



Rotuma 1978, CC BY-SA 3.0 AT, via Wikimedia Commons

Polynesian Starling: Duncan Wright, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

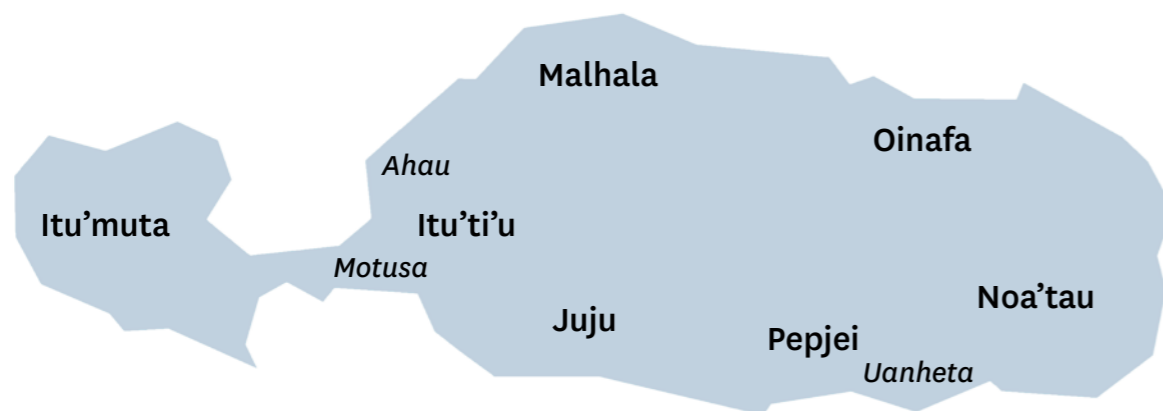


Rotuman Language Week | Sunday 7 May – Saturday 13 May

The overarching theme for the 2022 Pacific Language Weeks was sustainability, which aligned with our Pacific Languages Strategy and fed into the UNESCO Decade of Indigenous Languages to sustain and revitalise heritage languages. This theme of sustainability has resonated strongly with our Pacific communities, who have agreed to carry it over for Pacific Language Weeks 2023.

**Rotuma Island is located 640kms from Fiji.
It is a small island part of the Republic of Fiji.**

ROTUMA ISLAND



Rotuma Island's population is 1,594

Quick facts

Language: The Rotuman language is listed as 'definitely endangered' on the UNESCO List of Endangered Languages. Rotumans living in New Zealand (981) are actively practising the language and sharing the knowledge to keep it alive.

Birds: Rotuma is included in the Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs). IBAs protect vulnerable birds in the area such as Rotuma myzomela, Polynesian starling and Fiji shrikebill.

Everyday words you can use in person and in emails

Fäeag Rotuam	English
Noa'ia	Greetings/Hello
Noa'ia 'e mauri gagaj 'atakoa	Greetings Everyone
Hö/La' ma alalum	Goodbye – to those who are leaving
Fu' ma alalum	Goodbye – to those who are staying
Figalelei	Please
Faiaakse'ea [for-yak-see-yah]	Thank you
Hanis ma röt'ak	Sorry