

# RESCCUE

## Restoration of ecosystem services and adaptation to climate change



### A regional project...

- Coordinated by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community
- 2014-2018
- 7 pilot sites in Fiji, French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Vanuatu
- 13 million euros, including 6.5 million from the French Development Agency and the French Global Environment Facility



### Which fosters adaptation to climate change...

RESCCUE aims at reducing the vulnerability of Pacific populations and ecosystems to climate change impacts, in collaboration with partner countries and territories.



### Through integrated coastal management...

RESCCUE brings technical assistance to all stakeholders involved in protecting the environment and managing conflicts around natural resources. Administrations, local authorities, the civil society and private sector are mobilized in a participatory approach combining tangible field activities, spatial planning and regulation of impacting activities.



### And innovative financial mechanisms

In order to sustainably fill the climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation funding gaps, RESCCUE supports the implementation of long-lasting economic and financial solutions: payment for ecosystem services, green taxes, trust funds, offsets, labels...

### Field activities

In collaboration with partner countries and territories, SPC contracts so-called “operators” (consultancies, associations, NGOs, research centres...) to implement field activities on the pilot sites.

**Examples:** ecological restoration, protection of threatened species, management of invasive species, creation and management of protected areas, household or industrial waste management, economic analyses, implementation of financial mechanisms ...



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### A catalyst for change in the Pacific

RESCCUE also conducts activities at the Pacific scale, in collaboration with other regional organizations: institutional strengthening in the management of environmental impacts from development projects (environmental impact assessments, offset), exchanges of experiences on green taxes and harmful subsidies, dissemination of best practices in adaptation to climate change and integrated coastal management...

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## Climate change



**1.5 to 4°C** of air temperature increase

**20cm to 1m** of sea level rise

**3 times more** extreme rainfall events

**More severe tropical cyclones**

These are the projections for the Pacific by **2090** depending on our future greenhouse gases emissions. This could cost **3 to 13% of the regional GDP**.

## Ocean acidification



**30%**

This is the increase of ocean **acidity** since preindustrial times due to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It threatens the health of the ocean and the well-being of people who depend on it.

## Can the Pacific adapt?

**Yes**

But options are fewer, more costly and their effectiveness more uncertain for higher emissions scenarios.

Adapting to climate change could cost the Pacific from



**150 to 450 million US\$ / year by 2050.**

## Biodiversity, a jeopardized asset



**35 % of mangroves**

**30% of coral reefs**

have already been lost worldwide.

The Pacific is not spared by the **6th mass extinction**, which reduces even more the possibility to adapt to climate change.

Sources: contact the RESCCUE team

## The Pacific commits to act

*“Climate change has arrived. It is the greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and well-being of the peoples of the Pacific (...). **We commit to be climate leaders. To lead is to act. (...)***

*We, the Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum, (...) call on our partners to enhance, accelerate and ensure the effective delivery of their support.”*

*Majuro Declaration for climate leadership, Sept. 2013.*

**1 Pilot sites:** North East Coastal Area (Northern Province) and Great South (Southern Province)

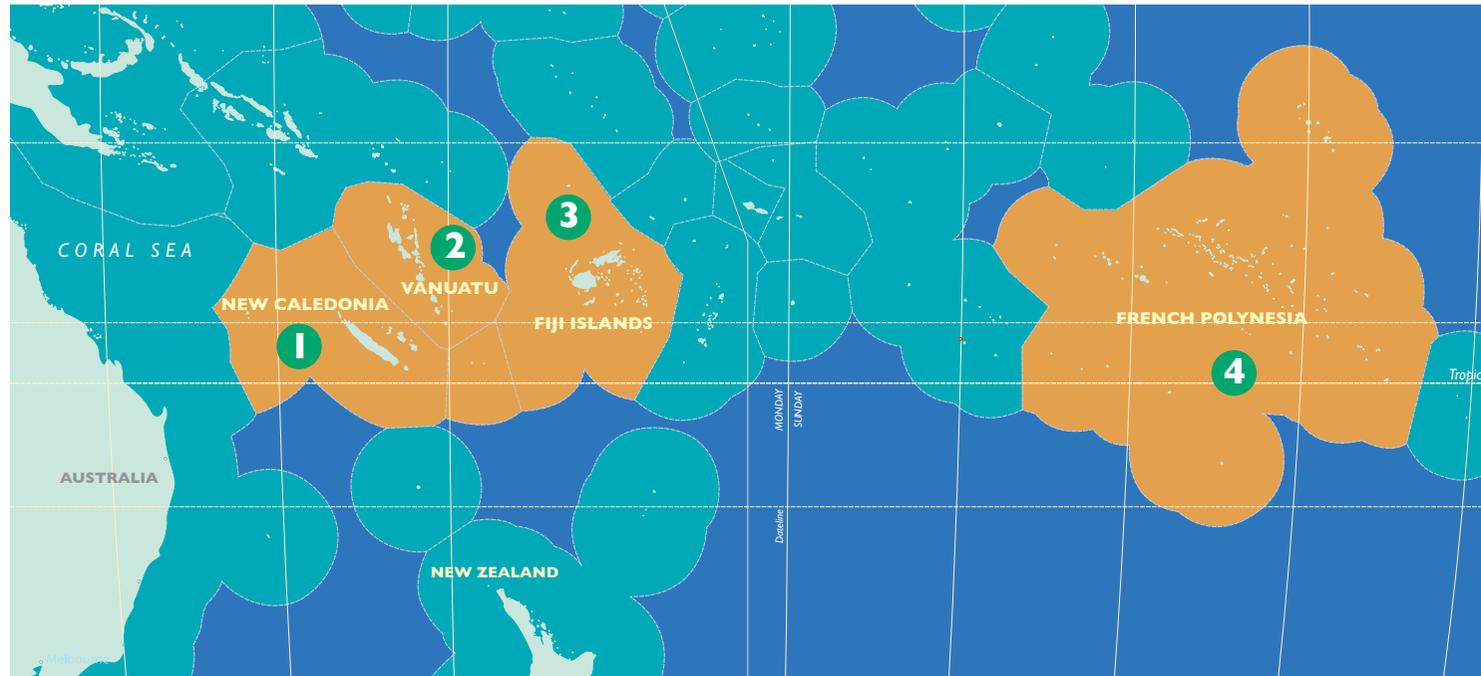
**Operator:** Asconit consultants with Bio-Eko, ONF International and Vertigo Conseil

**Key issues:** invasive species (deer, pig), fire, soil erosion, sediment transport, marine and terrestrial protected areas, endemic species, mining, restoration and offsets, ecotourism

**2 Pilot site:** North Efate

**Operator:** Opus International Consultants with Development Services, Vanuatu Rural Development and Training Centres Association, OceansWatch, Landcare Research, Live and Learn Vanuatu and individual consultants

**Key issues:** post-disaster recovery (food security, reconstruction, insurance mechanisms), coastal fisheries (trochus, sea cucumber, reef fish), household waste, marine protected/managed areas, invasive species (rat, snail), vulnerability to climate change, ecotourism



**3 Pilot site:** Ra and Kadavu Provinces

**Operator:** Institute of Applied Sciences (University of the South Pacific) with Landcare Research, Wildlife Conservation Society, Conservation International, and Fiji Environment Law Association.

**Key issues:** gravel extraction, mining, household waste, wastewater, coastal and freshwater fisheries, ecological restoration, agriculture (sugar cane) and livestock, marine protected/managed areas

**4 Pilot site:** Opunohu Bay (Moorea) and Mangareva (Gambier)

**Operator:** Agence des aires marines protégées with IRCP, Université de la Polynésie française, Créocéan, GIE Océanide, PTPU, Vertigo Lab, associations SOP Manu and Te mana o te moana, IRD, UMR AMURE, The Ocean Foundation, and individual consultants

**Key issues:** pearl farming, agricultural pollution, invasive species (goat, rat, rabbit, Caribbean pine), avifauna, water sports, coastal fisheries and ciguatera