

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT  
FOR  
SAM98/G31: ENABLING ACTIVITY FOR BIODIVERSITY (ADD-ON)**

**January to March 2003 (Advanced Report 21/03/03)**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status/Progress of Activities (Completed, Ongoing, Cancelled, No progress)</b>	<b>Comments</b> (A brief outline of issues and recommendations as related to progress of activities)
<b>Project Management</b>	Project personnel and effective and efficient institutional arrangements functioning successfully.	Meeting of Project Steering Committee and Project Manager	Ongoing	➤ Fourth Steering Committee Re-scheduled to 24 April 2003.
		National coordinator	Completed	➤ Coordinate arrangements to support interviews, meetings, radio talk backs, and media spots and newspaper awareness raising for the capacity needs assessment on access and benefit-sharing and the protection of traditional knowledge, practices and innovations. <sup>i</sup>
			Completed	➤ Coordinate arrangements to support consultations with stakeholders, development of database fields and structure, compiling initial data entries for database, and developing specifications of text and link words for website pages. <sup>ii</sup>
			Completed.	➤ Coordinate compilation of proposals for surveys of information gaps for the database.
			Completed	➤ Finalise DEC/DLSE public information dissemination priorities. <sup>iii</sup>
			Ongoing	➤ Coordinate finalisation of DEC/DLSE communication strategy for biodiversity and conservation information dissemination. <sup>iv</sup>
			Completed	Others main activities to assist the DLSE staff:
			Completed	➤ Assist the International Waters Project – reporting back to the communities the results of the initial community field profile surveys.
			Completed	➤ Coordinate itinerary of individual meetings with donor agencies in the country on co-financing arrangement for the Medium-Sized Conservation Project in Savaii.
			Completed	➤ Assist the compilation of responses to the CBD National Forest Programme/National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Collaboration Questionnaire.
	Completed	➤ Assist consultations with Upolu fishing community on the capacity building proposal for Samoa’s Marine Sanctuary.		
	Ongoing	➤ Assist the completion of the Project Document Brief for the MSP Savaii.		

<b>Priority 1: Access to genetic resources and benefit sharing</b>	Policies and management plans for the sustainable management of access to genetic resources and measures to facilitate the equitable sharing of benefits from these resources.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify and assess capacity building needs of government and academic institutions.</li> <li>2. Identify and assess capacity building needs of non-governmental organizations and relevant community groups</li> <li>3. Identify and assess existing policies and plans and recommend appropriate measures.</li> </ol>	Ongoing	<p>➤ Consultancy – Urwin Consulting &amp; KVA – with the support of DEC/DLSE has completed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Substantial public consultation with representatives of communities, ngos, private businesses and departments in both Savaii and Upolu.mmittee on issues of access and benefit-sharing and the protection of traditional knowledge, practices and innovations (Refer to the consultancy’s draft report).</li> <li>○ Interviews with about half of key personnels of main stakeholders (government department and ngos) of access and benefit-sharing and the protection of traditional knowledge, practices and innovations issues (Refer to the consultancy’s draft report).</li> <li>○ Substantial review of literatures – legislations, reports, guidelines, policies, strategies, etc. – related to access and benefit-sharing and traditional knowledge, practices and innovations (Refer to the consultancy’s draft report).</li> <li>○ First draft reporting of the abovementioned activities. (Attached).</li> </ul>
<b>Priority 2: Traditional knowledge, practices and innovations.</b>	Development of national policies and appropriate measures to protect traditional knowledge, practices and innovations. Development of a capacity building programme to promote the preservation of traditional knowledge, practices and innovations relevant to biodiversity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify key information on traditional knowledge, practices and innovations relevant to biodiversity.</li> <li>2. Assess capacity building needs for all relevant institutions.</li> <li>3. Identify and assess relevant policies and plans and recommend appropriate measures.</li> </ol>		

<b>Clearing House Mechanism</b>	1). Strengthening coordination and collaboration amongst key stakeholders who are directly involved in biodiversity work. 2). Information on biodiversity, CBD and other relevant conventions and agreements will be centralized and coordinated through the CHM focal point housed within the Division of Environment and Conservation. 3). Integration of biodiversity conservation issues and principles into national policies and plans. 4). Increased public awareness on status of national implementation of CBD activities and related programmes. 5). Reliable and accurate biodiversity information system established.	1. Formalise the CHM Steering Committee	Ongoing	➤ The Project Steering Committee and an internal DLSE technical committee will continue to advise in general on the development of the CHM and towards the possibility of formulating a permanent CHM Steering Committee composed of representatives of relevant stakeholders.
		2. Develop a national website	Ongoing	➤ Contractor currently designing database & website.
		3. Develop resource materials	Completed Ongoing	➤ Information dissemination priorities from DEC/DLSE sections on biodiversity compiled together with format for dissemination from all its sections. ➤ Production specifications currently defined and lay out in terms of define production procedure and arrangements.
		4. Develop and conduct a nation-wide awareness programme	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	➤ DEC/DLSE Communication Strategy currently being finalised for nation-wide awareness programme. ➤ Productions are taking place with weekly newspaper publications, radio talk backs, and radio and television spots. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Newspaper: Two page English of mature audience environment articles and children's corner of an 'Environment Hall of Fame' quizzes, puzzles, etc. competition and biodiversity related special features and advices. Publications are disseminated in three widely distributed newspapers – Sunday Observer, Savali, and Newslite.</li> <li>○ Radio talks and spots on access and benefit-sharing and protection of traditional knowledge, practices and innovations.</li> <li>○ Television spots on access and benefit-sharing and protection of traditional knowledge, practices and innovations.</li> </ul>
		5. Develop a monitoring programme.	Ongoing	➤ Proposal currently defined for a first NBSAP monitoring exercise.
		6. Biodiversity Information management system	Ongoing.	➤ BIMS elements currently being developed:
		6 (i) Assess and implement appropriate biodiversity information management system	Ongoing	○ Database ○ Website
		6 (ii) Develop a biodiversity information management plan	Ongoing	○ Communication Strategy, and the
		6 (iii) Establish protocols for information sharing and meta-data standards	Completed	○ Education, Media & Public Awareness Plan.

<sup>i</sup> Urwin Consulting & KVA Consult – Draft Report Parts A & B.

<sup>ii</sup> CSL Interim Report

<sup>iii</sup> Copies of Information Dissemination Priorities of DEC's three sections – Marine Resource Conservation, National Parks & Reserves and Terrestrial Resource Conservation.

<sup>iv</sup> Draft DEC/DLSE Communication Strategy.