The Pukatai pilot network

In order to test the label methodology, the partners have decided to set up a two-year pilot program: Pukatai. Its goal is to create an Educational Managed Marine Area in each of the inhabited islands of the Marquesas archipelago and to federate their management with primary schools. Pukatai leans on its experiment of the very first Educational Managed Marine Areas of Tahuata and on a team of key local persons from each island. Their role is to assist teachers for the actions needed for the Educational Managed Marine Areas. Pukatai has been a laureate to a national call for proposals launched by the French Initiative in favour of coral reefs (Ifreco).

Pukatai will contribute to the global initiative of creation of a large marine protected area and the registration of the archipelago as a Unesco World Heritage Site as a mixed site (natural/cultural). This process requires the establishment of effective educational programs and management plans for natural and cultural sites. Thus, the Pukatai network follows the Unesco philosophy regarding management issues.

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The Educational Managed Marine Areas’ objectives

- **Educational**: Teach knowledge about natural and cultural marine heritage using an intergenerational approach in both French and Polynesian languages
- **Civic**: Participate in the long-term marine management
- **Environmental**: Raise public awareness regarding the environment with a cross-cutting and multidisciplinary approach (ecology, uses and culture)
- **Scientific**: Give the population and the young population an easy access to science
- **Social**: Contribute to the creation of new jobs linked to Heritage such as Educational Managed Marine Areas key informants who help teachers
- **Tourist**: Promote the Polynesian marine heritage
- **Cooperative**: Inspire similar initiatives in the Pacific