Pacific Invasives Learning Network Launch and First Annual Meeting Palau 22 - 26 May 2006

Meeting Report



Dr Jill Key PILN Coordinator. May 2006 SPREP, PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa +685 21929 ext 276, jillk@sprep.org

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List of Acronyms

CEPF Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund CI Conservation International, a PILN Partner

GEF Global Environment Facility
GISD Global Invasive Species Database

IAS Invasive Alien Species

ISM Invasive Species Management

ISSG Invasive Species Specialist Group, a PILN Partner

NFWF National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

NPAS National Park of American Samoa, a PILN Close Collaborator

OERC Office of Environmental Response and Coordination of Palau, a PILN

Partner

PII Pacific Invasives Initiative, a programme of the Cooperative Islands

Initiative, a PILN Close Collaborator

PILN Pacific Invasives Learning Network

PISM Pacific Invasive Species Management project, a new Global Environment

Facility project.

SPC Secretariat of the Pacific Community, a PILN Partner

SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, a PILN

Partner

TNC The Nature Conservancy, a PILN Partner

USDOS United States Department of State

USFS United States Forest Service, a PILN Partner USP University of the South Pacific, a PILN Partner



Meeting participants on the field trip. Photo: Tavita Togia.

Executive summary

- ✓ The Honorable Elias Camsek Chin, Vice President of the Republic of Palau, officially launched the network on 22 May 2006 at the opening ceremony in Palau. His concluding remark, "Failure is not an option", was adopted as a slogan for the meeting.
- ✓ 42 people from 11 countries participated: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji,
 French Polynesia, Guam, Hawaii, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Pohnpei and Samoa.
 These consisted of members of the initial 6 PILN founding teams, CEPF grantees
 running demonstration projects, and PILN Partners.
- ✓ The CD ROM version of the Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) was officially launched on 23 May 2006 at a ceremony on Carp Island, Palau.
- ✓ An evaluation of relevant elements of the GISD was carried out. The high overall scores (73-96%) suggest that GISD information is relevant and useful and this is confirmed by the positive nature of other comments made.
- ✓ Participants analyzed their collective experience to draft lessons learned in 4 key areas: public awareness, strategic planning, weed management and island restoration.
- ✓ Each PILN founding team drafted an Action Plan for one of their priority projects and identified the next steps required:
 - o American Samoa: Eradicate Strawberry Guava from American Samoa by the end of 2008
 - o Guam: Control bud rot *Phytophthora. palmivora* on Betelnut in Guam.
 - o Niue: To contain the Wedelia affected sites within Niue to 0.7 hectares.
 - o Palau: By the end of 2008, no more trees of the forest margin along the compact road are covered with Kebeas
 - o Pohnpei: Eradicate 100% of the following: False Kava, Mile-a-Minute, ivy Gourd, and Chain of Love by 2008
 - o Samoa: To secure funding to carry out activities to manage and prevent invasive species in Samoa.
- ✓ Need for network assistance was identified in the following areas:
 - Technical expertise on:
 - o Tilapia eradication in Pohnpei
 - o Feral pigeon eradication in Pohnpei
 - o Wedelia control methods in Niue
 - Develop guidelines for:
 - o Merremia peltata control for various countries
 - o New invasive species monitoring and reporting, for all countries

- New roads to minimize invasive species establishment, using the Compact road of Palau as a model.
- Workshops on specific topics:
 - o Social marketing
 - o Rodent eradication from tropical islands
 - o Monitoring and evaluation of invasive species management
- Network assistance and advice on:
 - o Influencing policy, and political advocacy
 - o Strengthening legislation and harmonizing compliance mechanisms
 - o Producing and sharing promotional & educational materials
 - o Information on and access to funding sources and help with proposals
 - o Peer review of plans and project proposals
- ✓ CEPF grantees reviewed their project management process and provided feedback for future improvements.
- ✓ Inputs were provided for the revision of the regional invasive species strategy, 6 strategic directions were identified and prioritized.
- ✓ The PILN work plan was reviewed and agreement reached on how to measure PILN success. A new logo is being designed, using elements from the meeting logo. The PILN mission was accepted by the participants.
- ✓ Of the 34 participants who completed an evaluation form, all expressed themselves "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the meeting. Among the benefits gained from attending the meeting are: sharing and learning, a stronger team, awareness of just how much is going on in the region, and a sense of momentum that urgently needs building on.
- ✓ The American Samoa Invasive Species Team formally offered to host second annual meeting in August 2007
- ✓ This report a working document, intended to be used to follow-up on commitments made during the meeting. Lessons learned will be reviewed and expanded in future meetings and draft Action Plans developed and revised. The next step is to ensure that the talk is translated into action and invasive species impacts to biodiversity and sustainable development are reduced.



The facilitation team: Anne Marie LaRosa, Joel Miles, Jill Key and Audrey Newman. Photo: Audrey Newman.



The Palau team hosts: Joe Tiobech, Joel Miles, Lukes Isechal, Yalap Yalap and Fred Sengebau. Photo: Jill Key.

Opening Remarks

by the Honorable Elias Camsek Chin Vice President of the Republic of Palau

May 22, 2006

Please let me begin by saying what a privilege and honor it is to address such a distinguished and diverse group of people this morning. Thank you for the kind invitation to open your meeting this week.

This is no surprise to you, but monkeys, cockatoos, smothering vines, snails, aggressive fish, bottom-dwelling marine organisms, agricultural pests, and human disease-causing microorganisms: all of these -- and more -- have invaded Palau and many of the Pacific Islands.

These non-native species are having impacts on the environment, the economy, human health, and, of course, the traditional way of life in countries all over the Pacific. Their introduction poses a serious threat to all of us personally as well as to our economies and governments.

It is for these reasons that I was very pleased to learn that the Pacific Invasives Learning Network, assisted by Palau's National Invasive Species Committee and the Office of Environmental Response and Coordination, would hold its inaugural meeting here in Palau. I Welcome you and we are very glad we have been waiting for you for a long time! Folks, we have got to work together to address what to do about the invasions that are occurring.

I am deeply honored that you have asked me to open your meeting today and conclude it on Friday at your dinner reception. On behalf of the Palauan people, our government, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., our President, and myself, we hope you have a challenging week but one that will be filled with accomplishments and satisfaction at week's end.

I know you are going to Carp Island for most of your meetings and that you will be having a tour of Peleliu, the Rock Islands and other places here. Please enjoy yourself with the hospitality of our country and experience the mysteries of our beautiful sites and treasures.

Take back many pictures and memories but always remember that the invasive species you are trying to control will be all around you. These living organisms, and you know this already, grow and reproduce out of control. The result is that they cause harm to other living things, especially to native plants and animals.

You know, the word 'Harm' is probably not strong enough. Invasive species can destroy ecosystems and, in some cases, even cause extinctions of other species. With the natural beauty that is the essence of Palau, losing even one species or a part of our ecosystem is a tragedy. This is why your work this week is so very important.

But your work here will go beyond Palau. Each of you will take with you a plan that needs to be implemented in your home country as well as in countries that are not represented here this week.

Ladies and Gentlemen, you are involved in one of the most important missions possible – to find a way to protect native plants and animals from invasion by species that could change our landscape forever.

Sadly, when an invasive species is introduced into a new environment, typically it has no natural enemies. We know that many of these introduced species are brought in by man or travel long distances on ships, logs or with marine organisms.

I have even learned recently that some naturally occurring species can become invasive when environmental conditions change.

I have seen a good example of this near my house. There, in my backyard is a plant known in Palau as *kebeas*, and I can't pronounce the biological name, so I won't (*Merremia peltata*). Dr. Miles knows what I'm talking about! Kebeas is a very vigorous and fast-growing vine that grows naturally in forest clearings.

I'll tell you that when I was a young boy growing up on Peleliu, *kebeas* was growing there, but it was not the problem that it is today. With the growth of the country over the last twenty years, the clearing of land, creation of new roads and other human activities, we have created more opportunities for *kebeas* to thrive – and thrive it does. This vine is now threatening forests and communities on the islands of Koror and Babeldaob. With the development and growth on Babeldaob, the situation will only get worse.

We also have problems with other species that have been introduced to Palau and I am sure that these problems are not unique to Palau and that they occur all over the Pacific area where they cause great harm.

Here are some examples:

- Monkeys eat bird eggs and nestlings, and are starting to cause real problems on Angaur, an island just south of Peleliu. I was visiting there recently and one of the residents told me that monkeys are now going through trash, eating through electrical wire insulation and damaging traditional crops like Taro and tapioca. They even try to scare women when they are tending their Taro patches.
 - o And, folks, monkeys are not native to Palau. They were introduced by the Germans when underground mining occurred there many years ago. Now,

there are more than 200 monkeys on Angaur and they have turned into a pest problem. The local human population is now out numbered by the monkey population almost two-to-one.

- Coconuts are an important source of food, fuel and even wood for people living in neighboring countries. Swaying coconut palms have come to symbolize exotic holidays in a tropical paradise. However, this plant is being threatened by EREMEL A LIUS or, the Coconut Beetle, an invasive pest that migrated here from Indonesia. Scientists believe that this insect travels primarily on aircraft or in air cargo shipments. And so, despite quarantine measures, invasive pests like the Coconut beetle do get into the countries undetected. If this happens, it is important for the countries affected or at risk of infection to work together. Hence, this meeting is all the more important since it represents just that countries at risk working together to solve the problem of invasive species.
- As I mentioned, we now have a problem with invasive vines growing all over our native trees and destroying some of our tropical forests. This, ladies and gentlemen, will change our landscape forever.
- And with the destruction of the tropical forests and the increase in non-native grasses, the likelihood of wildfires is increased. You know, I dread the day when someone tells me "Mr. Vice President, we have an out-of-control forest fire somewhere in Palau." I have seen burned out areas in the United States and I'm quite sure that we have all seen the explicit, and horrifying, images of these fires on TV. You know, we don't need that level of destruction here.
- City pigeons, rats and mosquitoes carry diseases and we seem to have, on some of our Rock Islands, a problem with non-native rats.
- Humans and animals are affected by micro-organisms that are introduced or develop here.
- There are many other problems caused by invasive species and I know that you will be studying these problems during your visit and so I will leave my descriptions of the problems we face to your scientific studies.

My point is that the non-native species that have invaded Palau must be controlled and that is why your meeting this week is so important to Palauans. But, I think, you have to look at the problem of invasive species on a broader scale and so your meetings are also vitally important to the other islands and island nations in the Pacific.

Ladies and gentlemen, you face a challenging task and, as a famous US President said, failure is not an option. If we don't find a way to control invasive species, if the public is not educated about them and if governments don't take action to manage their control, all of our countries will be overrun. Our children and their children won't have the unique forests, animals and marine resources that we see today and that you will see this week.

That loss would be tragic! It is organizations like the Pacific Invasives Learning Network, the Palau National Invasives Species Committee and the Office of Environmental Response and Coordination that make a difference.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure that you will make that difference this week. Good luck in this venture and I want thank you.

Kom Kmal Mesaul.



The Honorable Elias Camsek Chin, Vice President of the Republic of Palau, opening the meeting. Photo: Warea Orapa.



Tavita Togia, coordinator of the American Samoa team, hosts of the 2007 PILN meeting, with the Honorable Elias Camsek Chin, Vice President of the Republic of Palau. Photo: Tavita Togia

Meeting Report

Background

Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in island ecosystems. When a species is accidentally or intentionally introduced into a new landscape or seascape, the consequences can be devastating, posing a large threat to agriculture, public health, tourism, and other economic activities. Invasive plants and animals can spread unchecked, disrupting natural cycles, and costing billions.

Invasives are a priority for Pacific Island nations because islands are highly vulnerable to invasions that can result in catastrophic loss of biodiversity and other impacts. However, the relatively small size and isolation of most islands offer important opportunities for preventing new invasions and eradicating existing pest species. In some parts of the Pacific, experienced conservation professionals have developed model programs to prevent, eradicate, or control certain high-priority invaders, such as rodents, feral animals, and invasive weeds. However, according to the Global Invasive Species Programme, "In most Pacific Island countries, there is a profound lack of awareness about the issue and an almost complete absence of capacity to deal with invasive species." Conservation practitioners in the Pacific represent a host of different agencies and countries, and most are geographically and professionally isolated. As a result, few Pacific conservationists currently have the information, expertise, and support they need to manage invasive species effectively.

Peer Learning Networks

Peer learning networks are a proven strategy for improving conservation skills and building cooperation between trained professionals. By bringing peers together with conservation experts, learning networks foster new ideas and practical, site-specific solutions. Multi-disciplinary project teams can work together on strategies with critical input from other teams and experts, resulting in a common vision and a plan for effective conservation action.

In 2005 The Nature Conservancy joined with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, the Cooperative Island Initiative on Invasive Species, IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group, National Park of American Samoa, Conservation International, the Palau Office of Environmental Response and Coordination, University of the South Pacific, USDA Forest Service, and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community to establish the Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN). Collaborating closely with the initiative are the National Park of American Samoa and the Pacific Invasives Initiative.

The network serves teams of Pacific Island agencies responsible for invasives management, including agencies responsible for agriculture, international trade and other economic interests, as well as conservation and natural resource management.

The network's mission is to empower effective invasive species management through a participant-driven network that meets priority needs, rapidly shares skills and resources, provides links to technical expertise, increases information exchange, and accelerates on-the-ground action.

Founding teams come all over the Pacific region, with representatives from all three subregions, Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia and include members with a long-term commitment to conservation, strong cultural understanding, and the potential to act as innovators to increase invasive species management and prevention in their nations. Participating teams determine the specific invasive species issues that they will address using the network. PILN's activities and agenda are determined by the individual and shared needs of the participants.

The Palau meeting

The official launch of the network and first annual meeting took place from 22 to 26 May 2006, hosted by Palau. Members of the initial group of six founding teams from American Samoa, Guam, Niue, Palau, Pohnpei and Samoa participated, together with Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund grantees working on invasive species management demonstration projects from Palau, Samoa, FSM, the Cook Islands, Fiji, and French Polynesia, and representatives of the eight partners and two close collaborators. In total 42 people from 11 countries attended and the participant list is given in Annex 1.

Meeting objectives were established by the participants before the meeting and were used to define the final agenda:

- ➤ To meet with other invasive species workers from around the Pacific, foster relations by sharing skills and experiences, widen knowledge on invasive species issues, and understand shared challenges and obstacles;
- ➤ To get support for developing and implementing field and strategic projects by looking for similar models, developing cooperation, coordinating actions, and learning new techniques;
- ➤ To introduce other invasive species programmes and partnerships currently active in the Pacific region and identify ways they can benefit/help PILN teams;
- > To start formulating and sharing lessons learned from field and strategic projects through the collective knowledge of the group;
- To identify priority thematic issues and expert exchange needs;
- > To identify a regional invasive species project of common interest, to be developed over the next year or so.

The concluding words from the Vice Presidents opening remarks, "failure is not an option" were adopted as the meeting slogan.

The complete final agenda is given in Annex 2. In summary the following activities were completed:

• The network was officially launched

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- The CR ROM version of the Global Invasive Species Database was officially launched
- Each PILN team and CEPF grantee presented their team and projects
- Lessons learned were formulated in four key technical areas: public awareness, strategic planning, weed management and island restoration
- Action plans were produced for a priority project by each PILN team, and the next steps defined
- Eight emerging issues were discussed in open space fora: biocontrol, measuring PILN success, political involvement; managing invasive reptiles and amphibians, marine invasive species, biosecurity, refugia, ex-copra islands
- PILN mission and logo were reviewed
- The components of the regional invasive species strategy were reviewed
- CEPF grantees reviewed their project cycle management process

This report presents a summary of the main findings and conclusions in terms of the agreed outputs established prior to the meeting, and specifically from the point of view of PILN input to capacity building. It is intended to be a working document – the lessons learned in the four key technical areas discussed should be viewed as a first draft to be expanded and revised in subsequent meetings, by the second group of founding teams and in the second annual meeting. The team Action Plans are also drafts, to be completed by the teams in collaboration with their wider invasive species committees at home, and revised over time as experience dictates. Full details of the various sessions and discussions are given in the Annexes.

The agreed outputs of the meeting are:

- ✓ Initial analysis of lessons learned in priority technical areas
- ✓ Expert exchange needs identified
- ✓ PILN work programme defined for the 2-year pilot programme
- ✓ PILN mission and terms of reference defined, logo reviewed
- ✓ Agreement on how to measure PILN effectiveness

The second output "Expert Exchange needs identified" has been broadened to cover all PILN assistance and support and is not limited to just expert exchanges.

Outputs

Initial analysis of lessons learned in priority technical areas

Four technical areas were identified from the PILN team applications as being priority and of common interest to all participants: public awareness, strategic planning, weed management and island restoration. Participants discussed their collective strengths and weaknesses, and formulated lessons learned for success in each case. Full details of the groups conclusions and the plenary discussion are given in Annex 3.

Public awareness

Lessons learned for success are:

- ➤ Should be done first to get public support before on-the-ground action
- > Define your purpose
- ➤ Define your audience age class, sector, etc.
- > Know your audience
- ➤ Identify the key messages
- > Adapt materials to suit local conditions
- Use Snappy Slogans
- > Use advertising strategies
- > Use as many different media as possible
- ➤ Use cheap/free methods as much as possible
- Find out what worked (or didn't) elsewhere
- ➤ Include measures of success (pre/post surveys, useful questions)
- Don't overlook the essential value of success and telling people about it, Demonstration projects can show it is possible
- ➤ Create a resource library GISD?

Strategic planning

It was noted that there are different levels of planning:

- > Regional
- National
- > Sub-national

Emergency Response Planning can be:

- ➢ Generic
- National
- > For species / taxa

For Project Plans, lessons learned for success are:

- All partners have the capacity to develop plans
- The planning process is more important than the paper document
- > Templates are available
- Guidelines

- ➤ Test the Emergency Response Plans
- ➤ Have a plan
- ➤ Use model plans
- ➤ Involve stakeholders (include government)
- ➤ Good facilitation of the planning process is important
- ➤ Collect & share information
- ➤ Review & adapt plans
- ➤ Connect strategic plans to annual work plans and budgets, especially helpful to include timeframes, responsibilities, etc.
- ➤ Incorporate accounting structure and finance in the plan
- > Good levels of communication are important
- ➤ Be flexible
- ➤ High level support is important
- ➤ Have someone responsible for driving the plan
- ➤ Have the right resources (people and money)
- > Expedient plan process
- > Plan in response to need/demand, don't plan until you need it
- > Take environment and weather into account
- Make the plan fit your situation/needs/appropriate scale; still need strategic direction

Weed management

Lessons learned for success are:

- > There is a process, follow it
- > Initial survey for early detection
- ➤ Attack while you can the longer you wait the more it costs and the harder it gets
- ➤ Risk assessment and prioritization
- ➤ Pick a species where you can make a difference
- ➤ Community consultation/ stakeholder involvement what's in is for them?
- ➤ Act: make commitments to resources people/money/training
- ➤ Don't stop until you are done "FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION"
- ➤ Monitor and feedback/evaluate

Avoid the following:

- ➤ Poorly planned projects e.g. wrong/sloppy methods
- Unsafe practices
- ➤ Inadequate consultation
- > Skipping evaluations
- ➤ Inflexible plans/ Inflexible leaders
- Rigid planning

Island restoration

Lessons learned for success are:

➤ Plan!

- -Agree on good goal / S.M.A.R.T Objectives (start, small/realistic = SUCCESS
- ➤ Understand social, economic and ecological issues
- ➤ Be prepare to adapt
- Social Marketing
- ➤ Include good science
- ➤ Include Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- > Engage technical assistance
- ➤ Identify and empower a project manager (local)
- Stakeholder involvement from the onset Stakeholders are particular people with interests
- Really need to focus on the decision-makers immediately above you
- ➤ Take bureaucrats to an island for a day and show them what you are doing; success is often overlooked
- > GISD is an ideal repository for info on technical inputs for a particular species

Network needs identified

PILN teams analyzed where network support and assistance was required to strengthen their capacity in realizing their project Action Plans, summarized below (see Annex 4):

- Technical expertise on:
 - o Tilapia eradication in Pohnpei
 - o Feral pigeon eradication in Pohnpei
 - o Wedelia control methods in Niue
- Develop guidelines for:
 - o Merremia peltata control for various countries
 - o New invasive species monitoring and reporting, for all countries
 - New roads to minimize invasive species establishment, using the Compact road of Palau as a model.
- Workshops on specific topics:
 - o Social marketing
 - o Rodent eradication from tropical islands
 - o Monitoring and evaluation of invasive species management
- Network assistance and advise on:
 - o Influencing policy, and political advocacy
 - Strengthening legislation and harmonizing compliance mechanisms
 - o Producing and sharing promotional & educational materials
 - o Information on and access to funding sources and help with proposals
 - o Peer review of plans and project proposals

PILN work programme defined for the 2-year pilot programme

Team Action Plans

Each PILN team developed draft Action Plans for one of their two priority projects, and received feedback from the rest of the group. Complete draft Action Plans can be found in Annex 5.

American Samoa

Goal: Eradicate Strawberry Guava from American Samoa

Objective: Eradicate Strawberry Guava from American Samoa by the end of 2008

Strategy 1: Obtain Public Support

Actions:

- o Consultant with land owners June 2006
- o Media campaign (Newspaper, Radio, TV) (August 2006)

Strategy 2: On the ground eradication

Actions:

- o Manual and Chemical Control (Garlon) by June 2007
- o Monitoring and evaluation to continue 10 years post eradication
- Search for new infestations especially bat roosts plus Samoan starling (by June 2008)

American Samoa team tasks	WHO (LEADS)	BY WHEN
Strawberry Guava		
 Community and political support Presentation of office of Samoa 	Tavita	December 2006
(OSA)	Team A. Samoa &	December
 Family consultation and cooperation 	Matai & OSA	2006
Monitor SG population/Naturalized	Eric Hanson	On-going
population	Foi	June 2006
New infestations	Evelyn	June 2006
2. Curriculum DevelopmentDraft curriculum		
Presenter:		
Ike-IS pesticides Foi – Native & Invasive Animal Eric – IS management		
Tavita – Forest & Trees	Tavita	Wednesday,
Information transfer		June 1, 2006 10:00 am
Media reportTV, Radio, Newspaper	Tavita	Week of 6/5

Assist Team Report	Tavita	October 2006
 4. Official Recognition by ASG Meeting of Director's Various unidentified legal and administrative steps Signed MOA 	Ike Ike	December 2006 June 2007
5. Samoa Tamaligi ControlTechnical Expertise Exchange	James A./Tavita	TBA
PII Funding for Panama Rubber Demonstration Project	Eric,Tavita, Alan	

Guam

Goal: Control bud rot Phytophthora. palmivora on Betelnut in Guam

Objective 1: Secure funding by June 2007

Objective 2: Bud rot free Betelnut orchards by 2009

Actions:

- o Identify stakeholders (July 2007)
- o Identify infection sites (September 2007)
- o Public Awareness Program (September 2007)
- o Cut down infected trees (December 2007)
- o Monitor Betelnut (long term)- (January 2008)
- o Monitor other hosts (long term)- (January 2008)

Guam team tasks	Who (lead)	When
1. Public Outreach	Dava Listan Ha	Can OC
a) Man, Land & Sea articles	Dave - Listen Up Campaign & Invasive Frogs;	Sep 06
	Adrienne - PILN; Budrot – George	Sep 06 Sep 06
b) Environmental Ed Committee	Adrienne & Diane Dave & Paul	August 06
c) RISC d) GISAC	Diane	July 06 August 06
e) Biosecurity Awareness for Cocos Island Project	Diane	Diane - ongoing, sign purchase by Oct 06
f) Radio talk show - Where we live - various invasive topics to choose from (snakes, rats, frogs, budrot)		Ongoing, every Tuesday
2. Finalize Bud Rot Control on Guam Plan	George & Diane	
3. Funding for Budrot Project	Adrienne	

<u>Niue</u>

Goal: Over the next 2 years reduce the areas affected with *Wedelia tribolata* Objective: To contain the *Wedelia* affected sites within Niue to 0.7 hectares. (Risk: Funding – if not available, this plan is not possible)

Strategy 1: Public awareness campaigns- Media, radio, TV, Poster, Billboards, Pamphlets, Schools, and Communities

Strategy 2: Control with herbicides- Interceptor, Hitman, etc. (Risk: Limited funds from Niue government and unavailability of funds from donors)

Strategy 3: Regular monitoring of affected sites on a 3 monthly basis.

Niue team	tasks	WHO (LEADS)	BY WHEN
1.	Submit Palau report & Weed plan (from Wellington) to Minister for DAFF, Minister for Environment Hon. B. Vakaah & to the Directors of both DAFF & Environment Department	Charlene, New, Colin	June 2006
2.	Meet with DAFF, Environment, Education Department, Broadcasting Corporation of Niue, Ministers & village councils.	Cris, Colin, Charlene	June 2006
	 Review and formalize Invasive Species Committee Species Plan 	Charlene, Cris, Colin	June 2006 (3 weeks)
3.	Invasive Species Committee to review & formalize Invasive Species Plan	Colin, Cris, Charlene,Brendon, Sauni, Patrick	August- September 2006
4.	Invasive Species Committee to draft Action Plans & submits to donors.	Charlene	September 2006
5.	Implement Invasive Species Plan i.e. Public Awareness, control & eradication programs setting timelines for each activity.	Charlene, Colin, Antony	(4 months) On-going
6.	Committed to keeping PILN updated with Invasive Species activities on Niue.	Charlene	On-going

Palau

Goal: Protect Palau Forest along the Compact Road from Kebeas (*Merremia peltata*). Objective 1: By the end of 2008, no more trees of the forest margin along the compact road are covered with Kebeas

Strategy 1: Mobilize and support communities, state government and land owners to control Kebeas within their state.

Actions:

- o Identify key agencies and lead staff.
- o Identify key community and state leaders.
- o Conduct community meetings in all 10 states within 6 months (include awareness of other weeds.
- Work with communities that are ready to work (maximum of 4 states to start.

Strategy 2: Demonstrate Success with Lead Communities.

Actions:

- Document current situation
- o Identify sites for control
- o Communities will conduct control activities
- o Document impact of control activities
- o Publicize success of control effort
- o Develop standard methods of Kebeas

Strategy 3: Mobilize Communities which have not began control activities.

Actions: Refer to Strategy 1

Long Term Objectives:

- On going maintenance-continue control Kebeas Indefinitely
- Control of Kebeas will be extended to all road in Babeldaob
- Control of Invasive Vines will be implemented in all the States in Palau
- Conduct public Awareness for monitoring and reporting new invasive weeds along the compact road
 - ❖ As part of Community meeting

Palau team tasks	Who (Lead)	By When?
Present results to NISC		June 6
Convene meeting	Joel	
Presentation	Yalap	
Participate	Whole team	
Radio talk show	Whole team	May 30
Finalize plan & implement	Whole team &	By end of
Finalize plan	others Joe, Yalap &	June
Implement	others	

Present PILN results and Palau plan to elected and traditional leaders & private sector	whole team, especially Joel, Joe & Yalap	
Share PILN result with Regional Invasive Species Committee (RISC)	Joel & Fred with Dave Gee	Mid-June
Media – several, including editing DVD	Mainly Joel	Mid-June
Baseline marine survey	Joel & Marine NISC members	Before next PILN mtg
Communicate with PILN teams & Coordinator		

<u>Pohnpei</u>

Goal: Conserve biodiversity and Livelihood

Objectives: Eradicate 100% of the following: False Kava, Mile-a-Minute, ivy Gourd, and Chain of Love by 2008

Strategy 1: Secure additional funding (20K/year)

Actions:

o Prepare proposal for identified donors by July 2006

Strategy 2: Conduct island-wide public awareness

Actions:

- o Monthly radio programs begin by July 2006.
- o Quarterly newsletter
- o Participate in social marketing workshop ASAP
- o Complete meetings with local government by August 2006
- o Complete leaflets of all 4 targeted species by September 2006
- o Complete seminars at schools by September 2006

Strategy 3: Strengthen involvement of concerned authorities

Actions:

- o Present plan to PRMC in the July 2006 meeting
- Task Force decides how to deal with concerned authorities in July 2006 Meeting.
- o Dr. Jill Key meeting with Lt. Governor and others by end of May 2006

Strategy 4: Implementation

Actions:

o Eradication of 95% of all targeted species by end of 2007

Strategy 5: Monitor and evaluate

Actions:

- o Monthly update of database
- o Produce summary reports in all Taskforce Meeting

Pohnpei team tasks	By who (lead)?	When?
Dr. Jill Key's visit and meet with Pohnpei Invasive Taskforce	Konrad	June 06
James visit and meet with GEF Focal Point	Roseo	Early June 06
Produce press release on PILN meeting in Palau and Dr. Key's and James visit/meeting	John	Early June
Review and finalize strategy Action Plan for our targeted Invasive weeds.	Konrad	End of July 2006
Exchange expertise with Palau and develop	Donald, David	July 2006
Strategic Action Plan for eradicating Tilapia		
Develop Strategic Action Plan for eradication of pigeon (exotic)	Konrad, David	End of August 2006
Begin development of Strategic Action Plan for eradication of Marine Invasive.	Konrad	ASAP
Formalize the Pohnpei invasive Species task Force.	Konrad	End of July

Samoa

Goal: To secure funding to carry out activities to manage and prevent invasive species in Samoa.

Objectives:

- 1. That within two years to gain significant support from key national and local political leaders and decision makers through the endorsement of the NIASIAP, especially from education, finance, MNREM and MAF minister.
- 2. That within 4 years have established and strengthen inter governmental linkages between education, MNREM, MAF, Health, Finance required for the implementation of at least one national IAS management project.
- 3. To secure external and internal funding to the amount of at least \$500,000 US dollars for the implementation of at least one national IAS management project.

Strategy 1: Conduct a nation wide awareness campaign about the impact of Invasive Species on Public Health, Tourism, Agriculture, Education and Biodiversity.

Actions:

o Through the invasive species committee develop appropriate television, radio and newspaper media spots on impact of Invasive Species (June 2007)

 Through the Invasive Species Committee develop appropriate stickers, posters and leaflets, which address key invasive issues for Samoa's school, youth and General public by June 2007.

Strategy 2: To draw to the attention of the five key cabinets, ministers and senior staff the need for a major national project, which addresses Invasive Management.

Actions:

- o Arrange for visits to key invasive sites for targeted ministers and for all ministers.
- o Establish a round table panel of the 5 keys. Minister to develop a national project, which addresses invasive species. (June 2007)

Strategy 3: To identify key external donors which will support a national Invasive Species Management project. (June 2007)

Samoa	team tasks	Who (Lead)	By When?
1.	Organize a PILN Team meeting within two weeks of arrival back to Samoa with entire Team.	Natashia	Next couple of months
2.	Presentation of Palau Team.	Whole team	Next couple of months
3.	To Formulize SNITT in Samoa so that it is recognized by the Government.	Pati (Coordinator)	Next couple of months
4.	To refine strategic project.	SNITT	Next couple of months
5.	Newspaper article in Sunday newspaper of Palau meeting.	MNREM Capacity build Section	Next couple of months
6.	Article for MAF newsletter.	Joseph & Billy (MAF)	Next couple of months
7.	Article for MNREM newsletter.	Natashia (MNREM)	Next couple of months
8.	Information on MAF website about meeting.	Joseph	Next couple of months
9.	DVD of Monday and Friday coverage to be given to TV stations for news item.	Natashia	Next couple of months
10.	Follow up on rattan Project.	Mark	Next couple of months
11.	Complete ranking method of invasive plant species in Samoa to find to 20. a. Circulate out b. Design posters of top 20 to build awareness c. Ranking method of fauna to be done by Samaui.	Natashia	Next couple of months
12.	Strengthen government minister linkage	MNREM, MOH, MOF, MAF, MESC	Next couple of months

13. Round table meeting of SNITT and ministers from ministers mentioned above.14. Get Marine section (MNREM) and fisheries section (MAF) involve in SNITT.		Next couple of months
15. Cabinet report about the meeting.	Natashia, Billy, & Joseph	Next couple of months
 Keep in Con act with PILN Teams form around the Pacific. 		Next couple of months

Partner and CEPF grantee commitments

Advocate / engender focal points/ network

Some PILN partners and CEPF grantees also defined their next steps.

French Polynesia tasks	Who (lead)	When
Finalize "Vahanga" not eradication operational plan" through last meeting with partners from PII-DOC and local/stakeholders (church,local users, Ministry of Environment).	Philippe Raust	
Cook Island – Ed Saul – tasks	Who (lead)	When
Report to TIS council on workshop		
Arrange newspaper (etc.) newspaper		
Suggest to TIS and other entities that Cook Island PILN be formed.		
Remove "Chain of Love" from my garden.		
Write proposal to ISSG to finish Suwarrow rat eradication.		
Fiji – James Millet – tasks	Who (lead)	When
Advocacy to develop government capacity	James	

<u>James</u>

USFS -	- Anne Marie LaRosa tasks	Who (Lead)	By When?
1.	Information to Palau Team on Pest Hotline database		
2.	Work with Warea Orapa and Joel Miles proposal for weed mapping on Palau		
3.	Prepare on PILN for FS Invasive Species Conference		
4.	Send copies of 4 TV spots in Hawaii's "DON'T PLANT A PEST CAMPAIGN" to Jill for posting		
5.	Coordinate my Hawaii's Team for next round		
6.	Work with Konrad Englberger to get Forestry folks in Pohnpei involved with my team.		

CEPF - John Watkin tasks	Who (Lead)	By When?
Revise small grant report template to provide relevant information.	John	June 3
Case studies & lessons learned		End of June
PII	Philip	
Translate material information/ from French PII	Timp	Ad hoc
Scientific Publications-Responsibility of grantees		October
CGIS final report to RNHP, Publicly available	John	2006
Article about launch of new GISP interface-when funds		June 3
occurs		June 3
Resource Implementation Team Terms of reference	John Watkin	June 3

PII – Souad tasks	Who (Lead)	By When?
Announce PILN launch to ISSG network	Souad	
Liaise with SSC newsletter editor to explore opportunity for including a short article on PILN in next issue of SSC newsletter.	Souad	
Undertake to respond to queries for information from members of the PILN.	Souad	

TNC – Audrey tasks		
	Who (Lead)	By When?
Finalize SPREP-TNC Agreement #2 and transfer funds for PILN support	Audrey	June 30
RARE & SeaWeb contacts to Jill for social marketing next steps/workshop		
Work with Jill to follow up on Funding session Share PILN meeting results & team needs with John Randall, Director of TNC's Global Invasive Initiative to see how he can help, especially for weeds		

PILN mission and terms of reference defined, logo reviewed

Meeting participants elected to keep the PILN Mission for the time being and change the logo, to adopt a pictorial form in line with the Launch design featuring a canoe as a regional symbol.

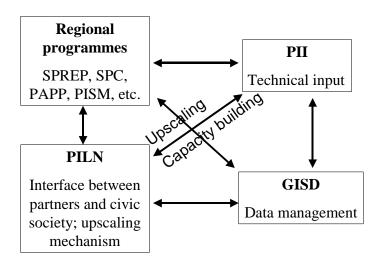
The artist who designed the Launch logo will produce 3 outlines for presentation to the group and selection of the final design.

Agreement on how to measure PILN effectiveness

Measuring the success of PILN was discussed as an emerging issue by a group of 12 participants. It was agreed that general rules to follow are:

- Keep it simple, use measure already being done
- Use existing priorities
- Integrate priorities where possible

A framework was established, defining the relationship between the different current invasive species programmes:



It was agreed that the benchmarks developed to track PILN's progress and impact are appropriate for measuring success and they were reviewed by the group.

	Established benchmark	Revision and comments
YEAR	1 (2004)	No comments.
1)	Funds are obtained to appoint a start-up consultant - <i>ACHIEVED</i>	
2)	Country interest in the network is gauged by a questionnaire-based survey and follow-up visits – <i>ACHIEVED</i>	
3)	Key regional agencies are recruited to join PILN as partners <i>ACHIEVED</i>	
YEAR	2 (2005)	1) Signed MOU sent out by
	The interagency partnership to launch PILN is formally established through an MOU with strong support from government and nongovernment agencies throughout the Pacific. – <i>ACHIEVED</i>	Dave Butler in May 2006. 2) In process. 3) No comment. 4) The percentage of indigenous Pacific
2)	Funding is secured or pledged for the first two years of PILN activities (2006 - 2007). – <i>IN PROCESS</i>	islanders participating needs to be quantified.
3)	A coordinator is appointed and a Secretariat is established at SPREP – <i>ACHIEVED</i>	
4)	Founding teams are recruited, including at least one multi-agency team from Polynesia,	

Melanesia and Micronesia with a committed team leader and at least two core members that meet the PILN team criteria. More than 50% of PILN team participants are indigenous Pacific islanders. – *TEAMS RECRUITED* 2006

YEAR 3 (2006)

- The Network is officially launched and holds its first meeting. IN PROCESS for May 2006
- 2) At least one "demonstration project" has been initiated or strengthened by each team aimed at developing national (and/or regional) IAS management capacity for individuals and agencies, as well as achieving declared conservation outcomes.
- 3) Measures of success for the PILN are identified and the baseline is set for early indicators.

- 1) Meeting held 22 26 May 2006, in Palau.
- 2) Each team developed draft Action Plans for one of their two priority projects during the meeting.
- 3) It is recommended that these benchmarks are adopted as the measures of success.

YEAR 4 (2007)

- At least 50% of active PILN members report satisfaction and specific benefits in dealing with IAS tasks from participating in the initiative
- 2) At least 50% of PILN teams have made measurable progress on one of their priority projects
- 3) At least 50% of PILN teams have secured additional funds for IAS management projects as a result of being in the PILN.
- 4) PILN teams identify at least one regional IAS issue that they want to collaborate to address.
- 5) At least 50% of PILN teams report improved collaboration (nationally or regionally) as a result of their involvement with the Network
- 6) Demand for continuation and expansion of PILN network is determined by founding PILN teams.
- 1) To be assessed evaluating satisfaction with the meeting. In addition, a questionnaire will be sent out to all meeting participants 6 months after the meeting as a form of follow-up, to evaluate the benefits received. Format is to be a simple template, to be developed together with PII.

YEAR 5 (2008)

- 1) 80% of founding PILN teams report measurable progress on at least one of their priority projects
- 2) More PILN teams have secured additional

Comment: Benchmarks need to include measures on:

- Policy changes influenced
- Prevention number of

- funds for IAS management projects as a result of being in the PILN.
- 3) PILN teams are working together on at least one regional IAS issue.
- 4) The PILN baseline is set for all indicators.
- 5) First "report card" of PILN indicators is prepared and circulated widely. Evaluation of PILN effectiveness and lessons learned is completed
- 6) PILN members and partners co-design future network activities, secure funding and recruit new teams, if appropriate.

successful interventions and number of new established species.

Palau meeting evaluation

In total, 34 participants completed an evaluation form at the end of the Palau meeting; see Annex 6 for the evaluation form used. Of the 34, 8 expressed themselves as "satisfied", 25 "very satisfied" and 1 as "very very satisfied" with the meeting; no-one was dissatisfied.

Full results of the evaluation are given in Annex 7, giving details of where the meeting exceeded expectations, the specific benefits received, and participants comments for improvements listed with proposed action noted by each one.

Other outputs

Launch of the CDROM version of the Global Invasive Species Database

The CD ROM version of the Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) was officially launched on 23 May 2006 at a ceremony on Carp Island, Palau.

A 45-minute workshop was held that aimed to introduce participants to the Global Invasive Species Database and its usefulness in helping to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful species. In addition, an evaluation of relevant elements (prevention, intentional introductions, unintentional introductions, risk analysis, management, awareness raising, contributing information) of the GISD was carried out.

The high overall scores (73-96%) suggest that GISD information is relevant and useful and this is confirmed by the positive nature of other comments made. Help was offered to cross-check information and also offered to contribute additional information. It was also suggested that the GISD would benefit from input from both environmental and crop protection units of a country, and there were suggestions to include specific species (e.g. *Piper auritum*) and to provide more eradication case studies. See Annex 8.

Revision of the Regional Invasive Species Strategy

An outline of the SPREP Regional Invasive Species Strategy was presented. Of the 40 people present, 23 knew of the existence of the strategy and 8 had read at least part of it before. As input to the revision of the strategy participants were asked to review the seven strategic directions: information, awareness, infrastructure, protocols, legislation, funding and linkages. In a prioritisation exercise six key strategic directions were identified which are, in order of priority:

- 1. Linkages
- 2. Information
- 3. Awareness
- 4. Physical infrastructure, taxonomy
- 5. Protocols
- 6. Legislation

Funding is seen as a means to achieving these strategies. Further details are given in Annex 9.

CEPF project management feedback

The CEPF grantees met with PII and CEPF staff to discuss issue relating to their project cycle management process. Conclusions are presented in the form of + (positive feedback) and delta (things which require changing).

Positive feedback	Things which require change
Small grants (< US\$ 20,000) are very quick and efficient	Fire wall problems with Grant Writer software
Project up and coming and country support (PAPP)	Funds were disseminated too late
Demonstration Projects principle is excellent providing: - capacity development - advocacy potential	2 "Masters" (PII and CEPF) causing reporting lines to be unclear
Collaboration with PII very constructive	Poor communication - reasons for rejection - donor constraints
Meeting with partners to improve understanding	No funds after 30 th August
	Need for additional funds to implement PAPP
	Better communication on application procedure
	Time frame too short to do the eradication work
	Fine line between "guiding" and "instructing"

It was recommended that information from the demonstration projects be integrated into the Global Invasive Species Database.

Inventory of current invasive species activities

Participants initiated an inventory of current invasive species activities under the headings biosecurity, birds, communication, insects & pests, mammals, marine invasives, other, pathogens, quarantine and reptiles. Under each heading were noted the activity, who is doing it and who is the contact for further information.

The results are presented in Annex 10.

Conclusions

The meeting was a great success, nearly all of the agreed objectives were achieved, participants reported a high degree of satisfaction, and listed many benefits realised. The only objective not achieved, "To identify a regional invasive species project of common interest, to be developed over the next year or so" will be tackled as part of the process of revision of the regional invasive species strategy and it is appropriate that it is done in this context.

Considerable momentum has now been generated, both within the meeting participants as a result of the weeks activities and also more widely thanks to the wide media coverage for the meeting, locally, regionally and internationally. A new logo is being designed based on participants suggestions and the network now also has a slogan, "Failure is not an option". In early 2007 the second group of founding teams will meet, and the American Samoa Invasive Species Team has formally offered to host the PILN second annual meeting in August 2007. Lessons learned will be reviewed and expanded in these meetings and draft Action Plans developed and revised.

These documents can be seen as initiating a process of sharing and learning within the network aimed at building technical capacity in invasive species management. The next challenge is to ensure that the talk is effectively translated into on-the-ground action so that PILN achieves its goal of reducing the impact of invasive species to biodiversity and sustainable development in the Pacific.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my gratitude to Joel Miles, Joe Tiobech, Yalap Yalap and Fred Sengebau of the Palau team for all their hard work in the organizing and running of this meeting. Joel especially deserves a special thank you for his tireless and excellent organizing. The Palau invasive species team supported us throughout. Hilda and Alice did a superb job of recording the sessions. A special thank you also goes to the facilitation team, Audrey Newman and Anne Marie LaRosa who made the experience fun as well as rewarding. The Vice President of Palau, Elias Camsek Chin, honoured us with his presence at both the opening and closing ceremonies, and inspired us by coining the meeting slogan. Lastly I would like to thank all the participants for their unreserved enthusiasm and exceptional contribution to this meeting – it is a privilege to work with you.

Thanks to our sponsors

PILN would like to offer sincere thanks to the following sponsors for their invaluable support to the network and this meeting:

Financial support:

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund – Regional National Heritage Programme
(Australia)
US State Department
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.
Mobil Oil Micronesia
The Nature Conservancy

- ISN
- Hawaii
- Englehard FDN

<u>In-kind support:</u>

Secretariat of the Pacific Community
US Forest Service
Pacific Invasives Initiative
Conservation International
Palau Office of Environmental Response and Co-ordination
Guam

List of other documents relevant to the meeting

Annexes

- Annex 1 Participants list
- Annex 2 Final Agenda
- Annex 3 Lessons learned
- Annex 4 Teams network needs
- Annex 5 Team Action Plans
- Annex 6 Meeting evaluation form
- Annex 7 Results from the meeting evaluation
- Annex 8 Evaluation of the Global Invasive Species Database
- Annex 9 Regional invasive species strategy review
- Annex 10 Inventory of expertise

Background documents

- Draft Regional invasive species strategy for the Pacific. 2000. (Word)
- Final draft of the CEPF Ecosystem Profile Polynesia Micronesia Biodiversity Hotspot. 2004. (pdf)
- Invasive species in the Pacific: A technical review and draft regional strategy. SPREP. 2000. (pdf)
- Palau National Invasive Species Committee Annual Report 2005. (pdf)
- Palau National Invasive Species Strategy. 2004. (pdf)
- Palau Operation "Counter-Invasion" 2006. (pdf)
- Participants expectations. (Word)
- PILN brochure (Publisher)
- PILN Mission and Workplan. (Word)
- Strategy for Invasive Weeds, Republic of Palau. 2004. (pdf)

Annex 1. Participants list

Pacific Invasives Learning Network Launch and First Annual Meeting, 22 to 26 May Palau 2006

Name	Institution or team	Contact details
Adelle Lukes Isechal	Palau CEPF grantee	680 488 3993
Adrienne Loerzel	Guam PILN team	671 475-9213
		loerzela@mail.gov.gu
Alan Saunders	PILN collaborator, Pacific	64 9 3737599 ext 86805
	Invasives Initiative	a.saunders@auckland.ac.nz
Alice Pangelinan	Palau meeting support	680 488 8171
Anne Marie LaRosa	PILN Partner, United States	1 808 933 8121 ext 115
	Forestry Service	alarosa@fs.fed.us
Audrey Newman	PILN Partner, The Nature	1 808 567 6834
,	Conservancy	anewman@tnc.org
Billy Enosa	Samoa PILN team	685 23416 / 20605
,		fbenosa@lesamoa.net
Charlene Funaki	Niue PILN team	683 4032
		Charlene_funaki61@yahoo.co.nz
Colin Etuata	Niue PILN team	683 4032
Craig Morley	PILN Partner, University of the	679 323 2559
	South Pacific, and CEPF grantee	morley_c@usp.ac.fj
David Gee	Guam PILN team	671 735-3960
		browntreesnake@hotpop.com
Diane Vice	Guam PILN team	671 735-3990
		dianevice@gmail.com
Donald David	Pohnpei PILN team	691 320 2795
		pnimd@mail.fm
Edward Saul	Cook Islands CEPF grantee	
Eric Hanson	American Samoa PILN team	684-699-1575
		e.hanson@ascc.as
Fred Sengebau	Palau PILN team	680 488 8171
		ffms@palaunet.com
George Wall	Guam PILN team	671 735-2140
		gwall@uog.edu
Jackson Phillip	Pohnpei PILN team	691 320 6468
	-	jphillip@comfsm.fm
James Atherton	PILN Partner, Conservation	685 21593
	International CEPF Grants	jatherton@conservation.org
	Manager	
James Millet	Fiji CEPF grantee, Birdlife	679 3313492
	International	James@birdlifepacific.org.fj
Jill Key	PILN coordinator	685 21929 ext 276
		jillk@sprep.org
Joape Kuruyawa	Fiji CEPF grantee	679 3410608/3590254
		joapekuruyawa@gmail.com

Name	Institution or team	Contact details
Joel Miles	PILN Partner, Office of	680-488-6950 ext 243
	Environmental Response and	jmiles@palau-oerc.net
	Coordination, and team	
	coordinator.	
John Watkin	Critical Ecosystem Partnership	j.watkin@conservation.org
	Fund	
John Wichep	Pohnpei PILN team	691 320 5133/7523/4969
		john_wichep@mail.fm
Joseph Tauati	Samoa PILN team	685 20924
		jettauati@hotmail.com,
		techpolicy@samoaquarantine.gov.ws
Joseph Tiobech	Palau PILN team	680 488 8171
		palauforestry@palaunet.com
Konrad Englberger	Pohnpei PILN team	691 320 7523
		ppmicronesia@mail.fm
Lilomalava Ike	American Samoa PILN team	684-633-2304
Sagaga		sagaga7@yahoo.com
Pulemagafa S.	American Samoa PILN team	684-633-4456
Faaumu		siaifoi@yahoo.com
Mark Bonin	Samoa PILN team	685 21860
		bonin@lesamoa.net
Michael Browne	PILN Partner, Invasive Species	64 9 3737599
	Specialist Group/Global Invasive	m.browne@auckland.ac.nz
N	Species Database	005 00400
Natasha Doherty	Samoa PILN team and CEPF	685 30100
	grantee	Natasha.Doherty@mnre.gov.ws
New T. Aue	Niue PILN team	683 4032
Niupoe Antony	Niue PILN team	684 4011 / 4021
Togiakona	B. I	tukitan@yahoo.co.nz
Pamela Skilang	Palau meeting support	680 488 8171
Philippe Raust	French Polynesia CEPF grantee	689 506209
D M	Dalama DII Nama and OFDE	sop@manu.pf
Roseo Marquez	Pohnpei PILN team and CEPF	691 320 5409
Council Davidais	grantee	cspterrestrial@mail.fm
Souad Boujelais	PILN Partner, Pacific Invasives	64 9 3737599
Toulto Toels	Initiative	s.boudjelas@auckland.ac.nz
Tavita Togia	PILN collaborator, National Park	684 633 7082
	of American Samoa, and team	Tavita_Togia@nps.gov
Marga Orong	coordinator.	670 2270294
Warea Orapa	PILN Partner, Secretariat of the	679 3379284
Volon Volon	Pacific Community	WareaO@spc.int 680 488 3993
Yalap Yalap	Palau PILN team	
		pcs@palaunet.com

PILN inventory of current projects

BIOSECURITY

1.

- Biosecurity workshop
- Hawaii
- Prevention
- Earl Campbell-USFWS/Chris Pouttock-Hawaii Conservation Alliance
- Anne Mary Larosa

2.

- Biosecurity plan-protocol and awareness
- Guam-Cocos Island
- Prevention
- Diane Vice/Dana Lujan/Dan Vice

BIRDS

1.

- All birds
- Niue
- Prevention
- John Talagi
- (Environment Department-Niue)
- Charlene Funaki

2.

- Pigeons
- Bats
- Niue
- Prevention
- John talagi/Anthony Fogiakona
- Anthony Fogiakona

3.

- City Pigeons
- Guam
- Local reductions
- Dan Vice/USDA Wildlife Serivces
- Diane Vice

4.

- Mynas
- American Samoa

- Control or Eradication
- Josh Seamon
- Eric Hanson

5.

- City Pigeons-Columba Lidia
- Palau
- Eradicate/Public Awareness
- Joel Miles/Kamen Chin
- Joel Miles
- We think we have succeeded

6.

- Myna-Aucidotheres Tirstrs
- Mangava Id, Cook Island
- Assessment of population, impacts (if any) on other birds, esp-endemic King Fisher(tanga'oo,todinhampes ruficdlais), consultation with community in whether or not control/eradication needed/wanted
- Gerald McCormick, The Lpukane Society, Ravotonga, Cook Islands (682) 20959
- Ed Saul

Information Sharing & Communication/Media

1.

- Biosecurity
- > Poster
- ➤ Leaflets
- > Pest Alerts
- ➤ Pest Advisory Leaflets
- > SPC-Suva, Fiji Office
- > By: Konrad Engelber or Emil Adams
- ➤ E-mail:ppmicronesia@mail.fm/EmilA@spc.int

2. Awareness

- ➤ Bisecurity, wildlife recovery, Guam rail and other native species
- ➤ Guam (Cocos Island)
- > Prevent (re) introduction of pest species/general public awareness
- ➤ Dianne Vice
- > By: Dianne Vice

3. Public Awareness

- > Daff Weekly Radio
- Niue
- Public Awareness
- ➤ Charlene Funaki

Daff, Niue

By: Charlene Funala Daff-Niue

4. Media

- Listen up Guam media
 Campaign & Collateral development
- ➤ Guam
- ➤ Early detection/Public support
- ➤ Diane Vice
- ➤ By: Diane Vice

5. Communication

- ➤ Bi-monthly TV program
- ➤ American Samoa
- ➤ Education/Outreach
- > Pito Malele
- > By: Eric Hanson

6. Communication

- ➤ Collecting key IAS information & making it available via Web and CD
- ➤ Global, but based in New Zealand
- > Research, then expert review, then improve and post online
- ➤ Michael Browne: m.browne@auckland.ac.nz

INSECTS & PESTS

1.

- Ants/Centipedes/Fruit Flies
- Niue
- Control-Sprays (aircraft sprays)
- Niue PILN team
- New T. Ane

2.

- Eradication of Yellow Crazy Ant
- Nuukele and Nuuha, Samoa
- Expert to contact: Kirsk Laobolt and Phil Ester
- School Biological Science, Victoria University of Wellington
- New Zealand
- Natasha, Samoa

3.

- Papaya Mealybug
- Palau

- Entise archipelago
- Biologocal Control
- Fred Sengebau
- Joel Miles

4.

- Singapore ant
- Palau-Tobi state
- (Isolated Islands)
- Control/ Eradication, PII support for visibility study
- Sebastian Marino
- Joel Miles

5.

- Asian Cycad Scale
- Control
- Guam
- Control scale to protect endemic cycad/seed banking/translocation
- Audrey Moore/R. Muniappan, UOG
- Dave Gee

6.

- Erithrina Gall Wasp
- Hawaii
- Control/biocontrol
- Ann Mary LaRosa (Control, Mohsen Ramadan-Biocontrol, Mark Wright-Biocontrol, HDOA, UOH
- Ann Mary LaRosa

7.

- Fruit fly homabdiscea
- Tahiti
- Rudolph Putoa-SDR
- Phileffe Raust

8.

- Seashells Scale
 Banana scab moth vegetable crop pests
- American Samoa
- Control
- Mark Schmaediek
- Eric Hanson

INVASIVE LAND ANIMALS

MAMMALS

1

- Pacific Rat Eradication- May 2004
- Swvarrow Atoll national Park Cook Islands
- Possible effects of Rats on seabird populations

Results are of 17 motu, only 2 Rats

These 2 motu were the LEAST important bird islands poisoning eliminated rats from one but not other

Ed Saul, The Pukane society ph/fax (682) 23513 Box 3063 rsinkaya

2

- Rats
- What: Control Eradication
- Where: Tahiti (Fr Poly)
- Why: Kill all
- Who: Anne Gouni (SOP. MANU)
- By: Philippe

3

- Federal Pig Eradication from small Islands
- Palau- Ngerur Island
- Protect turtle nesting beaches
- Division of Fish and Wild Life Protection
- Chief, Kammen Chin
- Coordinator, Henio Kaluuu
- By: Joel Miles

4

- Craig (USP) Fiji
- Cane Toads

5

- Local Pig & Feral Cats
- Niue
- Control-Traps/Guns
- Niue PILN Team
- New-Tana

Niue Land Invasive animal

6

- Monkey (macaque)
- Palau
- Prevent spread from Angaur- local eradication neutering of pet monkeys

- Joel Miles, Yalap Yalap
- Joel Miles
- Also Public Awareness

7

- Eradication of Polynesian Rat (from Nuutele and Nuulua Islands in Samoa
- Expert to contact : David J. Butler

8

- Craig (USP) Fiji
- Mongoose
- Cats
- Dogs
- Rats

9

- Feral Pigs (Sus Scrofa)
- Hawaii
- Control "Local Eradication"
- Hawaiian Volcanoes National Park Howard Hoshide
- Annie Marie LaRosa

10

- Rats
- Cocos Islands Guam
- Eradication
- Dan Vice (USDA Wild Life Services)
- Diane Vice

11

- Pigs and Deer
- Guam
- Control of damages
- Dan Vice
- Diane Vice

Marine Invasives

1.

- Anemone
- Jelly Fish Lake, Palau
- Control and awareness
- Ileb Olkeriil
- Joel Miles

- 2.
- Tilapia
- Palau
- Eradicate-We think we have succeeded
- Joel Miles
- Joel Miles
- 3.
- Baseline survey
- Palau-parts of entry
- To know we have
- Who?/Andrew Buaman,OERC/Joel Miles
- This is something we need help with
- Joel Miles
- 4.
- Snakeheads
- Guam
- Control
- Brent Tibbats-Department of Agriculture
- Adrienne Loerzel
- 5.
- Crown of Thorns
- Niue
- Prevention
- Charlene Funaki/Jay Talagi/Bvendon Passi-DAFF,Niue
- Charlene Funaki-DAFF, Niue

OTHER:

- 1. Cooperation:
 - > Western Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council
 - > Palau, Yap, Guam, CNMI
 - ➤ Coordination, mutual support, cooperation
 - > Joel Miles, David Gee

By:Joel Miles

2. Contingency planning for highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) with farm animals.

By: Contact Konrad Englberger SPC Plant Protection Advisor E-mail: ppmicronesia@mail.fm

- 3. Monitoring:
 - > Survey of lizards species present on Cocos Atoll
 - Guam (Cocos)
 - > Determine species extinct
 - Find impact of rats
 - ➤ Guam rail on lizards
 - > By: Dave Gee
- 4. Planning
 - National strategy, policy, and implementation plan
 - Palau
 - ➤ Coordinate & Prioritize
 - ➤ Joel Mile
 - > By: Joel Miles

PATHOGENS & MICRO-ORGANISM

- 1.
- Papaya ring spot
- Guam
- Evaluation of resistant (Transgenic) cultivars
- George Wall
- 2.
- Panama Wilt
- Guam
- Evaluation and propagation of resistant cultivars
- George Wall
- 3.
- Taro Leaf Blight
- Guam
- Propagation of resistant cultivars: description
- George Wall
- 4.
- Bud Rot of Betelnut
- Guam
- Identification and control

• George Wall

5.

- Pohnpei
- Anthracnose resistant variety
- Multiplication
- Konrad Englberger

6.

- Eucalyptus rust
- Hawaii
- Prevention/Biosecurity
- Lloyd Loop-USGS/Anne Mary Larosa-USFS/Lois Kilgore-HTOA/Janice Uchida-UOH
- Anne Mary LaRosa

7.

- Taro Leaf Blight
- American Samoa
- Mitigation resistant-varieties
- Fred Broocks
- Eric Hanson

8.

- Leaf Miner (Lime) Bacterial Wilt nematodes
- Niue
- Attack
- Niue PILN Team
- New T Aue

QUARANTINE

1.

- Border control
- Samoa, Apia
- Stop pests/prevention
- Seuseu J. Tauati
- Seuseu J. Tauati

2.

- Equipment inspection room at airport
- Palau
- Facilitate inspection & prevent escapes
- Fred Sengebau

- Joel Miles
- 3.
- Animal
- Tahiti
- Valerie Antras/Service
- Philippe Raust
- 4.
- Provide on import risk
- Quarantine Training
- Drafting Emergency Response Plans
- Production of public awareness materials
- Konrad Engelber(<u>ppmicronesia@mail.fm</u>)
- 5.
- Biosecurity Bill (Draft) Border Control
- Interception, Awareness, Enforcement
- Crispina Konelio, DAFF, Niue
- Charlene Funaki

REPTILES

- 1. Reptiles and Amphibians
 - Brown tree snake
 - Guam
 - Control/ prevention of spread to Pacific
 - Dan Vice USDA Wildlife Services
 - Diane Vice
- 2. Reptiles and Amphibians
 - Monitoring population expansion
 - Guam
 - Early detection
 - Eventual control?
 - Prevention of new introductions
 - Dave Gee/Diane Vice
- 3. Rapid response to Brown Tree Snakes
 - Brown Tree Snake
 - Anywhere other than Guam
 - Control/Prevent/Introductions
 - James Stanford/USGS
 - Diane Vice

Annex 9. Regional Invasive Species Strategy

Strategic directions, in order of priority:

Long term objectives, to be achieved by the strategic directions listed above:

- 7. Funding-----Long-Term means to the above
- 8. Political Support
- 9. Habitat Restoration
- 10. Capacity Management
- 11. Biosecurity/Prevention
- 12. Management-----Eradication, control, impact initiation

Comments:

- SPREP needs to work with SPC
- Document, everyone will read and remember
- Be "Smart"
- The strategy requires an implementation plan
- Include the development of sectors & people capacity building
- Include Marine & others (Invertebrates & Fresh Water)
- The grouping needs to be revised, the current grouping is not logical
- Awareness is a subset in everything
- International Trade Policy needs to be included in protocols
- Include a section on lessons learned
- Include prioritizing threats (Under management)
- Component labels are bad and should be rethought
- Legislation include compliance
- SPC is already working on biosecurity, SPREP should work on other priorities
- Use fewer but key categories, with short lists
- Top 6 reflects now others are longer terms
- Rethink from ground-up ecological link

Annex 8. Evaluation of CD-ROM version of the Global Invasive Species Database

In the Republic of Palau, during a recent workshop to launch the Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN), we held a 45 minute workshop that aimed to introduce participants to the Global Invasive Species Database and its usefulness in helping to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful species. There were 11 practitioners from NZ, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Samoa, Guam, Republic of Palau, American Samoa, Niue and FSM (Pohnpei). We focused on the following topics and evaluated the relevant GISD elements. Participants were asked to rate the GISD material on a 1 -5 scale (with 5 being very good) and the results were transformed into percentages.

Prevention (Summary, General impacts, Description, Habitat, Contacts)

Result: 89%

Intentional introductions (Distribution, Uses, Pathways, Dispersal, Other

comments)
Result: 89%

Unintentional introductions (Pathways, Dispersal, Other comments)

Result: 92%

Risk analysis (Impacts, Distribution, Other comments: "Good source of

information") Result: 90%

Management (Management information and links, Other comments)

Result: 96%

Awareness raising (Sufficient material for a poster? Other comments: "Yes, definitely, Very useful")

Result: 73%

Preliminary assessment (Impacts, Pathways, Other comments: "Could be a bit clearer")

Result: 90%

Contributing info (Please comment on the types of information requested in the guidelines)

Examples of comments: "They look good; they are very helpful to me because I use them during community visits and school visits."

Summary:

The high overall scores (73-96%) suggest that GISD information is relevant and useful and this is confirmed by the positive nature of other comments made:

"Almost all relevant aspects of IAS are covered and often with great detail"
"This is likely to become the database of choice for all practitioners, be they agriculture, biosecurity, conservation, etc. bods"

"Very helpful information to me because I use them during community visits and school visits".

The results also suggest that it would be a good idea to strengthen awareness raising components of the GISD and to provide contacts for this material. An important suggestion was to edit and cross-check information. Help was offered to do this and respondents also offered to contribute additional information. It was also suggested that the GISD would benefit from input from both environmental and crop protection

units of a country, and there were suggestions to include specific species (e.g. *Piper auritum*) and to provide more eradication case studies.

Annex 7. Palau meeting evaluation results

In total, 34 participants completed an evaluation form at the end of the Palau meeting; see Annex 5 for the evaluation form used. Of the 34, 8 expressed themselves as satisfied, 25 very satisfied and 1 as very very satisfied with the meeting; no-one was dissatisfied.

Expectations were exceeded in the following:

- Feeling of camaraderie, new friendships. Togetherness, harmonies, love and care.
- Degree of engagement by the participants and their enthusiasm.
- Networking opportunities and the fruitfulness of the interactions.
- The organisation and attention to detail especially ensuring that financial benefits were shared locally.
- Realising that more existed in the region than known before, seeing how much work is being done and how dedicated people are.
- Quality of facilitation.
- The presence of potential funders.
- Meeting and sharing common problems and interests.
- Distribution of participants that represented different aspects of society.
- The Carp island venue.

Specific benefits received from the meeting were:

- Making contacts, new connections which may lead to new projects, establishing ties. Put faces to names. New contacts to share ideas.
- Huge potential to follow up on a lot of issues.
- Improved understanding of PILN and PII and how they work together.
- A sense of momentum that urgently needs building on.
- Draft project plan. Constructive comments and ideas for drafting action plans.
- Stronger team.
- Shared hardships and obstacles, possibility to learn from other countries who have already done a similar project, etc. Able to follow examples from other countries.
- Clarification of local projects and new potential research projects, new project ideas.
- Face to face networking, forming partnerships directly will be mutually beneficial.
- Increased awareness.
- Contacts for specific expertise, knowing who is working in the same areas or similar species, etc. Technical information. Know who is doing what, where.
- Sharing (of knowledge, skills and success stories) and learning.
- Sparking ideas for programmes at home, to modify and advance IAS issues.
- Exposure to the GISD and the chance to show practitioners what it can do for them.

Comments have been analysed in the format of plus / delta in the following table, noting action to be taken for the deltas.

Delta	Action
More time for discussion and questions	Agreed and will change for future meetings.
Plan venue around travel schedules, avoid	Will do so as far as possible – but note that
checking out the morning of the last day.	you all come from different places so this is
	hard.
Allow time for participants to enjoy diving	Will try to incorporate this in future events as
/ historic aspects	far as possible.
Visit more sites and more varied sites on	Good idea.
the field trip and provide more equipment.	
Put the field trip in the middle of the week.	Agreed.
Provide general field guides etc in the field	Good idea.
trip and information in biodiversity which	
might be seen.	
Fewer activities and more time for them.	Agreed.
Make sure there are appropriate conditions	Agreed.
for powerpoint presentations (not too much	
light).	
More policy level interaction.	Will include where appropriate and where
	participants request it in future meetings.
Obsolete computer technology.	Apologies. For the future I will inform
	participants of the versions to be used and
	update where I can.
Speak slowly, speak clearly.	Agreed, and will encourage all to conform to
	this.
Need to include marine invasives.	Agreed and we need to work to raise
	awareness on this.
Rotation of team members as presenters	Agreed.
More days, more time, longer meeting	Logistics make a 5 day meeting the most
	realistic for most people – sorry.
Allow for informal presentations in the	This has to be balanced with the needs for
evenings.	people to have time to talk informally too.
Showing of documentaries	Good idea.
Avoid non-Pacific examples	Agreed in general – but sometimes they have
	lessons for the Pacific too.
Discussion on control methods	Best pursued in a technical workshop
More time for each teams work details and	Agreed.
technical specifications of activities.	
More group exercises.	Agreed, where appropriate.
More free time to explore locally.	Sure - where it can be balanced with the
	demands of the work programme.
More communication with PILN team	Agreed, more small group work.
members.	
No "baby talk".	Apologies, will try to avoid.

Get more real examples in the teaching	Good idea.				
programme on what to do and what not to					
do.					
More small group work.	Agreed, this is the most productive part.				
Use the lunch period for general slide and	Good idea.				
DVD shows.					
More females.	Up to the teams to include them.				

Annex 6. Meeting Evaluation Form

Pacific Invasives Learning Network Launch and First Annual Meeting, Palau 22 to 26 May 2006

Did anything exceed your expectations in the meeting? If the answer is yes, please tell us what.
What specific benefits, if any, did you get from the meeting?
Did anything fail to meet your expectations? If the answer is yes, please tell us what and why it failed.
What would you change to improve future meetings?
How satisfied do you feel about the meeting overall (circle the one which applies):
very satisfied satisfied not very satisfied dissatisfied
Feel free to make any other comment here:

Annex 5. PILN Team Action Plans. Wednesday May 24, 2006

AMERICAN SAMOA TEAM:

STRAWBERRY GUAVA ERADICATION

GOAL: Eradicate Strawberry GUAVA FROM AMERICAN SAMOA

Objective: Eliminate Strawberry Guava from American Samoa by 2008's end.

Strategy:1: Obtain Public Support

Action:

1. Consultant with land owners – June 2006

2. Media campaign (Newspaper, Radio, TV) (August 2006)

Strategy 2: On the ground eradication

Action:

- 1. Manual and Chemical Control (Garlon) by June 2007
- 2. Monitoring and evaluation to continue 10 years post eradication
- 3. Search for new infestations especially bat roosts plus Samoan starling (by June 2008)

PILN ASSISTANCE

- ➤ Locate Supplemental funding
- ➤ Land Owner negotiation (direct or strategy)
- ➤ Future strategic Needs
 - Legislation

DISCUSSION - Reporter: Ike

- What help do you need with landowners?
 - O Most are easy; some will take years to get them to listen; e.g. one family has a strawberry guava tree that is a memory for them; planted by grandmother in memory of herself
- Noxious weed laws can help you require people to remove plants
 - o Can get example through land grant system
 - o In Australia, it is called a "declared weed"
 - o Palau working on adding this to their quarantine regulations making it illegal to own or harbor that plant
 - O Need a proper mechanism to add a plant to the list

- Hawaii method is too cumbersome;
- Palau/Hawaii/others? happy to share models
- Palau did not need legislation; they needed additional regulations
- Start with the people who are ready to work with you and build momentum before working with the "difficult ones"
- Very grateful for Jill helped kill guava & tamaligi; she goes into the field!!!
- Will beautiful ladies in the field solve the problem???? Sometimes it's trouble...

GUAM TEAM:

"TEAM TANGENT"

GOAL: Control P. palmivora on Betelnut in Guam

Objective 1: Secure funding by June 2007

Objective 2: Phytophthora, free Betelnut orchards by 2009

Objective 2- STRATEGIES

- ➤ Identify stakeholders (July 2007)
- ➤ Identify infection sites (September 2007)
- Public Awareness Program (September 2007)
- > Cut down infected trees (December 2007)
- ➤ Monitor Betelnut (long term)- (January 2008)
- ➤ Monitor other hosts (long term)- (January 2008)

DISCUSSION - Reporter: George

- What do you do if you find an infected mango tree?
 - o Prune, treat with fungicides
- Do you know how to control the spread of this? YES
- Very difficult to control; CNMI controlled it and it returned
 - o Is there a cultural method to reduce infection? (e.g. spacing)
 - o Wider spacing can help but reduces yield
- Funding objective could be a bit SMARTer (indicate approximate amount of funding)
- Could organize around two major strategies public awareness & tree removal & monitoring and then organize actions under each of these
- Also would like to see a regional strategy to prevent spread
- Yap has 12,000 people & \$2million export in betelnut

Niue Action Plan - Wedelia trilobata

Goal:

Over the next 2 years reduce the areas affected with Wedelia tribolata

Objectives:

To contain the Wedelia affected sites within Niue to 0.7 hectares.

(Risk: Funding – if not available, this plan is not possible)

Strategy 1:

 Public awareness campaigns- Media, radio, TV, Poster, Billboards, Pamphlets, Schools, and Communities

Strategy 2:

- Control with herbicides- Interceptor, Hitman, etc.....
 - (Risk: Limited funds from Niue government and unavailability of funds from donors)

Strategy 3:

Regular monitoring of affected sites on a 3 monthly basis.

Month's	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
ST. 1												
ST. 2												
ST. 3												

DISCUSSION – Reporter: New

- Small population easily reached do you need the expensive public awareness methods?
- Routine public awareness is ongoing; special activities every two months
- Posters can be very effective, especially in schools, stores, etc (American Samoa)
- Using paraquat? suggested Round-up but had disastrous effect
- Might want to ID strategic sites to eliminate and include "reduce to # sites" as part of your objective
- Really like the timetable chart
- Are you planning to engage communities in helping?
 - Yes to ID new sites and they will do the work
 - o Can they spray too? No, won't spray for free. Expect the gov't to do the job
- In Pohnpei, controlled Wedelia by using intensive brush-cutting
 - o Tried this but it didn't work
- Why did you chose 0.7 ha?

- o Total eradication by two years not possible
- o That might take 15 years
- Need to develop a budget & funding quickly so can ensure continuity of effort
- Worried about Wedelia because it is affecting the land crab
- Recommend working with PILN, Palau, Pohnpei, Am Samoa and others with experience with Wedelia before you settle on methodology; possible exchange
- Public awareness could include asking people to help with control; stewardship approach
- American Samoa experience changing behaviour in village let the village lead
 & government support from "behind"
 - o Met with village;
 - o Wrote proposal to Seacology on behalf of village
 - o Cannot hire gov't
 - o Village must decide, hire and pay workers
- Gov't role is liaison between village & donor

PALAU TEAM

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION FOR KEBEAS CONTROL ALONG THE COMPACT ROAD

Goal:

Protect Palau Forest along the Compact Road from "KEBEAS".

Objective 1:

By the end of 2008, no more trees of the forest margin along the compact road are covered with "KEBEAS"

Strategy 1:

Mobilize and support communities, state government and land owners to control "KEBEAS" within their state.

Action:

- 1. Identify key agencies and lead staff.
- 2. Identify key community and state leaders.
- 3. Conduct community meetings in all 10 states within 6 months (include awareness of other weeds.
- 4. Work with communities that are ready to work (maximum of 4 states to start.

Strategy 2:

Demonstrate Success with Lead Communities.

Actions:

- 1. Document current situation
- 2. Identify sites for control
- 3. Communities will conduct control activities
- 4. Document impact of control activities
- 5. Publicize success of control effort
- 6. Develop standard methods of "KEBEAS"

Strategy 3:

Mobilize Communities which have not began control activities.

• Actions: Refer to Strategy 1

Long Term Objectives:

- On going maintenance-continue control Kebeas Indefinitely
- Control of Kebeas will be extended to all road in Babeldaob
- Control of Invasive Vines will be implemented in all the States in Palau
- Conduct public Awareness for monitoring and reporting new invasive weeds along the compact road
 - ❖ As part of Community meeting

WHAT PILN CAN DO FOR PALAU

- ➤ Help develop guidelines for monitoring and reporting
 - Kebeas Control
 - New Invasive
- ➤ Assist in fundraising
- Promotional Materials
- ➤ Peer review of plans
- > Assistance seeking supplemental funding
- Guidelines for
 - o Kebeas control
 - o Monitoring & reporting
 - o New invasives (Anne Mary)
- Assistance with promotional & educational materials
- ➤ Short-term weed management workshop

Prepared By: Joel Miles – Facilitator Yalap Yalap – Reporter

Alice Pangelinan – Recorder Hilda Etpison – Good Ideas

Joseph Tiobech – Good Ideas

DISCUSSION: Reporter – Yalap.

- Objectives might need to be structured differently: Kebeas is controlled
- Not clear if objective is to control or eradicate or ???
 - o Clarify this is a long-term control project; eradication not possible
 - OK if vines are not growing over the trees
- Goal is the forest but objective is only about the road
 - o Confident that if we cut it where it started; will protect the forest
 - o It is a problem where roads are being cleared, so starting from the source
- Who will be implementing? Should that be part of the plan?
 - o PCS is already involved
 - o Details will be discussed later
- Communities have been asking for help & is already a priority in the Palau plan; President has asked for this
- PILN can spread with the guidelines
- No plans for reforestation
- Who has the right expertise to help?
 - o USFS
 - o Not easy to control; must remove whole root and hang it on the tree
 - o Weed Center in the US Souad send contact
- Audrey will ask John Randall Invasive Species Initiative about assistance with guidelines & monitoring

Pohnpei PILN Team Action Plan

WEEDS

Goal: Conserve biodiversity and Livelihood

Objectives: Eradicate 100% of the following:

False Kava, Mile-a-Minute, ivy Gourd, and Chain of Love by 2008

Strategy:

- 1. Secure additional (20K/year)
- 2. Conduct island-wide public awareness
- 3. Strengthen involvement of concerned authorities
- 4. Implementation
- 5. Monitor and evaluate

Strategy 1

Action:

1. Prepare proposal for identified donors by July 2006

Strategy 2

Action:

- 1. Monthly radio programs begin by July 2006.
- 2. Quarterly newsletter
- 3. Participate in social marketing workshop ASAP
- 4. Complete meetings with local government by August 2006
- 5. Complete leaflets of all 4 targeted species by September 2006
- 6. Complete seminars at schools by September 2006

Strategy 3

Action:

- 1. Present plan to PRMC in the July 2006 meeting
- 2. Task Force decides how to deal with concerned authorities in July 2006 Meeting.
- 3. Dr. Jill Key meeting with Lt. Governor and others by end of May 2006

Strategy 4

Actions:

1. Eradication of 95% of all targeted species by end of 2007

Strategy 5

Action:

- 1. Monthly update of database
- 2. Produce summary reports in all Taskforce Meeting

DISCUSSION – Reporter: Jackson

- Not a new project; already at 75-80%
- Big difference in timeframe between eradicating a plant and an animal
- Actions to engage are these one time or continuing?
 - o 5 local gov'ts meet once to inform them
 - o 30 schools at least once per school during 2 years
 - o suggest that you meet regularly (e.g. every 6 months) to keep their support
 - o can use the PRMC to do this
- Coccinea grandis is pretty challenging; how do you do this?
 - o Only have ca 20 plants & 75% eradicated
 - Spray foliage; get regrowth; respray & also treat tuber; eventually it will die. May take one year
- Is additional \$20K/year sufficient?
- Purpose of public awareness campaign?
 - o Combination recognize & report; educate
- Method? Garlon 4
- Eradication is feasible for new plant pests; control
- Monitoring suggest clear actions to ensure they do not return
 - o None of these plants have seeded; so only need to check for regrowth
 - o Monitoring sites on a monthly basis
- If no regrowth in one year, consider it eradicated
- Is the goal eradication or 95%?
 - o Goal is eradication; milestone is 95% by 2007

SAMOA

Goal:

 To secure funding to carry out activities to manage and prevent invasive species in Samoa.

Objectives:

- 1. That within two years to gain significant support from key national and local political leaders and decision makers through the endorsement of the NIASIAP, especially from education, finance, MNREM and MAF minister.
- 2. That within 4 years have established and strengthen inter governmental linkages between education, MNREM,MAF,Health, Finance required for the implementation of at least one national IAS management project.
- 3. To secure external and internal funding to the amount of at least \$500,000 US dollars for the implementation of at least one national IAS management project.

Strategies:

- 1. Conduct a nation wide awareness campaign about the impact of Invasive Species on Public Health, Tourism, Agriculture, Education and Biodiversity.
- 2. To draw to the attention of the five key cabinets, ministers and senior staff the need for a major national project, which addresses Invasive Management.

Strategy I

Actions (Public Awareness)

- 1. Through the invasive species committee develop appropriate television, radio and newspaper media spots on impact of Invasive Species (June 2007)
- 2. Through the Invasive Species Committee develop appropriate stickers, posters and leaflets, which address key invasive issues for Samoa's school, youth and General public by June 2007.

Strategy II

Actions (Political Support)

- 1. Arrange for visits to key invasive sites for targeted ministers and for all ministers.
- 2. Establish a round table panel of the 5 keys. Minister to develop a national project, which addresses invasive species. (June 2007)

Objective III

1. To identify key external donors which will support a national Invasive Species Management project. (June 2007)

DISCUSSION – reporter Billy

- What are the actions for internal funding?
 - Through annual budget process
 - Key ministerial support will assist with this
- Where do you target matai & traditional leaders
 - This is part of the village/general public campaign
 - Possibly add an action for this group?
- How often do Ministers change?
- NIASIAP National Invasive Alien Species Implementation Action Plan
 - Trying to get government to endorse this as a first step to get \$upport
- Which species being targeted?
 - not selected yet
 - will have IAS priorities/target species or group in selection of major target
 - will need seed money for early awareness before priorities

What do you want from PILN? - think about that when you revise

- good tricks for approaching Minister/Cabinet level people
 - o Hawaii has experience Anne Marie
 - Symposium planned at National University of Samoa in September 2006 with Lloyd Loope; can use that as an opportunity to engage politicians -Tavita
 - o Very important to prove it with successful project, eg rattan
 - o Make friends with their secretary

Use other people to reach politicians, e.g.

- Can use annual regional meetings of Heads of Agriculture, Forestry & Environment at SPC and SPREP; they can help – Warea & Jill/Kate
- In Fiji, approached the High Commissions for funding (British, Australia, NZ) & they speak to gov't politicians
- Think about business people as partners & contact with politicians
- Top songwriter

Annex 4. Team list of network needs.

Team	What they need from PILN				
American Samoa	Legislation and regulatory assistance				
	Technical / expert assistance				
	General expert assistance				
	Assistance with future funding				
	CEPF integrated projects				
Guam	Workshop on rodent eradication on tropical islands				
	Assist in garnering support among regional stakeholders for regional bud rot control				
Niue	Expert exchange on Wedelia control methods				
	Public awareness – regional training on the different effective and cost-				
	effective methods				
	Assistance in finding funding				
Palau	Peer review of the strategic plan				
	Assistance seeking supplementary funding				
	Guidelines for				
	 Kebeas control 				
	 Monitoring and reporting new invasives 				
	Assistance with promotional and educational materials				
	Short term weed management				
Pohnpei	Expert exchange on Tilapia and pigeon control				
	Social marketing workshop				
	Expert exchange on strategic planning				
	Expert exchange on development of legislation on IAS				
Samoa	Assistance in identifying suitable funding sources				
	Assistance in developing stronger linkages with appropriate political leaders and decision makers.				

Annex 3. Lessons learned. Tuesday 23 May 2006 concurrent sessions.

Public Awareness

Participants

Adrienne

Alice

Charlene

Dave

Hilda

John Watkin

Michael

Siaifoi

Yalap

TOOLS

- > Define your purpose
- > Know your audience
- ➤ Key messages
- ➤ Adapt to suit local conditions
- Snappy Slogans
- > Use advertising strategies
- > Use as many media as possible
- ➤ Use cheap/Free methods
- Find out what worked (didn't) elsewhere
- ➤ Measures of success
- > (pre/post surveys, useful questions)

STRENGTHS

- ➤ Good science
- > Traditional knowledge and culture
- > Strong and direct link to the communities
- > We can deal with small populations
- Access to leaders (i.e. Palau)
- ➤ Many effective strategies and tools
- ➤ Membership in regional, international groups
- > PCS, RARE, as many models and assistance

WEAKNESSES

- ➤ Bridge between science and communities
- ➤ Ability to deal with transient and/or immigrant population
- ➤ Political power struggles (Guam, Palau)
- > Resistance to change
- ➤ Monitoring of impacts
- > Access to federal authority

- > Resource availability
 - 1. Lack of dedicated staff
 - 2. People stretched thin
- Constantly changing priorities

What can PILN do?

Provide access to:

- > Technical expertise
- > Funding
- > Strategies for diverse populations, or national/regional/international groups
- ➤ Library of outreach materials

<u>Planning</u>

Participants

Eric

George

Jackson

James M

Joel

Joseph

Souad

Strategic Planning

- > Regional
- National
- ➤ Sub-national

Emergency Response Plan

- ➢ Generic
- National
- ➤ SP/TAXA

Project Plans

- ➤ All partners have capacity to develop
- > Templates available
- Guidelines
- ➤ Test ERPs
- ➤ Have a plan
- ➤ Use model plans
- ➤ Involve stakeholders (include government)
- ➤ Good facilitation of planning process
- ➤ Collect & share information
- ➤ Review & adapt
- ➤ Connect strategic plans to annual work plans and budgets
- ➤ Incorporate accounting structure and finance in the plan

- ➤ Good levels of communication
- ➤ Be flexible
- ➤ High level support
- ➤ Have someone responsible for driving the plan
- ➤ Have the right resources (people and money)
- > Expedient plan process
- ➤ Plan in response to need/demand
- > Take environment and weather into account

Planning Strengths

- > PII- Samples, expertise, experience
- ➤ USFS Good facilitator Anne Mary
- ➤ Palau Strategy Experience
- > Samoa Fire Ant ERP & dress rehearsal
- > TNC Audrey (loves to plan)
- ➤ We all know what we want/ need to do's (how???)
- ➤ Some money available/ being used
- ➤ BTS RRP
- **≻** PAPP
- > Other regional plans

Planning Weakness

- > Communication/information sharing
- ➤ Patchy data = inadequate information
- ➤ Lack of experience
- ➤ Negative experience (not another plan)
- > Lack of time and money
- ➤ Not enough people doing the work
- > Isolation
- > Cultural impediments
- > Conflicting priorities
- ➤ Lack of national policy drivers
- ➤ Conflicting regulations/ restricted access
- > Perceptions
- ➤ Lack of high-level support

Find Synergies Facilitate Regional Plans

- ➤ Information exchange for planning
 - o Funding Operations
 - o Technical Information
 - o Best Practice Models
 - o Expert, Register
- ➤ Skill transfer for planning
 - o Staff exchanges (National/ Regional)
- > Training for planning
 - o Direct training in planning (e.g. Zopp/Logframe)
- ➤ Assistance with planning

- o Facilitation expert information to plan development
- o Fundraising support for planning
- o Facilitate PIER reviews
- Sharing plans

Weed Management

Participants

Anne Marie

Anthony

Colin

Ike

Joe

Konrad

Mark

Roseo

Tavita

Warea

Lesson Learned

- > There is a process
- > Initial survey for early detection
- > Risk assessment and prioritization
- ➤ Community consultation/ stakeholder involvement
- ➤ ACT commit to
 - Resources people/money/train
- ➤ Don't stop until your are done "FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION"
- ➤ Monitor and feedback/evaluate

Weeds- Avoid

- ➤ Poorly planned projects e.g. wrong/sloppy methods
- Unsafe practices
- > Inadequate consultation
- > Skipping evaluations
- Inflexible plans/ Inflexible leaders rigid

Strengths

- ➤ Good leadership from PILN
- ➤ Good relations within PILN members
- ➤ Good communication
- > Technical support and from partners
- Experience of partners and members

Weaknesses

- ➤ Lack of political support (Palau)
- > Insufficient core funding
- > Insufficient public awareness and support
- ➤ Legislation needed
- > Enforcement needed
- > Strategic Plans
- ➤ Inter agency cooperation needs to be better
- Lack of capacity
- > Information needed

What do we want from PILN?

- > Information on and Access additional funding
- ➤ Expert weed survey and early detection workshop/train Vis a Vis NZ Department of Conservation
- > Expert exchange in country
- ➤ Monitoring/Evaluation workshop

Managing IAS for Island Restoration

Participants

Alan

Craig

Diane

Don

Ed

James A

Lukes

Natasha

Philippe

Things to do

- ➤ Plan!
 - -Agreed on good goal / S.M.A.R.T Objectives (start, small/realistic = SUCCESS
- ➤ Understand social, economic and ecological issues
- ➤ Be prepare to adapt
- Social Marketing
- > Include good science
- > Engage technical assist
- ➤ ID and empower project manager (LOCAL)
- > Stakeholder involvement from onset

Things to avoid

➤ Avoid not doing above listed "To Do's"

Strengths

- ➤ Lots of successful IAS managed
- > Technical information
- NZ Doc
- ➤ PII Coordination
 - Funds
 - Project design assistance
- > Ethobiology knowledge
- ➤ Partnerships/ goodwill network
- > Existing facilities
 - (eg. SPC video capacity)

Weaknesses

- ➤ Lots more species to conquer
- > Tech information not utilized
- ➤ No continuous funding
- ➤ Minimal local management capacity
- ➤ Lack of economic information for pacific IAS
- > TEK not disseminated (variety of reasons)
- ➤ Lack of understanding of methods
 - Effectiveness
 - Impacts
 - Cost
 - Implementation

What can PILN do

- ➤ Marketing Government agencies at top political level
- > Spread success stories
- ➤ Workshops-regional and local/thematic
- > Funding for:
 - Scholarships and stipends
 - Local capacity building
 - Technical / academic exchange
 - Research/ demo projects
 - Compliment existing networks and develop new ones
 - Coordinate scheme for pacific volunteers. "Pacific Island Peace Corp."

WORKING GROUP REPORTS – DISCUSSION

PUBLIC AWARENESS - Reporter: Dave

- · Scientists have trouble trusting the media
 - Provide articles or press releases
 - Proof before printing
 - > Establish relationship with reporters that cover stories well
- PCS Palau Conservation Society
- RARE Center for Tropical Conservation
 - expertise in packaging social marketing campaigns,
 - really good materials
- Provide access to technical expertise more details
 - put these people in a room with us
 - assist with developing strategies
 - get them to teach me how to make things "sexy"
 - past bad luck with just handing campaigns over to PR firms
 - better to use them for specific tasks
- Raising awareness & public education is often poor cousin. Should it be a major focus; put in front of on-the-ground action?
 - Should be done first to get public support before on-the-ground action
 - Found that when they did this (marine Guam) it came back in increased funding
 - Public awareness is key to prevention, so need to refocus and think about how much emphasis/investment goes here
 - Huge part of prevention and provides basis for future work, funding, buy-in
- Have other people had experience working with PR firms? mostly Guam
- Listen Up Guam Campaign for coqui frogs
 - Have not captured coquis
 - Did help capture/prevent two other invasives
 - > \$100,000 original cost; so very cost-effective
- American Samoa targets everybody kindergarten/elementary
 - Use kids to reach parents and prepare next generation
 - School children are good message carriers
 - > Radio
- Risk with campaigns is getting the wrong animals; must be careful
 - Bounties are often not effective
 - Capture/Kill it & call (easy if no natives of same kind)
- Don't overlook the essential value of success and telling people about it
 - > Demonstration projects can show it is possible

WEEDS - Reporter: Joe

- Example of expert exchange
 - o Pohnpei go to Palau to see success with tilapia & pigeons
- Rats & snakes are easier for general public to get concerned about. What is your weed "poster child"?
 - Depends on which country (e.g. Miconia in Tahiti; water hyacinth in PNG)
 - o Coconut tree or breadfruit grown over with an invasive
 - o American Samoa is using tamaligi (Albizia) impact on welfare;
 - facilitate soil erosion link to Coral Reef Task Force
 - landslides people die; expensive to clear roads
 - direct & indirect impact on people's welfare & env't
 - o pick a species where you can make a difference?
 - Hawaii used widespread weed (Miconia) to launch prevention/early detection campaign
- Very little emphasis on keeping our current/native forests intact.
 - Is this an effective message
- Babeldaob Road Can you get ahead of Babeldaob road infestations in native forest?
 - Possible action from this meeting to make recommendation to Palau government about the road
 - o Long-term monitoring could be very helpful
 - Could be a good demonstration project for preventing invasive weeds along new roads
 - Some requirements included (e.g. clean equipment coming from Korea)
 - Challenge to select plants for roadside stabilization that are not invasive
 - not practical to use only natives
 - decided no vines

ACTIONS:

- Develop a recommendation to the President/VP for Friday; focus on monitoring for new weed infestations and ability for rapid response
- Develop best practice guideline for preventing invasive weeds along new roads

MANAGING IAS FOR ISLAND RESTORATION – Reporter: Diane

- Endorse VSO/Peace Corps idea for Pacific Island nations
 - Several programs bring back student interns to projects
- Really like PILN help us talk to politicians & VIPs to convince them of importance of eradication
 - Expertise
 - Ask political champions to talk with their peers

- Do the agreements extend to invasive pathogens
 - ISSG might be able to help (George; Souad; Michael)
- Special relationship with NZ DOC very carefully managed but can access their expertise
- Stakeholders are particular people with interests; really need to focus on the decision-makers immediately above you
 - Take bureaucrats to an island for a day and show them what you are doing; success – often overlooked
- GISD is an ideal repository for info on technical inputs for a particular species
 - No public awareness documents in the GISD, but can use info to create materials
 - o Can we add this to the GISD?
 - ➤ ACTION: add link to existing public awareness material in GISD

PLANNING - Reporter: Joel

Most of the people came to the group because they didn't know very much about planning and wanted to learn more about it

- Should plans be developed if it is not going to be implemented?
 - Best to plan when people are ready, but
 - o Plan on the shelf can sit until people are ready
 - o Can overplan
 - Plans should be useful for action; fit to purpose
 - Make the plan fit your situation/needs/appropriate scale; still need strategic direction
- Fiji example very limited capacity, so plan will probably focus on advocacy to develop capacity to implement
- Plans are part of an operation; early step of implementing a project
 - "project design document"
 - o planning process is most important (more than the paper)
 - o especially helpful to include timeframes, responsibility, etc

Annex 2. Final Agenda.

Pacific Invasives Learning Network Launch and First Annual Meeting Palau 22 to 26 May 2006

Objectives of the meeting:

- > To meet with other invasive species workers from around the Pacific, foster relations by sharing skills and experiences, widen knowledge on invasive species issues, and understand shared challenges and obstacles;
- > To get support for developing and implementing field and strategic projects by looking for similar models, developing cooperation, coordinating actions, and learning new techniques;
- > To introduce other invasive species programmes and partnerships currently active in the Pacific region and identify ways they can benefit/help PILN teams;
- > To start formulating and sharing lessons learned from field and strategic projects through the collective knowledge of the group;
- > To identify priority thematic issues and expert exchange needs;
- > To identify a regional invasive species project of common interest, to be developed over the next year or so.

Outputs of the meeting:

- ✓ Initial analysis of lessons learned in priority technical areas
- ✓ Expert exchange needs identified
- ✓ PILN work programme defined for the 2-year pilot programme
- ✓ PILN mission and terms of reference defined, logo reviewed
- ✓ Agreement on how to measure PILN effectiveness

List of Acronyms

CEPF Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund CI Conservation International, a PILN Partner

GEF Global Environment Facility
GISD Global Invasive Species Database

IAS Invasive Alien Species

ISM Invasive Species Management

ISSG Invasive Species Specialist Group, a PILN Partner

NFWF National Fish and Wildlife Fund

NPAS National Park of American Samoa, a PILN Close Collaborator

OERC Office of Environmental Response and Coordination of Palau, a PILN Partner

PII Pacific Invasives Initiative, a programme of the Cooperative Islands Initiative, a PILN Close Collaborator

PILN Pacific Invasives Learning Network

PISM Pacific Invasive Species Management project, a new Global Environment Facility project.

SPC Secretariat of the Pacific Community, a PILN Partner

SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, a PILN Partner

TNC The Nature Conservancy, a PILN Partner

USDOS United States Department of State

USFS United States Forest Service, a PILN Partner USP University of the South Pacific, a PILN Partner

Meeting overview

Sunday evening – arrival in Koror.

Monday 22 May. Koror and move to Carp Island

- Opening remarks by senior Palau Official
- Introduction of current invasive species programmes and opportunities available in the Pacific
- Team and project presentations
- Priority topics for Tuesday sessions finalised

Tuesday 23 May. Carp Island

- Tools for invasive species management
 - o What do we mean by prevention, eradication and control
 - Overview of web based information sources
 - o Outline of the SPREP Regional Invasive Species Strategy
- Concurrent sessions to share experiences and formulate lessons learned in key project themes.
- Launch of the Global Invasive Species Database CDROM version.

Wednesday 24 May. Carp Island

- Tools for invasive species management. Concurrent sessions:
 - o Hands-on session with the CD ROM version of the Global Invasive Species Database
 - o Funding problems and opportunities
- Teams define their action plans based on their priorities and needs. The CEPF grantees will form their own group in this session.

Thursday 25 May. Carp island, and then back to Koror

- Field trip Peleliu, Rock Islands, Babeldaob Compact Road. Topic weeds management.
- Rest of day free

Friday 26 May. Koror.

- Next steps in the action plans for PILN teams.
- Emerging issues open space discussion on other invasive species issues.
- PILN business: review the logo and mission, communication.
- Meeting evaluation and closure
- Closing formal dinner with a presentation of the meeting summary, with invited media and other official guests.

Saturday 27 May

Partners meeting

Day 1. Monday 22nd May. Koror, move to Carp Island after lunch.

Time	Topic	Detail	Notes
0830 – 0845	Inauguration	Formal opening, Opening remarks by Honorable Elias Camsek Chin, Vice President of Palau	Vice President of Palau to open the meeting. Host: Joel
0845 – 0915	Introductions and objectives of the meeting. Outline of the programme.	Outline programme, the Partners present themselves.	Facilitator: Jill
0915 – 0935	Invasive species and PILN	Explain why we are here – brief background to the problem of invasive species and background of PILN.	Presenter: Jill
0935 - 1000	Overview of current invasive species programmes in the Pacific.	Explain the different players and activities in the Pacific region at the moment (PII, PILN, PISM, CEPF, etc.).	Presenter: James
1000 - 1030	Break		
1030 - 1200	Participant presentations: PILN teams: Palau, American Samoa, Guam, Pohnpei, Niue, Samoa. CEPF projects: Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Palau, Pohnpei, Samoa.	PILN country presentations and CEPF project presentations. Max 10 minutes each + 5 mins questions. Covering: 1) Top IAS priorities for your country/team/project 2) Top IAS challenges for your country/team/project 3) Specific help you would like from other PILN members.	Facilitator: Audrey
1200 - 1300	Lunch		
1300 - 1500		Move to Carp Island. You need to check out before breakfast and be ready to depart after lunch.	
1500 - 1530	Break		

1530 - 1645	Participant presentations continued	As above, continued.	Facilitator: Audrey
1645 - 1700	Sign up for thematic sessions	Explain Tuesdays programme and define themes. Sign-up.	Facilitator: Jill
1700 - 1715 1800	Wrap-up Dinner	Feedback on the day. Plus / delta.	Facilitators: Jill / Audrey
Evening	Informal networking	Get to know each other informally. Travel refunds and daily allowances will be paid to the PILN funded participants.	Free

Note: Other members of the wider Palau invasive species team will join for the day.

Day 2. Tuesday 23rd May. Carp Island.

Time	Topic	Details	Notes
0830 - 0835	Re-cap of day 1. Outline day 2.	Maintain continuity and confirm the day's agenda.	Facilitator: Jill
0835 – 0915	Tools for invasive species management: • Prevention, eradication and control	Explain the differences and relative importance, criteria etc. 30 mins + 10 mins questions.	Presenter: Alan and Souad
0915 – 1000	Concurrent sessions: Thematic workshops on technical issues.	Participants divide into small groups to discuss technical issues, as decided on Monday. Each group will work to identify: • Lessons learned – things to do • Lessons learned – things to avoid • Where the group / PILN teams has strengths • Where the group / PILN teams has weaknesses • Where PILN can help build capacity over the next two years Expected themes, from PILN application form priority projects: planning, public awareness, weed management and multi-species island restoration.	Facilitators: team members, to be identified. Audrey, Anne Marie and Jill to give support.
1000 - 1030	Break		
1030 - 1230	Concurrent sessions continue.	Discussions continue, leading to conclusions and preparation of presentations.	
1230 – 1330	Lunch		
1330 – 1400	Team exercise. The flying egg	Create informal atmosphere, getting to know people.	Facilitator: Jill
1400 – 1545	Plenary on concurrent sessions	Each group presents their summary.10 mins per group. Overall conclusions.	Facilitator: Jill
1545 – 1615	Break		
1615 - 1640	Tools for invasive species	Overview of web based invasive species	Presenter: Michael

	management:	information sources, including the CD ROM	
	• Internet based	version of the Global Invasive Species Database	
	information sources.	(preparatory to tomorrow's workshop on the	
		Database). 20 mins + 5 mins questions.	
1640 - 1700	Wrap-up	Conclusions from the day and feedback in	Facilitators: Jill / Audrey
		preparation for Wednesday's sessions. Plus / delta.	
		Define emerging issues for Friday.	
1800	Dinner	Launch of the CD Rom version of the Global	Michael.
		Invasive Species Database.	

Day 3. Wednesday 24th May. Carp Island

Time	Topic	Detail	Notes
0800 - 0810	Re-cap of days 1 - 2. Objectives of day 3.	Maintain continuity and confirm the day's agenda.	Facilitator: Jill
0810 – 1000	Two concurrent sessions:FundingGISD as a tool for prevention.	Funding: 10 min. presentations on the CEPF hotspots and funding; PII; Partners inputs. An opportunity for interested people to explore in detail the use of the GISD for the prevention of new introduction and the spread of existing invasive species, working with examples from their own countries.	Facilitators: Audrey (funding), Michael (GISD)
1000 – 1030 1030 - 1230	Break Two concurrent sessions: Country priorities and action plans. CEPF grantees	PILN teams define their technical priorities and needs, produce action plans with milestones. CEPF projects form their own group and work with CEPF and PII.	Facilitators: Teams select their own (PILN teams), James (CEPF grantees). Audrey, Anne Marie and Jill to give support.
1230 – 1330 1330 - 1530 1530 – 1600	Lunch Country priorities and action plans, continued. Break	Prepare presentations for plenary.	Facilitators: Teams
1600 – 1700	Plenary	5 minutes per team and conclusions.	Facilitator: Jill
1700 - 1730	Wrap-up	Conclusion from the day and feedback. Preparation for the field trip on Thursday. Plus / delta.	Facilitators: Jill/ Audrey
1800	Dinner		
1900 - 2000	Palau weeds project and field trip briefing. Open forum	Palau weeds – introduction to the field trip. Other information, as available.	Presenter: Palau team. Presenter: Teams

Day 4. Thursday 25th May. Carp Island, and move to Koror

Morning: field trip. Organiser: Joel and the Palau team

- > Check out from hotel before breakfast
- > Breakfast on Peleliu Island (weed control, community involvement)
- > Cruise through the world famous Rock Islands back to Koror
- ➤ Picnic lunch and visit to the Babeldaob Compact Road to see the weed problems.

The field trip terminated around 2pm, checking back into the hotel in Koror. The rest of the day was free.

Day 5. Friday 26th May. Koror

Time	Topic	Details	Notes
0830 - 0845	Recap days 1 – 4.	Maintain continuity	Facilitator: Jill
	Objectives of day 5.		
0845 - 1000	Next steps for PILN teams	Teams discuss and define their immediate next	Facilitator: teams.
		steps and make commitments for action.	
1000 - 1030	Break		
1030 - 1100	Next steps continued.		
1100 - 1200	Emerging invasive species	Open space opportunity to discuss current invasive	
	issues. First round of	species issues in breakout groups. First round:	
	concurrent sessions.	biocontrol; PILN measures of success; political	
		involvement; managing reptiles and amphibians.	
1200 - 1300	Lunch		
1300 - 1400	Emerging invasive species	Second round: Marine invasive species;	
	issues. Second round of	biosecurity; refugia; restoring ex-copra islands.	
	concurrent sessions.		
1400 - 1500	Regional Invasive Species	Participants inputs into the revision of the regional	Facilitator: Jill
	Strategy	strategy.	
1530 - 1600	Review PILN mission and	Participants take over the network.	Facilitator: Jill
	update the work plan.		
1530 - 1600	Break		
1600 - 1615	Meeting evaluation	Participants complete written evaluations.	Facilitator: Jill
1800	Formal dinner, and	Closing Remarks by Vice President of Palau	With invited guests. (Vice
	presentation of meeting		President, Ministers, Palau
	summary.		people, etc).
			Hosted by Joel and Palau team
			Presentation by team member,
			to be identified.

Name	Institution or team	Contact details
Joel Miles	PILN Partner, Office of	680-488-6950 ext 243
	Environmental Response and	jmiles@palau-oerc.net
	Coordination, and team	
	coordinator.	
John Watkin	Critical Ecosystem Partnership	j.watkin@conservation.org
	Fund	
John Wichep	Pohnpei PILN team	691 320 5133/7523/4969
		john_wichep@mail.fm
Joseph Tauati	Samoa PILN team	685 20924
		jettauati@hotmail.com,
		techpolicy@samoaquarantine.gov.ws
Joseph Tiobech	Palau PILN team	680 488 8171
		palauforestry@palaunet.com
Konrad Englberger	Pohnpei PILN team	691 320 7523
		ppmicronesia@mail.fm
Lilomalava Ike	American Samoa PILN team	684-633-2304
Sagaga		sagaga7@yahoo.com
Pulemagafa S.	American Samoa PILN team	684-633-4456
Faaumu		siaifoi@yahoo.com
Mark Bonin	Samoa PILN team	685 21860
		bonin@lesamoa.net
Michael Browne	PILN Partner, Invasive Species	64 9 3737599
	Specialist Group/Global Invasive	m.browne@auckland.ac.nz
N	Species Database	005 00400
Natasha Doherty	Samoa PILN team and CEPF	685 30100
- .	grantee	Natasha.Doherty@mnre.gov.ws
New T. Aue	Niue PILN team	683 4032
Niupoe Antony	Niue PILN team	684 4011 / 4021
Togiakona	B. I	tukitan@yahoo.co.nz
Pamela Skilang	Palau meeting support	680 488 8171
Philippe Raust	French Polynesia CEPF grantee	689 506209
D M	Dalama DII Nama and OFDE	sop@manu.pf
Roseo Marquez	Pohnpei PILN team and CEPF	691 320 5409
Council Davidais	grantee	cspterrestrial@mail.fm
Souad Boujelais	PILN Partner, Pacific Invasives	64 9 3737599
Toulto Toels	Initiative	s.boudjelas@auckland.ac.nz
Tavita Togia	PILN collaborator, National Park	684 633 7082
	of American Samoa, and team	Tavita_Togia@nps.gov
Marga Orong	coordinator.	670 2270294
Warea Orapa	PILN Partner, Secretariat of the	679 3379284
Volon Volon	Pacific Community	WareaO@spc.int 680 488 3993
Yalap Yalap	Palau PILN team	
		pcs@palaunet.com