



# **The IUCN Regional Programme for Oceania 2013-2016**

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## 1 Regional Programme for Oceania 2013-2016

The IUCN Regional Programme for Oceania 2013-2016 is based on an analysis of country priorities reflected in various country documents and statements, regional policy instruments, such as the Pacific Plan, and emerging themes of broader interest to the region. The Oceania Regional Programme mirrors *The IUCN Programme 2013-2016*.

The Regional Programme for Oceania 2013-2016 provides a framework for coordinating activities of the IUCN Oceania Secretariat, Commissions and Committees to deliver the IUCN Global Programme 2013-2016. It is based on a situation analysis presented and discussed at the Oceania Regional Conservation Forum in Brisbane in 2011, which highlighted the key environmental issues faced by Oceania countries.

As New Zealand and Australia have well established national Committees and active Commission members who seek to fulfil the fundamental goals of the programme on behalf of IUCN, the principle activities of the IUCN Oceania Regional Office are largely directed towards the developing nations of the Pacific Islands.

Lessons learnt from activities and projects undertaken at local and national levels will be shared regionally and globally, and opportunities for regional or global up-scaling will be explored and developed as appropriate. In particular, lessons learnt in the Pacific will inform IUCN collaboration with other small island developing states (SIDS) on issues of shared concern, such as climate change, conservation of island biodiversity and sustainable natural resource management, including freshwater, coastal and marine resources.

The Regional Programme for Oceania 2013-2016 will be delivered through effective and innovative partnerships, which broaden existing working relationships to include private enterprise, faith organizations, education institutions, new Members and specialist working groups.

### **REGIONAL RESULTS**

The results and targets of the Regional Programme for Oceania 2013-16 are described below, as they relate to the global thematic priorities identified in the Global IUCN Programme. Potential activities that may be undertaken to achieve these results are also outlined. The programme will be complemented by an operational plan, including indicators, and detailed annual work plans.

## 1.1 Programme Area: Valuing and Conserving Nature

Biological diversity ('biodiversity') is essential for human well-being. Its components – ecosystems, populations, species and genes interact to sustain the life support systems of this planet. Amongst other benefits, biodiversity provides food and cultural security; supports human health, clean air and water; contributes directly to local livelihoods and economic development; and is essential to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, including poverty reduction and gender equity.

The conservation of biodiversity is at the centre of the efforts of the IUCN Regional Programme for Oceania. The biological diversity of the islands of Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Island countries is special, with islands displaying exceptionally high levels of endemism. The rich biodiversity underpins ecosystem functioning and supports the livelihoods of millions of people throughout the region.

This Programme Area seeks to address the direct and indirect pressures on biodiversity, and to ensure that any use of biodiversity is sustainable in order to safeguard ecosystem integrity, species and genetic diversity. IUCN Oceania aims to address these pressures through work to reduce the rate of loss of natural habitats (the biggest driver of biodiversity loss) and biodiversity-rich cultural habitats. This will be achieved principally through facilitating the establishment of regimes for effective management of land, freshwater and marine areas, in partnership with traditional owners, government agencies and other stakeholders. Protected areas of all categories and governance types, including locally managed areas, are crucial to the management of the most important areas for biodiversity. As the livelihoods of many communities are highly dependent upon natural resources, sustainable and long term management will depend upon effective and equitable governance.

On the islands of Oceania, invasive alien species are a major driver of biodiversity loss, threatening ecosystem services, and negatively impacting people's health and livelihoods. The IUCN-Regional Programme for Oceania will continue to address this serious challenge through the provision of information on the management of pathways for invasive species' introduction and develop guidelines and action for their control. IUCN Oceania will continue to support appropriate networks in the Pacific that are taking action on the ground to eradicate alien invasive species on islands.

Despite the existence of successful action-oriented initiatives for the protection and management of biodiversity, the current level of action is outweighed by the magnitude of threat, and conservation responses need to be increased to combat the extinction crisis. The IUCN Oceania Regional Office, together with regional partners, will act to coordinate efforts to support all governments, particularly of smaller island nations, to provide knowledge to support better decision-making and on-the-ground action.

Improved understanding of the economic value of biodiversity can contribute to informed decision-making in policy arenas. IUCN Oceania will work to enhance the understanding of the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services through contributions to additional *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity* (TEEB) studies to ensure more sustainable island ecosystem management.

Many conservation efforts in Oceania, and in particular the Pacific Islands, to date have focused on marine and coastal ecosystems. However, much of the endemism of the Pacific is on the terrestrial and inland waters of the islands. IUCN Oceania will seek to promote, undertake and support efforts to increase understanding and action towards conservation and management of terrestrial and freshwater species and ecosystems.

Sustainable development in many Pacific Island nations is integrally aligned to the provision of energy. There will be increasing investments in energy, particularly in those Melanesian countries with poor access to electricity (less than 10% in some countries). Energy development, particularly the increasing emphasis on hydroelectric power, will impact on the environment and IUCN Oceania is in the position to inform and build capacity towards ensuring minimization of environmental impact in this process.

## Justification for IUCN Oceania's Engagement

Valuing and conserving nature is at the heart of IUCN Oceania's efforts and will continue to be a major focus for the delivery of the Regional Programme for Oceania 2013-2016.

IUCN's Oceania membership is growing. IUCN's activities in Australia and New Zealand are supported by active IUCN National Committees to address key biodiversity conservation issues and create awareness of the best knowledge available to address national and local issues. In Australia a revitalised national committee (ACIUCN) is holding regular symposiums on key biodiversity conservation topics involving both member bodies and Commission experts. In the Pacific Islands, the IUCN-Oceania Regional Office is supporting the efforts of members and other partner governments to address those urgent biodiversity conservation issues – and this engagement will continue.

In October 2010, the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity met in Japan and adopted a new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity to galvanize action for biodiversity conservation. The vision of *The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the Aichi Targets is a world of "Living in harmony with Nature" where "By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people." The United Nations General Assembly declared a UN Decade for Biodiversity for the same period. The IUCN Programme 2013-16 supports the implementation of the Strategic Plan and has been built to show, monitor and report on exactly where IUCN will contribute to the achievement of the twenty Aichi targets. This Programme Area makes a direct contribution to many of the targets of The Strategic Plan. In particular IUCN will contribute to the achievement of the targets under Strategic Goals B and C.

Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use:

- Target 5: Habitat loss reduced
- Target 9: Invasive alien species combated

Goal C: Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity:

- Target 11: Protected areas increased
- Target 12: Extinction prevented
- Target 13: Genetic diversity maintained

The Aichi Targets will provide the basis for the support that the IUCN Regional Programme for Oceania will give to national governments. The small island states of the Pacific need special support to achieve the Aichi targets established in the CBD Strategic Plan and attention will be placed on building their capacity, providing appropriate tools and demonstrating action on the ground.

IUCN's work on valuation – and its entire Programme - will contribute to three additional targets:

- Target 1: Public awareness increased
- Target 2: Values of biodiversity documented and recognized
- Target 20: Financial resources increased

IUCN Oceania has specific skills to support the national governments and partners in the Oceania Region. This support will be provided through development of knowledge products to support government decision-making, capacity building to support enhanced government policy and processes and the provision of expert advice

## IUCN Oceania's Approach

- IUCN Oceania will continue to focus on increasing knowledge regarding the conservation status of species in the Oceania Region. Support to strengthen our understanding of the conservation status of species in the Pacific will be a priority, through the IUCN Red List process. This will directly support Pacific Island Countries and Territories in reporting on Aichi Target 12. The Second Pacific Islands Species Forum to be held in 2014 will improve regional collaboration to identify status and gaps in species' knowledge, and work towards on the ground action for conservation and management of threatened species. In addition, IUCN Oceania will support partners in the development of species management plans and tools. These processes will also enhance the Pacific's contribution to global efforts in establishing a Global Red List of Ecosystems.
- Protected areas are at the heart of the IUCN Programme. IUCN Oceania will focus its results on broadening national contributions to effective Protected Area management through supporting governments to establish and manage Protected Areas that are representative and include appropriate connectivity approaches. The Australian National Committee and the World Commission on Protected Areas will continue their strong advocacy for both marine and terrestrial protected area systems and for the integration of these systems into wider land and sea scape initiatives for biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits. The Australian National Committee will also continue to promote innovative partnership approaches and governance models for effective conservation, in particular seeking models which enhance cultural, social outcomes as well as ecological outcomes for indigenous people.
- In the Pacific, IUCN Oceania will seek to enhance understanding of the mechanisms of community-based protected area management and their contribution to National Protected Area systems, and will seek to refine the application of IUCN categories to these locally-managed areas. Enhancing protected area systems to contribute to the resilience of ecosystems to climate change will be an important focus of these efforts. Special attention will be paid to the establishment of a system of representative marine protected areas at both local and large scales.
- IUCN Oceania will identify the economic values of ecosystems and their associated services by using TEEB approaches. The knowledge acquired will be mainstreamed into planning and decision-making processes of national governments. These efforts will consider marine, terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems of the region, with a special focus on the Pacific Mangrove Initiative and Melanesian countries.
- IUCN Oceania will, with Members and partners, develop appropriate strategies and programmes to incorporate agrobiodiversity conservation initiatives into biodiversity conservation efforts, as a basis for addressing species loss and as one of the most viable means of promoting food, energy and livelihood security.
- IUCN Oceania will continue to work cooperatively with partners and governments (especially with SPREP) to support the implementation of Multi-lateral Environment Agreements in the Pacific. These efforts will predominantly focus on the Convention of Biological Diversity. In addition, capacity building activities will be developed to assist countries in the implementation of CITES, UNFCCC and the Ramsar and World Heritage Conventions. IUCN Oceania will continue to work with and support partners in the development and implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
- IUCN Oceania will continue to support initiatives addressing invasive species management and eradication in the region. This will focus on decision support systems through the provision of a regional database and sharing of information. In addition, IUCN Oceania will continue to support regional networks undertaking action for the management of invasive species.

- IUCN Oceania will continue to support efforts to combat illegal trade in plants and animals in Oceania. Effort will focus on capacity building of national institutions and strengthening national legislation to reflect, as appropriate, the provisions of international law, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
- IUCN will continue to support sustainable development in the Pacific, in particular in the energy and mining sectors. This will include screening of national level policies and plans, and specific energy developments, to ensure environmental impacts are avoided or minimized. In Australia, the National Committee shall seek to promote IUCN's policies which aim to prevent mining activities impacting on World Heritage Areas or other areas of high conservation value.
- IUCN Oceania will support governments and partners to develop innovative financial mechanisms to support concrete biodiversity conservation efforts. This will include the development of trust funds, specific environment-related contributions to national budgets, and other sustainable financial mechanisms.

## 1.2 Programme Area: Effective and equitable governance of nature's use

### Programme Area:

People everywhere depend directly or indirectly on biodiversity for their well-being. In the Pacific, many millions of people are directly dependent upon natural resources for their daily food, fuel, housing and medicine. The future of all countries of Oceania relies on good governance to ensure the sustainable use of such resources.

Natural resource governance is shaped by the processes that determine how power and responsibilities over the resource are exercised, how decisions are taken, and how citizens – men and women – participate in the management of natural resources. The quality of these decision-making processes is one of the singular most important determinants to the contribution ecosystems make to human well-being and the long-term prospects for successful biodiversity conservation. Sharing power, responsibility and benefits in natural resource management, as well as strengthening governance arrangements, to make decisions more transparent and equitable, are good for people and biodiversity. This is the basis of a just world that is capable of valuing and conserving nature.

The experience gained in Oceania will inform the global IUCN processes seeking to bring together strands of established rights and governance work under a new framework that will help enhance coherency and consistency of approaches to this complex issue. IUCN will work with its Members and partners to strengthen conservation and natural resource governance, in order to improve the flow of nature's benefits to natural resource dependent people.

### Justification

The islands of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific recognize traditional custodians of the land and water. Traditional knowledge remains strong throughout the region, with traditional management systems remaining intact in many countries. This Programme Area will contribute to recognizing and respecting the rights of people who live close to and rely directly on nature. Governments, communities and the private sector will be assisted where necessary, to put in place credible and robust measures to improve natural resource governance. Efforts will be made to link this knowledge with the most up-to-date modern scientific knowledge of major trends and threats to biodiversity as a basis for promoting sustainability. In the Pacific, this will include moving towards governance frameworks incorporating a holistic approach to ridge-to-reef management –integrating and enhancing management of catchments, freshwater resources, mangroves, corals and related ecosystems. The engagement to-date has identified emerging themes of governance, rights, equity, entitlements and gender as cross-cutting themes. During 2013-16, the experience gained in the region will contribute to a greater consistency and focus on this issue across the Secretariat and Commissions, with a particular focus on how decisions about conservation and natural resource use are made and implemented and how the costs and benefits need to be shared.

This Programme Area makes a direct contribution to many of the targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, particularly Strategic Goal D to enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystems, and Strategic Goal E to enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building, specifically:

- **Target 14: Ecosystems are restored and safeguarded**
- **Target 16: Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force**
- **Target 18: Traditional knowledge respected and reflected in implementation of the Convention**

Furthermore, by developing tools and approaches that foster better natural resource governance this Programme Area will help establish the pre-conditions necessary for the achievement of Target 11 (Protected Areas), particularly with respect to recognizing and advancing Locally Managed Areas, as well as Targets 6 and 7 (sustainable management of marine and terrestrial natural resources).

## Approach and results

IUCN Oceania's work will demonstrate and inform the development of a robust set of principles, standards and tools, consolidating what already exists, and convening and empowering stakeholders to design solutions that influence policy, governance and action.

Central to this will be the development of a framework for the robust and independent assessment of the status of natural resource governance. This knowledge product will draw on the broad range of social science embodied in the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), the Commission on Environmental Management (CEM), the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) and the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) with the ultimate aim of being the "go-to" resource and standard on natural resource governance in a similar way that The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is the definitive authority on the conservation status of species.

IUCN Oceania will inform the establishment of the global framework through developing and documenting local approaches to natural resource and biodiversity management.

- Water resource management in the Pacific will be strengthened through enhanced governance including community-based management of catchments demonstrating optimal approaches. These approaches will show-case ridge-to-reef management and will be based on IUCN knowledge and guidance, including materials developed through *WANI toolkits* including the publications *Value, Pay* and *Negotiate* developed for the Pacific context
- Community-based governance of marine and coastal resources demonstrating sustainable natural resource management and biodiversity conservation will be nurtured in mangrove and other coastal ecosystems in selected Pacific Island countries. These field demonstrations will contribute knowledge to understanding optimal governance arrangements for sustainable use.
- Community-based management and enrichment of traditional tree-rich agroforestry systems and associated agrobiodiversity, with particular emphasis on small-island communities that have few other foundations for food and livelihood security and areas where the spread of monoculture cash cropping has threatened remaining natural ecosystems and food and cultural security .
- IUCN Oceania will continue to actively support the *Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation* to strengthen sharing and active contributions of knowledge gained from field efforts into national and regional level policy and practice. This will contribute to global efforts to integrate effective biodiversity and natural resource governance arrangements into policies and plans at various levels.
- IUCN Oceania will continue to support national efforts to develop and enhance governance arrangements, including national level laws, policies and plans, which ensure enhanced protection of species, protected areas and ecosystem services in Pacific Island countries. This will result in strengthened national capacity for more effective biodiversity outcomes.
- IUCN Oceania will strengthen national capacity to implement relevant legislation including effective compliance and enforcement through training and capacity building in countries in the Pacific.



- IUCN Oceania will build capacity for leadership and sustainable development in the Pacific. Leaders will be identified and their approaches towards sustainable development will be mainstreamed through innovative approaches and substantial commitments.
- IUCN Oceania will build national capacity for Strategic *Environmental Assessment* and *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment* in selected Pacific Island Countries, in particular with a view to enhancing governance and mitigating the impacts of natural resource extraction, energy development and other development sectors.

### **1.3 Programme Area: Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food, development**

These are challenging times for the people and governments of Oceania. The recent financial and economic crises and uncertainties have reduced the attention and resources directed to long-term systemic global challenges, including poverty, biodiversity loss and global warming. Although income has increased from fishing and mining of natural resources, many smaller Pacific Island countries are reliant on remittances and aid to sustain their economies – however these have declined over recent years.

The slow progress in climate negotiations means that many options for early action are being foreclosed and the impacts of climate change are ever more inevitable. The impacts of sea level rise are a real and present danger to small-island states, such as Kiribati and Tuvalu, and are threatening other coastal communities along with increasing climate variability throughout the region.

Oceania remains an important source of many of the world’s natural resources, including fish, minerals and timber. Yet, these resources are finite and mechanisms for the sustainable management of these natural resources are yet to be fully operational throughout the region. IUCN Oceania is committed to assisting governments and people of the region to developing a more sustainable future.

IUCN Oceania recognizes that sustainable economies will need to deploy nature-based solutions to deal with the challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation, ensuring food security, and sustaining green development. There is growing recognition of approaches such as *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity* (TEEB) to inform national and regional policy and decision-making processes. Healthy, diverse and well-managed ecosystems, including agricultural systems, provide the foundation for practical, nature-based solutions to Oceania’s problems, and IUCN has the skills, insights and expertise to help mobilise these options in a cost effective and sustainable manner.

Aside from providing effective solutions to major global challenges, nature-based solutions can also deliver clear biodiversity benefits in terms of diverse, well-managed and functioning ecosystems. They must be cost effective relative to other, particularly “hard-infrastructure” solutions. As nature-based solutions are designed to reach beyond the conservation community they need to be easily and compellingly communicated as well as being measurable, verifiable and replicable. Finally they must be designed and implemented in such a way as to respect and reinforce communities’ rights over natural resources.

#### **Justification**

Oceania’s island communities understand that nature, including traditional biodiversity-use systems, provides a range of goods and services to meet daily livelihood needs. However, there must be increased awareness at all levels of human society, to understand the role of nature-based solutions in building resilience to resolve some of the more challenging island development issues, deal with climate change and conserve biodiversity.

All countries of Oceania are dealing with the challenges of climate change adaptation. This adds to existing pressures including fragile rural landscapes, communities and vulnerability to natural disasters and human-induced loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Increased resilience of ecosystems and communities supported by strengthened governance will contribute to addressing these challenges. In relation to climate change mitigation, substantial efforts are beyond the realm of possibility of many small island states. They are therefore focusing on the identification of low carbon approaches to energy sources and seeking to enhance energy efficiency. Australia, New Zealand and the countries of Melanesia, have an important role to play in climate change mitigation, especially through carbon sequestration and IUCN Oceania will seek to support these efforts.

Pacific Island communities are heavily dependent upon local resources to meet their daily needs and contribute to household income. However, recent studies suggest that in some countries, increasing

populations are resulting in communities not being able to supply sufficient food, fuel, construction material and medicines from inland and coastal resources to meet their needs. If not managed, this will result in increased food and imports dependency and a loss of national wealth. Healthy ecosystems will be productive ecosystems and IUCN Oceania will establish partnerships with communities, governments and other organizations to ensure that nature's provisions in meeting food and livelihood security needs are demonstrated and included in relevant dialogues.

Industries based on minerals and natural resources – (for example mining, fishing, forestry, agricultural and tourism) make significant contributions to the GNP of many countries in Oceania and many generate over 50% of national foreign exchange earnings. Yet, these largely extractive industries have a poor track record in terms of environmental stewardship and fair compensation to affected communities. IUCN Oceania will work to support the sustainable harvesting of living natural resources, to ensure that fisheries, forestry and agricultural practices are carried out in a sustainable and socially equitable manner.

Given that nature-based solutions span other sectors – mobilizing new champions and new resources for biodiversity – they can provide an effective mechanism to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, particularly Strategic Goal A to mainstream biodiversity across government and society, Strategic Goal B to reduce direct pressures and promote sustainable use and Strategic Goal D to enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystems, specifically:

- Target 2: Values of biodiversity recognized
- Target 5: Habitat loss reduced
- Target 6: Towards sustainable management of fisheries
- Target 7: Sustainable management (agriculture, aquaculture and forestry)
- Target 14: Ecosystems are restored and protected
- Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience enhanced

Nature-based solutions should also contribute to Strategic Goal E to enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building, notably:

- Target 19: Knowledge and technologies improved and shared
- Target 20: Financial resources increased

### **Approach and results**

Using knowledge, capacity and experience, IUCN Oceania will work through its Members, Commission members and partners to ensure that nature-based solutions support the management of natural ecosystems.

IUCN Oceania will also use a broad suite of tools to support the implementation of nature-based solutions, including FLOW which is a methodology to facilitate equitable water sharing arrangements; CRiSTAL (Community-Based Risk Screening Tool – Adaptation and Livelihoods) which is a toolkit to help establish climate change adaptation strategies based on local conditions, strengths and needs; Net Positive Impact Validation Protocol which is a framework to help large footprint companies implement and verify strategies to transform their environmental impact; and economic valuation of natural capital.

In relation to climate change, IUCN Oceania will support the deployment of nature-based solutions, namely *Ecosystem-based mitigation* (including REDD+) and *Ecosystem-based Adaptation*, and support governments and communities to demonstrate the effectiveness of these solutions on the ground. In Oceania, increasing the resilience of communities, ecosystems and species to climate change, in particular the low-lying island of the Pacific is critical.

Specifically, IUCN Oceania will:

- Ensure that nature-based solutions to climate change are integrated into appropriate regional and national policies and plans including National Climate Change Programmes of Action (NAPAs), Joint National Action Plans (JNAPs) and other climate change related policies and plans
- Identify and promote opportunities for capturing and storing carbon within terrestrial and coastal ecosystems in the Pacific, in order to support climate change mitigation supported by various carbon financing mechanisms.
- Demonstrate community-managed adaptation and mitigation solutions that enhance resilience of coastal and terrestrial ecosystems to climate change, while properly addressing the rights of local and indigenous communities.
- Ensure that ecosystem-based adaptation is recognized as a core approach in Disaster Risk Reduction plans, policies and actions.
- Increase and enhance collaboration by building cross-regional capacity to address climate change and ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation in island nations and SIDS.
- Support Pacific Island governments in identifying and accessing new and innovative sources of climate change funding.
- Continue to generate knowledge on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ensure that lessons learnt are shared nationally, regionally and globally.

In relation to food security, IUCN Oceania will continue to support the sustainable use of natural ecosystems. In particular, IUCN Oceania will:

- Promote and disseminate science-based knowledge and lessons on the role and extent to which biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management and wild harvested products underpin food security, including fisheries, forestry and agriculture.
- Ensure that national policies and strategies recognize food production and biodiversity conservation and are enhanced through integrating “ridge to reef” management with local community involvement, as demonstrated in approaches such as the Water and Nature Initiative (WANI).
- Promote gender equity to guarantee that women and men have access to, participate in, and benefit equally from food security initiatives.
- Advocate for recognition of the role of biodiversity conservation, ecosystems and nature-based solutions to complement the existing food security strategies undertaken by mainstream development organizations such as FAO, SPC and other related agencies.
- Ensure that national policies and strategies recognize the potential impact of cultivation of biofuels.

In relation to economic and social development, IUCN Oceania will seek to build on TEEB approaches and will work with governments, the private sector and civil society to transform practices that negatively impact natural systems and the livelihoods of people. IUCN Oceania will seek additional private investments in natural capital throughout Oceania. In particular, IUCN Oceania will:

- Generate sector-specific knowledge on the role and value of “natural capital” and “traditional biodiversity knowledge” and support governments and businesses to find ways to incorporate the maintenance (or enhancement) of these values in their operational plans and accounting systems.

- Demonstrate incentives for integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services into the operational plans of key Pacific Island public and private sector enterprises.
- Encourage innovative financial investments by private sector in biodiversity conservation, for example trust funds, and payment for ecosystem services.
- Integrate green-growth approaches in the economic sectors of the Pacific Island countries.
- Ensure that private sector agencies adopt environment-related certification schemes to enhance biodiversity conservation.
- Increase public and private sector investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies in Pacific Island countries, in order to maintain ecosystem service benefits from biodiversity.