

# American Samoa Management Planning Workshop

## May 21- May 25, 2018

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**Prepared by:** Wayne Andrew and Angel Jonathan  
(PIMPAC) -Region Mentor

## **Executive Summary**

PIMPAC Regional Mentors Mr. Wayne Andrew and Angel Jonathan conducted a management planning and climate change training for Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources staff in American Samoa from May 21-25, 2018. This successful training resulted in 13 staff members of DMWR trained in facilitating the development of community resource management plans and update of a resource management plan for the villages of Matu'u and Faganeanea. The Regional Mentors also trained the DMWR staff in the use of PIMPAC climate change video toolkit. As a result the newly updated plan has now a climate change lens. Overall the Chief Biologist of the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources was very happy and appreciative of the training and welcome PIMPAC's future support in building the capacity of his staff at the Department.

## **Background**

The Pacific Islands Marine Protected Area Community (PIMPAC) began in 2005 as a pilot program to identify and address the unique set of challenges faced by Marine Protected Area (MPA) managers in the region. These challenges include limitations in human and financial resources, isolation from one another restricting the ability of managers to learn from and apply approaches that have been successful elsewhere, and building on traditional management approaches while adapting to modern technology and practices. PIMPAC was designed to address these challenges and support an on-going capacity development framework for site based conservation practitioners to gain skills, learn from one another, and share resources; ultimately to improve site based management effectiveness. PIMPAC did not develop its own conservation goals, rather aimed to support local and regional conservation initiatives including the following.

- **Micronesia Challenge:** In 2006, Micronesian leaders from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands committed to “effectively conserve at least 30% of the near-shore marine resources and 20% of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020”. This, known as the Micronesia Challenge (MC), is a regionally led conservation initiative that provided a conservation target that PIMPAC could aim to support through capacity development.
- **Aloha + Challenge, and Sustainable Hawaii Initiative:** In Hawaii, government leaders in combination with community partners set ambitious goals through the Aloha + Challenge, and Sustainable Hawaii Initiative that include goals such as “effectively manage 30% of near shore ocean waters by 2030” and “protect 30% of priority watersheds by 2030”.

The Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources of American Samoa requested support from PIMPAC to train their staff in developing resource management plans. This training was initially planned for February 2018 but was postponed due to typhoon Gita. This training was then rescheduled for May 21-25, 2018. Regional Mentors, Mr. Wayne Andrew and Angel Jonathan provided a week long training to DMWR staff. They also trained these DMWR staff in the use of the recently developed climate change video toolkit. Additionally, the Regional Mentors will assist the DMWR staff in updating the community resource management plan for Matu'u and Faganeanea.

## **Day One (Friday May 18, 2018)**

The facilitation Team arrived into American Samoa on Friday morning. We were greeted at the airport by our local partners Mr. Afa. He then took us to the Sadie's Hotel to check in. Upon our

arrival we were told that the rooms were not ready until 3pm. So Mr. Afa took the facilitation team to meet with the local staff at the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources. We had a briefing meeting with Chief Domingo where we reviewed the training objectives, expectations and agenda for the whole week. After this we met with the enforcement officers at DMWR (Peter, Hanipale and others). We also briefly met with the Director and Deputy Directors. Our partners then took us on a tour of the island to visit some of their Marine Protected Areas. We returned to the Hotel at 3pm checked in and rested for the day.

### **Day Two (Saturday May 19, 2018)**

On Saturday, the team spent the day reviewing the agenda and planning out the facilitation of the training. We also reviewed the Matu'u and Faganeanea Management Plan. The team then review their training materials including the videos to make sure that all were ready. After reviewing the Matu'u and Faganeanea Management Plan, the team developed a short power point presentation for the review of the plan. After all the training materials and facilitation roles have been sorted out, the facilitation team (Mr. Andrew and Jonathan) rested.

### **Day Three ( Sunday May 20, 2018)**

On Sunday, the Team went to church and rested in the afternoon.

### **Day Four (Monday May 21, 2018)**

On Monday, first day of the training, we were informed by our local partners that we have a problem with our training venue. We left to the DMR office to meet with Chief Domingo and after the meeting, we came back to Sadie's to see if their conference room was available. After it was confirmed that it was available, we checked with Chief Domingo if they were able to secure other venue. We were informed that Sadie's was our only option. Mr. Domingo informed his staff and the other participants of the change in venue and the facilitation team helped set up the venue.

We started the workshop at 10am with welcoming remarks from Chief Domingo, then a presentation from Mr. Andrew on what PIMPAC is and what we do. After the overview, the team reviewed the agenda and objectives. Mr. Afa did a presentation on their Marine program and what they do. We discussed their role and the process that the use in developing management plans for communities.



**Participants getting introduction on PIMPAC and presentation of their MPA process.**

The team reviewed the Matu'u and Faganeanea management plan with the participants. At this they presented some of the successes and challenges since the implementations of the plan. Some of the success are listed below.

### **2007 to 2012**

Outreach activities with the church youth group (C.C.C.A.S). Multiple topics were presented on importance of coral reefs, types of MPAs and introduction of fisheries regulations. High chief, talking chief titles within the village were not been seated from 2006 to 2012 and so many relevant decisions could not be made, because they were the important decision makers within the village.

### **2012**

High Talking Chief Faagau Lefiti and High Chief titles Afo and Savea were seated (the important decision makers) and consequently the DMWR contacted the village and presented back to the village the department's programs. Therefore, the village council then agreed to set aside an area to be protected under CFMP program for a period of time, from Fasaina to Tagapofu



## **2013**

CFMP staff met with the village mayor Tofiga Ale on the decision of the village on the closure of their MPA.

## **2014**

Village representatives which includes, village mayor Laumea Tofiga and high talking chief Fagau Lefiti attended the enforcement workshop which was provided by DMWR Enforcement division to deputized each representatives from each village who are part of the CFMP program to help site any trespassers within their perspective MPA's. Two notice signs were installed in the village, one on the eastern side at the area called Kamapofu and one at the western side of the village which is Fa'asaina. These signs also reflect and aware public of Matu'u & Faganeanea village MPA boundaries.



## 2015

CFMP conducted outreach to introduce more DMWR programs. In-water activities were still not allowed by grant pending the NEPA permit. Near shore FAD's were deployed in the village waters of Matu'u & Faganeanea provided by the FAD program.



High Talking Chief Fa'agau Lefiti, CFMP supervisor and Auvaa Soonaolo attended an MPA meeting in New Caledonia, which was sponsored by SPC.



## 2016

CFMP staff together with the WSFR grantor representative conducted a visit to the village of Matu'u & Faganeanea and were able to meet with one of the high talking chief Fagau Lefiti who is also the important decision maker within the village. Village representative was able to speak on behalf of their communities on issues they are facing and needs regarding MPA in their village.



The village of Matu'u & Faganeanea agreed to open the MPA on January 16, 2016.



## 2017

Village council conducted their regular village meeting to discuss village issues and within their meeting agenda MPA were one of the important topic. Therefore, the village invited the CFMP program staff attend the meeting to voice their thoughts on the closure of their MPA and requested to protect a different site within the village waters which is Fasaina to Utulaina.



The facilitation team presented the climate change toolkit videos and the participants watched the fisheries video. The participants loved the video and were excited about the tools. They feel the video tools will make their awareness and planning in the community so easy.



**Day Five (Tuesday May 22, 2018)**

The facilitation team reviewed the Monday sessions with the participants then based on the updates from the participants, the facilitation team decided that the best way to move forward was to split the participants into two groups then we facilitate a review of the Matu'u and Faganeanea Management plan update and they will role play as community members. Our goal is that by the end of each session we will have a chance to discuss facilitation tips and use of tools and how they would deliver each session. On the first day, we watched again the Fisheries Video of the Climate Change Toolkit, then we asked the groups to review and update the Vision, Threats or Problems, then we reviewed all their results and had a discussion. In the afternoon, we had the groups identify the root causes of the problems and then identify solutions to the problems. After this, the groups had discussions on their results and on facilitation tips. Below is result of their discussions.

Vision:

Group 1 Vision: To manage our resources from ridge-to-reef to ensure a healthy marine ecosystem and develop a resilient community that can manage our resources in collaboration with government and other stakeholders for culturally, socially, and economically sustainable fisheries

Group 2 Vision: To manage our resources from ridge-to-reef to ensure a healthy marine ecosystem and develop a resilient community that can manage our resources in collaboration with government and other stakeholders for culturally, socially, and economically sustainable fisheries.

Problems: (Based on what studies? Need more reports from resource managers)

1. Overfishing in the past – from other people outside their village.
2. Trash and run-off from the streams
3. Lack of awareness on best fishing practices.
4. Sand mining by community members.
5. No communication with other villages nearby.
6. No more Palolo Worms
7. New residents/renters no connection to community
8. No voice in planning if you are you/woman/renter

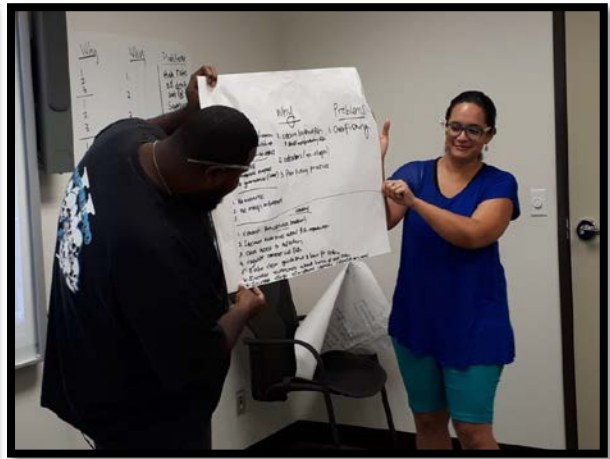
Problem	Why	Why	Solutions
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1. Pollution (LBSP)	<p>1.Sedimentation</p> <p>2. Littering</p>	<p>1. Poor land use 2. Too much concrete 3. No protection for trees</p> <p>1. Not enough bins 2. Single use plastic 3. No regular trash pick-up</p>	<p>1. Enforce PNRS 2. More gardens/trees Go Green 3. Create laws to protect old trees 4. Provide more economic bins 5. Reduce-Reuse-Recycle 6. More trash pick-up</p>
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Problem	Why	Why	Solutions
1. Overfishing	<p>1. Catching big female fish; small non-producing fish</p> <p>2. Outsiders (non-villagers)</p> <p>3. Poor fishing practices</p>	<p>1. No size limit/regulations 2. No awareness about fish reproduction 3. Non-selective fishing</p> <p>1. Open access 2. Commercial purpose 3. No clear governance</p> <p>1. No awareness 2. Not enough enforcement</p>	<p>1. Establish fish catch size (medium) 2. Increase awareness about fish reproduction 3. Close access to outsiders 4. Regulate commercial fishing 5. Make clear guidelines and laws for fishing 6. Increase awareness about harm of poor fishing practice 7. Increase village enforcement capacity (deputize more people)</p>

Problem	Why	Why	Solutions
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1. Sand mining	1. Construction (free)  2. Cultural landscaping	1. No other free alternatives 2. No enforcement  1. Easier to maintain (compared to grass) 2. Aesthetics 3. No understanding of the importance of sand	1. Supply people with cheaper alternatives 2. Deputize villagers 3. Encourage villagers to care for their 'natural' yard 4. Education on the importance of sand (beautiful, habitat, protection, etc.)
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**Workshop participants showing results of their work for feedback and input.**

**Day Six (Wednesday May 23, 2018)**

On the third day, we reviewed the results of our work on the second day. The participants really liked the exercises of the previous day. We spent the morning discussing facilitation tips and the results of their work. After this the participants worked to merge two groups vision, and solutions. The participants then watched the Climate Change Video and discussed climate change issues in the community. As result they developed a climate change objective. The group then worked to smart objectives. Their objectives are listed below.

What	How	Why	Who	How many/ How much	Where	When	Impact/ Outcomes
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Increase awareness about fish reproduction (spawning seasons, reproductive size)	Outreach and Trainings (presentations and brochures for fishers)	Fishers are not aware that removing fish during spawning seasons affects population	Fishers	Twice a year (before & during spawning seasons)	In the village	In a year	1. More fish 2. Bigger fish 3. Increase awareness 4. Fishers implement Size limits
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Objective 2. By the end of 2019, 80% of fishers of Matuu&Faganeanea will have increased awareness of fish reproduction and spawning seasons through two outreach and training to increase number of reproductive fishes and implement size limits.

What	How	Why	Who	How many/ How much	Where	When	Impact/ Outcomes
Close waters to outside fishers	Work with DMWR+AG in developing regulations; conduct outreach to fishers; develop village signs; media outreach; deputize village aumaga	Outside fishers contribute to overfishing	DMWR +AG+outside fishers	1 outreach meeting with outside fishers; I media outreach	Meetings in village	Within 2-3 years	no access on village waters by outside fishers

Objective 3. By the end of 2020, M&F has coordinated with DMWR+AG+fishers in developing and implementing regulations regulating village waters access + put up village designs + conducted outreach with outside fishers + media outreach

Group 2:

What: Develop an education and outreach program

How: Work with local fishermen, youth groups, fishing community, and public

Why: need to inform on MPA and fishing regulations

Who: DMWR, Gov't agencies, NGOs, Partners

How many/How much: twice a month

Where: Matu'u&Faganeanea

When: By 2019

Impact/Outcome: Gain more knowledge for the local fishermen, youth groups, fishing communities, and public

**Objective:**

**By 2019, DMWR will work together with Gov't agencies, local fishermen, and youth groups to develop an education and outreach program twice a month for Matu'u and Faganeanea to gain more knowledge on the importance of fishing regulations in MPAs.**

What: Create visible boundaries in MPAs

How: Implement markers/buoys around boundary line

Why: Separation of boundaries

Who: DMWR Enforcement

How many/How much: 60% of MPAs

Where: West side MPAs in Tutuila

When: In the next two years (2020)

Impact/Outcome: Recover fish population/ Increase Spillover

**Objective:**

**DMWR Enforcement will have visible boundaries in 60% of MPAs by 2020.**

What: Develop support in community to enforce regulation on overfishing

How: Work with community for support in training in regulation to limit overfishing

Why: Community can help with enforcement

Who: Local community members in the village

How many/How much: Once a year

Where: Matu'u and Faganeanea

When: By 2019 (w/in a year)

Impact/outcome: Communities can enforce rules and regulation on overfishing

**Objective:**

**By 2019, local community members or the village of Matu'u and Faganeanea will develop training and workshops to support enforcement on regulations on overfishing.**

What: Supply more trash bins in a designated area for villages

How: Work with village leaders and villagers

Why: Prevent marine debris and debris in coastal areas

Who: DMWR & partners

How much and How many: All houses along shorelines/streams

Where: Matuu&Faganeanea

When 2020

Impact/outcome: Clean coastal villages along shorelines/streams. Healthy environment and marine environment.

**Objective: By 2020, DMWR and partners will work with village leaders/council to supply more trash bins in designated areas in Matuu and Faganeanea.**

What: Implement plants/trees along streams/shorelines (coastal areas)

How: work with a dominant family (high chiefs)

Why: Prevent sea level rise and erosions

Who: DMWR & Partners

How much/how many: all houses along shorelines/streams

Where: Matuu and Faganeanea

When: 2020

Impact/Outcome: Healthy marine environment and coastal areas

**Objective:**

**By 2020, DMWR and partners will implement plants/trees along streamlines and coastal areas to prevent sea level rise and erosions in Matuu and Faganeanea.**

At the end of the day, the participants worked to merge the results of their group work. Below is a list of the final goal and objectives.

Vision: Our community of Matuu and Faganeanea will effectively manage our resources from ridge to reef with our partners to ensure our community is resilient to climate impacts and healthy with abundant of resources for the benefit of our present and future generation.

Objective 1: By the end of 2021 the village of M&F will consult with DMWR to establish size limits of a number of key species in village waters to increase number of big fish and address overfishing.

Objective 2. By the end of 2020, 80% of fishers of Matuu & Faganeanea will have increased knowledge of sustainable fishing practices and training other fishermen in American Samoa.

Objective 3: By 2020, the village of M&F will work with relevant resource agencies to set up MPA demarcation and identify 10 individuals who will participate in bi-annual trainings and be deputized to enforce fishing regulations in M&F MPA.

Objective 4: By the end of 2019, village members of Matu'u and Faganeanea, and stakeholders will have increased knowledge on fisheries management, climate change impacts, and implement adaptation activities to enhance resilience to climate change.

**Day Seven (Thursday May 24, 2018)**

Objective 1: , By the end of 2021 the village of M&F will consult with DMWR to establish size limits of a number of key species in village waters to increase number of big fish and address overfishing.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:**

**ACTION 1:** Focus group meetings w/ in the village (women & youth, untitled men, village council, other) to come up with a written plan (of establishing size limits of a number of key species) .

**ACTION 2:** Introduce finalized written plan from village to DMWR.

Objective 3: By 2020, the village of Matu'u and Fanganeanea will work with relevant resource agencies to identify 10 individuals who will participate in bi-annual trainings and be deputized to enforce fishing regulations in Matu'u and fanganeanea MPA.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:**

**ACTION 1:** Matu'u and Fanganeanea in collaboration with the DMWR will deploy visible markers to establish MPA boundary lines -obtain design, permitting, deployment

**ACTION 2:** Village council will meet with CFMB to recognize at least 10 individual to undergo enforcement trainings and be deputized -identify, do the training, deputize.

Objective 3: By 2020, the village of Matu'u and Fanganeanea will work with relevant resource agencies to identify 10 individuals who will participate in bi-annual trainings and be deputized to enforce fishing regulations in Matu'u and Fanganeanea MPA.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:**

ACTION 1: Matu'u and Fanganeanea in collaboration with the DMWR will deploy visible markers to establish MPA boundary lines -obtain design, permitting, deployment

ACTION 2: Village council will meet with CFMB to recognize at least 10 individual to undergo enforcement trainings and be deputized -identify, do the training, deputize

Objective 4: By the end of 2019, village members of Matu'u and Faganeanea, and stakeholders will have increased knowledge on climate change impacts, and implement adaptation activities to enhance resilience to climate change.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:**

ACTION 1: DMWR and partners 6 education and outreach each for fisheries and climate change and 2 training workshops for each.

ACTION 2: Installation of one rain garden + monitoring + assessment of effectively

ACTION 3: Conduct one monthly coastal clean up.

ACTION 4: Consult with Land Grant for the feasibility of coastal planting for erosion control.

ACTION 5: Education and outreach (pre and post evaluation, involvement in activities)

After the development of actions, team spent time discussing the results and facilitation tips. The team was informed that due to a funeral of a chief in the village, the meeting with the village chief and community was cancelled. The facilitation Team and participants spent time preparing a presentation to be shared with the village chief council and agreed that the facilitation team will help draft up something that they could use based on their discussion. They also discussed how best to present the results to the community leadership to ensure ownership and successful implementation. The facilitation team also spent some time discussing the training needs of the DMWR staff. The training needs are listed below. Finally Chief Domingo gave a thank you remarks and the facilitation team went with DMWR staff to visit the MPA by water.

**TRAINING NEEDS:**

1. DMWR staff urgently need training in education and awareness (behavior change).
2. DMWR staff continues to need training and mentoring in management planning to include facilitation, writing, implementation.
3. DMWR staff needs support and training in leadership, and how to inspire and motivate community leadership.
4. DMWR staff needs support in socioeconomic monitoring.

**Day Eight (Friday May 25, 2018)**

The facilitation team worked on compiling the result of the weeks work into a presentation that could be used by DMR staff to present back to the village chiefs of Matu'u and Faganeanea. Then they work to input the result into the management plan.



**Day Nine (Saturday May 26, 2018)**

The facilitation team worked on compiling the result of the weeks work into a presentation that could be used by DMR staff to present back to the village chiefs of Matu'u and Faganeanea. Then they work to input the result into the management plan.

**Day Ten (Sunday May 25, 2018)**

The facilitation Team went to church in the morning and spent the rest of the day working on writing of the Matu'u and Faganeanea Management Plan.

**Day Eleven (Monday May 26, 2018)**

The facilitation team spent the day reviewing the notes from the week and develop the workshop report. The facilitation team checked out from Sadie's Hotel early Tuesday morning and left to the airport to catch the flight to Honolulu Hawaii.

**Outcomes**

1. A total of 13 staff of DMWR were trained in facilitating the development of a community based resource management plan.
2. The Resource Management Plan of Matu'u and Faganeanea was reviewed and revised with a plan to present the result back to the community.
3. A quick assessment of training needs for the DMRW staff was conducted and priority list was developed.
4. A presentation to the community on updated plan was developed.

**Next Steps**

1. DMWR staff will review power point presentation developed by facilitation team and translate into local language.
2. DMWR staff will set up meeting with Village Chiefs of Matu'u and Faganeanea and present the previous plan with updates and seek their input.
3. DMR staff will finalize the resource management plan Matu'u and Faganeanea with community input and present back to community leadership.
4. DMWR staff secure blessing of the Director of DMR and Community Chiefs and sign the management plan.
5. DMR staff will work the Council of Chiefs from the village to setup an Action Committee that will be tasked with the oversight and the implementation of the plan.
6. DMWR staff will work with Action Committee to secure monthly meetings to ensure smooth progress and adaptive implementation of the Matu'u and Faganeanea management plan.

**APPENDIX 1****American Samoa Management Planning Workshop Agenda****May 21-25, 2018**

Training Dates: May 21 to 25

May 17 PIMPAC staff arrive

May 28 PIMPAC staff depart

May 21 NOAA PIRO Office:

Introductions

PIMPAC presentation -

CFMP Presentation –

Discussions on fisheries management tools

May 22 Training on Problem Solution Tree and other appropriate methods

Training on Resource Mapping

Tools and Activities

May 23 Developing objectives for management plans

Identifying Partners and Responsibilities

Training on Facilitation, Conflict Resolution

Tools and Activities

May 24 Climate Change Resiliency

Watershed Framework

Training on data collection methods (e.g. community visits)

Tools and Activities

May 25 Field visits, Video presentation to Matuu & Faganeanea Village and of the updated management plan

## **APPENDIX 2**

**Participants signup sheet removed due to personally identifiable information**

