

TIRAA, Anna Elizabeth (Cook Islands)

Current employment and/or position/title:

Director of Climate Change, Cook Islands Government

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Anna Tiraa is a committed conservationist with more than 20 years working for the benefit of the Pacific Islands environment. Anna has undertaken environmental related work for Government, National and international NGOs, communities, private sector, inter-governmental regional organizations and the UN. Work experience includes project design, implementation, negotiation, monitoring, review and evaluation. Individual work assignments have been in the Cook Islands, Samoa, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Tuvalu and Tokelau. She has been a major contributor to bringing back a critically endangered endemic Rarotongan bird from the brink of extinction. As Biodiversity Officer for the Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), she has contributed to the biodiversity conservation efforts of more than 20 Pacific Island countries and territories. This experience has given her a sound knowledge of processes across a broad spectrum of groups contributing to conservation initiatives in the Oceania region, and allowed her to establish a valuable network of environmental policy makers and practitioners in the Oceania region.