



# IUCN Oceania

## Energy Programme



Pacific Island Countries are working on strengthening their national energy systems based on a mix of alternative sources of energy, innovative distribution systems, and different consumption patterns. They are making decisions about their energy futures, that focuses on reducing their reliance on fossil fuel and an increase in the use of renewable energy technologies. IUCN Oceania acts to accelerate the transition to energy systems that are ecologically efficient, sustainable and socially equitable. IUCN is promoting a rapid transition to sustainable energy sources by providing knowledge about the impacts of different energy alternatives on nature and biodiversity and how to limit these impacts.

### **What are the programme's goals?**

Promotion of energy systems that are ecologically efficient, sustainable and socially equitable with the view to conserve ecosystems and enhance livelihood standards.

### **Importance of the programme in the Pacific**

All Pacific Island Countries have developed their national energy policies and most are now working on their plans of action where investment in renewable energy technologies is a primary focus.

Achieving better understanding of the relationships between energy systems and natural systems and the impacts each has on the other is vital.

### **Projects Completed/Planned 2009:**

***Managing the Ecosystem & Livelihood Implications of Energy Policies in the Pacific Island States*** is a major project which is supporting beneficiary countries in the development and implementation of environmentally sound, sustainable energy policies and also facilitating the implementation of

6 renewable and energy efficiency pilot projects (in the Republic of Marshall Islands, Palau, Tonga, Samoa, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) focussing on ecosystem conservation and livelihood enhancement.



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**Gender Mainstreaming** – IUCN Oceania in collaboration with ENERGIA and the Pacific Energy and Gender Network is working on mainstreaming gender into IUCN's energy project: Managing the Ecosystem & Livelihood Implications of Energy Policies in the Pacific Island States. A literature review of gender dimensions in five of IUCN's country projects will soon begin (in 2009). Awareness and capacity building regional workshops for project coordinators and energy planners is targeted for 2010 in Tonga and Vanuatu.

**IUCN Oceania is part of a Cycling promotion** – to build awareness on the use of non-motorised transport systems. Discussions on the promotion of this project are underway with a cycling club in Fiji and other relevant stakeholders. Tonga and Fiji are targeted as ideal countries to kick-start the project.

In partnerships with other development partners, IUCN Oceania is assisting the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga to develop an **Energy Road Map** to facilitate reaching its 50% target of electricity generation by renewable sources by the year 2012. Similar assistance is being provided to develop Road Maps for Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Palau.

To build understanding of ecosystem services that underpin energy systems, IUCN Oceania is developing a **Guideline for Environmental Impact Assessments on the Development of Renewable Energy Options in Pacific Island Countries**. In line with this a regional training workshop focusing on renewable energy technologies and resources will be held in the last week of November 2009.

To learn more:

Visit: [www.iucn.org/oceania](http://www.iucn.org/oceania) for the latest news on activities or to download publications.

Visit [www.iucn.org/about/initiatives/energy/welcome/](http://www.iucn.org/about/initiatives/energy/welcome/) for more information on IUCN's Energy, Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative

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