



The Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP)

"Connecting People, Places and Knowledge"



**ISAAC ROUNDS-PROTECTED AREAS OFFICER
SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM (SPREP)**

History

- Origins and early development (Pre-2015)
- Need for a centralized resource tool driven by the recognition of the Pacific's unique biodiversity and the growing global and regional commitment to conserve it.
- Many Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) struggled with managing and accessing information on protected areas.
- PIPAP emerged within the broader framework of international biodiversity agreements such as CBD.
- This led to a push for improved management and information sharing led to formal establishment of PIPAP in **2015**.
- Funded by the European Union (EU) through the ACP MEA (African, Caribbean, and Pacific Multilateral Environmental Agreements)

History (Cont'd)

- From 2017-2025 PIPAP was upgraded with funding from BIOPAMA which include support for protected area position within SPREP.
- PIPAP became part of a Regional Observatory which also functions as the BIOPAMA Regional Reference Information System (RRIS) and facilitates ex-change of data and information among decision makers and managers of protected areas.
- BIOPAMA 2 is an initiative of the ACP Group of States financed by the European Union's 11th European Development Fund.
- Jointly implemented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (EC-JRC). In the Pacific region, BIOPAMA is implemented by IUCN's Oceania Regional Office (IUCN ORO) in partnership with SPREP.

History (Cont'd)

- 2024 Received funds from the Pacific Biodiversity and Sustainable Land-Seascapes (Pacific BioScapes) Programme; to upgrade PIPAP.
- It is European Union (EU) funded action, managed and implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).
- Implemented in 11 countries (Cook Islands, PNG, FSM, Samoa, Fiji, Solomon Is, Kiribati, Tonga, Marshall Is, Vanuatu, Palau).

Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP)

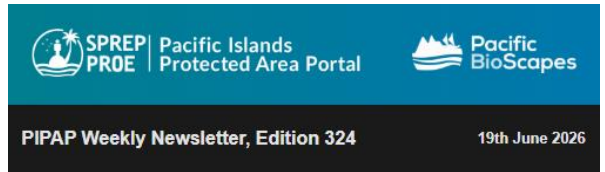
- PIPAP portal is based on Drupal Application
- This **valuable online platform** serves as a comprehensive resource for the conservation and management of protected areas across the Pacific Islands
- A **data and information management tool** for Pacific island protected areas.
- A premier source of **news and information** on Pacific island protected areas.

Key Features Protected Area Portal (PIPAP)

- Browse Protected Areas that are registered with WDPD
- PA management effectiveness dashboard
- Explore protected areas solutions
- Access wide range of publications linked to PA
- Maintain a Roster of Experts (currently being updated)
- Included Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) layers

PIPAP Newsletter

- An **all-in-one package** of relevant, open-source and other specialised information from a variety of sources
- **Provides the latest information on**
 - Job vacancies,
 - Training and scholarship opportunities,
 - Tools & research,
 - Technical expertise,
 - Upcoming events.
- Currently **762** subscribers
- Weekly edition (Now up to **324th** edition as of last week)



'Our mission as Oceanians': French Polynesia to protect more ocean

French Polynesia has announced it will expand the size of its fully shielded natural reserves inside what is already the world's largest marine protected area in the far South Pacific. The overseas territory of France, since last year, has vast area of almost five million square kilometers (1.93 million square miles) that is protected.

[Read More](#)

NATIONAL NEWS

RELEVANCE OF PIPAP TO THE REGION

I. Centralized Data and Resources

PIPAP provides access to a vast repository of scientific data, research, and best practices specific to Pacific Island ecosystems. This helps governments and conservationists make informed decisions based on the most relevant information available.

2. Network and Collaboration

PIPAP connects practitioners across the Pacific region, fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing between countries. This promotes a more unified and effective regional approach to conservation.

3. Capacity Building

The portal offers training materials and guides to enhance local capacity for managing protected areas. Countries can access resources that help them build skills in biodiversity monitoring, ecosystem management, and sustainable development

4. Tracking Conservation Goals

PIPAP helps member countries monitor and report on their progress toward international commitments, such as the GBF Biodiversity Targets specifically Target 3. This ensures accountability and transparency in environmental protection efforts.

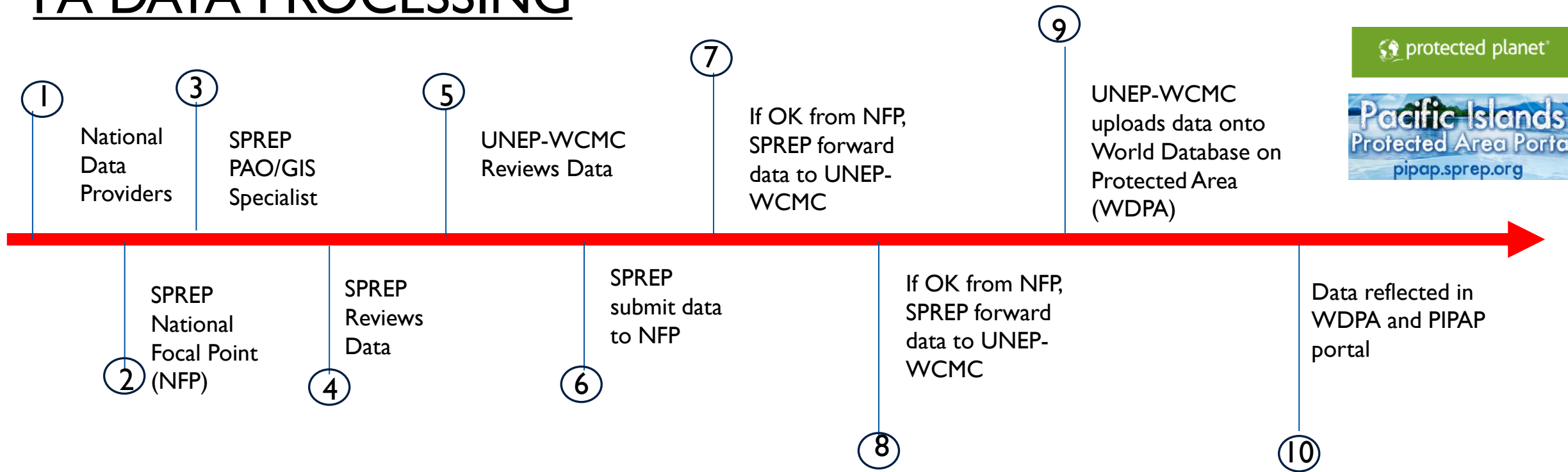
5. Tools and Technical Support

PIPAP provides tools and guidance on spatial planning, ecosystem management, and species protection, tailored to the unique challenges of Pacific Island nations. This technical support is critical in addressing specific environmental and geographical challenges faced by these countries.

6. Promotes Sustainable Management

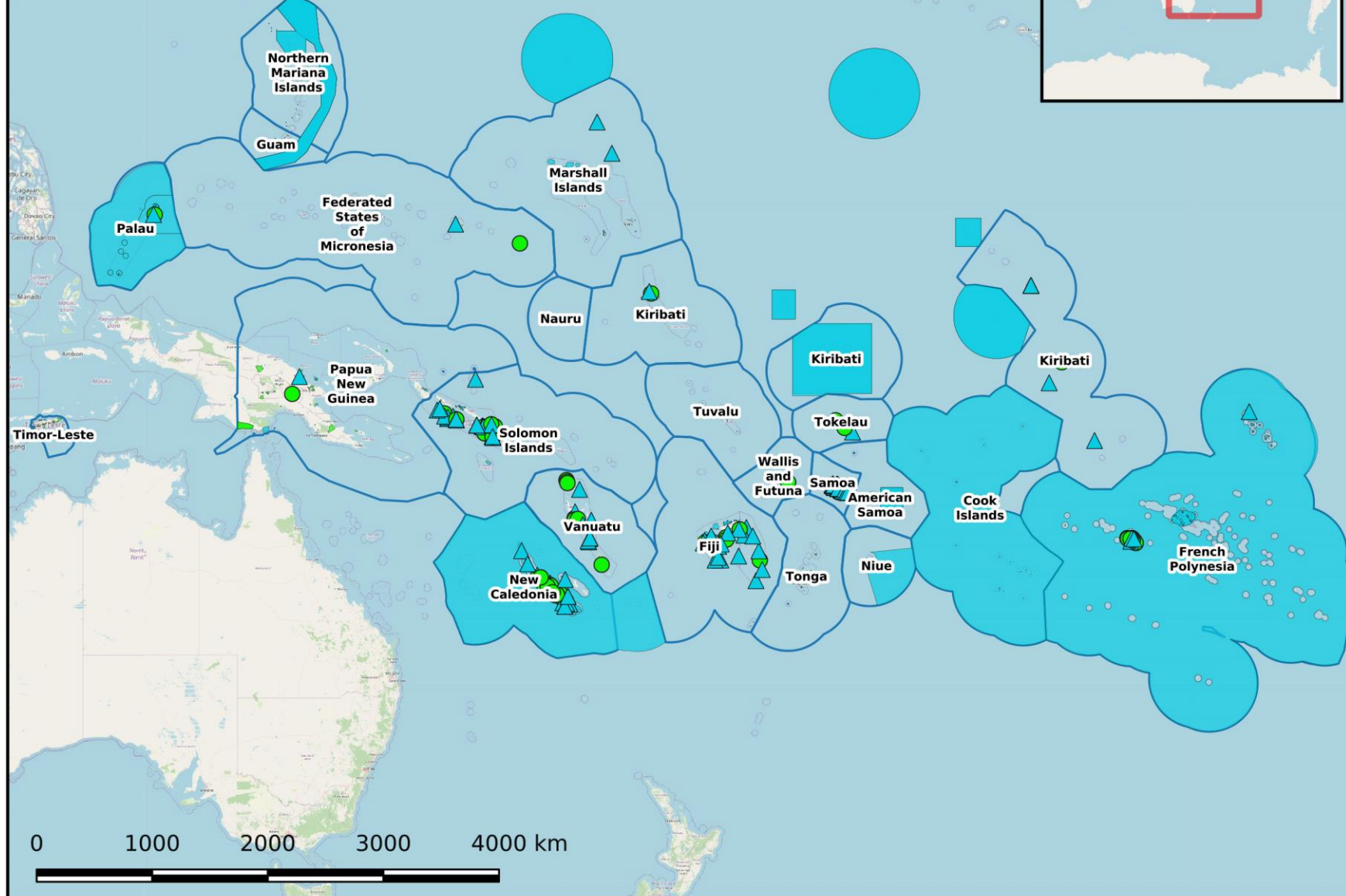
By helping countries manage protected areas effectively, PIPAP contributes to the sustainable use of natural resources, ensuring that ecosystems continue to support livelihoods, biodiversity, and climate resilience in the region.

PA DATA PROCESSING



PIPAP Upgrade

- PIPAP is now streamlined and made efficient for ease of access.
- Enhancements to security to secure online data and upgrade to latest version.
- PIPAP Newsletter upgraded as well with a design with a mobile-first approach to ensure the newsletter looks great on all devices.
- Use responsive design techniques to adjust the layout and images for smaller screens.
- Enhance integration and compatibility with linked databases including web-based tools.
- Working to update and upgrade Tomai Pacifique.



**Total Area Protected
(Mapped):
13,048,981 sq. km**

**Marine Protected Areas: 584
Designated: 515
Established: 51
Proposed: 12**

**Terrestrial Protected Areas:
287
Designated: 266
Established: 11
Proposed: 3**

International Designations: 23
Designated are recognized or dedicated through legal means. Established are recognized or dedicated through other effective means. Proposed is in a process to gain recognition or dedication through legal or other effective means.

- ▲ **Marine Protected Areas**
- **Terrestrial Protected Area**
- Marine Protected Areas**
- Terrestrial Protected Area**
- Exclusive Economic Zones**

**Project: Pacific Islands Protected
Areas
Pacific Islands Protected Area
Portal**

**Scale: 1:53,495,593
Date Accessed: 2026-03-26
For more information please visit:
<https://pian.paprep.org>**

BIOPAMA
From Knowledge to Action for a Protected Planet



Data Disclaimer: Protected areas data was derived from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) dataset (source: www.protectedplanet.net). Exclusive Economic Zone data was derived

from Flanders Marine Institute (2019). Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marinerregions.org/>

Where does the Pacific stand?

- 19.9% of Pacific EEZs under protection

Achieved 30×30:

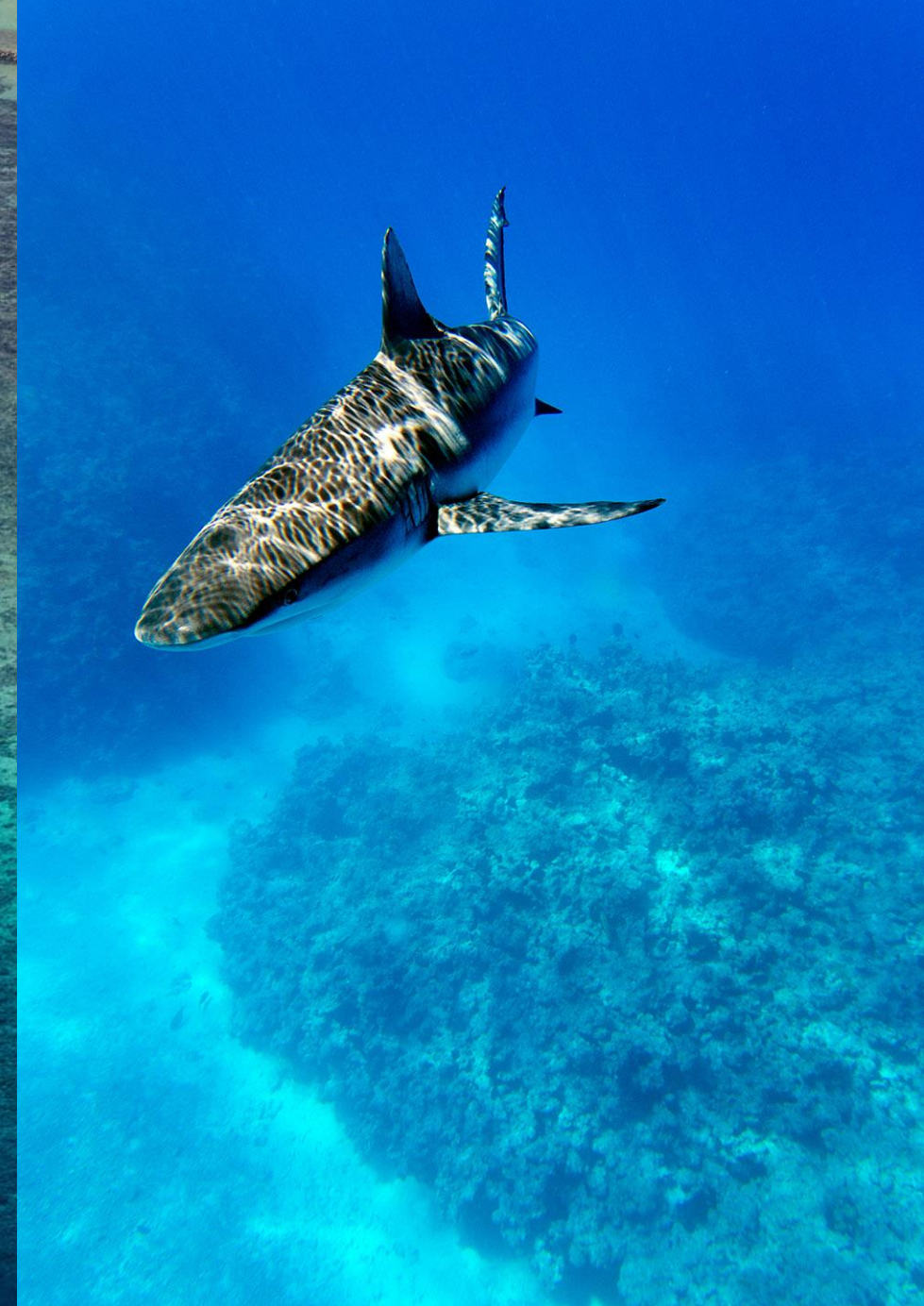
- Palau, Cook Islands, Niue, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Tonga, Samoa

Yet to achieve:

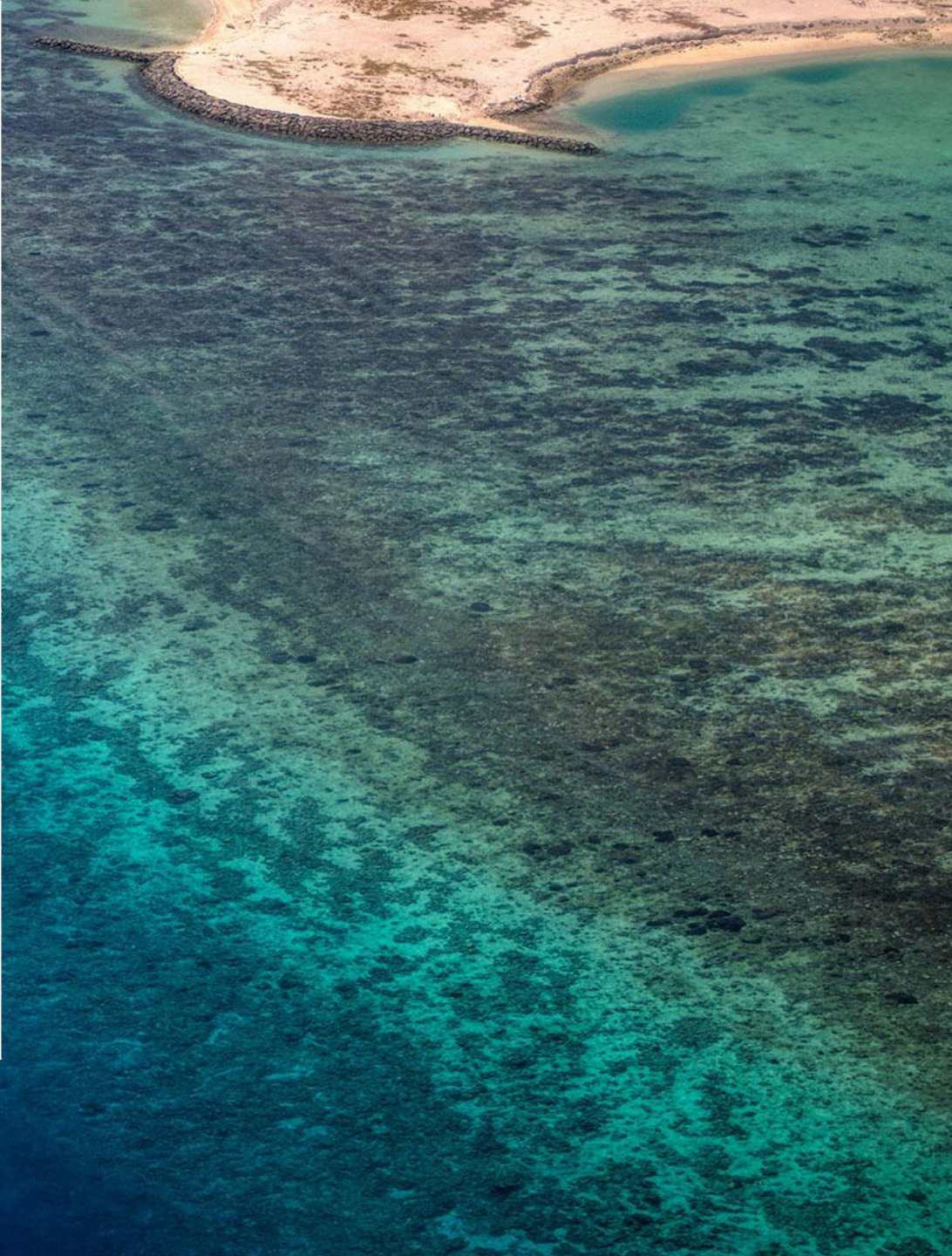
- Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, FSM, RMI

Key Gaps:

- Uneven progress across countries
- Limited ecological representativeness & connectivity



	Country/territory	Last national update year	UNEP-WCMC lead
COK	Cook Islands	2024	Brett
FJI	Fiji	2015	Brett
FSM	Micronesia (Federated States of)	0	Brett
KIR	Kiribati	2016	Brett
MHL	Marshall Islands	2015	Brett
NCL	New Caledonia	2019	Brett
NIU	Niue	2020	Brett
NRU	Nauru	0	Brett
PLW	Palau	2019	Brett
PNG	Papua New Guinea	2019	Brett
PYF	French Polynesia	2025	Brett
SLB	Solomon Islands	2022	Brett
TKL	Tokelau	0	Brett
TLS	Timor-Leste	2019	Brett
TON	Tonga	2019	Brett
TUV	Tuvalu	2019	Brett
VUT	Vanuatu	2003	Brett
WLF	Wallis and Futuna	0	Brett
WSM	Samoa	2020	Brett



HOW TO ACCESS THE PIPAP PORTAL

1. <https://pipap.sprep.org/>

2. <https://www.sprep.org/>

>>>>>>>Resources>>>>>Information

portal>>>Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP)

PIPAP

DATA

ASSISTANCE

RESOURCE HUB

NEWSLETTER



**Supporting the sustainable
management of protected areas
in the Pacific Region.**

576 

Marine Protected Areas

9,287,323.7 km²

333 

Terrestrial Protected Areas

33,580.22 km²

909  

Total Protected Areas

9,320,903.92 km²

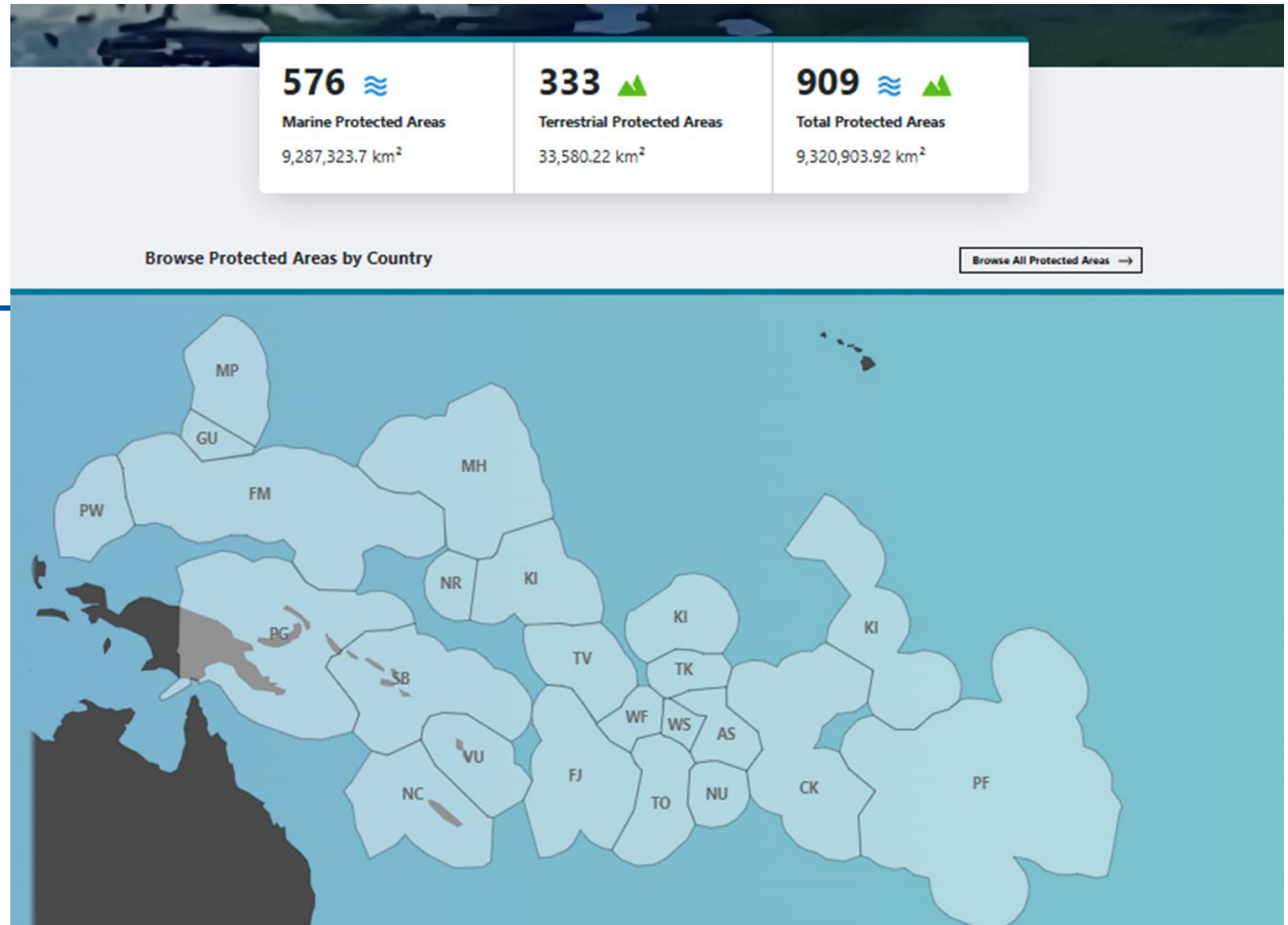
Browse Protected Areas by Country

Browse All Protected Areas →

EXPLORE “DATA” TAB

DATA

- > Protected Areas
- > Management Effectiveness Dashboard
- > Spatial Data



BROWSE “PROTECTED AREAS”

Click on “Browse
All Protected
Areas” tab.

Navigate to main
“Data” tab and
click on
“Protected Areas”

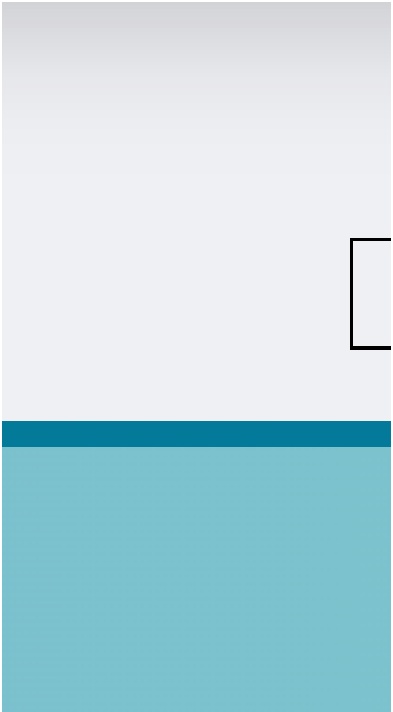
Landing page click
on country initial.
Cook Islands
“CU”

“BROWSE ALL PROTECTED AREA” TAB



2 km

Search through filter



Protected Area

Country

IUCN Category

Status

Designation Type

Apply

Country

Cook Islands

IUCN Category

- Any -

Status

- Any -

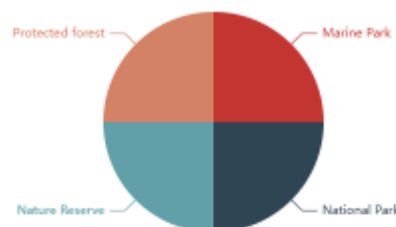
Designation Type

- Any -



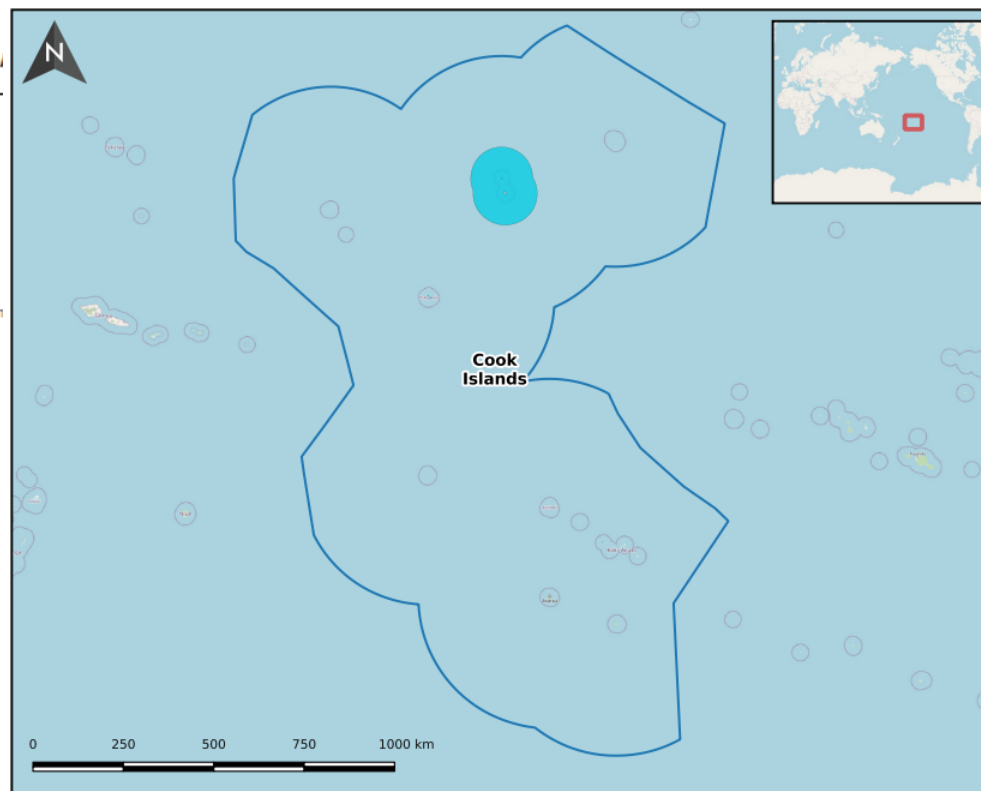
Cook Islands

Designations:



COOK ISL

Man



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These statistics might differ from those reported officially by countries due to differences used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to map country or territory.

Source: from ProtectedPlanet.net.

Country

Protected Area

Cook Islands

Takutea Nature F

Cook Islands

Takitumu Conser

Cook Islands

[Suvarrow National Park](#)



Map Download Links

- Cook Islands Protected Areas Map
- Northern Islands Protected Areas Map
- Southern Islands Protected Areas Map



Download National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)

State of Environment Report

Cook Islands State of the Environment Report 2018

IUCN Category

Status

IV

Designated

Not Applicable

Established

II

Designated

Cook Islands

Exclusive Economic Zone Area:
1,969,553 sq. km

Total Area Protected:
1,968,942 sq. km

Marine Protected Areas: 3
Designated: 3
Established: 0
Proposed: 0

Terrestrial Protected Areas: 1
Designated: 0
Established: 1
Proposed: 0

International Designations: No

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Project: Cook Islands Protected Areas
Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal
Scale: 1:13,985,661
Date Accessed: 2025-09-29
For more information please visit:
<https://pipap.sprep.org/country/ck>

LANDING PAGE CLICK ON COUNTRY INITIAL COOK ISLANDS “CU”

COOK ISLANDS PROTECTION COVERAGE



Cook Islands

4
Protected Area Count

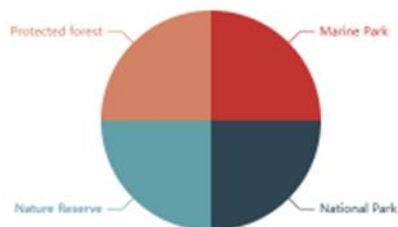
2
Management Effectiveness Assessments

1,969,117.35 km² / 1,969,540.28 km²
(99.98%)

2.47 km² / 242.0
Proti

Terre

Designations:



Governance Types:



These statistics might differ from those reported officially by countries due to difference in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory.

Source: from ProtectedPlanet.net.



Map Download Links

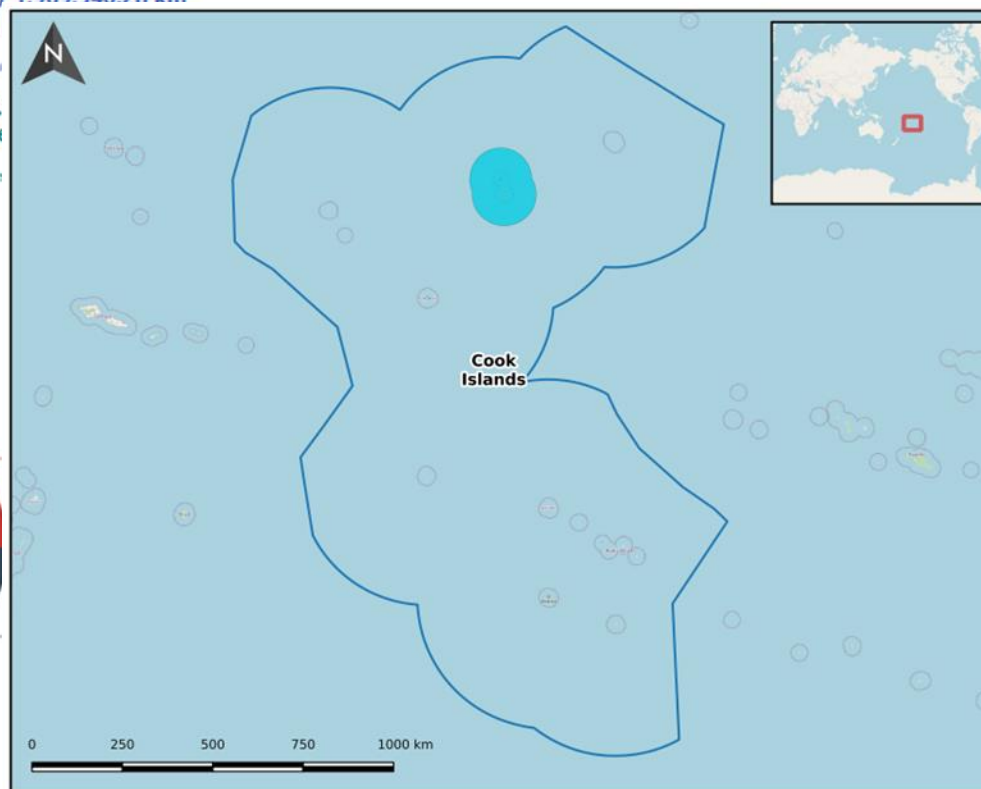
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- Northern Islands Protected Areas Map
- Southern Islands Protected Areas Map



Download National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

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Cook Islands State of the Environment Report 2018



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BROWSE “MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS DASHBOARD”

Protected Areas With PAME Assessments

Requests for assessment reports can be addressed to pipap@sprep.org

Protected Area

Country

- Select -

Designation Type

- Any -

Methodology

- Any -



Apply

- How many sites have undertaken some form of PAME assessments?
- How many sites have undertaken PAME assessments using METT tool?
- How many sites in Cook Islands have undertaken PAME assessment?

RESOURCE HUB

DATA ASSISTANCE RESOURCE HUB

Keywords

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☒ Publication (2136)

Filter by category

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- ☐ Management (314)
- ☐ Marine Resources (252)
- ☐ Pacific Protected Areas (236)

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- ☐ climate change (120)
- ☐ invasive species (116)

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NEWSLETTER

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PIPAP Weekly Newsletter 296

Friday, October 31, 2025



PIPAP Weekly Newsletter, Edition 296



Landowners lead the way in biodive
solutions

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We'll send you weekly updates from around the Pacific region with the latest news and events related to protected area management.

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17th October 2025



major threat



VINAKA VAKALEVU

- Isaacr@sprep.org