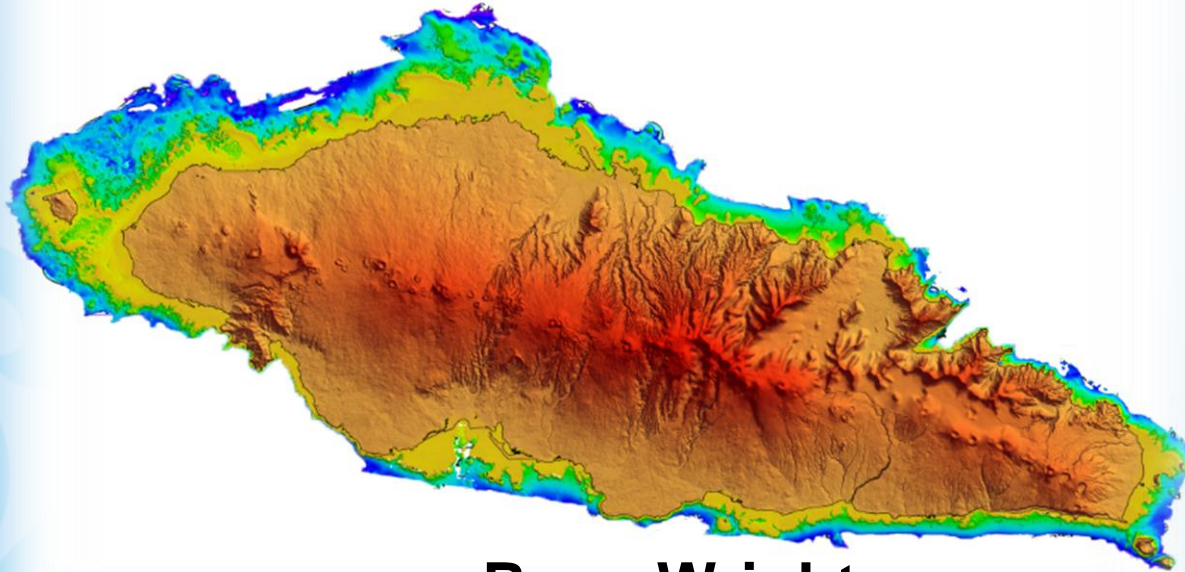# SPREP Pacific Environment Forum 2017

Mapping our environment priorities with GIS and Spatial Planning tools

Ryan Wright
Spatial Planning Officer

Tanoa Tusitala Hotel Apia, Samoa, September 18, 2017

Session Overview

Demonstrate the importance of spatial data, spatial planning tools and spatial visualisations to enhance decision-making, environmental assessments, policy, monitoring and reporting.

Key Challenges

1. <u>Acquisition:</u> Accurate and current spatial data in not always available and needs to be sourced through local or other (potential expensive) means

2. <u>Interpretation and analysis:</u> Spatial data requires expert vetting, interpretation and application specific analysis to produce intelligible and relevant results for decision making

3. <u>Capacity:</u> The need for the required skills and resources to acquire, visualise and interpret this data

Solutions

1. SPREP is **capacity building** within country, focusing on:
- GIS training for data analysis and visualisations
- GPS training for data collection

2. Working with government and partners to develop and implement **Integrated Spatial Planning** projects (*Pacific Bio-regionalisation Project, MACBIO, PacWaste, BIOPAMA*)

3. Developing **online GIS systems** (gis.sprep.org) to distribute environment data for decision makers

Key Messages

1. The role that GIS, spatial data and spatial planning tools are playing to address member environmental commitments and priorities

   Regional successes include:
   - 1st PSSA,
   - increase in Protect Areas 2.1% > 16.5%,
   - real-time monitoring of PIPA and PNA,
   - mapping of marine pollution violations & asbestos location and removal

2. Advancements in innovative environment mapping technologies in both the private and public sectors

Key Speakers Introductions

1.	**Ms. Moeumu Uili,** Scientific Technical Officer, and **Ms. Czarina Iese Stowers,** Senior Terrestrial Biodiversity Advisor, DEC (MNRE)	Mapping Samoa's protected area network using GPS and GIS tools.
2.	**Mr. Pawa Limu**, Manager Marine Environment Protection, Papua New Guinea	Development of the regions first PSSA
3.	**Mr. Anthony Talouli**, SPREP Pollution Adviser	Fishing vessel pollution violations
4.	**Mr. Unasa Nome Saili,** Director of Sky Eye Samoa	Innovative environment mapping technologies using Drones

After, questions and panel discussion