

“Connecting People, Places and Knowledge”

The Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP)

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Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP)

- A **data and information management tool** for Pacific island protected areas
- A **all-in-one package** of relevant, open-source and other specialised information from a variety of sources
- A premier source of **news and information** on Pacific island protected areas
- **Provides the latest information** on job vacancies, training and scholarship opportunities, technical expertise, upcoming events.
- The Portal is housed at, and **managed by SPREP**.
- **Continuously updated and enhanced** to ensure it remains user friendly and meets user needs/priorities.
- The **preferred repository** for storage, sharing and long-term backup of Pacific Islands PA data



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PIPAP Vision

To provide a doorway through which Pacific Island protected area practitioners can share expertise and benefit from opportunities



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Evolution of the PIPAP

2012

- ~~23rd SPREP meeting~~ - SPREP member countries call for “ ... development of an environmental monitoring and reporting framework, including **a common database developed to support reporting and management ...**”

2013

- PAWG (PIRT) recognised the need for **a mechanism to better connect a diverse range of people working on Protected areas/Conservation areas** across the region.
- Pacific Islands Protected Areas Portal (PIPAP) **Needs Assessment completed**
- **PIPAP developed** – based on results of the needs assessment

2014

- **PIPAP launched** at IUCN World Parks Congress - Sydney
- SPREP becomes **Host Organisation for BIOPAMA programme & “Regional Observatory” in the Pacific**
- **BIOPAMA information system (RIS) integrated into PIPAP** – integration, testing and update continues.

2016

- CBD Pacific Workshop on Aichi targets 11/12 (July, Nadi) – **national level PA/MPA/MMA information/data accuracy and access** confirmed as an important need and priority by PICs.

2017

- **Further enhancements and updates** made to the PIPAP front end.



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Pacific PA Data & Information

- All 14 PICs are signatories to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Aichi Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas are conserved...
- Current available information for most of the Pacific island countries on the **World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)** is **inaccurate** and **does not provide a true picture of Pacific island country progress** towards achieving global biodiversity targets
- **Gaps in WDPA data** – missing protected areas, wrong names, erroneous point and polygon data, missing/inaccurate site area, etc.
- A result of a **disconnect between national and global datasets** – no set process/procedure in place to periodically relay data from countries to UNEP-WCMC, which manages the WDPA.



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Links to national, regional, global priorities?

National level:

- National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)
- National Roadmaps for Aichi target 11
- POWPA Action Plans
- National Sustainable Development Plans/National Development Strategies

Regional level:

- Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Islands Region 2014-2020

Global level:

- MEA obligations (CBD, Ramsar, World Heritage, etc.)
- S.A.M.O.A pathway (SIDS)
- UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



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What PIPAP has offer to the Pacific island countries?

- a **one-stop** resource – saves time visiting multiple sources for PA information.
- Provides a **long-term centralized storage and secure backup location** for national data and information - A 'home' for safe, accessible storage and usage of national data. (ensure long term data security and integrity)
- Enables **Visualisation of spatial information** at site and national levels
- Provides access to a **regional forum** for protected area **practitioners and experts**
- It is **inclusive of traditional/cultural area-based management arrangements** (i.e., not limited by IUCN PA categories, recognizes ICCAs and OECMs)
- It can assist PICs to **meet their national priorities and reporting obligations to MEAs**, Aichi target 11 country roadmaps (2016), CBD NR, WHC reporting, Ramsar NR, SOE reporting and updates, update and implement NBSAPs, implement SDGs (14 &15), implement national NSDS, implement SIDS platform, implement Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Islands region etc.



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Making the PIPAP an effective tool to assist the region

- **Sourcing (verified) information from PICs and partners:**
 - Site information (national protected area lists)
 - Shapefiles/GPS coordinates/maps and GIS layers
 - Site Management Plans
 - Site Monitoring/assessment reports
 - Relevant legislation – including by-laws, community/management rules
 - PA Management effectiveness assessment (PAME) reports
- **Seeking regular feedback on the Portal:**
 - Contribute to ongoing development and further improvement of the PIPAP by providing regular feedback and/or your verified national PA information to pacificprotectedareas@sprep.org OR vainuupoj@sprep.org



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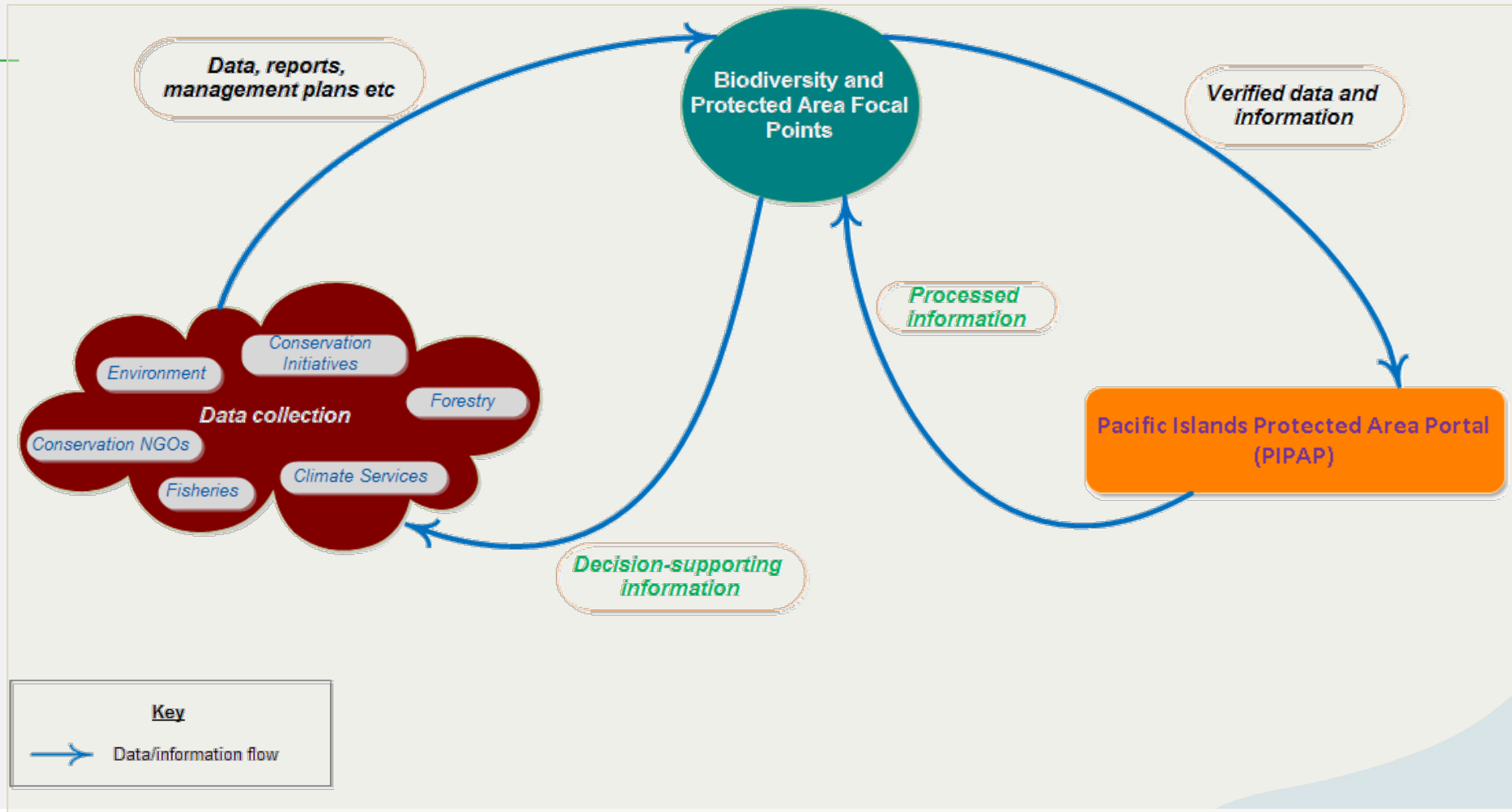


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Data Collection Process



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Benefits of having good baseline PA information

- **informs the ongoing development** of the national protected areas network
- **informs conservation planning**, project or research survey prioritisation, funding submissions/ grants and management decisions
- **informs and supports the implementation** of Program of Work on Protected Areas (POWPA), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) etc.
- **ensures WDPA information is accurate** and therefore that reported progress on CBD and national targets is accurate
- **informs reporting on CBD Aichi targets** (esp. on Aichi Target 11), State of the Environment reporting and any specific reporting activity for national targets etc.
- **identifies any information types** that need to be handled with sensitivity



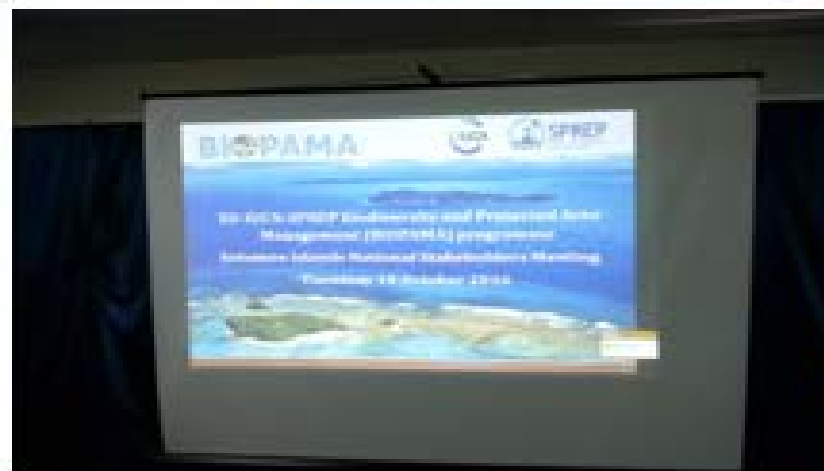
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The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme (BIOPAMA) is an initiative of the ACP Group of States funded by the European Union's 11th European Development Fund.