration to secure sustainable funding for conservation			Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
3.1 Facilitate regular updates	Scope priority donor organisations with WGs and Members.	Coordinator								
from donor organisations about upcoming funding	Compile initial update of funding opportunities for the following 12-month period, to be shared with PIRT.	Coordinator								
opportunities.	Annual update following established process.	Coordinator + YP								
3.2 Effectively monitor the work of the Roundtable	Establish initial baseline using reporting approach endorsed at 2021 Annual Meeting.	Coordinator								
towards the implementation of the 2021-2025 Framework.	Annual reporting by Members and WGs to present at Annual Meeting.	Coordinator + YP								

PIRT Budget 2022-2023

Funding source	Amount USD	Status	Designation
ACP SIDs 'Pacific Bioscapes Project' (grant to SPREP)	\$260,000	Confirmed	 PIRT Implementation Coordinator – 2 year contract Youth Coordinator (Young Professional) – 2 year contract Workshops Travel as necessary
SPREP funds managed for PIRT activities	\$50,000	Confirmed	Translation Consultancies Communications material to support Framework implementation
SPREP personnel	In kind	Confirmed	 Secretariat (Biodiversity Adviser, Ecosystem and Biodiversity Officer) Director of Island and Ocean Ecosystems Programme as required Director-General as required Chairs or members of multiple PIRT Working Groups (various SPREP staff)
BirdLife International	In kind	Confirmed	 PIRT Chair Co-Chair of Species Working Group Communications support

Annex 2: Proposed reporting template for PIRT Members

Monitoring the implementation of the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025:

Reporting template for PIRT Member Organisations

About this reporting template

PIRT is mandated to monitor our collective implementation of the regional conservation Framework. This reporting template is a central element of this monitoring. It requests that PIRT's Members self-report on their alignment to each of the Framework's Principles (Part II), the correspondence of their programmes to the Framework's Strategic Objectives (Part II), and their relationship to the rest of the Roundtable (Part III). A similar reporting template will be completed by PIRT Working Groups.

Members and Working Groups will be asked to undertake this reporting on an annual basis, in the leadup prior to the PIRT Annual Meeting. A summary of key trends from this reporting will be provided to each PIRT Annual Meeting, and will be useful as we seek further collective funding for PIRT in the coming years. It may also be useful for your own reporting!

Responses submitted to Part II of this reporting template (Programmes aligning to Framework Strategic Objectives) will be included in the PIRT Annual Meeting Report and published on the PIRT website, in line with previous years. All other information will be treated confidentially and no organisation or individual contributing to this survey will be identified in any publication or presentation without first obtaining agreement.

Member Organisation:	
Contact person:	
Contact email:	

Part I: Framework Principles

About the Principles: A code of conduct for implementation of conservation programmes

The eight Framework Principles articulate the critical components for implementing conservation projects in Pacific contexts. They are designed as a guide for designing, establishing, delivering and sustaining conservation programmes in the Pacific. They apply to all conservation initiatives undertaken in the Pacific region, not only those specifically linked to the Framework.

The eight Principles are mutually supporting, indivisible amongst themselves and are applicable across all six Strategic Objectives of the Framework. Their application will lead to enriched, more respectful relationships between conservation agencies and Pacific communities, and to a significant improvement in the conservation capacity of the region with corresponding progress towards the Vision and Goals of the Framework.

Please answer the below questions associated with each Principle.

Principle 1: Community rights

Pacific indigenous and local communities have the right to own, use, manage, and conserve their natural resources and wider environment.

National, regional and international partners will actively recognise, respect and support:

- Community property rights, including traditional rights over natural resources, and indigenous intellectual property relating to natural resources and cultural knowledge.
- Community decision-making practices.
- Community rights to design, prioritise, conduct, and publish research.
- Community rights to access information available on their resources, natural cultural heritage, and society in appropriate forms of language.
- Community rights to develop opportunities that support and sustain local livelihoods and wellbeing.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
not reflect this	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)
Principle)				

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Principle 2: Conservation from Pacific perspectives

Natural environments are central to the cultures, identities, livelihoods, and development opportunities of Pacific communities. Nature conservation affects all aspects of social, cultural, and economic life and must therefore align with the values, priorities, and aspirations of these communities.

National, regional and international partners will actively recognise, respect and support:

- Community aspirations for development and wellbeing.
- Pacific approaches to conservation based on sustainable resource use, cultural heritage and expressions, and traditional, indigenous, and local knowledge.
- The need of some communities to use their own languages and protocols when engaging with or undertaking conservation initiatives.
- The importance of establishing and maintaining lasting individual and organisational relationships with Pacific communities.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do not reflect this	(Significant room to improve)	(Some room to improve)	(A little room to improve)	(No improvements needed)
Principle)	p. 6 v 6/		p. 313)	coucu,

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Principle 3: Ownership of conservation programmes

Lasting conservation in the Pacific can only be achieved if national partners and local communities lead the design, implementation, and evaluation of conservation initiatives.

National and community partners will commit to:

- Exercising and building their capacity for leadership of conservation programmes.
- Greater engagement and ownership of conservation within the private sector and local organisations, including cultural, spiritual, business, sporting, youth, and women's organisations.

Regional and international partners will commit to:

- Respecting, encouraging, and helping to build capacity for national and community partner leadership of all conservation programmes.
- Aligning all conservation programmes, including regional and international initiatives, with national programmes, priorities, and aspirations.
- Strengthening and resourcing national and local partners as an alternative to establishing independent institutions or infrastructure.
- Ensuring all key programme decision-making takes place in-country alongside national and community partners, and is led by local conservation priorities.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
not reflect this	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)
Principle)				

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Principle 4: Resourcing for longevity

Conservation initiatives must be adequately and appropriately resourced over time, by planning for the financial, social, organisational and cultural components of project longevity.

National, regional and international partners will commit to:

- Ensuring their conservation programmes are of scale and budget appropriate to the local context.
- Long-term strategic planning and resource mobilisation that sustains conservation over time.
- Adhering to best practices for supporting livelihoods and community wellbeing, including poverty reduction and enhancing community financial sustainability based on local biocultural resources.
- Developing appropriate new and improving existing methods and partnerships to sustain financial investment and resources for conservation.
- Ensuring that locally specific social, cultural, and equity factors are considered when decisions are made about conservation financing.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
not reflect this	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)
Principle)				

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Principle 5: Good governance and accountability

Conservation is inclusive, participatory, accountable, transparent, equitable, and open to stakeholder scrutiny.

National, regional and international partners will commit to:

- Reinforcing inclusive and participatory approaches by involving all stakeholders, particularly
 community representatives, when designing, implementing, communicating, assessing, and
 reporting on conservation programmes.
- Ensuring systems are in place to enable full transparency and accountability to the people affected by conservation programme implementation and environmental regulatory services.
- Recognising and applying inter-generational equity and gender equality principles in all activities.
- Promoting and supporting cost-effective scaling up and adoption of best-practice conservation models.
- Developing and implementing durable, effective policies which are integrated across government agencies and governance levels.

National partners will commit to:

- Setting clear and standard processes for the establishment, operation, and accountability of
 international partners through formal agreements. These agreements should include a Code of
 Conduct with defined consequences for breaches and mechanisms to ensure transparency of
 operations.
- Establishing systems to register the conservation activities of all partners against national and local priorities, such as NBSAPs.
- Setting easily measured benchmarks to ensure progress against defined conservation objectives, with each partner held accountable for its commitments and progress.

Regional and international partners will commit to:

- Adopting systems that ensure transparency and accountability of their programmes at a national level.
- Providing timely, transparent, and comprehensive reporting on conservation programmes to national partners, including reporting on implementation of NBSAP priorities. Appropriate reporting must also be provided to community partners.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
not reflect this	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)
Principle)				

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Principle 6: Coordination and collaboration

Conservation is more effective when partners coordinate, collaborate and work within a strategic framework.

National partners will commit to:

- Ensuring NBSAPs and locally devised conservation programmes are strategic, focused, and set clear local priorities for action.
- Taking a leadership role in coordinating all partners, including by providing national and local focal points for coordinating NBSAP and other programme implementation.

Regional and international partners will commit to:

- Working within the legislation, policies, strategies, programmes, and priorities established by national partners.
- Working with each other to ensure collaborative analysis, strategies, agreed priorities, and coordination of political engagement to avoid duplication or inconsistencies.
- Avoiding programming that competes with national partners for projects and funding.
- Strengthening existing and cultivating new partnerships that are culturally oriented, innovative, and results driven.
- Working to integrate environmental datasets and other forms of relevant information, and making this available in accessible formats to national and community partners.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
not reflect this	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)
Principle)				

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Principle 7: Growing Pacific capacity

Increasing national, sub-national and community capacity to design, prioritise, direct, manage, implement, monitor and evaluate conservation programmes.

National partners and communities will commit to:

- Building effective and sustainable conservation capability and organisations through ongoing capacity development.
- Ensuring conservation is continuously improved by recording, disseminating, and incorporating lessons learned and best practices.
- Building capacity with and within local organisations, such as cultural, faith-based, sporting, youth, and women's organisations, as well as the private sector.
- Enhancing the capacity of conservation practitioners to use appropriate concepts and tools, including those of the private sector.

Regional and international partners will commit to:

- Supporting national partners in their efforts to build effective and sustainable institutions.
- Supporting national partners and communities in their efforts to develop core competencies such as leadership, project management, scientific monitoring, and financing.
- Ensuring their presence in-country does not undermine national and local institution-building or capacity development.
- Contributing to national and community partners' best practice by recording, disseminating, and implementing lessons learned.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
not reflect this	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)
Principle)				

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Principle 8: Reinforcing resilience

Implementing nature conservation that supports the resilience and wellbeing of Pacific communities in the face of sudden or long-term disruption.

National, regional and international partners will commit to:

- Programmes and projects which focus on building resilience and adaptive capacity in Pacific communities, cultures and environments.
- Promoting innovative, community-based, and culturally grounded natural solutions, drawing on appropriate learning networks and the best available knowledge.
- Supporting communities to implement conservation activities by applying approaches and principles of ecosystem-based management and adaptation to their local context.
- Safeguarding traditional, indigenous and local knowledge, and supporting communities to utilise this knowledge for resilience and adaptation.

In your estimation, how well does your organisation align with this Principle (across all programmes)?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

Does not align	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
(Programmes do	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
not reflect this	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)
Principle)				

What is your organisation currently doing to align with this Principle?

Part II: Framework Strategic Objectives

About the Strategic Objectives

The Strategic Objectives are broad priorities for nature conservation action in the Pacific. Work done within the areas of the Strategic Objectives, in a manner reflecting the Principles for Conservation Implementation, will contribute to progress towards the 30-year Vision and Goals of the Framework.

The purpose of the Strategic Objectives is to provide a coordinated strategic approach to conservation across jurisdictions in the Pacific region. Decisions around national goals, targets and indicators for their implementation are the responsibility of Pacific governments, supported by their partners.

The table below presents the six Strategic Objectives 2021-2025, their constituent Action Tracks, and alignment with the post-2020 GBF and the SDGs.

Strategic Objective 2021-2025	Priority Action Tracks	Related post-2020 GBF targets	Related SDGs
Strategic Objective 1: Empower people to take action for nature conservation, based on their understanding of its importance for Pacific cultures, economies, and communities.	 Our people at the centre of conservation action Behaviour change for nature conservation through identity, traditional knowledge, education, heritage, and cultural expressions 	12, 15, 19, 20	4.7, 5.5, 5.A, 6.B, 12.8, 13.3, 15.6, 16.7, 16.10
Strategic Objective 2: Integrate environmental and cultural considerations into the goals, processes, and trajectories of economic development in the Pacific.	 Sustainable and resilient ocean economies Sustainable and resilient island economies Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to sustain our social-ecological systems Environmentally and culturally sensitive tourism 	8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 17	1.4, 1.5, 2.4, 5.A, 6.4, 7.2, 7.3, 7.B, 8.4, 8.9, 9.4, 10.5, 10.6, 11.7, 11.C, 12.2, 12.4, 12.5, 12.6, 12.7, 12.B, 12.C, 13.2, 14.6, 14.7, 14.B, 15.9
Strategic Objective 3: Identify, conserve, sustainably manage, and restore ecosystems, habitats, and priority natural and cultural sites.	 Effective marine protected areas Marine ecological integrity Effective terrestrial protected areas Terrestrial ecological integrity 	1, 2, 9	6.5, 6.6, 11.4, 12.2, 14.2, 14.5, 15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.4, 15.5

Strategic Objective 4: Protect and recover threatened species and preserve genetic diversity, focusing on those of particular ecological, cultural and economic significance.	11. Reducing threats to threatened and migratory marine species12. Reducing threats to threatened and migratory terrestrial species	3, 4, 8, 12	2.5, 15.5, 15.6, 15.7
Strategic Objective 5: Manage and reduce threats to Pacific environments and drivers of biodiversity loss.	 Ending unsustainable fishing Ecosystem-based approaches to climate change, pandemic and disaster response Deep-sea mining (DSM) Battling invasive species Preventing plastics pollution Preventing terrestrial, freshwater and marine pollution (non-plastic) 	5, 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17	2.4, 3.9, 6.3, 11.6, 11.B, 12.4, 12.5, 13.1, 14.1, 14.3, 14.4, 15.2, 15.3, 15.5, 15.7, 15.8
Strategic Objective 6: Grow capacity and partnerships to effectively monitor, govern and finance nature conservation action.	19. Science and traditional knowledge for target-setting and monitoring20. Governance that works for nature conservation21. Sustainable financing for nature conservation	18, 19	4.B, 6.A, 7.A, 9.A, 10.A, 10.B, 12.A, 12.B, 13.A, 13.B, 14.A, 15.A, 15.B, 15.C, 16.6, 16.8, 17.1, 17.3, 17.5, 17.6, 17.7, 17.9, 17.14, 17.15, 17.16, 17.17, 17.18, 17.19

Please complete the table below with details of your organisation's programmes in the Pacific Islands region, including alignments with the Strategic Objectives (table above). Although most conservation programmes will have elements related to all the Strategic Objectives, please use this table to indicate those objectives with the most direct relevance to the programme in question.

Key activities or programmes including brief description of outcomes	Relevant Strategic Objectives (1-6)	Ongoing or completed	Pacific Island countries or territories where activities are being implemented	Partner organisations (PIRT or external)
[Activity 1]				
[Activity 2]				
[Please add additional rows as necessary]				

Part III: Relationship with PIRT

How could the PIRT coordination team and \	Working Groups better support your organisation to
collaborate with other PIRT members?	

Please be as specific as possible!

Is there anything else you would like to contribute to PIRT in the coming 12 months?

Annex 3: Proposed reporting template for PIRT Working Groups

Monitoring the implementation of the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021-2025:

Reporting template for PIRT Working Groups

About this reporting template

PIRT is mandated to monitor our collective implementation of the regional conservation Framework. This reporting template is a central element of this monitoring. It requests that PIRT's Working Groups self-report on their membership and engagement (Part II), their activities and outputs (Part II), and their relationship to the rest of the Roundtable (Part III). A similar reporting template will be completed by PIRT Members.

Members and Working Groups will be asked to undertake this reporting on an annual basis, in the leadup prior to the PIRT Annual Meeting. A summary of key trends from this reporting will be provided to each PIRT Annual Meeting, and will be useful as we seek further collective funding for PIRT in the coming years. It may also be useful for your own reporting!

All information will be treated confidentially and no organisation or individual contributing to this survey will be identified in any publication or presentation without first obtaining agreement. A summary of responses submitted in Part II of this form (Activities & Outputs) will be presented in the PIRT Annual Meeting Report.

Working group:	
Chair(s):	
Contact email(s):	

Part I: Membership & engagement

- 1a. How many members does your Working Group have?
- **1b.** How frequent are communications to your members? (Weekly, monthly, every three months etc.)
- 1c. Do you have a database of members? If so, what system do you use for this?
- 1d. In the last year, how many meetings has your Working Group held?
- 1e. How would you rate the engagement of your members in the activities of the Working Group?

Please highlight or circle one option below:

No engagement	Low	Moderate	Good	Excellent
	(Significant room	(Some room to	(A little room to	(No improvements
	to improve)	improve)	improve)	needed)

1f. Do you have specific plans to increase engagement of members? If so, please provide details of these.

Part II: Activities & outputs

Please provide details of collaborative activities and other outputs your Working Group has undertaken in the last year.

This may include workshops, monitoring initiatives, joint position papers, advocacy work, etc.

Name of activity/output	Description of activity	Ongoing or completed	Other partners involved (if any)

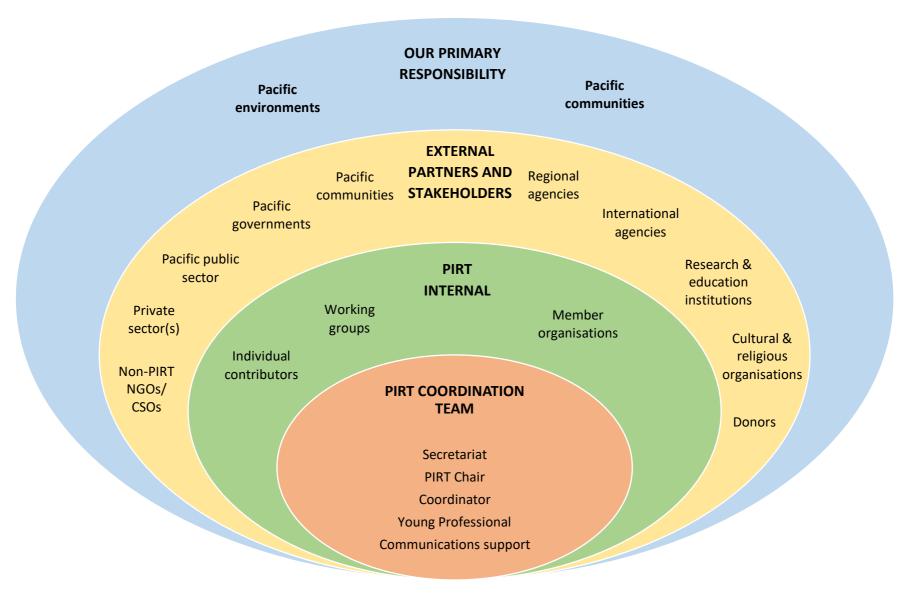
Part III: Relationship with PIRT

How could the PIRT	coordination tear	m and Member	organisations be	tter support you	ır Working
Group?					

Please be as specific as possible!

Is there anything else you would like to contribute to PIRT in the coming 12 months?

Annex 4: PIRT partners and stakeholders



PIRT internal: Members

PIRT currently has 14 members: BirdLife International, cChange Pacific, Conservation International (CI), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), International Union for Conservation of Nature Oceania Regional Office (IUCN-ORO), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF), Protected Areas Collaboration for Learning and Research (PAC), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Society of Conservation Biology Oceania (SCBO), University of the South Pacific (USP), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Pacific.

The table below presents the internal strengths and challenges, and the external opportunities and challenges, facing PIRT's Members in their work as a collective. Based on responses received from a survey of the heads of member organisations in late 2020.

Internal strengths Internal challenges External challenges External opportunities A wide array of organisations Aligning internal work plans and Engaging with governments non- Communicating the importance of involved in a diversity of work strategies for Pacific conservation. conservation sectors and other Pacific conservation to Finding ways to finance more across the region. sectors in a more targeted way governments, non-conservation A strong history of collective work collaborative actions by multiple (more frequently than the 5-yearly sectors and other stakeholders, including links to other regional to build upon. Members. conferences). Members and their staff are highly Overcoming the competitive aspects Producing regular collective position issues such as climate change and committed to Pacific conservation, of the NGO sector and regional papers (or similar) as an advocacy human health. with a wealth of knowledge, organisations to focus on more tool that utilises the power of PIRT's Countering the perspective experience, and relationships in the collaborative approaches to our collective voice. (common in some sectors) that common objectives. Engaging as a collective with donor conservation is oppositional to region. The strong desire of many Members Continuing to break down silos organisations to expand the economic development. to extend the collective work of the between Members and partners. resourcing available to Members Scarcity of funding for nature Roundtable (for instance, strong Amplifying the collective voice of and our partners. conservation relative to climate PIRT Members as advocates for Forging closer relationships with support for developing an change and economic development. actionable work plan with Pacific conservation, within the external agencies who wish to designated responsibility). region and internationally. support the work of PIRT (e.g., UN Increasing the frequency of agencies). Strengthening outreach and Members' engagement with the collective work of the Roundtable. engagement to local CSOs and NGOs Managing our reliance on the in the Pacific. sometimes overstretched staff and Leveraging existing regional and budgets of member organisations to global platforms to collate and share dedicate time and resources to PIRT the collective positions of PIRT

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PIRT internal: Working Groups

PIRT currently has four active working groups: the Protected Area Working Group (PAWG), the Pacific Invasives Partnership (PIP), the Species Working Group (SWG), and the Pacific Network on Environmental Law (PaNEL). A fifth working group, the Nature Culture Working Group, is being established in 2021.

The table below presents the internal strengths and challenges, and the external opportunities and challenges, facing PIRT's working groups; this is a generalised situation analysis and not all strengths and challenges apply to all working groups. Based on conversations with working group chairs in mid-2021.

Internal challenges Internal strengths External opportunities External challenges Good established working Improving internal communication Connecting people doing related Communicating the importance of relationships with regional agencies. and coordination amongst WG work across the region to help Pacific conservation to governments, Proactive leadership by WG Chairs. members (with appropriate PIRT break down sectoral silos. non-conservation sectors and other Active and committed members support if requested). Expanding the advocacy role of stakeholders, including links to other from a diversity of regional Holding more regular and focused PIRT WGs in the region. regional issues such as climate Assisting or advising WG members meetings, with mechanisms to change and human health. institutions. When functioning well, WGs are a increase member participation in (and PIRT member organisations) Connecting to and involving hard-togood forum for regional knowledge meetings. to coordinate access to finance. reach parts of the region, across Developing mechanisms for exchange and training: sharing best Sharing effective tools (for language and geographic barriers. practice and 'what works.' monitoring and reporting on the administration, advocacy, Well-considered guidance work of WGs, without overly communication, etc.) among documents and work plans. increasing workload. different WGs. Updating guidance documents or Providing technical assistance to work plans with reference to the local organizations and CSOs on 2021-2025 Framework. critical issues. Finding mechanisms to balance or include members working at regional, national, and local levels. Expanding Pacific Islander presence within WG membership. Integrating traditional and indigenous knowledge into conservation solutions and outcomes proposed by WGs.

PIRT external partners and stakeholders

The table below presents a generalised overview of PIRT's external partners and stakeholders, describing the influence each stakeholder group exercises over nature conservation action in the Pacific, and the degree to which the stakeholder group is impacted upon by this conservation action. This analysis may be useful in making decisions about where to focus PIRT's work programme for maximum conservation impact. It is also presented visually on the following page.

External partner/ stakeholder	Influence over nature conservation action	Impacted upon by nature conservation action
Pacific communities	Moderate. Pacific communities may have direct influence over the state of their land and sea territories through local management measures, harvesting practices, etc. However, communities can only rarely influence national or regional conservation policies or initiatives.	High. Conservation initiatives have a direct and substantive (sometimes existential) impact on Pacific communities.
Donors	High. Through their funding criteria and decision-making processes, donor organisations have significant influence over which conservation actions are taken, by whom, and where.	Low. Although donor organisations want demonstrated success as a result of their investment, they are typically based outside the region and are not directly impacted on by the success or failure of conservation action in the Pacific.
Pacific governments	High. Pacific governments have the authority (if not always the resources) to make direct decisions around conservation and environmental management in their jurisdictions.	Moderate-High. The ability of governments to balance competing interests and needs, including environmental ones, directly influences their re-election. Making more explicit links between environmental and economic wellbeing in therefore important in influencing governments for conservation.
Pacific public sector	Moderate-High. The public sector helps shape government policy and is a key intermediary in implementation. However, environmental concerns often have lower prominence within the public sector than economic ones.	Moderate-High. The success of the public sector in a time of escalating environmental crisis will increasingly rely on integrating environmental provisions into economic and social work programmes.
Private sector(s)	High. Commercial and industrial activity is a major driver of environmental change in the Pacific, and the decisions made by the private sector about their own practices have direct influence on Pacific environments and communities.	Moderate. Although all economic activity has an ultimate environmental base, a degraded environment may not immediately impact the industry or sector involved.
International agencies	Moderate-High. International agencies exercise influence by mediating global conservation agenda-setting, and through their support for government and NGO conservation initiatives.	Moderate-Low. Although invested in the region with a genuine desire to see improved conservation practice, most international agencies are not directly impacted on by the success or failure of

	Many are also donor organisations.	conservation action in the Pacific.
Regional agencies	Moderate-High. Regional agencies exercise influence over	Moderate. Environmental stewardship is a central part of many
	national, regional and international policy-making for	regional agencies' reason for existence, and agencies generally
	conservation and environmental management, although this	have excellent awareness of the centrality of environmental
	does not necessarily translate into implementation.	health for the economies and societies of the Pacific.
Research & education institutions	Low-Moderate. Although these institutions hold extensive	Moderate. The conservation-related work of research and
	knowledge about Pacific environments and the best practice	education institutions is at least partly shaped by environmental
	for conservation action, they do not exercise significant	change and by Pacific responses to this change, alongside many
	influence over the nature, scope, or scale of this action.	other factors.
Non-PIRT NGOs/CSOs	Moderate. Due to the nature of their work many NGOs and	Moderate. NGOs and CSOs that implement programmes in the
	CSOs have a degree of influence over nature conservation at	Pacific will find their work significantly impacted by escalating
	the regional, national, and local levels, even if they do not	environmental crises in the region.
	consider themselves conservation organisations (e.g.,	
	international development NGOs).	

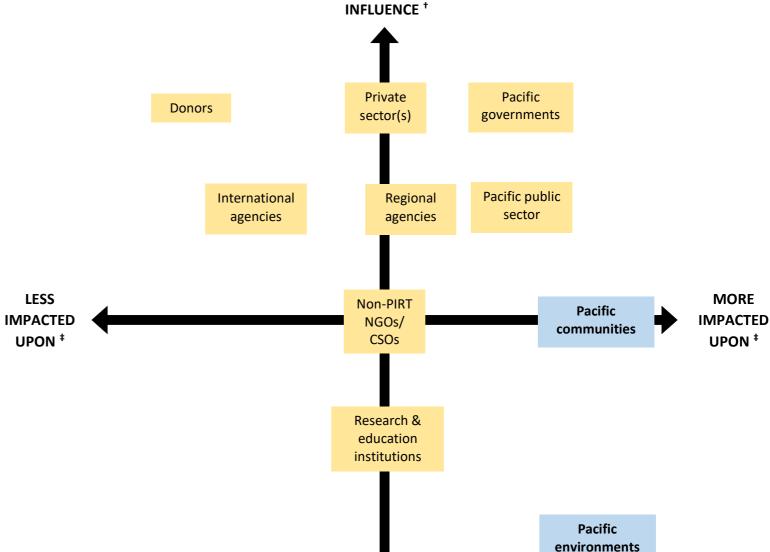
Elements of PIRT's primary responsibility:	Influence over nature conservation action	Impacted upon by nature conservation action
Pacific communities (also considered partners above)	Moderate. Pacific communities may have direct influence over the state of their land and sea territories through local management measures, harvesting practices, etc. However, communities can only rarely influence national or regional conservation policies or initiatives.	High. Conservation initiatives have a direct and substantive (sometimes existential) impact on Pacific communities.
Pacific environments	Low. The islands, ocean, sky, and other natural entities of the Pacific have little influence on conservation action by people. Although the voice of these entities may be articulated by their indigenous people, this currently exercises little influence over conservation policy or action at a regional scale.	High. Conservation initiatives have a direct and substantive (sometimes existential) impact on Pacific environments.

PIRT IM Plan 2021 MORE

PIRT external stakeholder* map:

Influence on, and impact by, nature conservation action in the Pacific

* Note that each stakeholder group is diverse and will include actors with a range of influence and impact. This map represents an overall estimation for each stakeholder group.



LESS

INFLUENCE †

KEY

^{† &#}x27;More/less influence' *over* nature conservation action in the Pacific

^{* &#}x27;More/less impacted upon' by nature conservation action in the Pacific