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*The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.*

## Twenty Sixth SPREP Meeting of Officials

Apia, Samoa  
22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015

### Agenda Item 10.4: Environmental Monitoring and Governance Division Overview 2016

#### Purpose

1. To provide an overview of major 2016 work programme activities for the division to contribute to the Environmental Monitoring and Governance Strategic Priority of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2011-2015.

#### Key Areas of Work for 2016

##### 2. Enabling Frameworks

- Use the regional EIA Guidelines to develop and trial the EIA training manual and develop associated in country training in 3 pilot countries: Palau; Niue; and FSM.
- Work with the Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility on environmental safeguards to ensure consistency with the regional EIA Guidelines
- Implement a regional inception workshop for the GEF Nagoya Protocol – Access and benefit Sharing (ABS) Capacity Building Project
- Conduct gap analysis for ABS policies and legislation in PICs and prepare an ABS regional framework
- Complete regional review of enforcement and compliance with national environmental laws
- Update 4 remaining national reviews of environmental law that were conducted in the early 2000 and publish all 14 national reviews
- Conduct negotiations training at CMS/CBD pre-COP workshop
- Complete implementation of the GEF Project on “Enhancing Capacity to Develop Global and Regional Environmental Projects in the Pacific” to enable GEF Implementing Agency certification.
- Submit GEF Regional Project Document for 'Building National and Regional Capacity to Implement MEAs by Strengthening Planning, State of the Environment Assessments and Reporting for Pacific Islands' to GEF.
- Support National Planning and Prioritization for GEF-6.
- Facilitate the implementation of GEF projects and GEF-6 PIFs formulation for SPREP regional projects, through the SPREP GEF Advisory Group.

3. **Mainstreaming**

- Complete National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS) formulation in Marshall Islands
- Start NEMS formulation in Niue, Palau and Federated States of Micronesia
- Integrate NEMS into National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) through active participation in the “NSDS Support Partnership.”
- Continue to provide regional leadership in facilitating sustainable development through role as Co-chair of the CROP Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG).
- Continue to integrate gender indicators from SPC’s National Minimum Development Indicators (NMDI) Database into SPREP’s National Minimum Environment Indicators (NMEI) Database
- Continue to address gender issues as part of NEMS formulation

4. **Building Capacity**

- Implement national activities to build national capacity under the ACP MEAs Capacity Building Project. Activities include: EIA training; NEMS formulation; and national SoE report development
- Establish regional network of environmental assessment and planning professionals and link to the New Zealand Association of Impact Assessment (NZAIA) and other relevant professional networks.
- Develop website for the Pacific Network for Environmental Assessment Practitioners

5. **Monitoring and Reporting**

- Finalise SoEs for Marshall Islands.
- Start SoE for Palau and Tonga
- Develop and promote SPREP On-line GIS system on SoEs.
- Update Protected Areas data and information for Solomon Islands, PNG, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, Palau

6. **2016 Challenges/Opportunities**

- Secure approval of GEF Regional Project Document for 'Building National and Regional Capacity to Implement MEAs by Strengthening Planning, State of the Environment Assessments and Reporting for Pacific Islands'
- Secure funding for Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Adviser
- Secure funding for Sustainable Development Adviser position
- Continue successful implementation of the ACP MEAs project
- Strengthen existing and establish new partnerships to address EMG strategic priorities
- Secure funding for BIOPAMA Phase 2