

Regional and National Alien and Invasive Species Data Mobilization and Capacity Building in the Pacific

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Overview

- ▶ Objectives
- ▶ Project Activities
- ▶ Results to date
- ▶ Challenges Faced and Lessons Learned



Objectives

- ▶ Developing capacity and infrastructure for data mobilization
 - ▶ Promoting collaboration between data holders and publishing agencies
 - ▶ Promoting data sharing
 - ▶ Promoting data standards and better data management
 - ▶ Using data to develop baselines
 - ▶ Using data for better Invasive Species Management
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- ▶ This Project involves 17 Consortium Partners in 14 Pacific Island Countries and Territories along with SPREP and ISSG

Project Activities

- ▶ A Memorandum of Understanding between SPREP and GBIF is signed
- ▶ Integrated Publishing Tool Kit is established



Project Activities

- ▶ A Regional Organisation's Alien and Invasive Species Data and Information Mobilization and Capacity Building in the Pacific Meeting took place in Suva, Fiji from the 16th to the 20th of October 2017.



Project Activities

- Non Consortium Partner – Invasive Species Specialist Group – Shyama Pagad produced a template package to assist data holders to prepare their data

DISTRIBUTION DATA CLASSIFICATION									
Species Status/provenance		Invasiveness		Occurrence		Introduction Type		Abundance	
Status code	Status name	Invasiveness	Invasiveness name	Occurrence code	Occurrence name	Introduction code	Introduction name	Abundance code	Abundance name
1	Alien	1	Invasive	1.0	Absent	1	Intentional legally	1	Rare / Sporadic / Localised
2	Native	2	Not Invasive	1.1	Recorded in error	2	Intentional illegally	2	Common
3	Cryptogenic/uncertain	3	Not specified	1.2	Extinct	3	Intentional uncertain	3	Widespread
4	Not specified	4	Uncertain	1.3	Eradicated	4	Unintentional	4	Unknown
				1.4	Intercepted	5	Natural means		
				2.0	Present in the wild	6	Uncertain		
				2.1	Established				
				2.2	Not Established				
				3.0	Occasionally present casual, occasional, vagrant, migratory...				

Project Activities

- ▶ In Country IAS Data Mobilisation Meetings were held in 10 Pacific Island Countries and Territories



Project Activities

- ▶ Regional Alien and Invasive Species Data and Information Mobilisation and Capacity Building in the Pacific”, which was hosted by SPREP, in Apia, Samoa from the 16 to the 20 of April 2018.
- ▶ The workshop was attended by 27 participants from ten Pacific Island countries and territories (Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, The Kingdom of Tonga, Solomon Islands, Wallis and Futuna



Project Activities

- ▶ The workshop was designed to provide a platform where the participants could publish the datasets identified during their national meetings, using the technical expertise available.
- ▶ A group discussion was held proposing invasive species attributes favored for inclusion in Darwin Core.



Project Activities

- ▶ We developed a resource to assist Pacific data holders to publishing Pacific invasive species data to GBIF
- ▶ It is available in print and online:
- ▶ <https://www.sprep.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/battlers-sharing-data.pdf>



Project Activities

- ▶ We have developed a resource to assist Pacific data holders to publishing Pacific invasive species data to GBIF
- ▶ It is available in print and online in French also:
- ▶ <https://www.sprep.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/battlers-share-pacific-gbif-fre.pdf>



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Project Activities

In September and October the SPREP Head of Delegation and Project Coordinator travelled to Yap and New Caledonia to try and advance the project objectives.

The objectives of this mission was as follows:

- To build relationships and levels of engagement.
- To set up agencies, in-country, as data publishers on the SPREP IPT.
- To identify the in country holders of invasive species data and work with them to build capacity and mobilize their data. The focus was specifically on mobilizing invasive species data at island and protected area levels.

Project Activities

Data use for Decision Making

- ▶ We attended a Data Use for Decision Making workshop in Auckland in September 2018
- ▶ SPREP facilitated a Data Use for Decision Making workshop in the Kingdom of Tonga and used the prioritisation of islands for rodent eradication, as a real life case study.
- ▶ A follow up workshop was held at SPREP and was titled “GBIF Data Use for Island Conservation Workshop”. This workshop was designed to analyse the data so that areas could be prioritised for the development of a Green Climate Fund proposal. Published and unpublished data was analysed for the concept development. Previously unpublished datasets were published during that week.

Results

- ▶ In total 83 datasets from 11 countries across the Pacific were published.
- ▶ There close to 200,000 new Pacific occurrence or checklist records on GBIF
- ▶ Agencies from 11 countries were registered as new publishers on GBIF.



Challenges Faced and Lessons Learned

- ▶ 17 Consortium Partners in 14 Pacific Island Countries and Territories
 - ▶ Logistics/ Geography
 - ▶ Communication
- ▶ The In Country Meetings really needed a greater degree of support to maximize the output.
- ▶ A lack of engagement by 4 of the Consortium Partners.
- ▶ There is still some way to go before the integration of data analysis into decision making processes could be described as institutionalized in Pacific Island countries and territories.

Thanks



- Bradley Myer, SPREP Project Coordinator