

NIUE ISLAND

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2001

Organisation submitting the report

- The Huanaki Cultural Centre and Museum under the Department of Community Affairs.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- This is an ongoing activity and yet to be completed.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- Tentative List has not been prepared yet and requires training.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations but foreseen nominations for both natural and cultural significance.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- World Heritage Convention is considered to be covered by the Cultural Council Act 1986.
- National Committee for World Heritage is under consideration.
- Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Department has the legislation for the Terrestrial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1997.
- The Land Ordinance 1969 gives the government rights to protect natural and cultural areas.

Participation of local communities

- "Communities are very protective of their inherited traditional artefacts as well as practices and land rights".
- The Environment Section of Community Affairs is active in the promotion and conservation of the environment.
- The Village Council Ordinance 1967 gives the villages responsibilities in the protection of natural and cultural sites.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- No figures supplied.

Professional

- A list of scientific and technical research papers have been provided.

New and improved services

- Different departments have developed their own policies that relate to some of the objectives in protection and conservation and identification of sites.
- The Environmental Bill is being reviewed.
- The Forestry National Policy will be completed by the end of the year.

Issues to be addressed

- There is a need of awareness concerning World Heritage Convention at all levels of the Government.
- Lack of trained and/or technical staff.
- Training in natural and cultural conservation is required.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- No information provided.
- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:
2003 \$20,000 Preparatory Assistance for Tentative List workshop

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- The Environment Department has conducted some awareness programmes on conservation.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- There is a lack of expertise and funds to implement conservation programmes. In this regard, Niue Island intends to submit a proposal to UNESCO for assistance for education and awareness programmes.
- Awareness among government officials, departments and NGOs required.