

**LRI GEF PLANNING MEETING
CHURCHWARD CHAPEL
28th September 2006**

1.0 Opening

The meeting commenced with the welcoming of participants by Mr. Jacob Itautoka, a LRI volunteer and a prayer by Mr. Alfred Lilino. There were 20 participants, out of an anticipated 50, representing the seven districts in Fiji, Women's Craft Group, Artists, Youth Groups and individuals with interests in marine conservation

1.1 Agenda

The programme for the night was introduced and discussed in length.

2.0 LRI Presentation

Leading up to discussing the objectives of the meeting, Ms Monifa Fiu, the coordinator for LRI, reflected on the activities of LājeRotuma on the island and its achievements since its establishment. There are six areas of focus that LRI has identified as avenues to promote management of natural resources and its sustainable use. These are:

- a) Community Outreach
- b) Integrated Fisheries Management
- c) Waste Management
- d) Building Community Resilience to Climate Change
- e) Marine Scientific Research
- f) Capacity Building

Activities carried out under these areas have been implemented by volunteers from Fiji and Rotuma and funded by donors such as AUSAID, Ministry of Youth and GEF Small Grants Programme. To ensure the successful implementation of these activities, LRI works closely with the Council of Rotuma and the various youth groups on the island, our future leaders.

2.1 Objectives of the meeting

The objective of this meeting is to develop a logframe of activities, under the six focal areas identified above, which will be part of a Conservation Plan for Rotuma.

3.0 Group Activity

The participants were divided into 5 groups with each group working on one of the following topics:

- g) Community Outreach
- h) Integrated Fisheries Management
- i) Waste Management and Capacity Building
- j) Building Community Resilience to Climate Change
- k) Marine Scientific Research

Each group was to identify potential activities that will contribute to the achievement of the stated expected outcomes and possible organizations or individuals that can assist LRI with its implementation

4.0 Group Presentations

The results for each group were presented and discussed by all the participants. Interesting points arose from the presentations, in particular, the need to get the Council of Rotuma and the elders in the Rotuman communities to take an active role in LRI's activities, the importance of reintroducing traditional methods in conservation and the need to retrain trained divers and community trainers on the island.

5.0 Closing

The meeting was closed with a prayer from the representative of the Suva Rotuman Women's Cultural Group

Annex 1: LRI's logframe of activities

Focus	Objectives	Expected Outcomes	Activities (what and how)	Partners (Who are the implementers)
Community Outreach	Promote community support for marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> level of awareness in communities raised Community conservation strategies developed Importance of traditional conservation methods and ethnobiological knowledge raised 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby for the support of the authoritative (traditional, religious and government) bodies on the island. Conduct community workshops and seminars to raise awareness and report on data collected from surveys or other workshops. Identify an effective method for information exchange and accessibility Conduct clean up campaigns Identify and re-introduce traditional mechanisms of conversation 	Chiefs DO Religious leaders community
	Facilitate a knowledge sharing system or a portal for information storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on Rotuma's biodiversity and research is accessible to all communities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, publish and distribute newsletters in Rotuman vernacular. Facilitate regular meetings with authoritative bodies Produce quarterly reports of activities on the island School education system 	District Officer Health inspectors Teachers in schools Hospital of Rotuma

Focus	Objective	Expected Outcomes	Activities	Partners
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Integrated Fisheries Management	Minimize the loss of marine resources of importance to local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destructive fishing practices reduced or phased out. • Community awareness of effects of land based activities on marine environment raised 	<p>a) Community workshops to identify types of destructive fishing practices</p> <p>b) Leaders to make regulations on banning destructive fishing practices</p> <p>c) Promote selective fishing. practices such as spear fishing, line fishing</p> <p>d) Reintroduce traditional fishing practices eg. <i>Faga</i>-fish traps , use of the canoe</p> <p>e) Schools to include marine programmes in lessons/curriculum/compulsory</p> <p>f) Raise awareness through Brochures/workshops(to train leaders/communities)/radio</p>	Communities, Leaders, Council of Rotuma Ministry of Fisheries Ministry of Education
	Effectively manage species of cultural importance or threatened species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threats to these species are minimized and monitored 	<p>*Regulations to ensure that outsiders are not taking our fisheries resources of cultural importance for commercial purposes</p> <p>*Impose traditional taboos</p>	

Waste Management	Restore and maintain the pristine environment of Rotuma through the reduction of litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal and surrounding areas kept clean • Use of plastic bags reduced • Activities on recycling and reuse of household waste implemented 	<p>1. Clean up Rotuma Day</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *try to get community to set up specific date for clean up *Continuing education on community on the use of plastic bags *Bottle drives *Encourage community to use their 	MoE PCDF
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Building community resilience	Develop communities' capabilities in dealing with climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of adverse impacts of climate change created • Adaptive measures to build community resilience created • Effects of climate change on the status of reefs, fisheries and marine biodiversity monitored • Measures developed to minimize coastal erosion 	<p>a) Conduct community workshops to identify current impacts on environment</p> <p>b) Lobby for implementation of Climate Change Programs in schools</p> <p>c) Encourage planting of coastal trees/plants such as <i>sum ta</i> and <i>hefau</i>.</p> <p>d) Ensure that studies are conducted before seawalls are constructed</p> <p>e) Document the knowledge of elders to ascertain the impacts of CC on the island and adaptive measures practiced</p>	Communities, WWF Council of Rotuma
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Capacity Building	Enhance communities biodiversity management skill and capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for local training programs created in biodiversity research, monitoring and management 	<p>Training of district leaders on mgt skills</p> <p>Training of youths to develop their skills</p>	Min of Youth Regional dev Schools –Council of Rotuma
Marine Scientific Research	Achieve a detailed knowledge of Rotuma's marine biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A marine biodiversity inventory undertaken • The causes and rehabilitation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a marine biodiversity survey and inventory 2. Organize and facilitate training and development 	Communities, Youth groups, Council of Rotuma, NGO's

	and threats	needs of degraded marine resources identified	<p>programmes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Identification 4. Document local knowledge and their perception on the abundance of fish 5. Identify methods/types of fishing 6. Conduct socio-economic survey to ascertain dependence on fisheries and types of impacts on fisheries 	
	Establish mechanisms which ensures that research activities on the island are transparent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A process for providing consent to research proposals developed • Researchers respect and conform to local protocol 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LRI acts as intermediaries between Council of Rotuma, community, urban community 2. researchers to respect and conform to local protocol and at the end of research to provide report and recommendations 	Council of Rotuma