

VATUIRA COMMUNITY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ACTION PLAN

Nasau village, Navitilevu

29th June -1st July, 2010

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3. Isoa Koroiwaqa (IAS/USP)
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5. Patrick Fong (IAS/USP)

SUMMARY

The Birdlife International with assistance from the Institute of Applied, USP decided to facilitate a 'Community Resource Management Action Planning' workshop after a series of visits and consultations with the community. The main aim of this workshop was to develop village-based resource management action plan for the villages within Navitilevu district. Through the village plan, effective resource management strategies were developed which then need to be implemented to mitigate environmental threats that these villages have been facing for sometimes and especially, to ensure the protection and sustainability of Vatu-i-ra Island.

The district of Navitilevu comprises four villages and is part of the Vanua of Nakorotubu. The majority of the population still rely on natural resources, especially land-based, for income and sustenance, therefore, being a semi-subsistence community, resource management work is relevant to these villages. It was agreed that 4-5 representatives per village including women were to participate in this workshop. Attendance by participants averaged 20 per day for the 3 days and participation by women was not quite significant. The village of Veidrala was also not represented in the workshop, however, at the end of the workshop, strategies were discussed to ensure the full participation of the 4 villages and relevant stakeholders within the community. The facilitators encouraged and solicited input from community participants in developing their village-based resource management action plan which was completed by the end of the workshop. Community reps also participated in the different management planning processes which included reviewing the workshop goals, objectives, participants' expectations of the workshop, mapping of existing resources in the area from the coastlines to the reefs; identification and ranking of issues/problems, solutions to the identified issues/problems, stakeholder analysis, ecology and evaluation.

The main environmental issues highlighted from the workshop that affect the villages within Navitilevu district and Vatu-i-ra Island include;

1. Improper disposal of rubbish and wastes within the village surrounding, beach and marine environment
2. Coastal erosion within village beachfront
3. Absence of the traditional clan meeting in villages which results in the poor endorsement of village decisions
4. Decline in native root crops, especially yams, which are resilience to climate change.

5. Unnecessary bushfire practices
6. Unsustainable cutting of trees on steep slope or within water catchment areas.
7. Destruction of biodiversity in Vatu I Ra through littering, bushfire, killing of seabirds and cutting down of trees.
8. Destruction of reefs around Vatu-i-Ra, known as Bai kei Vatu (overfishing, unsustainable fishing practices etc.)
9. Poaching from outsiders (fishing without licences etc.)
10. Unsustainable fishing practices (breaking of rocks and coral heads/ harvesting of undersized fishing, use of destructive fishing practices.
11. Fishing during fish spawning aggregation periods

The three days workshop closed on **1st July, 2010**. Part of the workshop closing ceremony was the presentation of the different facets of the management plan by workshop participants to the community elders. The major portions of the presentation were identification of the major resource issues/problems by community participants, proposed solutions and tasks to resolve these issues/problems, identification of community groups/members that would be responsible for carrying these tasks, and timelines on when these tasks were to be implemented.

The overall evaluation of the workshop was one of success in meeting the goals and objectives of the workshop that were set out to be achieved. Significant points that were recorded from the participants' evaluation were that they gained a lot of new knowledge on natural resource management and their roles in the sustainability of the program. Workshop facilitation process was excellent and content was an 'eye opener' that generated interest and resolve for most of them to better conserve their resources. Other not so positive comments were that the workshop was too short; some of the sessions were too long; and that some of the participants were not participating fully in discussions. Participants also expressed the need for follow-up workshops at regular intervals by Birdlife International.

KEY RECCOMENDATION

1. ***Integrating Vatu-i-ra program to existing conservation efforts in the region-*** The *qoliqoli* surrounding Vatu-i-ra Island is part of the Vanua Nakorotubu and over the past few years, the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area Network has been working very closely with the local people in managing it. Part of this effort is the setting up of a Committee which administer all development and management activities within the I *qoliqoli* and Vanua of Nakorotubu. This Committee and the existing Nakorotubu Vanua Council can be catalysts in moving conservation work in Vatu-i-ra, Bai kei Vatu and important areas within Navitilevu district.
2. ***Approach Vatu-i-ra with wider community stakeholder engagement-*** Vatu-i-ra is owned by Nagilogilo clan, which is part of Nasau village, therefore, to gain communities support partner organization need to consult and inform other clans within Nasau and Navitilevu district at all time, even though any decision has to be made solely by Nagilogilo clan. The socio-political system within a Fijian village can determine the level of success of any introduced programs. When all stakeholders are aware of the importance and need for the Vatu-i-ra conservation program, support through compliance and policing of rules is guaranteed.
3. ***Cautious approach to community stakeholder engagement-*** Proper understanding of the various roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders is important at the onset. For instance, when a workshop is conducted in one of the villages in Navitilevu, it should be clear to all parties how catering fund will be allocated so that the time of the host community is compensated and how Nagilogilo clan's needs, which is the key stakeholder that brings the program to the district, are also met. Similar when an infrastructure development such as construction of a community hall takes place.
4. ***Stakeholder enslavement and empowerment-*** the partner organisation should not be governed by stakeholder (Nagilogilo clan leader and members) demands, but rather should empower them to help the organization meet its conservation objectives.
5. ***Identification of key government departments-*** Policy and technical support are needed in this program, therefore, communities together with partner organization should identify and map out important government departments that can support this work. A possible list would include Fisheries, Forestry, Culture and Heritage, Environment and other.

- 6. Community awareness of governing structures-** Communities in this region needs a proper training on governing communities. Through the stakeholder analysis session, lots of interests were shown by all participants, which show that the local people have very limited understanding of the systems that govern their daily activities, which in most cases are often misinterpreted. This misinterpretation often leads to rise in social relations breakdown in a community and blending of issues in the two structures. For instance, establishing a tabu area needs to be discussed at the *mataqali* right up to the *vanua* level as the issue affects customary qoliqoli or land issues, but in most cases this is discussed at village meetings.
- 7. Wider community awareness campaign-** It was apparent from the three days discussion that most users of Vatu-i-ra are from not from Nasau village or other villages within Navitilevu district but from other neighbouring regions, namely Dawasamu, Qoma and fishermen from Rakiraki and Tavua. The community together with Birdlife International needs to let these communities aware of the importance and needs for the protection of the island and its biodiversity. This can be in a form of presentation to one of their District Council or Vanua Council meetings or distribution of pamphlets and other mode.
- 8. Involvement of Mata ni Tikina-** This workshop was for the whole district of Navitilevu, however, attendance was low for the three days. An important advice is to involve the *Mata ni Tikina* is the organization of similar future activities. Even though there are regular community reps that the partner organization liase with, there roles might be confined to a specific village only. The role of the *Mata ni Tikina* is to administer and coordinate any development program that enters the districts, therefore, it is appropriate that he is fully engaged all the time in future activities.

INTRODUCTION

This report is the outcome of a community based natural resource management action planning workshop held in Nasau village on 29th June -1st July, 2010 for the villages within Navitilevu district and the island of Vatu-i-ra. This workshop was a collaborative effort by Birdlife International, the main coordinator for the conservation work Vatu-i-ra, the Institute of Applied Science with assisted in the facilitation of the workshop and Ra Provincial Office, the main link to the national government's policies. Vatu-i-ra Island is of interest to Birdlife International due to its high population of seabirds and has been recognized as an IBA. The Navitilevu region also hosts important habitats, landscapes and internal waters for important natural resources.

However, a challenge to the sustainability of the various ecosystems in this region, including Vatu-i-ra Island is the continuous unsound harvesting practices of natural resources by communities. Being isolated from urban centres, the people in this region depend heavily on their natural environment for sustenance and income. The underlying factors to the destructive harvesting practices are the people's lack of awareness of environmental issues, the increase demand for cash and the continuous ill advised and misled always posed by their outside business partners. The people in this region are faced with natural resources development challenges that they need to adequately and appropriately address. This is crucial because unless these people, who are making resource use decisions everyday, are aware of what is best for them and are well versed with the natural development challenges they face, they are likely to lose their almost only source of sustenance and income in the near future.

STATUS OF VATU-I-RA

Vatu-i-Ra is a small (2.3ha) uninhabited island located in the Vatu-i-Ra channel between Vanua Levu and Viti Levu, about 15 km from the coast of Ra. The island is owned by the Nagilogilo clan who reside in the two villages of Nasau and Navuniivi in the Navitilevu District in Ra. Vatu-I-Ra was identified as an Important Bird Area in 2006 (BirdLife International, 2006). It supports nine species of breeding seabird including in excess of 20,000 pairs of black noddy (Anous tenuirostris) as well as breeding hawksbill turtles (Eretmochelys imbricata).

BirdLife International has successfully eradicated rats from nine islands in Fiji, which included Vatu-i-Ra, Mabualau and the seven Ringgold islands in the north of Taveuni. Vatuira was declared rat free by the end of 2008 after a series of monitoring and surveys for two years. These islands have been identified as hosting significant numbers of

seabird populations that includes host boobies, noddies, and other threatened native fauna including sea turtles and coconut crabs.

Following up from these eradication operations was to enhance the sustainability of these islands that have been made rat-free, and maximising their biodiversity value to traditional owners. In the process, BirdLife together with the respective communities will seek to develop Protected Area status for these islands, to prevent alien species reintroduction and unsustainable resource use, and to enhance their tourism potential.

BirdLife International, together with local communities began a three-year project funded by the UK Governments Darwin Initiative in April 2009 aiming to improve the quality of life and livelihoods of local people by keeping their islands rat free and substantially protecting the islands and the resources that occur in them. These has seen trainings such as *“start your own business”* facilitated by the Ministry of Cooperatives and Small Business in 2009 to initiate small income generating projects for the villagers. Various trainings and workshops have been conducted to raise the capacity and skills of the local community.

With the ever-increasing threats to reinvasion of alien invasive species and habitat destruction to Vatuira, BirdLife together with the local community have indicated a need to draft a community resource management plan where it could be adopted within the district and resource uses on the importance of preserving and protecting Vatuira.

WORKSHOP GOALS

To improve and maintain a healthy natural environment for the people of the Tikina of Navitilevu by developing a community-based resource management action plan that will ensure protection of their natural resources. Also, the workshop aimed to enhance the knowledge and skills of community members in natural resource conservation methods, strategies and practices through intergrating traditional with scientific knowledge.

EXPECTATION

- Participants will be able to gain new knowledge and skills in the various processes of developing a management plan
- Community members will be able to learn about the consequences of some of their existing destructive practices and discuss measures to drastically reduce them
- Participants will be able to increase their knowledge is sustainable practices and wise use of their resources
- Communities will be able to know the various stakeholders who can directly or indirectly influence their conservation efforts

MAJOR WORKSHOP TOPICS

1. An overview of conservation work in Navitilevu district and neighboring districts
2. Community resource mapping and historical profile of the changes in environment over the last 30-50 years
3. Identification of resource issues by community participants
4. Resource problem analysis
5. Proposed solutions to these environmental issues
6. Stakeholder analysis
7. Development of a community resource management action plan for Navitilevu district.
10. Evaluation

SESSION 1: HISTORICAL PROFILE

To assist participants realize events that have taken place and what changes these have caused in their natural resources.

EXPECTED OUTCOME

To show an example of an event that occurred and the change(s) this single event had caused and its implications.

TASKS

1. Divide into 3 groups and identify the year a major event occurred
2. Discussion the impacts of these events
3. Presentation of information

RESULTS

Group 1: Marine

Year	Events	Impacts
1944	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Seasonal fish occur/appear on the right period ✓ Rabbitfish Dec- Jun ✓ Daniva vula I werewere ✓ Abundance of edible bivalve/mollusks ✓ Lairō ✓ Marine resources were plentiful in reefs, mangroves and coasts. ✓ Selective and sustainable fishing gears were used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1973 communities start to experience scarcity of resources and not meeting economic needs ✓ Use of gillnet ✓ Lack of knowledge ✓ Abuse of rights ✓ Waste of time and effort with little catch ✓ Seasonal fish do not occur/appear such as

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Small mesh size net was not used ✓ Chiefly system and social system intact ✓ Plenty fish catch with short fishing trips 	daniva and vivili
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Group 2: Terrestrial

Year	Events	Impacts
✓ 1950- 1960	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Communities comply with chiefly decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Communities have plentiful of resources both marine and terrestrial ✓ Lesc community economic needs
✓ 1950- 1970	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rice planting ✓ Increase in bush fire ✓ Livestock not attended by owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Income source affected ✓ Soil fertility decreases ✓ Forest degraded ✓ Destruction of plantation Water sources affected ✓ Scarcity of resources (marine and terrestrial) ✓ Destruction of livestock food

		sources
✓ 1961- 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Destruction of forests for farming, logging etc. ✓ Chiefly decisions not followed ✓ Sugar cane farming started 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase poverty (economic, resources etc) ✓ Social relations eroded ✓ Soil erosion become frequent
✓ 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Planting of mahogany in water catchments ✓ Farming close to riverines (no forest buffer left) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase siltation and poor water clarity ✓ Destruction of river resources (fish/prawns etc) ✓ Increase soil erosion

Group 3: Vatu I Ra Island

Year	Events	Impacts
1800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Old village site with the Bai kei Vatu reefs as the boundary ✓ Old village submerged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Old village was known as Navutu ✓ Village relocate to the mainland, now known as Nasau
1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Resting place for fishermen who usually travel for for weeks (mostly from Nakorotubu, and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Seabirds were in abundant ✓ Absence of rat on the island ✓ No litter or unnecessary cutting down of trees

	Tailevu)	
1960	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A light house was constructed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Assist in boat navigation, especially at night ✓ Affaected the reproducing process of the seabirds
1970	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Outboard engine fishing boats were introduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Vatu-i-ra was becoming a common visiting/resting place for people
1980	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase in rat populationi kalavo ✓ More trees and less grass on the island 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Juvenile seabirds were being eaten and destroyed by the rats ✓ The absence of grassland prevent the spread of fires
1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ More fishing boats and camping by fishermen on the island 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fishers vandalize lighthouse, unnecessary killing of seabirds and cutting of trees
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Birdlife started conducting research on the island in collaboration with other institution such as USP, NLTB and NZ partners ✓ Acknowledged as an IBA site ✓ Rat eradication process implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A concern leetr was written to Ra Provincial Office highlighting the environmental issues in Vatu-i-ra ✓ Research conducted on the island ✓ Capacity building programs on importance of seabirds to the community, Also, critical resources and habitats are part of the program ✓ Protection of seabirds started ✓ Eradication of rats ✓ Increase in seabird population

2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Diving started to collect sea cucumber ✓ Effort to establish Vatu I Ra as a seabird sanctuary and its reefs as a marine sanctuary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Corals and seabirds destroyed ✓ The need for more capacity building on resource management
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SESSION 2: VISIONING EXERCISE

- For the community to have a clear understanding on their expectations of the resource management program.

EXPECTED OUTCOME

- A statement highlighting the community's vision of their environment and communal life in the future.
- A motivational statement which the community can adopt as a guide for successful and sustainable project

TASKS

- Divide into four groups; Nasau, Vatu-i-ra, Navuniyavu and Navuniivi
- Group discussion on a statement which encompasses the groups vision of their environment, resources and their vanua
- Participants encouraged to all participate
- No writing is done until all agree on what's to go on paper.
- Choose one from your group to present to the whole group

RESULTS***Group 1: Vatuira***

Mo bai yalo vinaka ka maroroi Vatu I Ra me vanua Sau'u

Group 2: Nayavuirā

Me maaa na veiwekani kina veika bula ka na yadia mai na sautu kei na veivakaorocakeaki me balei Nayavuirā ni maaka

Group 3: Navuniivi

Ko Navuniivi me totoka, veilomani ka sautu ena i tovo vakaitaukei dina ena kena I Yaubula mai wai e vanua talega, na kena I yau ni veivakatorocaketaki, tiko bulabula, ena kakana kei na wai

SESSION 3: COMMUNITY RESOURCE MAPPING OVERLAID BY TRANSECTS WALK

- For the community to be aware of the actual resources that are on their land and sea
- To have a clear vision of the surrounding resources that they own

EXPECTED OUTCOME

- Identification of natural resources in an area and the status of these resources
- Identification of livelihood areas and natural assets that can be enhanced to improve the quality of living conditions of the community

TASKS

- Divide into four groups; I Qoliqoli, Terrestrial, Village boundary and and Vatu-i-ra.
- Each group is advised to note down the boundary of their designated area to cover
- Print on newsprint their findings in their respective designated areas. Do this in pencil first then in pental pen.
- Demarcate boundaries of land and fishing ground and any other natural ecosystems and their names (villages, river, road, gardens & livestock).
- Important/key resources (economically, culturally etc.)
- areas of destruction
- methods of utilization of these resources
- land and fishing boundaries
- Participants encouraged to all participate
- No printing is done until all agree on what's to go on paper.
- Other items can be included onto the map later.
- Choose one from your group to present to the whole group

RESULTS

Group 1: I Qoliqoli

Key resources

- Freshwater- prawn, eel, sici
- Marine- invertebrates, fish, tourism

Key income generating resources

- Sasalu- ika, cakau

Important places (historical background)

- Cakau na ba e dau wai ake ni qau
- Na ma'a ni wai mai vau e iko e veisomo
- Wai lu'u
- Viriviri vau ni dawai
- Na ura bua

Environmental Issues

1. The need for the protection and conservation of resources, some proposed strategies include the establishment of marine protected areas, ban on the use of duva and poisonous fishing practices, use of gillnet, control the issue of fishing licenses and prevention of poaching.
2. People to seek permission first before using the *i Qoliqoli*, especially outsiders.
3. Proper planning and confirmation of traditional status and roles.
4. The need for revision of current legislations regarding environment and resources
5. Reactivate traditional practices of working together such as *solesolevaki*

Existing traditional rules

The qoliqoli is part of the Vanua Nakorotubu's fishing ground and over the past few years, the communities from the other districts have implemented certain marine resources management strategies including setting up of MPAs, gear and effort restrictions and practicing of sustainable fishing methods. However, the district of Navitilevu was not part of most discussions and to date have not implemented any resource rules.



Figure 1 shows participants mapping exercise showing key areas within their I qoliqoli including major fishing spots and reefs

Group 2: Terrestrial*Key resources*

- Yaqona, sugarcane, parrot, dalo, coconut, *vaini, kawai*

Important places (historical background)

- Vanua ni veibuli (sema/ Verata)
- Vatu ni kuita
- Qara ni voivoi
- Osooso ni bukete
- Viriviri vatu ni dawai
- Tobu ni toni madrai
- Tobu ni ura buta
- Samaki ni so ni wai
- Vatu ni dekedeke
- Vatu ni vuaka
- Ika meketi

Environmental Issues

The main issue in Navitilevu is the overharvesting and destruction of marine and terrestrial resources and the need for the protection of these resources.

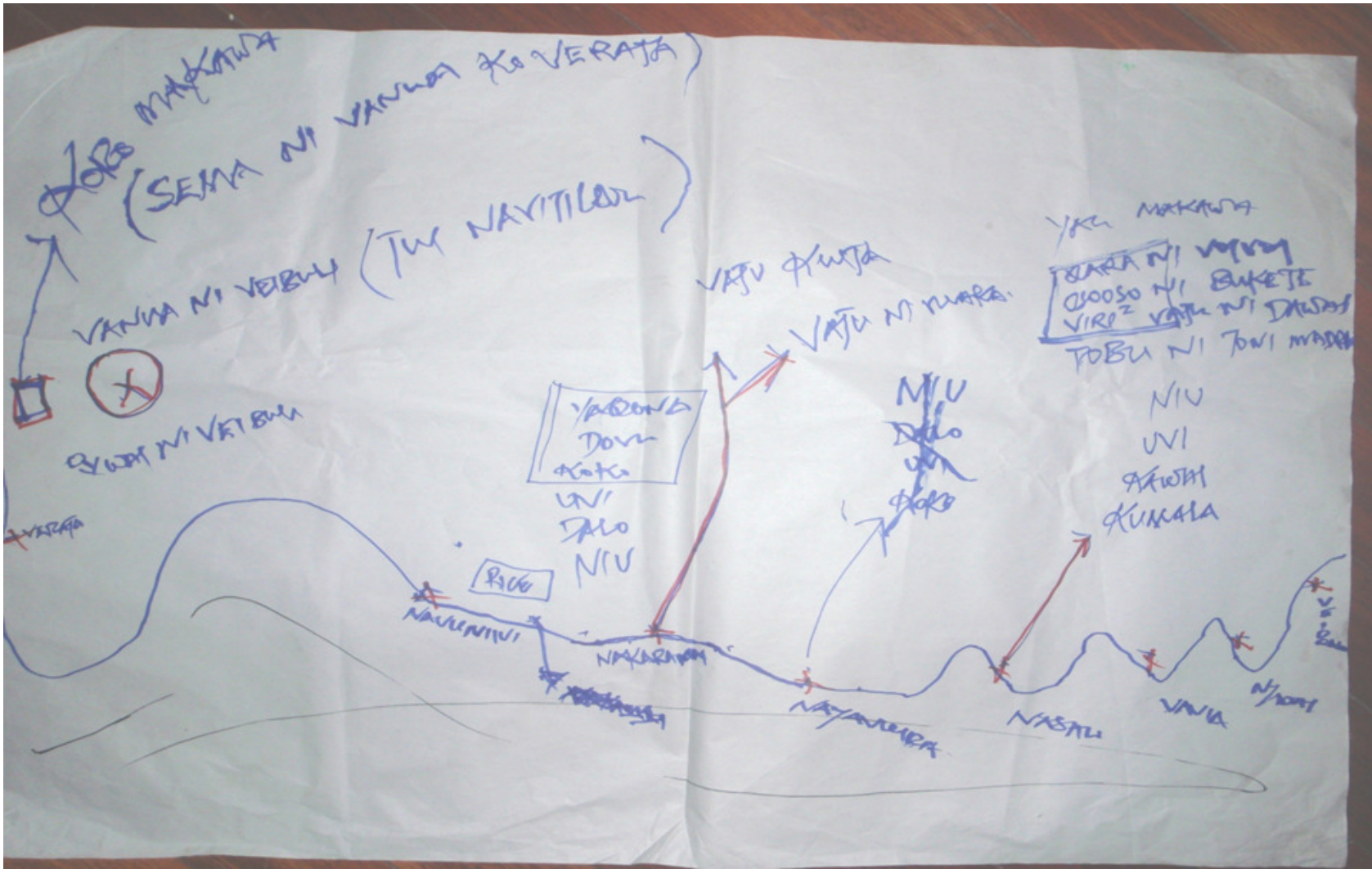


Figure 2 shows group mapping of important forest areas, historical sites and key farming areas within Navitilevu's terrestrial environment

Group 3: Vatu I Ra*Key resources*

- Seabirds
- Reefs (snorkeling/diving spot for tourists)
- Turtles
- Fish

Key income generating resources

- Fish
- Sea cucumber
- Reefs

Important places (historical background)

- Old village site

Environmental Issues

- Unnecessary killing of seabirds on the island
- Overfishing
- Pollution, mainly litter from fishermen

Existing traditional rules

None exist.

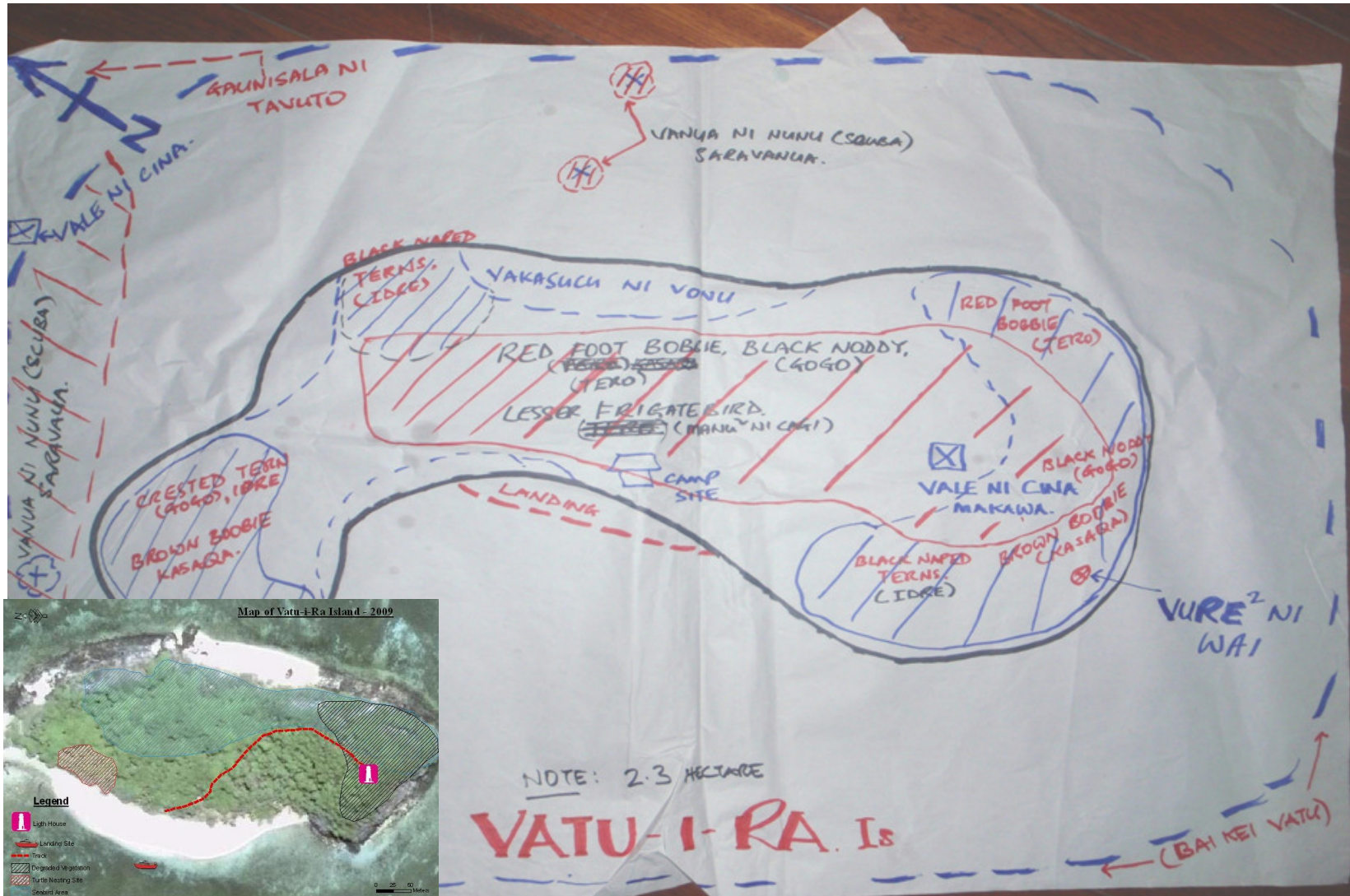


Figure 3 shows group mapping exercise showing the outline of Vatuira Island with key areas highlighted

Group 4: Village surrounding

Key resources

- People with the various mataqali and yavuse
- Freshwater
- Coconut
- Cassava
- Banana

Key income generating resources

- Coconut
- Cassava
- Banana

Important places (historical background)

- The four villages, Nayavaira, Veidrala, Navuniivi and Nasau and other historical sites already identified above

Environmental Issues

- Coastal erosion
- Poor market for marine and farm produce
- Destruction of resources

Existing traditional rules

- Ban on wearing hats in the village
- Ban on shouting/disturbing noise in the village
- Wearing of proper clothing in the village
- Comply with decisions made, work together and live peacefully
- Women who conceal her pregnancy not to go on fishing trips

- Proper waste disposal practices
- Keep the village and beachfront clean at all times
- Ban on unnecessary bushfire



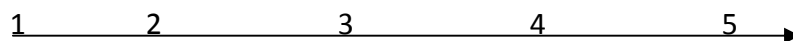
Figure 4 shows key villages and coastline along the Navitilevu District

SESSION 5: ISSUE IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITIZATION

For the participants to identify key issues and their severity to the environment so that strategies can be planned and implemented to address them.

TASKS FOR EACH GROUP

Identification of issues/problems and rank them in order of the nature of the problem from not so bad (1 – 3) to those needing immediate addressing (3 –5).



(Not so pressing problem) (Problems needing immediate addressing)

Issues emerged from the discussions

12. Improper disposal of rubbish and wastes within the village surrounding, beach and marine environment
13. Coastal erosion within village beachfront
14. Absence of the traditional clan meeting in villages which results in the poor endorsement of village decisions
15. Decline in native root crops, especially yams, which are resilience to climate change.
16. Unnecessary bushfire practices
17. Unsustainable cutting of trees on steep slope or within water catchment areas.
18. Destruction of biodiversity in Vatu I Ra through littering, bushfire, killing of seabirds and cutting down of trees.
19. Destruction of reefs around Vatu-i-Ra, known as Bai kei Vatu (overfishing, unsustainable fishing practices etc.)
20. Poaching from outsiders (fishing without licences etc.)

21. Unsustainable fishing practices (breaking of rocks and coral heads/ harvesting of undersized fishing, use of destructive fishing practices.
22. Fishing during fish spawning aggregation periods

Results

Nasau village

1. Pollution- Improper disposal of rubbish such as plastic bags, empty bottles/glassware, can and metals in the village surrounding, beachfront/sea and the river next to the village
2. Decline in native root crops, especially yams, which are resilience to climate change.
3. Absence of the traditional clan meeting in villages which results in the poor endorsement of village decisions
4. Coastal erosion resulting in narrow coastlines and beaches
5. Bushfire practices- usually uncontrolled slash and burning for farming is prevalent in this village, especially during dry periods.
6. Unsustainable and unnecessary cutting of trees around water catchment, coastal areas and along treks

Vatu I Ra

1. Destruction of biodiversity in Vatu I Ra through littering, bushfire, killing of seabirds and cutting down of trees.
2. Destruction of reefs around Vatu-i-Ra, known as Bai kei Vatu (overfishing, unsustainable fishing practices etc.)
3. Littering around the island
4. Poaching from outsiders (fishing without licences etc.)

Navuniivi

1. Improper disposal of rubbish and wastes within the village surrounding, beach and marine environment
2. Coastal erosion within village beachfront
3. Absence of the traditional clan meeting in villages which results in the poor endorsement of village decisions
4. Decline in native root crops, especially yams, which are resilience to climate change.
5. Unnecessary bushfire practices
6. Unsustainable cutting of trees on steep slope or within water catchment areas.

Nayavaira

1. Decline in native root crops, especially yams, which are resilience to climate change.
2. Unnecessary bushfire practices
3. Unsustainable cutting of trees on steep slope or within water catchment areas.
4. Coastal erosion within village beachfront
5. Absence of the traditional clan meeting in villages which results in the poor endorsement of village decisions

SESSION 6: STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

OBJECTIVE:

- To be aware of contemporary and traditional structures that exist in Fijian villages and identify proper channels to address issues that affect communities.

TASKS

- Divide into three groups
- Explain the objective of stakeholder analysis emphasizing why this is important
- Explain the contemporary and traditional social structures that exist which usually govern Fijian communities and their communal system.
- Each group to be given an issue and for them to discuss the proper channel and steps to be taken to address it based on the explanation by the facilitator.
- Choose one from your group to present to the whole group

EXPLANATION OF FIJIAN COMMUNITY SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

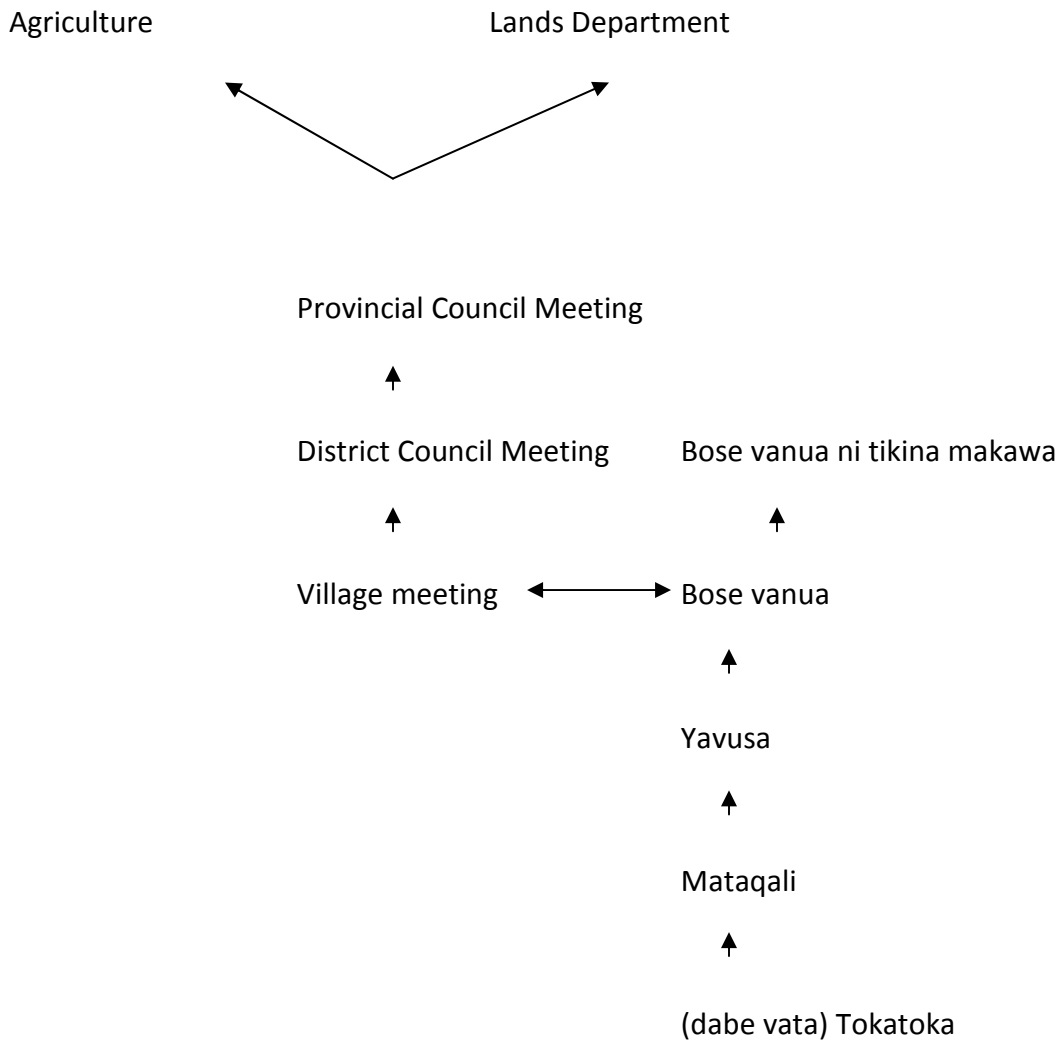
The Fijian community social organization is a challenge to understand because of the confusing and opposing accounts that have characterized it in the past years. The lack of clarity can be caused by the “dual system” which is the result of the imposition of a simplified, administratively modeled organization that is significantly inconsistent locally with the pre-existing customary version.

The channels in the traditional structure and the contemporary one are quite clear to the local people, the main issue however, is discussing issues that affect them at the correct channel or forum. Through this exercise, the roles of the Village Council and the traditional council were discussed at length. In summary;

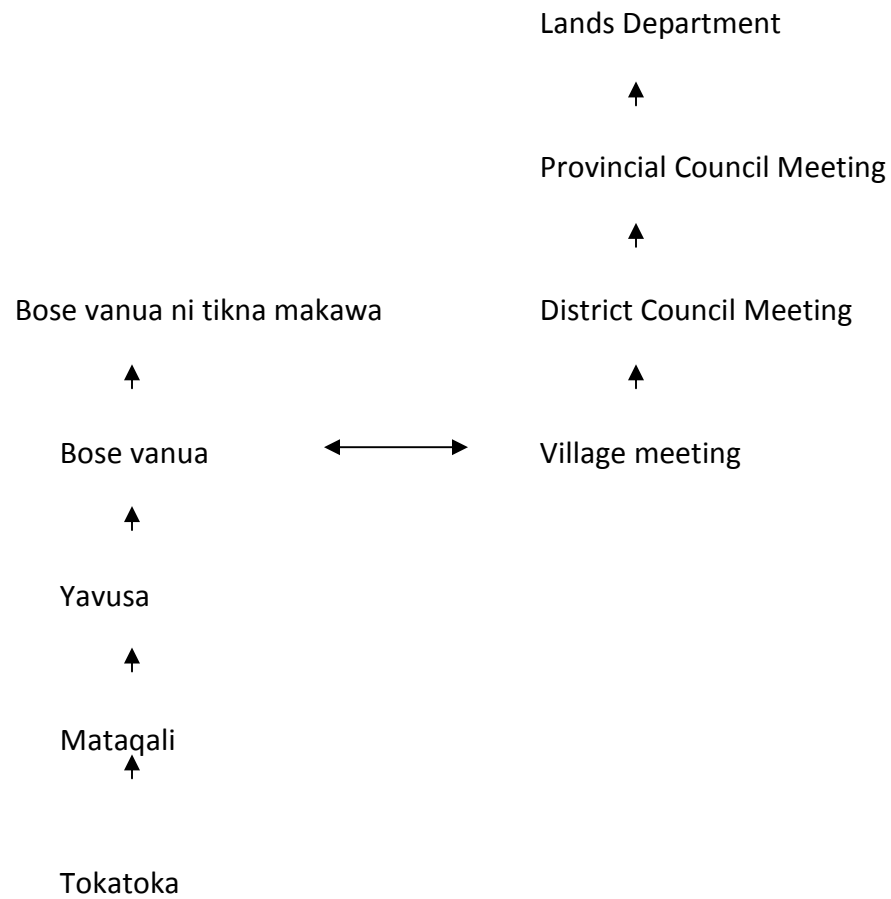
- Village council meeting focuses on implementation of government policies through infrastructural and human development. This forum is compulsory for those living within the village boundary to attend and take part in the discussions.
- Traditional structures such as clan meetings focus on maintaining communal values and attitudes. In cases when customary land

RESULTS

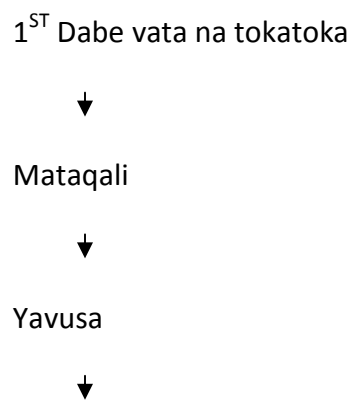
Group 1- Planting of natives trees as part of a reforestation program

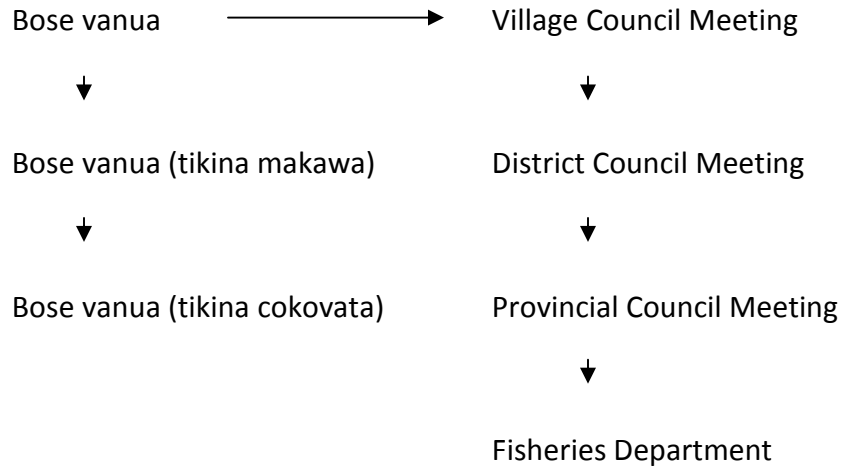


Group 2- Land dispute between twon clans in regards to traditional boundary.



Group 3- Establishment of marine protected areas within a qoliqoli





VILLAGE-BASED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN FOR NAVITILEVU DISTRICT

NASAU VILLAGE

Environmental issues 1: Pollution- Improper disposal of rubbish such as plastic bags, empty bottles/glassware, can and metals in the village surrounding, beachfront/sea and the river next to the village

<i>What has been done</i>	Two rubbish dump already exist in the village
<i>What else to be done</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of an incinerator so that dry leaves and papers can be burnt and digging of a few rubbish dump within the village to cater for wastes such as plastic, metals and glassware. support • Birdlife and relevant stakeholders to facilitate a Waste management workshop
<i>How is going to be implemented</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair of the village Health Committee to highlight in the Village Council meeting the need for the extra rubbish dump and the construction of an incinerator • Village Committee to oversee the construction of the incinerator • Village headman and villagers to ensure the proper disposal of rubbish through continuous reminder during village meetings
<i>Timeframe</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dig new dumps once existing ones are full • Workshop and incinerator towards November, 2010

Environmental issue 2: Decline in native root crops, especially yams, which are resilience to climate change.

<i>What has been done</i>	Only a few farmers are starting to revive some native crop such as yams, coconut, taro (<i>vavai</i>) etc.
<i>What else to be done</i>	Request for Birdlife, Agriculture and other relevant departments to supply native crops, especially yams with variety such as <i>vurai</i> , <i>kuliamoko</i> , <i>taniela kei na saukalabuci</i>
<i>How is going to be implemented</i>	The Chair of the Development Committee to communicate with the relevant departments and institutions.
<i>Timeframe</i>	September, 2010

Environmental Issue 3: Absence of the traditional clan meetings in villages which results in the poor endorsement of village decisions

<i>What has been done</i>	Traditional meeting is happening but occasionally and most are done when the need arises or when there is an emergency
<i>What else to be done</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clan members to agree on a certain meeting schedule, for instance, once every three months • Community leaders to ensure tokatoka meeting is regularly conducted
<i>How will it be implemented</i>	Chiefs of <i>Tokatoka</i> , <i>Mataqali</i> and <i>Yavusa</i> to ensure their respective meeting are conducted. This is the only way that the Navitilevu Bose Vanua can eventuate.
<i>Timeframe</i>	Starting end-2010

Environmental Issue 4: Extension of coastline as a result of continuous coastal erosion.

<i>What has been done</i>	Seawall in the form of solid rocks have been constructed along the villaje coastline
<i>What else to be done</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villagers to continue with the construction of the solid rock seawall • Villagers to plant mangroves along the villaje coastline
<i>How will it be implemented</i>	The district rep to the Provincial Council to submit the proposal to the Chair of the Village Development Committee, then to the Village Council Meeting
<i>Timeframe</i>	Between 2010- 2012

Environmental Issue 5: Uncontrolled bushfire practices by villagers

<i>What has been done</i>	The village headman has been reminding the villages during Village Council meetings
<i>What else to be done</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villagers to discuss and propose the ban of the exercise through their next village meeting • The ban on bushfire needs legal backing and hopefully, the proposed village by-laws will cover this.
<i>How will it be implemented</i>	A proposal to the next Village Council meeting to reiterate the ban
<i>Timeframe</i>	In all the village meetings and should be part of the announcements that the village headman usually conduct in the village.

Environmental Issue 6: Unsustainable cutting down of trees, especially on water catchment, and coastlines areas

<i>What has been done</i>	Villagers have been continuously reminded not to cut down trees unsustainably on these important areas.
<i>What else to be done</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More awareness programs should be conducted in the villages within the district highlighting this key environmental issue • Related to the village council meeting, just like the bushfire issue
<i>How will it be implemented</i>	Do be stressed during each clan meetings and then discussed at the village meetings
<i>Timeframe</i>	During the next village meeting

NAYAVUIRA VILLAGE

Environmental Issue 1: Throwing of rubbish and wastes in village surrounding, beachfront and into the sea, especially plastic, bottles, can and steel.

<i>What has been done</i>	2 rubbish dumping pit has already been constructed
<i>What else to be done</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of incinerator for waste like papers. Again should at least digging up some other pits for undecompose materials. • Seek advices and assistance to other conservation NGOs for training and workshops in regards to management of resources and healthy living
<i>How will it be implemented</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibilities of Chairman – Health/Yaubula Committee to proposed the construction of incinerator and rubbish

	<p>dump to the Village meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Committee should be responsible for the construction of incinerator • Village headman and the communities as a whole should keep an eye on waste management
Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As soon as one of the hole/dump filled up, another dump must be ready by then. • Training and the incinerator construction done by September 2010.

Environmental Issue 2: Lost on planting materials of traditional root crops that can overcome climate change issues/impacts.

What has been done	Some have already planted traditional root crops such as yams, coconuts, taro
What else to be done?	Seeking assistance to Ministry of Agriculture for them to provide some of the lost traditional root crop species.
How will it be implemented.	Development Committee chairman will communicate with the Government Dept and other NGOs regarding this issues.
Timeframe	By August 2010

Environmental Issue 3: No proper meetings and consultation of the Vanua. Lack of Governance happening within the Yavusas or Vanua

What has been done	Village meeting happens once a while
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<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed meeting time probably after 3 months • Meeting within the clan should usually be done.
<i>How will it be implemented.</i>	Head of the various tribe should be responsible of their own groups of people.
<i>Timeframe</i>	Before the end of 2010

Environmental Issue 4: Coastal erosions

<i>What has been done</i>	Sa tuva tiko na vatu me ba ni ua. Construction of seawall been going underway
<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with the sea wall works • Replanting of mangrove forest nearshore
<i>How will it be implemented.</i>	Communities proposal should be forwarded to the Chairman of the Health & Management Committee and then from there again forwarded to the village meeting.
<i>Timeframe</i>	In between 2010 - 2012

Environmental Issue 5: Careless burning of forest.

<i>What has been done</i>	Village headman has announce that during village meeting
<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed that during village meeting • Careless burning of forest should be included in the village bylaws
<i>How will it be</i>	Proposed the enforcement of this by laws esp. careless

<i>implemented.</i>	burning of forest during village meeting.
<i>Timeframe</i>	During headman's announcement period in the village

Environmental Issue 6: Cutting down of forest along the riverbanks, & coastal areas.

<i>What has been done</i>	Awareness on the importance of forest conservation in Water catchment areas
<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More awareness and consultation workshops to villages within the Tikinas. • Announcement should be done during village meeting for the people to know
<i>How will it be implemented.</i>	Traditional clan meetings to be conducted and highlighted in the village council meeting
<i>Timeframe</i>	During village meeting discussion time.

NAVUNIIVI VILLAGE

Some of the Issues

1. Lost on planting materials of traditional root crops that can overcome climate change issues/impacts.
2. Jope to consult the Youths meeting
3. Proposed that during village meeting
4. Youth leader / MPI – Birdlife International
5. Should be done at the end of July

Environmental Issue 1: No proper meetings and consultation of the Vanua. Lack of Governance happening within the Yavusas or Vanua

<i>What has been done</i>	Village meeting happens once a while
<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Me vakadeitaki e dua na gauna tudei me dau qaravi kina na bose bibi oqo, ya e na veivula tolu Confirmed meeting time probably after 3 months • Me raici me dau qaravi na bose vakaTokatoka Meeting within the clan should usually be done
<i>How will it be implemented.</i>	Head of the various tribe should be responsible of their own groups of people and also monitor the Bose vanua.
<i>Timeframe</i>	By the end of 2010

1. Careless burning of forest

- i) Discuss this issue during village meeting
- ii) Enforcement should be in place and monitored by villaje committee members.
- iii) To be prosecuted
- iv) Okosita 2010 should be done by 1st week of August.

Environmental Issue 3: No proper meetings and consultation of the Vanua. Lack of Governance happening within the Yavusas or Vanua

<i>What has been done</i>	Village meeting happens once a while
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<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed meeting time probably after 3 months • Meeting within the clan should usually be done
<i>How will it be implemented.</i>	Head of the various tribe should be responsible of their own groups of people and also monitor the bouse vanua.
<i>Timeframe</i>	By the end of 2010

2. Cutting down of trees closer to the wáter catchment.
 - i) Watershed Management workshops been carried out.
 - ii) Consultation done to all villaje members on the importance of conserving wáter catchment areas
 - iii) Yaubula Management Committee should be responsible of proposing it to the Village meeting.
 - iv) Done by September 2010.

Environmental Issue 3: Kena sega ni dau vakayacori na Bose vanua ni koro/ yavusa (vuna na kena sega ni vakadeitaki na vakatulewa)

<i>What has been done</i>	Sa dau qaravi tiko na bouse ia e vakavudua ga (gauna ga ni leqa) Village meeting happens once a while
<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed meeting time probably after 3 months • Meeting within the clan should usually be done
<i>How will it be</i>	Head of the various tribe should be responsible of their own

<i>implemented.</i>	groups of people and also monitor the bouse vanua.
<i>Timeframe</i>	By the end of 2010

VATU-I-RA ISLAND

Environmental Issue: Overexploitation of resources, for e.g. pouching, no proper waste disposal, burning of forest, deforestation and so forth.

<i>What has been done</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanua Resource (mataqali) owner approved restriction notice to Vatu-i-ra. • Put up notice on the island to reduce overexploitation of resources. • Training going underway on resource management and eradication process of rats around Vatu-i-ra. • Proper consultation on the use of resources (Bai kei Vatu)
<i>What else to be done?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relaying meeting agenda to various meeting groups. • Nakorotubu proposed the establishment of Bai kei Vatu as taboo areas. • Proper engagement of resorts on the use of Bai kei Vatu. • Put up new and updated notice regarding that. • Awareness workshops and training to Vatu-i-ra villages and tikina level • Letter send directly to Police Headquarters and PMs Office seeking advice & support on monitoring the area.
<i>How will it be implemented.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Na i Liuliu ni Mataqali me vakasavuya na vakatulewa ni Bose ni Mataqali Bose ni Yavusa, Liuliu ni Yavusa me vakasavuya kina Bose Vanua ko Navitilevu, na Turaga ni Vanua e Navitilevu kei na Mata ni Tikina me qai vakasavuya kina Bose Vanua ko Nakorotubu Relaying meeting agenda to

	<p>various meeting groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navitilevu elders and Tikina Reps to propose the Bai kei Vatu taboos to the Bose Vanua. • Nakorotubu Qoliqoli Chairman and Committee to liase with the Provincial Office on the engagement of hotels • Birdlife will be responsible of the notice and also faciitating the training and workshops also liase with other NGOs and Government Depatrmnts on the establishment of Bai kei Vatu taboo.
<i>Timeframe</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mataqali meeting's agenda relayed to the villaje meeting – 1st week of July • Vakasavu i tukutuku baleta na vakatulewa ni mataqali me sa tabu ko Vatu-i-Ra ena Bose Vanua Nakorotubu- 28th Jiulai 2010 • Proposed of Bai kei Vatu taboo to the Bose Vanua Nakorotubu – 28th July • Relay the Bose ni tikina agenda – October 2010 • Establishment of new notice – September 2010 • Relay the Bose ni Yasana agenda – November 2010 and hotel engagement – Dec 2010 • Tikina training – June 2010

Next steps

- 1) Reports and management plan finalising and distribution
- 2) Village discussion regarding training agenda
- 3) Distribution of workshop announcement

APPENDIX

NASAU, NAVITILEVU, RA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

29th June -1st July, 2010

Day /Time	Content/ Session	Objectives/ Outputs required	Method/ Task	WHO
Day 1 (Tuesday 29th June)				
9.00am	<p>Lotu.</p> <p>Opening by Turaga ni Vanua</p> <p>Note: Overall objectives of the workshop will be introduced.</p>			
9.30am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self-Introduction/ Expectations 2. Ground Rules 3. Workshop Introduction and Days 1 objectives and sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the participants to indicate their individual expectations (e.g. what they would like to gain etc.) from the workshop. • To introduce the purpose of the workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Expectations</i> ▪ <i>Summarize on flip chart.</i> 	<i>Saki</i>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight workshop objectives and introduce the day's objective 		
10.30am	Morning tea			
11.00am	<p>4. Existing conservation efforts in neighboring communities (Dawasamu/Nakorotubu / Rakiraki etc.)</p> <p>5. Highlighting the Adaptive Management/ Project Process cycle</p> <p>6. Define and Introduce Management Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce the various conservation projects taking place in neighboring communities. • To present process of engaging communities • Management is defined and discussed and the need for a management plan discussed by the participants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Powerpoint presentation</i> • <i>Q & A</i> 	<i>Isoa & Tupio</i>

	<p>7. Benefits and challenges of conservation work</p> <p>8. Provincial Office</p> <p>9. Fisheries</p> <p>10. Biodiversity conservation needs for Vatu-i-ra and Nasau community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations and discussions on benefits (and challenges) of conservation initiatives experiences • To present existing policies and emerging issues (FAB and Fisheries) • Community’s response --to clarify policies and other queries. • To highlight to the community the biodiversity significance of Vatu-i-ra Island and biodiversity within Nasau 	<p><i>Present activities that have been done to conserve resources</i></p> <p><i>Government officials to introduce policies that are in line with this initiative.</i></p> <p><i>PPT</i></p>	<p><i>Joeli</i></p> <p><i>Government reps</i></p> <p><i>Birdlife</i></p>
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		<p>community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provide information on terrestrial protected area options</i> • <i>Highlight invasive species threat</i> 		
1.00pm	Lunch			
2.00pm	11. Historical Profile-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain information on the changes that occurred in the <i>i qoliqoli</i> and the terrestrial environment that influences people or have impacts on natural resources. • Review map from previous session as basis for identification of changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Explain purpose of activity</i> • <i>Groups breakout same as previous sessions but elder's and government</i> 	Saki

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For instances, major developments (highway, sugarcane farming, logging and middleman) taken place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>group to be added</i> • <i>Group presentation</i> 	
4:00pm	Visioning Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a background on what the community envision about their future livelihood and resources • List what changes participants want to see. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Explain purpose of activity</i> • <i>Groups breakout (Youth, Women, Men)</i> • <i>Group presentation</i> 	Tupio
4 :30pm	End of Day 1.	Facilitators Debrief		

5.00pm	Video	Show educational video to the village if possible (Verata tape, Mangroves, Coral reefs, etc)		
7.pm	<i>Dinner and Discussion</i>			
Day 2 (Wednesday 30th June)				
8.30am	12. Devotion and Recap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap Day 1 and introduce Day 2 objectives 		<i>Tupio</i>
9.00am	13. Community Resource Mapping Overlaid by Natural Resource Transects (initial assessment exercise— Issue Matrix)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants perception of their <i>vanua</i> setout, <i>i qoliqoli</i> boundary, marine ecosystems, important resources and location of resources To identify key problem areas Obtain info. on resource present (flora & fauna), uses (village, cash etc.), important resources, forms of existing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Explain purpose of activity</i> <i>Ecosystem Group breakout (Vatu-i-ra, surrounding reefs and lagoons, mangrove</i> 	<i>Saki</i>

		<p>management (traditional, by-laws, etc), resource issues and opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listing of critical resource issues and keystone marine resources and also rank through urgency to address 	<p><i>forests and coast line, village surrounding and terrestrial areas.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Whole group to rank issues within their group.</i> • <i>Group presentation</i> 	
10.30am	Morning tea			
11:00pm	14. Problem Tree-Root Cause Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify the root causes of problems identified and their relationships. 	<p>Assign each group to an identified key issue from which to find out the causes and the <i>effect of the problem</i></p>	<i>Tupio</i>

12.00am	15. Ecology 16. Food Pyramid (Broken) 17. Marine and Terrestrial ecology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss where men are in the food chain and the relationships amongst resources and ecosystems. • Use an example food pyramid from identified keystone resources and discuss how related human-induced problems can be managed. 	<i>Whole group</i>	<i>Saki</i> <i>Tuvere (introduced species as a threat to sea birds)</i>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each group to choose keystone resources from which to structure a food pyramid around. • Discuss what happens to the entire food pyramid when one is over-harvested or overabundant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Small groups</i> • <i>Assign task to groups to show when keystone resource are either over-harvested or overabundant</i> • <i>Group presentatn</i> 	

1.00pm	Lunch			
2:00pm	18. Stakeholder analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key stakeholders within and outside of the community that can assist in the implementation of the program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Small groups</i> <i>Assign task to groups to show relationship between stakeholders and identify key ones.</i> <p>Group presentation</p>	<i>Isoa</i>
4.30pm	<i>End of Day 2.</i>	<i>Facilitators Debrief</i>		
6.00pm	Video	Show educational video to the village if possible (Verata tape, Mangroves, Coral reefs, etc)		
7.pm-10pm	<i>Dinner and Discussion</i>			

Day 3: Thursday (1st July)				
8.30am	19. Devotion and introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap Day 2 and introduce Day 3 objectives and program 		<i>Tupio</i>
9.00am	<p>20. Discussion of Management options to address identified issues</p> <p>21. 'Proposed Community Resource Management Action Plan development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List practical solutions to address identified root problems (refer to sessions 20 & 26) - Solution tree. Assign roles to different groups/ individuals/ institutions in the village and who to carryout the task and when to be carried out. Group discussion on the criteria of measuring success of management regimes. Group to mention immediate actions that can be done in order to show the how issues can be addressed 		<i>Saki</i>

10.30am	Morning tea			
11.30am	22. Presentation of proposed resource management plan by participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present to the <i>turaga ni vanuas</i> , <i>turaga ni yavusas</i> <i>for their endorsement</i> 	<i>Discussion</i>	Isoa
12.30pm	23. Workshop evaluation 24. Next steps	To check whether expectations were met	<i>Questionnaire</i>	<i>Saki</i>
12.45pm	25. Closing			
1:00pm	Lunch			
<i>2:30pm</i>	<i>Depart Nasau-Nanukuloo-Suva</i>			