



AFD - FRENCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Rural Development Department,
Environment and Natural Resources

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**Regional Initiative for the Protection and Sustainable Management
of Coral Reefs in the Pacific (CRISP)**

- Supervisory Mission (18 September to 7 October 2006) -

- Report -

Introduction

A CRISP supervisory mission, the first since the programme was launched, was conducted by Dominique Rojat, who is responsible for this project at AFD, from 18 September to 7 October 2006. Eric Clua, the CRISP Coordinator, was present throughout the mission. Christophe Du Castel of FFEM, was present in New Caledonia from 18 to 22 September for the first part of the mission.

The mission visited New Caledonia, Wallis, Fiji, Samoa and French Polynesia.

The terms of reference for the mission, its work programme and the list of persons met are included as annexes 1 and 2.

The mission wishes to thank all the CRISP partners and people met for their availability and warm reception.

This report briefly sets out the background to the programme, before addressing the situation regarding funding agreements, the start-up phase and the current status of activity implementation. It then turns to activity monitoring arrangements, partnerships and the economic analysis function within CRISP, before making recommendations about programme management and moving on to action to be taken as a result of the mission.

NB: at the end of this report you will find a table of the abbreviations and acronyms used and in Annex 3 a table on funding, activities and operators within CRISP.

Brief background to the CRISP Programme

CRISP is a regional cooperation programme aiming to stimulate sustainable development in Pacific island countries through the conservation and development of coral reefs, by associating expertise and capacities from French Overseas Territories and Communities (CTOM) with those of developed countries of the region.

The preparation of the CRISP Programme began with an identification mission conducted from 24 February to 4 March 2003, which made it possible to relate the programme to the strategies of PREP and to identify partners and potential action areas.

It continued through a call for proposals in order, particularly in the CTOM, to select partners who were already involved in coral reef protection, management and development activities wishing and having the capacity to do more, in a regional framework, in areas where AFD and FFEM can provide funding for small Pacific island states.

The programme's foundations within the CTOM were built via IFRECOR, whose manager in each territory became the natural contact point for CRISP.

The CRISP Programme preparatory phase was an opportunity to achieve operational partnerships with UNF, CI and WWF, who provided supplementary resources enabling the CTOM to benefit from funding under the programme, although they were not eligible for grants from AFD or (except for Wallis and Futuna) FFEM.

During the preparatory phase, AFD ensured that the programme included:

- a review of the knowledge on interactions between coral reefs, atmospheric CO2 content and the greenhouse effect, which is currently a subject for debate within the scientific community;
- a specific study on tourism, which is one of the engines of economic development, and particularly dive tourism certification;
- participation by the CIRAD-Forests Unit in the MPA component in order to take into account aspects related to watershed management, which is important for coral eco-system conservation;
- participation in the same component by the US Espace Unit of IRD (directed by Gilbert David) ;
- in the IRD-SAM (Marine Active Substances) project, inclusion of an item on improving the regulatory framework for resource-owning countries to enable them in due course to enjoy the benefits from possible profits from the production of therapeutic substances from samples taken in their waters, in accordance with the Río Convention.

AFD funding (3 million euros) and FFEM funding (2 million euros) were approved on 1 and 7 July 2004 respectively.

The programme is implemented through five funding agreements. Prof. Bernard Salvat (France) and Prof. Clive Wilkinson (Australia), who accompanied the project during its preparatory phase, agreed to become its scientific advisers. A Coordinator funded by the French Foreign Affairs Ministry (MAE), whose letter of appointment is signed by PREP, MAE and AFD, has opened an office at the SPC headquarters in Nouméa as part of a contract with FCI. The Coordinator took up his duties on 1 April 2005 for a three year period.

2. Status of funding agreements

Signatory	Signature date	Amount (K euros)	Status	Disbursement (euros)	Time limit for issue
CI	31/08/2005	2 000 (FFEM)	CI-CIRAD contract signing pending: to be signed before suspense clauses resolved	0	31/12/08
CNRS	15/04/2005	1 300 (AFD)	In progress	325 000	30/06/08
IRD	12/10/2005	500 (AFD)	In progress	100 000	30/06/08
UNF	07/07/2006	900 (AFD) 900 (UNF)	Annex VI signed during mission by PREP; suspense clauses resolved on 18/10/06	0	30/06/08
SPC	31/03/2005	300 (AFD)	In progress	180 000	30/06/08

Apart from the AFD and FFEM, the French government's economic, social and cultural co-operation fund for the Pacific (Pacific Fund) has made a significant contribution to CRISP: as part of an overall commitment of 400 K euros, a first instalment of 100 K euros funded the programme initiation workshop held from 24 to 28 January 2005 in Nouméa. The second instalment of the same amount has been 20% used to fund the participation of resource persons in international meetings, the development of the programme's web site (www.crisponline.net) and the development of specific partnerships: resumption of Reefcheck activities in French Polynesia, with co-funding from that territory, and mapping of the Milne Bay area in Papua New

Guinea, with the prospect of CRISP involvement. The French Embassy in Fiji, as part of its cultural cooperation activities concerning USP, also contributes to CRISP.

The negotiation of new partnerships for AFD requiring the harmonisation of legal approaches, the specific nature of certain arrangements (CI agreement with various subcontracts to be finalised by the lead agency, UNF agreement with circulation of funds to be made secure up to WFC and PREP, the end beneficiaries), processing by electronic mail or teleconference from Paris with no direct contact have led to major delays in signing funding agreements CI and UNF, which should however lead to disbursements being available before the end of 2006.

3. Project start-up phase: Year One (2005-2006)

The official launch of CRISP in Nouméa in January 2005 enabled the programme partners to identify with it and understand its internal mechanisms.

While AFD was finalising the signing of the funding agreements, the Coordinator worked on:

- preparation and adoption of the CRISP communication and data ownership charter;
- development of partnerships with projects and institutions wishing to co-operate with CRISP: CRTR project funded by the World Bank and the GEF, UNESCO and CI on Phoenix Islands (Kiribati) ;
- preparation and adoption of a monitoring system;
- mobilisation of Pacific Fund grants;
- preparation and updating of programme web site;
- regular publication of the status progress reports in the ICRI periodical;
- participation in international scientific gatherings so as to help make the programme and French coral reef conservation action more widely known: ICRI meetings in Seychelles in April 2005 and in Palau in November 2005, IMPAC in Australia in October 2005 ;
- first meeting of coordination unit support committee (programme governance structure bringing together CRISP component leaders) in April 2006 in Fiji.

The Coordinator's reports on these activities are available on the CRISP intranet.

4. CRISP activity implementation status

This section offers a concise review which focuses on aspects deemed relevant by donors and especially those on which the mission's recommendations are based. For a more complete report, readers may refer to the Coordinator's summary report. Also, reports and publications on CRISP activities in progress are available on the CRISP intranet.

Activity names and titles are as summarized in Annex 3.

1A1: marine biodiversity conservation strategy: although no disbursements have yet taken place under the agreement with CI, a marine eco-regional analysis of New Caledonia was carried out in August 2005 using resources provided by WWF and the CRISP Coordination Unit. This operation made it possible to enhance the proposal to have New Caledonia's reef listed as part of the UNESCO World Heritage by integrating it into its sub-regional context. The parts concerning French Polynesia and the regional summary for the Pacific (CI) have yet to be prepared.

1A2: support for MPAs: CI has pre-funded the operating costs for existing MPAs: ASMPA in Samoa and MPAs managed by FSPI in Kiribati, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Solomon islands. CI has also advanced funds to start activities in the Phoenix Islands in conjunction with UNESCO. Contracts have been finalised with IFRECOR in French Polynesia for the development of marine area management plans in Cook Islands and Alofi (Wallis and Futuna) with co-funding of 45 000 euros from IFRECOR Wallis and Futuna.

1A3: MPA networking, especially through the existing LMMA network; this activity, downstream from the MPA support activity, has not yet started.

1A4: integrated coastal management: this component has been fully designed, especially as regards the

involvement of CIRAD and IRD, thanks to the commitment from CI, whose Pacific Officer travelled to Montpellier in July 2006 to conclude an agreement, and also because the Coordination Unit covered the cost of preparatory work by Jean-Brice Herrens Schmidt, who is being recruited by IRD. The issue of watersheds has now been more fully integrated into the overall project. As part of its financial contribution to CRISP, CI is funding IRD and CIRAD in an amount equivalent to the resources that they receive from AFD, amounting to some 250 000 euros for each of the two institutes.

2A1: capture and farming of post-larvae: a guide on the identification of fish larvae based on work done by EPHE-CRIOBE (Moorea) will be published. Pilot operations are taking place in Fiji: larvae collection by Ecocéan in Navutulevu and a thesis by Julien Grignon, co-supervised by USP and the University of Perpignan, on restocking with larvae. Activities are also taking place in Wallis under the supervision of Pr Chauvet (UNC) with Mathieu Juncker, funded by the Coordination Unit. This swiftly developing activity which is capable of generating alternative income for communities living from fishing will lead to the preparation of a request for further funding of 500 K euros to be submitted to FFEM.

2A2: reef fishery management: this activity is conducted by the IRD COREUS team (Jocelyne Ferraris) in New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Fiji, as an extension to the EU-funded Procfish Programme implemented by the SPC. Its goal is to process Procfish data so as to define fishery management indicators. A workshop was held in Fiji in April 2006.

2A3: reef health status monitoring indicators: this activity being conducted by EPHE (Prof. Galzin) and jointly implemented with USP (Prof. MacKay) provides support to GCRMN with a view to restoring the operation of its Polynesia network known as 'Polynesia Mana'. To this background, Caroline Vieux, whose position is jointly funded by WFC via EPHE (WFC pre-funding pending resources from UNF under the AFD-UNF agreement) and IFRECOR in French Polynesia has been involved in Niue, Tonga, Kiribati, and Wallis and Futuna.

2A4: information feedback: this component is in the hands of IRD (Pascale Chabanet). An interactive DVD is planned. It will be translated into English using the PREP budget available under the AFD-UNF agreement.

2A5: studies on CO2 and tourism: the report on the coral reef carbon budget is being prepared under the supervision of Prof. Salvat. The tourism study has been entrusted to USP (Prof. Thaman) by CNRS and he has recruited a specialist consultant, Helen Sykes. She has begun preparing guidelines for eco-labelling of dive tourism (the label would be called 'Blue Stars', from the name of a local starfish) which would be connected with the Australian 'Green Globe' label, which is already widespread throughout the Pacific but for the moment only covers land-based aspects. The mission recommends expanding the approach (cf. § 8 below).

2B1: pilot coral reef replanting sites: this activity is being conducted by SPI-Infra/Soproner in partnership with FSPI. An initial rehabilitation site at Motoriki (Fiji) was launched successfully before falling victim to a bleaching incident. Two people from the local NGO were trained. A second site initially intended for the Solomons has not been confirmed (the capacities of the local NGO were deemed insufficient) and the activity is scheduled to be redeployed to Tuvalu. Also, an activity combining the establishment of an MPA, the capture of post-larvae and the replanting of coral was identified during the mission in conjunction with Sinalei Resort (Samoa).

2B2: publishing of a coral rehabilitation guide: the partnership with CRTR made it possible to plan the publication of a more substantial book than the initially originally planned guide in 2008-2009. It will be issued this year and presented in October, in a Pdf version, at the ITMEMS meeting in Cozumel (Mexico).

2C1: improvement of the legal framework for the collection and development of marine organisms: a one month mission by two doctoral students working under the supervision of Prof. Beurier (University of Nantes) took place in Fiji so as to assess the status of national legislation on marine bio-prospecting. Jean-Pierre Beurier himself visited Solomon Islands to do a similar job (Fiji and Solomon Islands are two countries targeted by IRD for specimen collection). The results of this research and the prospect of communicating them to other countries could interest PREP as part of its task to capitalise on the results obtained by CRISP.

2C2: taxonomy: the identification by IRD (Cécile Debitus' team) of specimens (especially of sponges) collected in Solomon Islands before CRISP became operational was also carried out.

2C3: collection and analysis of samples for the identification of potentially pharmacologically active substances: good results were obtained on the Solomons samples, with 50% of positive responses in one or more of the four areas under investigation: malaria, central nervous system, cancer and anti-inflammatory properties.

2C4: institutional strengthening: a student from Fiji, Swarup Shital, and a researcher from Solomon Islands, Reuben Sulu, were sent for training in France.

2D1, 2 and 3 (WFC): no significant progress because of delays in signing the AFD-UNF agreement. But, WFC showed anticipation by recruiting one of the two officers concerned, who is now operational.

3A1, 2 and 3 (PREP): the situation is the same as for WFC. A coral reef management specialist, Caroline Vieux, was recruited by PREP using Pacific Fund money and she is scheduled to take up her position on 1 December 2006. Her job description will include the incorporation of French CTOMs into CRISP and PREP activities. An amount of 150 000 euros has been reserved for this from resources provided by PREP to UNF. It has been agreed with PREP that Caroline Vieux will work independently to support PREP in the implementation of activities covered by the AFD-UNF agreement under the supervision of Dominique Benzaken. Also it has been agreed that PREP will harmonise CRISP reporting arrangements with UNF practices to avoid any duplication.

3B1: internal coordination, monitoring and evaluation: this activity, which is under the responsibility of the Coordinator, involved setting up a Coordination Unit Support Committee (CAC) and a management committee for grants from the Pacific Fund, standardisation of reporting arrangements by programme partners and operators and liaison (excluding funding agreement work) with CRISP internal and external partners.

3B2: promotion and communication: this component covers the creation of the website, the production of communication materials, the promotion of CRISP by the Coordinator at specialist symposia including those of ICRI and IFRECOR, and promotional work with the press and television in Pacific island countries and French CTOM.

3B3: programme development and extension: development of programmes on a technical (fish post-larvae for FFEM co-funding), or geographical (Papua New Guinea) or institutional (UNESCO in Kiribati on the Phoenix Islands) basis.

3B4: management: unit budget management by the Coordinator and the SPC is satisfactory.

5. Monitoring arrangements

The monitoring system for CRISP activities introduced by the Coordinator and approved by AFD in March 2006 included very detailed indicators corresponding to those from the logical frameworks of the AFD funding agreements.

This system is currently being trialled, because not all CRISP activities have started yet and the operators are working on their first monitoring documents. The documents produced by operators whose activities are already under way were considered by the Coordinator during the mission; these six-monthly documents will provide the raw material for the half-yearly progress reports to be produced by the Coordinator, who will supplement the specific reports written on other topics. The Coordinator's progress reports will amongst other things include a recapitulation on CRISP activities in each country and territory involved.

The first progress report by the Coordinator is expected after his mission to ITMEMS and the ICRI General Assembly (Cozumel, Mexico, 22 and 23 October 2006) that followed the CRISP supervisory mission.

The monitoring system also includes the requirement for operators to submit annual work plans. The 2007 versions are expected before the end of 2006. The Coordinator reminded all the partners met during the mission of this requirement.

The system should reach cruising speed in 2007, with regular reports from operators and the Coordinator.

Concerning monitoring, the AFD has agreed that the participation of partners in CAC meetings can be funded from the Coordination Unit budget if necessary.

Partnerships

a) Geographic extension of CRISP and international partners

The extension of CRISP to Palau, following the France-Pacific summit in June 2006 in Paris, has yet to be formalised by AFD. CI, one of the CRISP partners, has already arranged to be involved as part of the 'Micronesia Challenge', jointly with TNC and with funding amounting to 5 million US dollars. The Micronesia Challenge, promoted by the President of Palau, aims amongst other things to protect 30 % of coastal zones. It should also be noted that JICA has funded an Oceanographic Research Centre in Palau.

Papua New Guinea remains an interesting country for CRISP. However, there is no guarantee that CI will continue its participation in the Milne Bay project and the issue will therefore need to be reviewed from another point of view.

Contact with Australia, which had been initiated in the CRISP preparatory phase, was maintained through scientific and diplomatic channels. An initial official meeting is scheduled for Townsville in February 2007 for the purpose of establishing an operational partnership. The Coordinator and Prof. Salvat will take part.

There have been discussions with New Zealand about its participation in CRISP activities in Cook Islands under Component 1.

Contact has been established with working groups in the USA regarding coral reefs and a scientific symposium involving France, Japan and USA is being planned for Moorea in December 2006 under the CRISP umbrella.

The appointment of Dr Philippe Gerbeaux as principal technical adviser at the UICN office in Fiji with MAE funding also offers opportunities for cooperation, which should be explored without delay, with special reference to the economic approach (cf. § 7 below).

A partnership with Reefcheck including co-funding has been introduced.

And lastly the partnerships established with the CRTR project funded by the World Bank and the GEF as well as one with UNESCO for the Phoenix Islands should not be overlooked.

b) Integration of the CTOM into their regional environment

With CRISP, the CTOM have had an opportunity make progress towards a regional cooperation objective pursued by the French Government and the territorial executives.

The CTOM are naturally benefiting from the regional activities conducted by CRISP.

In addition, it should be remembered that the CTOM enjoy resources provided by CRISP through the activities and funding put in place by CI and WWF, although they were not eligible for grant funding from AFD and (except for Wallis et Futuna) from FFEM. To be added to this, at the request of AFD, is an amount of 150 K euros within the co-funding provided by UNF to PREP.

The CTOM have made specific contributions to CRISP:

- French Polynesia contributes 15 000 euros to the partnership with Reefcheck;
- Wallis and Futuna provide 45 000 euros from their IFRECOR budget to contribute to the establishment of a marine area management plan with an operator from French Polynesia (Proscience) and supervision by the IFRECOR operation in French Polynesia;
- in New Caledonia, the Islands Province is contributing 40 000 euros to the establishment of an MPA in Lifou and Maré, with the assistance of CRISP, in sites not selected for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage listings.

The representatives of IFRECOR in the CTOM played their part as contact points for CRISP and IFRECOR participation was active in French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna. In New Caledonia, where IFRECOR had a priority focus on listing the coral reef as part of the UNESCO World Heritage, CRISP provided its contribution at two levels:

- by ensuring that the marine eco-regional analysis of New Caledonia, covered under Component 1, would be carried out by WWF within a period enabling its conclusions to be taken into account for the UNESCO World Heritage listing process (cf. § 4, 1A1 above) ;
- by conducting activities in areas pre-identified for the UNESCO listing, thus providing information that will in due course be useful for implementing the management plans for the listed parts and involving local communities. These activities were carried out by WWF for the Merlet Reserve (Southern Province) and the Mont Panié protected area (Northern Province) which now also includes an MPA. Others are in progress in the lagoon of the island of Ouvéa by IRD's COREUS research unit (Component 2A2).

Lastly, one point was again made during the mission concerning the participation of IRD in CRISP. IRD, which has a major centre in New Caledonia, with almost 50 researchers and doctoral students, and many work areas directly related to CRISP, was identified during the programme the preparatory phase as a leading partner and the Institute's team which add value to the programme have indeed been involved. They are referred to in the two funding agreements with CI - at the request of AFD - and CNRS, and a specific agreement has been signed with IRD for the SAM. AFD is willing, on the request of IRD, to conclude a general partnership agreement with the Institute making its involvement in CRISP more visible under the existing funding agreements.

7. Economic analysis in CRISP

The economic development of biodiversity is the future for small Pacific island countries and the fundamental reason for the involvement of AFD and FFEM in CRISP. AFD will be particularly interested in this aspect throughout the programme.

The CRISP activities with an economic impact in the medium to long-term are as follows:

- a)** fish larvae capture and farming: here there is a potential for direct income through the aquarium fish trade, aquaculture for food production, sale for coral gardens or indirect income for local fisheries through reseedling;
- b)** coral replanting for the following purposes:
 - coral farms: collection, planting and farming of coral and living rock for the aquarium trade;
 - coral gardens: coral replanting near hotels and tourism centres so as to develop submarine pathways accessible to snorkellers; possible improvements by the introduction of fish obtained from collected larvae;
- c)** Active Marine Substances;
- d)** tourism;
- e)** protected marine areas: increase in fish production in and outside reserves, land-based tourism, diving, cetacean watching, etc.

During the preparation of CRISP, AFD tried to identify resource persons to monitor programme activities from this point of view but with little success. CRISP and its programme team must remain highly focused on biology and ecology or the local management of MPAs; the absence of economic skills is a liability.

The mission reviewed research in progress and economic analysis requirements in the five main areas of activity:

- a) fish larvae capture and farming: work is scheduled for Fiji with Laisiasa ('Lai') Cavakiqoli in Navutulevu, under the Ecocéan contract and in French Polynesia through the work planned for May 2007 by Anna Lipchitz, of AFD. Further support in this area should come from the FFEM funding scheduled to begin in 2007;
- b) coral replanting: an approach needs to be made for this purpose to SPI-Infra and René Galzin, who is responsible for the AFD-CNRS agreements under which this activity is funded;
- c) SAM : the work carried out by the team led by Prof. Beurier on the legal framework is the condition required for resource-owning countries to be able in due course to enjoy economic returns; we do not need to go any further from the moment;
- d) tourism: the study has commenced with USP but needs to be changed (cf. § 4 and 8) ;
- e) protected marine areas: a special effort needs to be provided in this area where major funding is available and the interest in economic development shared by AFD, CI and WWF is one of the main reasons why these major NGOs are involved in CRISP. Achievement of the objectives of the AFD-CI agreement in terms of defining socio-economic and economic appraisal indicators for MPAs will require us to get organised from the outset of the programme. AFD wishes appraisals not to be restricted to an analysis of the heritage value of reefs but for it to be extended to the net impact of the MPA and include a cost-benefit analysis regarding their establishment and management. This will certainly not be possible for all the MPAs funded by CRISP, but should be possible to select a sample of some five existing MPAs in which the capital in terms of knowledge and data quality would make this approach possible. The only work in progress on this subject is that of Tanya O'Garra carried out with Prof. Thaman (USP) on the Navakavu MPA in Fiji.

Recommendations are presented in § 8 below.

8. Conclusions, recommendations and action needed

a) Conclusions

The method pursued in designing the programme made it possible to achieve major savings in the preparation costs, which became *de facto* the responsibility of the operators. CI in particular made a substantial investment at the call for proposals stage by organising the six delegated implementation contracts for Component 1.

The choice of using partners who were already active in the appropriate field also made it possible for some activities to commence swiftly, in some cases even before the agreements were signed: this was the case for IRD with the SAM, SPI-Infra and FSPI with coral replanting and CI for the MPAs with the pre-funding available to FSPI and ASMPA.

The communication work carried out since early 2005 has enabled CRISP to be known and its trademark is now familiar.

The scientific contributions are performed by the best teams available in the CTOM (EPHE, IRD, universities), with strong involvement from the USP regional teams. Prof. Salvat has provided very worthwhile support in his role as scientific adviser.

The ability to foster cooperation between teams of varying origins has now been demonstrated and the results obtained significant in terms of coral replanting and the work done at USP where CRISP has an office and where the programme's activities are fully integrated into those of the Fisheries, Islands and Oceans Department under the supervision of Dean Paolelei Luteru and Prof. William Aalbersberg.

Lastly the Coordinator is performing his duties in a very satisfactory manner.

The delays recorded with programme start-up were linked to the time taken to sign the funding agreements. Apart from this aspect, which is now history, there is no obstacle to the smooth running of CRISP.

b) General programme orientations

2007 should be the year in which CRISP achieves its cruising speed. For this to happen we should:

- maintain the programme's international visibility, by adding value to the results obtained through publications and scientific papers;
- make all instruments and partnerships effective and achieve full activity on all components;
- ensure that the monitoring system that is regularly used by all partners and by the Coordinator and put all CRISP materials on line in real time with an entry point per country, the goal being to make an already visible programme even more transparent;
- begin work on the economic analysis aspect, in particular with reference to the MPAs;
- develop the partnerships in a controlled fashion without exceeding the financial and human resources available to CRISP ;
- in the future in the medium-term prepare and a funding proposal for the EU under regional ACP and CTOM arrangements for the 10th EDF. EDF funding would secure further returns on the investment made in setting up the CRISP project architecture which now represents a reliable vehicle for a large-scale regional cooperation activity concerning the environment, MPAs, coastal fishery resource management and biodiversity conservation and development.

c) Recommendations and further action

In connection with the activities:

After the essential initial communication phase concerning CRISP at international meetings, the Coordinator should now give priority to programme management and internal cohesion as well as monitoring and publishing results; participation in international meetings and scientific articles should be done by programme researchers on behalf of CRISP.

The study on tourism contracted by CNRS to USP should be developed in a regional framework on the basis of the first stage being carried out by USP in Fiji and designed to come up with a standard set of requirements for marine tourism certification. In particular we will need to:

- review tourism certification labelling in the Pacific to demonstrate the added value offered by the Blue Star label;
- involve the French CTOMs at an institutional level: governments of New Caledonia and French Polynesia, universities (in particular the University of French Polynesia where three doctoral theses on this topic are in progress under the supervision of Prof. Decoudras, geographer and Prof. Montet, economist) as well as the private sector (chambers of commerce, hoteliers, travel agencies, tour operators);
- consult the UNEP specialist department in Paris.

Except for the last, these tasks will be performed by the AFD Project Manager from Paris and will be the direct responsibility of the Coordinator and Prof. Galzin, with the assistance of Caroline Vieux as needed. It is expected that the 2007 work programme will include them.

An area of activity needs to be opened up regarding economic analysis (cf. § 7), with reference to coral replanting (contact needs to be established with Prof. Galzin, SPI and FSPI) and especially to the MPAs. In this area, CI will be involved (a budget of 250 K USD still has to be allocated under its financial contribution to the programme) in the same way as WWF, which is seeking to develop its cooperation with AFD on MPAs, and UICN, through Philippe Gerbeaux. It should also be noted that CI, WWF and UICN all have a partnership agreement with AFD in which the economic approach is prominent. This exercise should involve the SOCMON networks (which held a meeting at ITMEMS in Cozumel) and LMMA, as well as USP, and be conducted under the auspices of PREP, which is seeking to capitalise on this issue. A proposal will also be made to Australia to co-operate in this endeavour. These tasks, which should commence without delay, will be under the direct responsibility of the Coordinator, with the assistance of Caroline Vieux and the AFD Project Manager.

Beyond these immediate tasks, the AFP Project Manager will between now and 2007 contact those of the

agency's partners who might be interested in providing economic appraisal support to CRISP: IRD (Christian Chaboud), University of Montpellier (Hélène Rey, who is part of Gilbert David's team), CIRAD (which is a partner in the MPA component and Ifremer (Olivier Thebault). The work of capitalising on MPAs about to be created by the FFEM secretariat could also provide a valuable contribution.

In connection with partnerships:

The Coordinator and AFD will prepare for the meeting with Australia scheduled for February 2007 in Townsville, which will be conducted by the Coordinator with the assistance of Prof. Salvat. The agenda items will include topics already raised by Australia: development of the harvesting of fish post-larvae, the setting up of further MPAs in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, secondment of a junior expert to the Coordination Unit, training activities maximising the Australian potential. To be added to this is the possible participation of Australia in the economic analysis work described in this report.

Contacts with New Zealand will be pursued through diplomatic channels.

Between now and the end of 2006, AFD will formalise the decision to extend CRISP to Palau.

The Coordinator will seek to improve the involvement of IFRECOR New Caledonia in CRISP by working with JC. Angué, who is responsible for research and technology in the Office of the High Commissioner of the French Republic in New Caledonia.

The involvement of IRD in CRISP may be made more visible by the signing of an agreement describing the institute's contribution to the programme between AFD and IRD, as requested by IRD. This agreement could be extended if necessary to other topics concerning New Caledonia and the Pacific Islands region (waste management, competitive centre on biodiversity in New Caledonia), for which IRD would play the role of a resource agency as anticipated by the change in its terms of reference.

The assessment of the contribution of CI to CRISP may be adjusted at the request of CI, by adding more value to the extra work carried out over and above the initial forecasts, as already performed by CI or to come: investments in time and travel for preparing the component since 2004, cost of pre-financing granted to operators under this same component, planned work, especially for the development of CRISP in Palau, whereas the rate of the remuneration of CI on Component 1 is lower than for the other partners involved. CI's request would relate to covering salary costs for a period of the few months. AFD will look into this favourably.

On funding and resources:

With CRISP soon to reach cruising speed, it would be desirable for the Coordination Unit's human resources to be strengthened. The Coordinator is seeking relevant opportunities to do so.

For February 2007, the Coordinator will prepare a project description to be submitted to FFEM, referring particularly to reef fish post-larvae collection.

Also for February 2007, for relevant partners, the Coordinator will prepare project descriptions for the purpose of securing resources under the 10th EDF.

List of abbreviations and acronyms:

AFD	<i>Agence Française de Développement</i> (French Development Agency)
ASMPA	Aleipata & Safata Marine Protected Areas (Samoa)
CCU	<i>Cellule de coordination du CRISP</i> (CRISP Coordination Unit)
CI	Conservation International
CIRAD	<i>Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement</i> (Centre for International Cooperation in Agricultural Research for Development)
CNRS	<i>Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique</i> (National Scientific Research Centre)
COREUS	<i>Communautés Récifales et leurs Usages</i> (Reef Communities and their Uses)
CRIOBE	<i>Centre de Recherches Insulaires et Observatoire de l'Environnement</i> (Island Research Centre and Environment Observatory)
CRISP	Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific
CRTR	Coral Reef Targeted Research
CTOM	<i>Collectivités Territoriales d'Outre-Mer</i> (Overseas Territories and Communities)
EPHE	<i>Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes</i> (Practical School for Higher Studies)
EU	European Union
FCI	<i>France Coopération Internationale</i>
FFEM	<i>Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial</i> (French Fund for the Global Environment)
FSPI	Foundation for the Peoples of South Pacific International
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF	Global Environment Facility
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
ICRS	International Coral Reef Symposium
IFRECOR	<i>Initiative Française pour les Récifs Coralliens</i> (French Coral Reef Initiative)
IMPAC	International Marine Protected Areas Congress
IRD	<i>Institut de Recherche pour le Développement</i> (Institute of Research for Development)
ITMEMS	International Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management Symposium
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Areas
MAE	<i>Ministère des Affaires Etrangères</i> (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
MPA	Marine Protected Area
PGEM	<i>Plan de Gestion de l'Environnement Marin</i> (Marine Area Management Plan)
PREP	Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Procfish	Pacific Regional Oceanic and Coastal Fishery Development Programme
PREP	Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Reefcheck	Coral reef status monitoring programme (based on fish censuses by volunteer divers)
SOCMON	Socio-Economic Monitoring Network
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPI-Infra	Reef rehabilitation operator
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UICN	<i>Union Internationale pour la Conservation de la Nature</i> (International Union for Nature Conservation)
UNC	<i>Université de Nouvelle-Calédonie</i> (University of New Caledonia)
UNF	United Nations Foundation
UPF	<i>Université de Polynésie Française</i> (University of French Polynesia)
USP	University of the South Pacific
UR	<i>Unité de Recherches</i> (Research Unit)
US	<i>Unité de Services</i> (Service Unit)
WFC	World Fish Center (CGIAR)
WWF	World Wildlife Fund for Nature

Annexes:

Terms of reference for the mission

Work programmes and people met in the countries and territories visited

CRISP Summary Activity and Funding Table