



PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa
E: sprep@sprep.org
T: +685 21929
F: +685 20231
W: www.sprep.org



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

Twenty Eighth SPREP Meeting of Officials

Apia, Samoa
19 – 21st September 2017

Agenda Item 12.4: Environmental Monitoring and Governance Division Overview 2018/19

Purpose

1. To provide an overview of major 2018/19 work programme activities for the division to contribute to the Environmental Monitoring and Governance and related Strategic Priorities of the SPREP Strategic Plan.

Key Areas of Work for 2018/19

2. **Strengthening national sustainable development planning and implementation systems, including through use of EIA and spatial planning**
 - Spatial planning technical assistance and capacity building
 - Continue with Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) training and technical assistance
 - Initiate and implement Strategic Environmental Assessment awareness and capacity building activities
 - Continue to provide guidance and technical support on the review and formulation of National Environmental Management Strategies or equivalent
 - Support the mainstreaming of NEMS into Sectoral/National Sustainable Development Plans/Strategies, and Sustainable Development Goals
3. **Improve national capacity for good environmental governance supported by technical assistance for the development of policy and legislation, and in support of the implementation of Member international and regional commitments**
 - Technical, legal and policy support to PICs on MEA implementation including engagement at COPs and related meetings
 - Training on compliance and enforcement
 - Support in developing environment policies as part of the NEMS process
4. **Strengthen environmental data collection, monitoring and analysis and reporting on results nationally and regionally**
 - Support on spatial and tabular data for national coral reef status and trends
 - Support in developing environmental indicators for SDGs based on national environmental datasets
 - Implement the regional GEF capacity building project (Inform Project) to strengthen environmental data management to support environmental assessment, policy, planning and SOE reporting

5. **2018/19 Challenges/Opportunities**

- Successfully implement remaining activities of the ACP MEAs Phase 2; and initiate a planning process for transition into Phase 3
- Implement the regional GEF Inform project to support environmental data management, planning, monitoring and reporting
- Strengthening spatial planning and GIS capacity within SPREP to support environmental assessment, policy, monitoring and reporting; and
- Secure funding for the current vacant positions - Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Adviser, Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Officer and Sustainable Development Adviser

Recommendation

6. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the 2018/19 work programme for the Environmental Monitoring and Governance Division.
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