

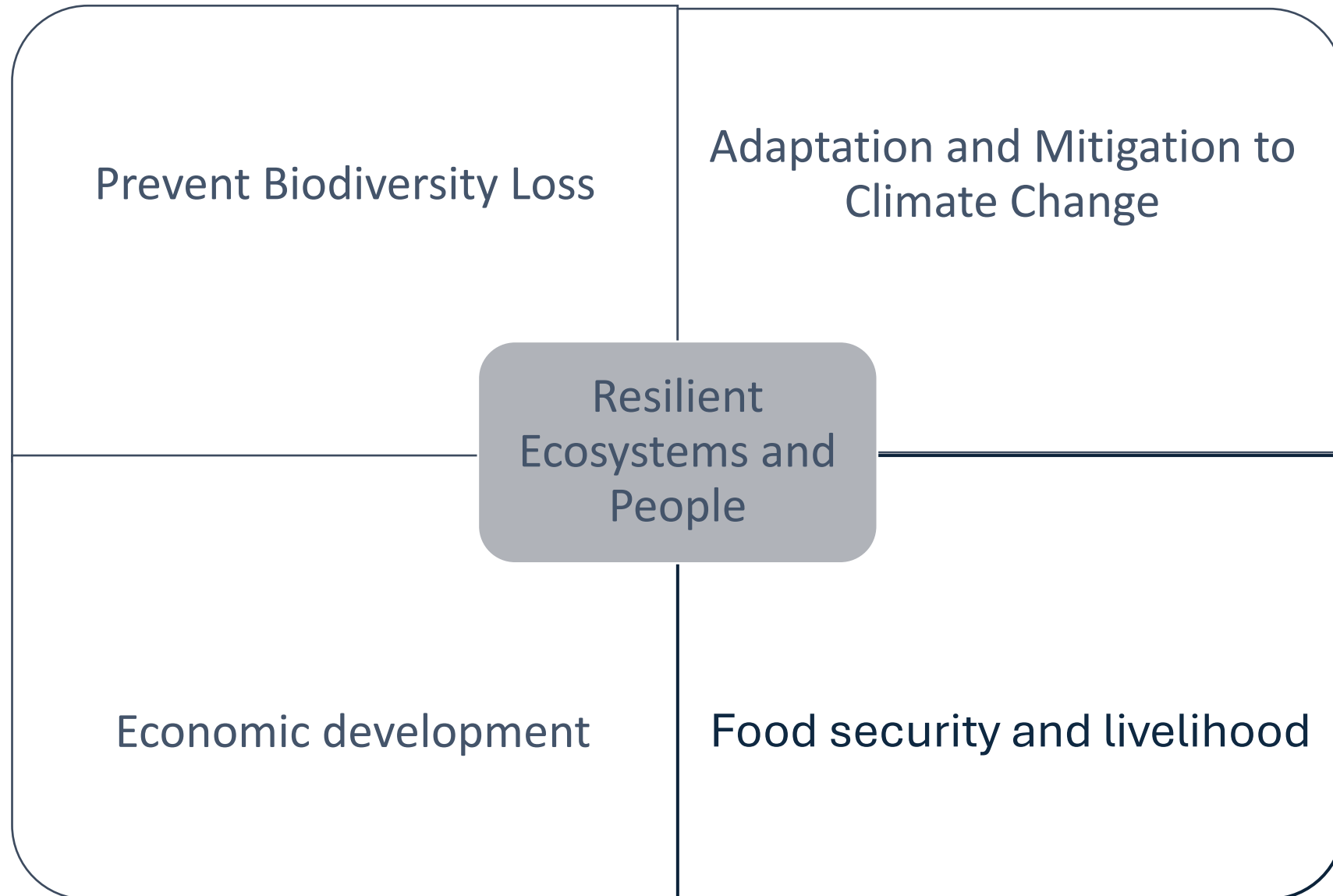


Pacific Network of Forestry Professionals

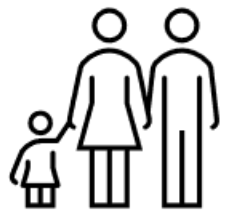
An update by Jalesi Mateboto

2025 Forestry Australia Conference
Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future.

Sustainable Forests and Trees Management in the Pacific



Natural
Resources



People
Centred

Forests, Trees and Forest Product Management Issues



- **Governance and Institutional**

- Capacity & Capability gaps
- Data availability, accessibility and reliability
- Technology transformation
- Information, Communication Knowledge Management
- Inadequate resources and funding

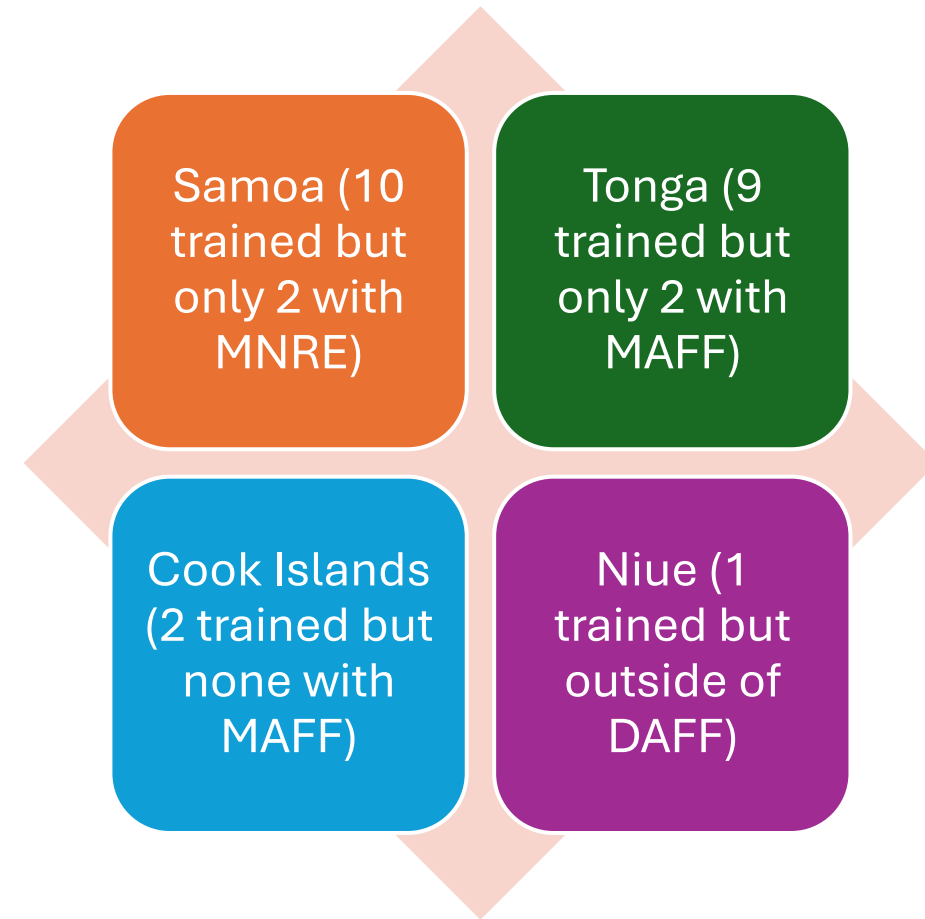
- **Resource Stewardship**

- Anthropogenic
- Impacts of natural events (cyclones, droughts, floods, Tsunami, etc)
- Pests and diseases
- Impacts of climate change
- Impacts of Fires
- Population pressure

A look at our Forestry Professionals



- Forestry professionals in the Pacific often work in geographically isolated areas with limited access to programs for ongoing training and professional development.
- An increasing number are entering the profession without formal training in forestry.
- Need to have diverse knowledge to optimise the social, economic and environmental benefits of our forests and tree resources into the future
 - including addressing threats such as climate change and biodiversity loss.



The birth of the PNFP



- May 2023 Pacific Week of Agriculture and Forestry Side event 13 on **Enhancing communication and networks to promote sustainable forest management**
 - The concept of a regional network to connect forestry professionals in the Pacific was first presented and discussed in this side event
 - The concept generated much interest and support from countries in the Pacific to proceed with the development of the network
 - A network of forestry professionals in the Pacific can support professional development through access to information and training programs.
 - Forestry Australia was ready to work in partnership with SPC to support local associations of forestry professionals (where they exist) and individual forestry professionals, by providing access to its services and on-line resources.



Structuring the Network



- Oct 2023 ANZIF Pacific Side event
 - PNG – Enhancing the technical knowledge and skills of the professionals through seminars, meetings, learning and social events for members.
 - SOI - Support information sharing and exchange, study tours (especially in Australia and New Zealand)
 - Samoa – assist with scholarships/fellowships/micro-qualifications. Assist with resource mobilization to support national activities
 - Tonga – Establish and maintain networks with regional/international organisations and platforms (eg SPC PWAF, HOAFS & MOAFS, Forestry Australia, ACIAR, MFAT and DFAT)
 - Vanuatu – Network with other national forestry professionals association
 - Fiji – Retention of core forestry technical knowledge and skills, support our national governments and young professionals

Our Journey so far.....



- Good progress has been made towards the formation of a Pacific Network of Forestry Professionals (PNFP), including-
 - consultations in Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, PNG, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands to support the formation and/or strengthening of national associations of forestry professionals
 - the development and confirmation of a draft constitution for the PNFP
 - collaboration with Forestry Australia to provide access to information and resources for continuing professional development (scholarship for 100 members for 5 years, more than 50 members registered with FA)
 - participation of 19 forestry professionals from Pacific Island Countries at the ANZIF conference in Coolangatta in October 2023.
 - two Pacific Island Forestry Professionals are now enrolled in a formal mentoring program with Forestry Australia
 - An information paper on the network was presented to the 10th HOAFS Meeting in Tonga in May 2025. Jointly organised PWAF side events with SPC and Tonga.
 - Development and circulation of our first Newsletter in July 2025
 - Endorsement of an interim Committee to lead the PNFP to its first AGM, election of office bearers and facilitate registration of the Network (19th October 2025)
 - Participation of the PNFP in the Forestry Australia's 2025 Conference in Adelaide from 20 – 23rd October

Partners



Australian Government
**Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research**



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



**Crawford
Fund** FOR A FOOD
SECURE WORLD



**Pacific
Community**
**Communauté
du Pacifique**