

# 2017 Pacific Environment Forum

## CONNECTING THE DOTS: ENVIRONMENT, KNOWLEDGE, AND GOVERNANCE

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 @ 8:30am – 4:30pm

Venue: Tanoa Tusitala Hotel

### Annotated Agenda

#### Background

The Pacific Environment Forum (PEF) is an initiative by the Secretariat to meet long standing member requests for a more informal setting to facilitate discussion amongst officials and other stakeholders on key environmental, technical and institutional issues. The PEF is held prior to the SPREP Meeting (SM) allowing for the outcomes to be tabled at the SM for its consideration. The PEF was held for the first time in 2011.

The 2017 PEF will focus on environmental policy development, planning and assessment, monitoring and reporting which are essential building blocks that underpin sound environmental governance. In moving forward in implementing the 2017-2026 Strategic Plan, it is important that we take stock of our key achievements and lessons learnt in the last Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015 and taking into account some of the opportunities that are available to further strengthen and improve environmental governance in the Pacific.

The theme for the 2017 PEF is “**Connecting the Dots: Environment, Knowledge, and Governance**”. The theme reminds us of the need to have in place accurate and reliable information and knowledge on the environment to enable policy and decision makers to make sound and informed decisions.

The overall objective of the 2017 PEF is to reinforce the fundamental role of environmental data, monitoring and reporting to support sound planning and decision making.

It is expected that the PEF will raise awareness on the important role environmental data plays in environmental governance through the sharing of experiences, case studies, achievements, tools, systems and processes, and lessons learnt. In doing so, it is expected that this would generate interest, commitment, partnership opportunities and resources to strengthen environmental monitoring and reporting, planning, assessment and policy processes for improved environmental governance in the Pacific.

The PEF structure and format will include a mix of presentations, panel and talanoa discussions, and interactive dialogue amongst participants. Session facilitators will provide an overview of the issues discussed to set the scene which will be followed by presentations and sharing of experiences by the invited speakers/presenters. There will be a mix of presenters and speakers from governments, NGOs, regional organizations, and the private sector. This will allow for different perspectives to be shared and generate a healthy and constructive discussion.

A field trip is organised at the end of the Forum for participants to observe and experience first-hand the application of EIA in Samoa.

Key outcomes and messages from the PEF will be reported back to the 28<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting under Agenda Item 12.4.

*The 2017 PEF is being organised by the Environmental Monitoring and Governance Division. Email Pauline Fruean [paulinef@sprep.org](mailto:paulinef@sprep.org) for more information.*

| Time             | Session | Topic   | Speakers/presenters/panellists  | Session convener and overview  |
|------------------|---------|---|---|--|
| 8:00am – 8:30am  |         | <b>Registration</b>   |   | SPREP  |
| 8:30am - 8:35am  |         | <b>Prayer</b><br>Jope Davetanivalu, SPREP   | Jope Davetanivalu   | SPREP  |
| 8:35am - 8:45am  |         | <b>Overview and remarks</b><br><i>Mr. Kosi Latu will provide an overview of the Pacific Environment Forum and highlight the role of environmental data, information and knowledge in supporting good environmental governance.</i>  | Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General   | SPREP  |
| 8:45am - 9:45am  | 1       | <p><b>From data to impact: strengthening environmental governance (40mins)</b></p> <p><u>Objective</u><br/><i>To demonstrate and reinforce the importance of environmental data in supporting data based decision making.</i></p> <p><u>Facilitator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paul Anderson, SPREP Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Officer will introduce the topic and provide an overview of the role of environmental data in planning and decision making processes.</li> </ul> <p><u>Speakers/presenters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warwick Harris and Kilom Ishiguro will share and highlight the application of environmental data to report on the state of environment for RMI and highlight key success stories from RMI.</li> <li>Josie Tamate will highlight Niue’s SOE experience and the some of the challenges in gathering data for the SOE.</li> <li>Vicky Hall will present on the Citizen-Science concept and highlight Australia’s experience in implementing this concept drawing on an example from the Coral Watch programme.</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated discussion and wrap up (20mins)</b></p> <p><i>The session facilitator will wrap up and highlight three key points and messages.</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Warwick Harris, Deputy Director OEPPC, Marshall Islands and Mr. Kilom Ishiguro, SPREP Technical Expert and Liaison Officer, RMI</li> <li>Dr. Josie Tamate, Director General, Niue Ministry of Natural Resources</li> <li>Dr. Vicky Hall, Director, SPREP Waste Management and Pollution Control</li> </ul> | Paul Anderson<br><i>SPREP Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Officer</i> |
| 9:45am - 10:15am | 2       | <p><b>Mapping our environment priorities with GIS and spatial planning tools (40mins)</b></p> <p><u>Objective</u><br/><i>To showcase Pacific Islands progress towards achieving environmental objectives and commitments through the use of innovative spatial data, data acquisition, Spatial Planning and GIS mapping processes. The session will also showcase innovative new data acquisition tools that can assist countries to manage and monitor their environments more accurately and efficiently.</i></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Moeuli Uili, Scientific Technical Officer, and Ms. Czarina Iese Stowers, Senior Terrestrial Biodiversity Conservation Officer, MNRE</li> <li>Mr. Anthony Talouli, SPREP</li> </ul>   | Ryan Wright<br><i>SPREP Spatial Planning Officer</i>                         |

|                          |          |  |  |   |
|--------------------------|----------|--|--|---|
|                          |          | <p><u>Facilitator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ryan Wright, SPREP Spatial Planning Officer will introduce the topic and provide an overview of spatial planning tools and approaches and their application in supporting environmental planning and decision making processes.</li> </ul> <p><u>Speakers/presenters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moeuli Uili and Ms. Czarina Iese Stowers will present on Samoa's experience in mapping its protected area network using GIS tools.</li> <li>Anthony Talouli will present on spatial analysis of fishing vessels across the Pacific region.</li> <li>Sam Saili will present on the potential use of drones (unmanned aerial vehicle) technology to acquire environmental data drawing on work undertaken in Samoa and other Pacific island countries.</li> </ul>   | <p>Pollution Adviser</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Sam Saili, Director of Sky Eye Samoa</li> </ul>  |   |
| <b>10:15am - 10:30am</b> |          | <b>BREAK</b>   |  |   |
| <b>10:30am - 11:00am</b> | <b>2</b> | <p><b>Continue with Session 2</b></p> <p><b>Facilitated discussion and wrap up (20mins)</b></p> <p><i>The session facilitator will wrap up and highlight three key points and messages.</i></p>  |  |   |
| <b>11:00am - 12:00pm</b> | <b>3</b> | <p><b>Plan with Nature at Home (40mins)</b></p> <p><u>Objective</u><br/><i>To highlight the importance of strategic environmental planning in achieving national, regional and global goals and targets.</i></p> <p><u>Facilitator</u><br/>Jope Davetanivalu, SPREP Planning and Capacity Building Adviser will introduce the topic and provide an overview of strategic environmental planning processes and the integration of environmental priorities into national and regional planning and decision making processes.</p> <p><u>Speakers/presenters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moe Saitala will share Tuvalu's updated National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS) and highlight key priorities identified for Tuvalu.</li> <li>Taouea Reiher will speak on Kiribati's Integrated Environmental Policy as a vehicle for mainstreaming environmental priorities into national development planning processes.</li> <li>Christina Leala-Gale will provide a regional perspective and the role of SPTO in facilitating the integration of environmental issues within the tourism sector.</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated discussion and wrap up (20mins)</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Moe Saitala, EIA Officer, Department of Environment, Tuvalu</li> <li>Ms. Taouea Reiher, Acting Director Environment, Kiribati</li> <li>Ms. Christina Leala-Gale, Manager Sustainable Tourism Development, SPTO</li> </ul> | <p>Jope Davetanivalu<br/>SPREP<br/>Planning and Capacity Building Adviser</p> |

|                         |          |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|----------|--|--|--|
|                         |          | <i>The session facilitator will wrap up and highlight three key points and messages.</i>   |  |  |
| <b>12:00pm - 1:00pm</b> |          | <b>LUNCH</b>   |  |  |
| <b>1:00pm - 2:00pm</b>  | <b>4</b> | <p><b>Compliance and enforcement – Panel discussion (40mins)</b></p> <p><u>Objective</u><br/><i>To stimulate discussion on the state of compliance and enforcement within countries and what can be done to propel this work forward.</i></p> <p><u>Facilitator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clark Peteru, SPREP Legal Adviser will provide an overview on environmental compliance and enforcement and highlighting key challenges and opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><u>Panellists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fiu Mataese Elisara will provide the NGO perspective and experience</li> <li>Jason Annandale will provide the private sector legal perspective</li> <li>Kathleen Taituave, Principal Legal Officer, Legal Division, MNRE will provide the government perspective and experience</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated discussion and wrap up (20mins)</b></p> <p><i>The session facilitator will wrap up and highlight three key points and messages.</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Fiu Mataese Elisara, Executive Director, OLSSI</li> <li>Mr. Jason Annandale, Solicitor, Schuster, Betham &amp; Annandale Law Firm</li> <li>Ms. Kathleen Taituave, Principal Legal Officer, Legal Division, MNRE</li> </ul>  | Clark Peteru<br><i>SPREP<br/>Legal Adviser</i>                 |
| <b>2:00pm - 3:00pm</b>  | <b>5</b> | <p><b>Integrated ocean management: translating voluntary ocean commitments into action (40mins) - Talanoa session</b></p> <p><u>Objective</u><br/><i>To provide an overview of the current status, issues and opportunities in integrated ocean governance and management in our region. This session will address the following key questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Challenges in marine spatial planning and management</i></li> <li><i>How can we improve integrated ocean management in the region?</i></li> </ul> <p><u>Facilitator</u><br/>Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General, SPREP</p> <p><u>Speakers/presenters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warren Lee Long will provide a summary of progress in the Pacific on integrated ocean management through regional frameworks and initiatives</li> <li>Minister F. Umiich Sengebau will share Palau’s commitment on marine protected area</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Warren Lee Long, SPREP Coastal and Marine Adviser</li> <li>Mr. Kosi Latu, SPREP Director General</li> <li>Hon. Minister F. Umiich Sengebau, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism, Palau</li> <li>Ms. Anne-Claire Goarant, Senior advisor for multilateral cooperation and regional organisation, Office of Regional cooperation and external relations</li> </ul> | Warren Lee Long<br><i>SPREP<br/>Coastal and Marine Adviser</i> |

|                 |   |   |   |  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|--|
|                 |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anne-Claire Goarant will speak on New Caledonia’s experience in marine protected area</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated discussion and wrap up (20mins)</b></p> <p><i>The session facilitator will wrap up and highlight three key points and messages.</i></p>   |   |  |
| 3:00pm - 4:30pm | 6 | <p><b>EIA in practice – sharing experiences from the field in Samoa – Field Trip</b></p> <p><u>Objective</u><br/> <i>To share national experiences in applying EIA, including challenges and key lessons learned, and to identify opportunities for strengthening EIA processes across the Pacific.</i></p> <p><u>Facilitator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jope Davetanivalu will provide an overview of EIA in the region and highlight examples of key achievements made including areas that need to be further strengthened.</li> </ul> <p><u>Speakers/presenters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSarah Tawaka will share Fiji’s EIA experience and lesson learnt.</li> <li>Della Savainaea will provide an overview of the EIA process in Samoa including background information on the project site that will be visited.</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated discussion and wrap up (20mins)</b></p> <p><i>The session facilitator will wrap up and highlight three key points and messages.</i></p> <p><b><u>The Pacific Environment Forum will end with the field trip.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>All participants will be transported to the project site at Mulinuu where the new parliament house is being built.</u></b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Sarah Tawaka, Department of Environment, Ministry of Local Government, Urban Development, Housing &amp; Environment</li> <li>Ms. Della Savainaea, Acting Principal Environment Officer, Samoa MNRE - Planning and Urban Management Agency</li> </ul> | <p>Jope Davetanivalu<br/> SPREP<br/> <i>Planning and Capacity Building Adviser</i></p> |