UNESCO’s support for Integrated Water Resource Management in the Pacific
25th – 30th July 2011

Third Meeting of the Regional Project Steering Committee for the SOPAC/UNDP/UNEP/GEF Project: Implementing Sustainable Water Resource Management in Pacific Island Countries

Kevin Petrini, Interim Natural Sciences Programme Specialist

UNESCO’s water family

UNESCO – IHP: Secretary for International Hydrological Programme
UNESCO – WWAP: World Water Assessment Programme
UNESCO – IHE: Institute for Water Education
UNESCO Water Chairs

Field Office in Apia: Promoting sustainable management and conservation of freshwater, terrestrial resources and biodiversity

Selected past work with Water

• Support for the IWRM Nadi Basin Flood Mitigation, Targeted scientific & technical report, Water Quality & Environmental Assessment, 2010
• Support for Water Resources Management, Aitutaki, Cook Islands, 2006
• Support for Groundwater recharge in low coral islands Bonriki, South Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati, Issues, traditions and conflicts in groundwater use and management, 1999
• Support for Groundwater Pollution Study Pangai-Hihifo, Lifuka, Kingdom of Tonga, 1998

Current support for IWRM

Support for SPC/SOPAC’s development of a Catalogue of Rivers for the Pacific including Palau, FSM, PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji and Samoa

Youth Visioning – Catholic Youth group from Kiribati are documenting the effects of Climate Change on the outer atolls and producing a short video to share with the greater community

Possibilities for Collaboration

• Water-related Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Education and Research
• Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) materials related to drought, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change
• Assessment of Pacific science policy needs and priorities
• Man and the Biosphere (MAB) – Enhancing and developing MAB reserves for learning laboratories – supporting Global Environmental Benefits
• Management of both groundwater and aquifer systems

GOAL: to help scientists and stakeholders break through the traditional paradigm lock that separates them from integrated solutions
• Deliver social, economic and environmental benefits to stakeholders through research towards the sustainable and appropriate use of water.
• Deploy hydrological science in support of improved integrated catchment management.
• Improve the complex relationships between hydrological processes, water resources management, ecology, socio-economics and policy-making.
Global Chemistry Experiment “Water: A Chemical Solution”

The Experiments
1. pH of the Planet: Students collect data measuring the pH of water using indicator solutions.
2. Salty Waters: Students explore the salinity of their local water.
3. Solar Still Challenge: Students will construct a solar still from household materials and experiment with its use to purify water.
4. Water: No Dirt, No Germs: Students will learn how chemistry is used to help provide safe drinking water.

Each activity includes a teacher’s guide, a list of necessary material for carrying out the activities and explicit instructions on how to carry out the activities.

http://water.chemistry2011.org/web/iyc

k.petrini@unesco.org