

Biodiversity in the Pacific islands

[Review of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and associated Roundtable process](http://www.sprep.org/topic/Biodiv-review.htm)

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OBJECTIVE	POTENTIAL MONITORING MECHANISMS
1 Conservation areas, habitats and ecosystems	Adopting the monitoring efforts and results obtained by specialized agencies, most probably through remote sensing, could assess progress towards this Objective. These efforts could focus on land use (change in forest cover), mangroves environmental quality, and condition of coral reefs. Alternatively, or in addition to this, monitoring could focus on effective management of Conservation Areas, starting with the adoption of a PICT list of conservation/protected areas, an assessment of management effectiveness (when this has been defined), and an identification of macro-trends in terms of habitat size and condition. The Roundtable has explored potential indicators for monitoring this Objective.
2 Indigenous species, especially those at risk	The vast scope of this Objective may lead to difficulties with monitoring. Many proposals have been made for the adoption of indicator species to be monitored, such as turtles, spawning aggregations, coastal fisheries, etc. The Roundtable Working group could select specific priority species and then monitor their state against targets set by lead PICTs or agencies. It may also be possible to monitor the IUCN Red Data List to note trends, and the percentage of species at risk and those of cultural significance that have management plans, but this last indicator may be somewhat superficial. The Roundtable has explored potential indicators for monitoring this Objective.
3 Invasive species and genetically modified organisms	Information generated through the Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) could be used to assess progress towards this Objective. In particular, the Network could advise the Roundtable Working Group on increases in invasive species, new infestations in PICTs, species that have been brought under control, etc. The Roundtable has explored potential indicators for monitoring this Objective.

Table 2: Proposed Objectives and potential monitoring mechanisms