

LONG TERM STRATEGY

November 2021

PART A: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

BACKGROUND

The Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) is a framework approach to coordinate regional resourcing and support for terrestrial invasive species management in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), contributing to improved livelihoods and biodiversity conservation.

Within the mandate of SPREP, PRISMSS comprises a coalition of agencies collaborating on five regional programmes: Protect our Islands; Predator Free Pacific; War on Weeds; Natural Enemies, Natural Solutions; and Resilient Ecosystems, Resilient Communities. Technical leads for the programmes are drawn from the agency members of PRISMSS.

PRISMSS has its own declaration of intent to guide collaboration across its agency members. It also operates within the framework of other strategies and agreements in the region including the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. Its work builds on several decades of Pacific regional, national and community investment in research, capacity, understanding, planning and managing invasive species.

AUDIENCE FOR PRISMSS STRATEGY

This strategy is written specifically for the PRISMSS partnership. It is intended to shape the partnership's work plans and priorities over the next five years. It sets the approach for coordination and collaboration among members and also between each programme of the partnership. Each member organisation of the partnership will continue to have its own, separate, workplans although it is expected that this strategy will influence those workplans.

LONG TERM VISION

we share with many others

Healthy and resilient Pacific communities and indigenous ecosystems where the threat of invasive species is mitigated.

PRINCIPLES

that underpin all our work for this strategy

As well as following the principles and values defined in the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, our work takes special note of the following three principles:

1. Local leadership, direction and ownership are central to all locally-based initiatives
2. People's livelihoods, culture, health and resilience are intrinsically linked to biodiversity outcomes.
3. Long-term maintenance of invasive species outcomes including sustained financing, surveillance and incursion response, is built into the planning and implementation of all our work.

CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIC RESPONSE

Invasive species undermine the health and resilience of Pacific Islands' economies, communities and ecosystems. While progress has been made towards the prevention (including early detection and rapid response to incursions), eradication and control of invasive species, current efforts are not at a scale commensurate with the issues. Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) often lack the resources, capability and a clear understanding of the potential benefits or achievability of invasive species prevention, control and eradication. As well, regional effort to support PICTs in this work, along with funder commitment, has not always been coordinated, efficient, accessible or cohesive.

To address these issues, the members of PRISMSS believe it is necessary to:

- deepen awareness, understanding and ownership of invasive species issues within PICTs, leading to enhanced in-country planning and implementation
- improve the coordination of, and investment in regional support for PICTs, and
- provide support to PICTs, their communities and implementing organisations for on-the-ground invasives prevention, control and eradication.

The PRIMSS partnership believes that if these outcomes are achieved, PICTs will see an increase in the scale, scope, effectiveness and pace of invasive species prevention, control and eradication in the Pacific, with additional benefits for economies, communities and ecosystems.

PRISMSS role is to provide strategic services to PICTs (including strategic planning, coordination, technical capability and financial leverage) to implement these outcomes.

WORKSTREAMS ACROSS ALL FIVE PRISMSS' PROGRAMMES

	1. SUPPORT PICTs OWNERSHIP, UNDERSTANDING AND INVESTMENT	2. CO-ORDINATE AND FOCUS REGIONAL SUPPORT	3. ENABLE AND UPSCALE PREVENTION, CONTROL AND ERADICATION
Medium term outcome (to 2026)	All PICTs have established national invasive species prevention (domestic and international) control and eradication plans and are actively seeking external funding support for their implementation.	PRISMSS partnership members and the work of many other funders, organisations and agencies have improved the efficiency and impact of invasive species prevention, control and eradication investment through enhanced collaboration, targeted and effective programme design, and significantly scaled up resourcing.	PICTs and their communities have readily available support to improve their capacity and capability for best practice prevention, control and eradication.
Strategic approach	Support PICTs to <u>prioritise, plan, mainstream and resource</u> prevention, control and eradication initiatives using the framework of National Invasive Species Strategies and Action Plans (NISSAPs) and other relevant national strategies.	Base programmes and methodology on carefully researched <u>engagement strategies</u> that clarify the most impactful approaches for achieving PICTs ownership of invasives issues. Enhance engagement across all supporting agencies and invasives programmes to ensure support to PICTs is <u>comprehensive, aligned, collaborative and strategic</u> .	Provision of <u>advice, practical support and resourcing</u> for on-the-ground invasive species prevention, control and eradication is delivered in line with national priorities. Disparate initiatives are drawn together in a <u>learning and sharing framework</u> that builds a region-wide network for capability development.

PART B: PROGRAMME WORK PLANS

Part B describes work plans for two of the five PRISMSS' programmes: Predator Free Pacific (PFP) and Resilient Ecosystems, Resilient Communities (RERC). The other three programmes will develop aligned strategies in the near future.

PREDATOR FREE PACIFIC WORK PLAN *to August 2022*

Strategic context

The Predator Free Pacific (PFP) programme is designed specifically to remove invasive mammalian predators from islands. Its implementation will be informed by an engagement plan that first assesses the most effective and impactful approach to achieve PICTs ownership of the programme and its outcomes. Using this information, the programme will support PICTs to develop national priorities and plans and then assist PICTs with implementation. Alongside this work, PFP will work to ensure coordination and collaboration for predator free outcomes across PRISMSS members, funders and other agencies working in the region.

WORKSTREAM ONE: Support local ownership, understanding and investment

Outcome: All Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) have established national plans and priorities for PFP and are actively seeking external funding support for their implementation

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
1. Use existing communication channels (including the Battler Lounge and Facebook) to keep PICTs, agencies and organisations informed about PFP and its on-going development and implementation.	Josef Pisi, SPREP
2. Develop an engagement plan with a focus on 'winning hearts and minds' within both PICTs and supporting external agencies.	Richard Griffiths, Island Conservation
3. Develop a blueprint that the details the steps required for PICTs to achieve predator free status for their islands.	Souad Boudjelas, Department of Conservation
4. Guided by the blueprints, as well as by the strategies and approaches developed in the engagement plan, assist PICTs to develop their own national PFP plans	Richard Griffiths, Island Conservation
5. Include PFP in the Regional Invasive Species Management Mainstreaming strategy and outputs (2021-2022).	Steve Cranwell, Birdlife International

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
6. Support the inclusion of PFP in the national Invasive Species Management Mainstreaming strategies and their outputs (pilot countries 2022-2023).	Dave Moverley
7. Plan next steps from August 2022 to July 2023.	Steve Cranwell and Richard Griffiths

WORKSTREAM TWO: Co-ordinate and focus regional support

Outcome: PRISMSS partnership members and the work of many other funders, organisations and agencies have improved the efficiency and impact of predator eradication and multiple invasive species management support through enhanced collaboration, aligned work programmes, and significantly scaled up resourcing.

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
1. Using recommendations from the engagement plan (see action 2 above) develop a short strategic proposal for engaging external partners	Richard Griffiths
2. Seek alignment on PFP outcomes from civil society organisations working in the Pacific, including consideration of establishing a steering group	Steve Cranwell
3. Seek in-principle financial support from bilateral and multilateral funders for the implementation of national PFP plans.	Dave Moverley
4. Coordinate and align PFP with other PRISMSS programmes' PICTs' engagement to enhance efficiencies, support mutual actions and outcomes, and reduce possible confusion.	Josef Pisi

WORKSTREAM THREE: Enable and upscale prevention, control and eradication

Outcome: PICTs and their communities have readily available support to improve their capacity and capability for best practice eradication and multiple invasive species control.

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
1. Develop a capability and capacity framework that PICTs and PFP programme leads can use collaboratively to assess national capability and capacity for eradication.	Jessica Kay
2. Facilitate the development of a sustainable funding and succession plan for regional-level PFP capability and capacity.	Dave Moverley
3. Maintain the PRISMSS activity portfolio (PAP) and monitor its impact and effectiveness for achieving PFP outcomes.	Josef Pisi
4. Develop regional funding proposals for collaborative long term sustainable investment in PFP initiatives.	Steve Cranwell and Richard Griffiths
5. Share news of, and access to opportunities for, innovations that serve to increase the efficiency and reduce the cost of eradications.	Richard Griffiths

RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS, RESILIENT COMMUNITIES WORK PLAN *to August 2022*

Strategic context

The Resilient Ecosystems, Resilient Communities (RERC) programme intends to manage multiple invasive species and reintroduce lost native species and ecosystems on larger islands where eradication is not feasible, benefitting both local communities and native ecosystems. Its implementation will be informed by an engagement plan that first assesses the most effective and impactful approach to achieve PICTs ownership of the programme and its outcomes. Using this information, the programme will support PICTs to develop national priorities and plans and then assist PICTs with implementation. Alongside this work, RERC will work to ensure coordination and collaboration for resilient communities and ecosystems outcomes across PRISMSS members, funders and other agencies working in the region.

WORKSTREAM ONE: Support local ownership, understanding and investment

Outcome: All Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) have established national plans and priorities for RERC and are actively seeking external funding support for their implementation

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
1. Use existing communication channels (including the Battler Lounge and Facebook) to keep PICTs, agencies and organisations informed about RERC and its on-going development and implementation.	Josef Pisi
2. Develop an engagement plan with a focus on ‘winning hearts and minds’ within both PICTs and supporting external agencies.	Dave Moverley
3. Develop a blueprint that detail steps required for PICTs to determine priority sites for multiple invasive species management.	Dave Moverley
4. Guided by the blueprint, as well as by the strategies and approaches developed in the engagement plan, assist PICTs to select priority sites based on a stocktake of existing protected areas and engagement with stakeholders.	Dave Moverley
5. Include RERC in the Regional Invasive Species Management Mainstreaming strategy and outputs (2021-2022).	Dave Moverley
6. Support the inclusion RERC in the national Invasive Species Management Mainstreaming strategies and their outputs (pilot countries 2022-2023).	Dave Moverley
7. Plan next steps from August 2022 to July 2023.	Dave Moverley

WORKSTREAM TWO: Co-ordinate and focus regional support

Outcome: PRISMSS partnership members and the work of many other funders, organisations and agencies have improved the efficiency and impact of predator eradication and multiple invasive species management support through enhanced collaboration, aligned work programmes, and significantly scaled up resourcing.

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
1. Using recommendations from the engagement plan (see action 2 above) develop a short strategic proposal for engaging external partners	Dave Moverley
2. Seek alignment on RERC outcomes from civil society organisations working in the Pacific, including consideration of establishing a steering group	Dave Moverley
3. Seek in-principle financial support from bilateral and multilateral funders for the implementation of national RERC plans.	Dave Moverley
4. Coordinate and align RERC with other PRISMSS programmes' PICTs' engagement to enhance efficiencies, support mutual actions and outcomes, and reduce possible confusion.	Josef Pisi

WORKSTREAM THREE: Enable and upscale prevention, control and eradication

Outcome: PICTs and their communities have readily available support to improve their capacity and capability for best practice multiple invasive species control.

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
1. Develop a capability and capacity framework that PICTs and SPREP can use collaboratively to assess national capability and capacity for invasive species control.	Jess Kay
2. Facilitate the development of a sustainable funding and succession plan for regional-level RERC capability and capacity.	Dave Moverley
3. Maintain the PRISMSS activity portfolio (PAP) and monitor its impact and effectiveness for achieving RERC outcomes.	Josef Pisi
4. Develop regional funding proposals for collaborative long term sustainable investment in RERC initiatives.	Dave Moverley

ACTION	FACILITATOR OF WORKING GROUP
5. Share news of, and access to opportunities for, innovations that serve to increase the efficiency and reduce the cost of control	Dave Moverley