

Submission to the Cabinet Development Committee

- 1. Project Name:** GDP 435946 'Saving the Manumea and Ma'oma'o
- 2. Purpose of Submission:**
 - 2.1. The purpose of this submission is to inform and update the Cabinet Development Committee (CDC) on the implementation of the abovementioned project.
 - 2.2. The project was co-proposed for funding by the Division of Environment and Conservation of the Ministry of Natural Resource, Environment & Meteorology and the US-based inter-governmental organisation (IGO) called the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) to the Australian Government's Regional National Heritage Programme (ARNHP).
 - 2.3. It's aim is to implement a key strategic action of Samoa's National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (NBSAP) – the effective management of Samoa's critically endangered and endemic species which include the Manumea and Ma'oma'o or Tooth-billed Pigeon and Forest Honey Easter.
 - 2.4. WCS was made to be involved due to the fact that only IGOs or NGOs with the level of capability as WCS are eligible to access funding from ARNHP to implement relevant and appropriate conservation projects for the region.
- 3. Executing Agency:** Ministry of Finance
- 4. Implementing Agency:** Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment & Meteorology
- 5. Project Objective(s):**
 - 5.1. Develop conservation strategies for the conservation of the manumea and ma'oma'o in Samoa.
 - 5.2. Identify and secure 3-5 large populations of each species.
 - 5.3. Gather data on current distribution, population size, and bird ecology (feeding habits, preferred forest habitat etc) of the manumea and ma'oma'o.
 - 5.4. Gather data on threats such as hunting pressure, deforestation etc
 - 5.5. Implement Awareness program to increase public awareness of bird conservation to reduce hunting pressure and deforestation
 - 5.6. Identify appropriate alternative income generation activities in target village communities
 - 5.7. Capacity building for DEC
 - 5.8. Seek and secure funding for follow-up work e.g. from CEPF, GCF, GEF etc for future actions resulting from the project.
- 6. Project Funding (Aid & Local Budget):**
 - 6.1. Original Cost 275,000 AUD
 - 6.2. External Funding - ARNHP \$200,000 AUD: For equipments; field & community awareness surveys; media & public awareness campaigns; community consultations; training of MNREM staff; and consultancies (experts for training and technical advise).
 - 6.3. Local Funding – MNREM & MOF \$75,000 AUD: For salaries of staff that manage the funds, organize and implement the project activities; and all transportation, communication and office space costs.
- 7. Duration:**
 - 7.1. The project was scheduled to take place from July 2005 to June 2006, however due to formal processes of approval and arrangements for the transfer of funds from ARNHP to WCS then to MNREM which took two months of project time, actual implementation therefore only start at the beginning of September 2005. Heavy rain and flooding in February also postponed some critical project field surveys.
 - 7.2. The project therefore is as requested and approved extended for three months from July to September 2006¹.
- 8. Current Implementation**
 - 8.1. The following project milestones have been achieved:
 - 8.1.1. Reports of existing information on the manumea & ma'oma'o.
 - 8.1.2. Strategies for field and community awareness surveys and strategies

¹ Refer to Attachment 3: Proposed Extension of the Project.

- 8.1.3. Strategies for media, public awareness and community conservation strategy consultations
- 8.1.4. All planned field & community awareness surveys
- 8.1.5. Printing of planned t-shirts, poster, badges, bumper stickers and caps for public awareness campaigns.
- 8.1.6. Order of manumea & ma'oma'o mascots and project mtv.
- 8.1.7. Extensive media & public awareness which culminated in the selection of the manumea as the mascot of the 2007 South Pacific Games
- 8.1.8. Consultations with seven (7) of the ten (10) village communities of selected key forest sites for the conservation of the manumea & ma'oma'o
- 8.1.9. School awareness campaigns with ten (10) primary schools villages of the selected key forest sites for the conservation of the manumea & ma'oma'o
- 8.1.10. Hands on training of ten (10) staff of the Division of Environment & Conservation and Division of Forestry of MNREM as the Project Team for bird field surveys & community awareness surveys by hired ornithologist Dr. Ulf Beichle of Germany and bird conservation strategy adviser Dr. David Butler of New Zealand.
- 8.1.11. Initial Recovery Plans formulation meetings of MNREM Project Team

9. Outstanding Issues:

- 9.1. The following milestones are yet to be completed:
 - 9.1.1. Conservation strategy or Recovery plans for the manumea and the ma'oma'o
 - 9.1.2. GIS training for Project Team
 - 9.1.3. Village Agreements of selected forest sites for the conservation of the manumea & ma'oma'o
 - 9.1.4. Funding proposals to potential donors for implementation of Recovery Plans.

10. Project Implications for Samoa:

- 10.1. The project contributes to the long-term protection of two of Samoa's critically endangered bird species which are only found in Samoa – our very own heritage – the Manumea and Ma'oma'o – and the conservation and sustainable use of their rainforest habitats.

11. Signed by:



Tu'u'u leti Taule'alo

Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment & Meteorology

12. Date: 11 August 2006