



*Value Island Biodiversity  
– it's our life*

# 2010

## ANNUAL REPORT

of the Secretariat of the  
Pacific Regional Environment  
Programme



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PHOTO – S. CHAPE

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# 2010

“ We know that climate change is having a major effect on the livelihoods of Pacific people and our unique biodiversity. ”

## FOREWORD

by Papua New Guinea Chair

of the 21st SPREP Meeting

The year 2010 has been busy for SPREP. With the development of a new strategic plan, two key international conferences, and the International Year of Biodiversity observed region-wide, there has been very little breathing space for all those involved.

This has also been a year of change, with major improvements made to the way in which the Secretariat works. A refocusing of efforts has been to increase Secretariat support for country efforts, to better protect and manage their environments.

The new SPREP Strategic Plan 2011–2015 is a landmark document. I am pleased that this plan is based on extensive consultation within our region, involving Members, partners, and a range of other stakeholders.

This Strategic Plan focuses on four key areas:

- 1 biodiversity and ecosystems
- 2 climate change
- 3 waste management and pollution
- 4 environmental governance and monitoring.

It establishes clear targets and indicators that will guide our efforts over the next five years.

The observation of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity ensured greater focus on conservation; and on valuing biodiversity in building resilience to climate change in our Pacific region. Activities under the SPREP banner of “Value Island Biodiversity – It’s Our Life” highlighted the many threats to our unique island biodiversity, and how we need to respond to these.





PHOTO – S. CHAPE

Not too long ago, climate change was brushed aside by sceptics as just an issue for academic debate not worthy of further attention. Scepticism about climate change, and denial, still exists in some quarters to this day. In our region, however, we know that climate change is having a major effect on the livelihoods of Pacific people and our unique biodiversity.

In Papua New Guinea, as for many of our Pacific island brothers and sisters, this proof has been felt for decades: unforeseen weather and climatic events have taken place on our shores, increasingly intense floods and droughts have hit us, and atoll islands have become salt-water infused.

We recognise that we must deal with, and prepare for, these and other impending changes. At the same time, we must act to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

That means we need to rethink how to progress our development efforts. Our development needs to address greenhouse gas reduction and at the same time be more climate-resilient.

Papua New Guinea is taking a lead globally in combating climate change, by promoting the utilisation of our forests as carbon storage sites. Since 2005, PNG has been working with other rainforest nations to create a mechanism for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+). The project will enhance carbon stocks and manage our forests sustainably – through empowering local and traditional landowners as their natural custodians.

Recognising the value of our forests as the lungs of the planet – not merely as a source for furniture – provides opportunities also for increasing efforts to conserve our natural and cultural heritage. Preservation of our biodiversity will ensure long-term food security and allow continuation of the lifestyles that our people value.

SPREP Members move forward with development partners to identify funding mechanisms and begin on-ground project implementation. We recognise the need to combine economic development and climate change adaptation and mitigation measures; at the same time we must incorporate climate change strategies into our national development plans.

As Chair of the 2010 SPREP Meeting, Papua New Guinea commends the Secretariat for its leadership: not only in climate change and biodiversity conservation, but also in waste management in the region.

We wish all Members a fruitful 2011.

DR WARILEA IAMO  
Secretary

The National Operational Focal Point  
for GEF Department of Environment & Conservation

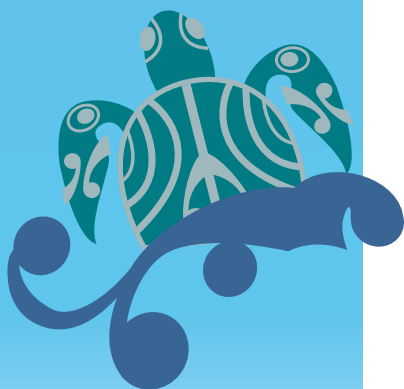




# INTRODUCTION

## from the Director

“ Our precious biodiversity is at risk as never before. ”



It is my pleasure to report on SPREP activities in 2010, a year of consolidation and expansion for us.

The Secretariat has sharply focused the organisation on helping Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) address their environmental challenges. These challenges are many, they are pressing, and they continue to grow.



Climate change and associated sea level rise on Pacific islands became more evident during the year. Extreme high-tide events in a number of countries, in particular, highlighted the vulnerability of low-lying islands.

As we are clearly seeing, this issue directly affects the livelihoods of Pacific people and it impacts across all sectors.

Less obvious, but no less significant, are the impacts of biodiversity loss in and around Pacific islands.

SPREP celebrated 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity, under the theme: “Value Island Biodiversity – It’s Our Life”. Biodiversity is the





PHOTO – S. CHAPE

“ Biodiversity is the cornerstone of life – our plants, animals, and ecosystems are essential for livelihoods and have shaped Pacific culture and traditions. ”



PHOTO – S. CHAPE

cornerstone of life – our plants, animals, and ecosystems are essential for livelihoods and have shaped Pacific culture and traditions.

Our precious biodiversity is at risk as never before. Global targets to reduce biodiversity loss have not been met and we continue to lose animal and plant species at an unprecedented rate.

In the Pacific, biodiversity is seriously threatened by development pressures, habitat loss, invasive species, and – ever increasingly – the many impacts of climate change.

SPREP will continue to expand its support for Pacific efforts to protect and better manage PICTs’ biodiversity.

The year 2010 has been a period of rapid change at the Secretariat. We have consolidated in response to several institutional frameworks and reviews of 2008 and 2009: these included the Regional Institutional Framework (RIF) process, the Independent Corporate

Review (ICR) of SPREP, and the European Union (EU) Institutional Review.

The Independent Corporate Review and the EU Institutional Review have provided a platform from which to strengthen our institutional delivery and services.

SPREP has seized this opportunity and has moved quickly to address key recommendations from the ICR.

The Secretariat launched an ambitious change management strategy in 2010, guided by four key principles:

- 1 to improve the delivery of tangible services to Members
- 2 to improve internal processes, in particular in response to recommendations of institutional reviews

- 3 to strengthen SPREP’s partnerships, including those with other regional organisations

- 4 to improve the linkage between SPREP’s policy work and practical, on-the-ground demonstration projects.

The Secretariat increased its support to Members during 2010 so that it now has active programmes in all Pacific island Member countries and territories, addressing priority national issues.

In 2010, SPREP prepared a new Strategic Plan for the period 2011–2015. This plan was prepared following the largest consultative exercise in SPREP’s history, which included surveys of SPREP Members and partners, and a series of sub-regional consultative meetings.

“ Climate change will dramatically affect the lives of Pacific people in this century. ”



Head of State of Samoa, Their Highnesses Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Ta'isi Efi and Masiofo Filifilia at the welcome ceremony for the Pacific voyaging canoes arrival in Samoa in 2009. PHOTO – S. CHAPE

The resulting plan has established a clear framework for SPREP to move forward in support of our Members.

The Secretariat greatly improved and enhanced its internal processes and systems in 2010. For example, we established a functioning Executive Team which is reporting regularly to staff in an open and transparent manner. A range of institutional strengthening initiatives include the development of new state-of-the-art procurement guidelines for SPREP, drawing on international best practice as well as incorporating suggestions from staff on initial drafts.

We recognise the critical role of partnerships to SPREP's work. In 2010, relations were strengthened through signing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with several key partners. We are pleased that a number of key countries and partners have increased their financial support to SPREP during the year.

During 2010, The Secretariat heavily supported Pacific country preparations for the Cancún Climate Conference: this proved to be a significant United Nations (UN) meeting on this vitally important topic.

Climate change is now clearly recognised as one of the major environmental, social, economic, and moral issues of our times.

“Climate change will dramatically affect the lives of Pacific people in this century”, was the resolute message from the Pacific. Already this region is experiencing the impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise, salt-water intrusion in drinking water and root crops, more extreme and frequent weather events, and coral bleaching.

SPREP undertook a number of successful projects during the year to help address climate change. The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project, started in 2009, continued to provide practical support for countries in sectors such as water, agriculture, and coastal infrastructure. SPREP's Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP) supported further application of different renewable energy sources in the Pacific.

The Secretariat has increased its activities on the management of solid waste during the year, responding to requests from many Members.

We have greatly appreciated support from the governments of Japan and France to address this important issue.

This annual report highlights the breadth of SPREP's work in supporting Pacific countries and territories to better manage and protect their environment. Excellent progress was made in helping PICTs better manage their solid waste, address marine pollution, and enhance and protect important species and ecosystems – both on land and at sea. The Secretariat continued to support Pacific Island Countries (PICs) in UN processes in a range of areas, such as climate change, biodiversity, species conservation, and wetlands conservation.

The range of SPREP's work, and the beauty of our Pacific region, is evident in the following pages that outline the work of the Secretariat in support of a sustainable Pacific environment.

I would like to thank all who have contributed to a successful 2010 for our organisation.

DAVID SHEPPARD,  
Director





O le Pupu Pue National Park, Samoa. PHOTO – S. CHAPE







# VALUE ISLAND BIODIVERSITY — IT'S OUR LIFE



The goal set for parties to the  
Convention on Biological Diversity  
(CBD) in 2002:

“ Achieve by 2010  
a significant  
reduction of the  
current rate of  
biodiversity loss at  
the global, regional  
and national level  
as a contribution  
to poverty  
alleviation and to  
the benefit of all  
life on Earth. ”

## International Year of Biodiversity in the Pacific

**The year 2010 was designated the International Year of Biodiversity** (IYOB) to highlight the many challenges facing the world's biodiversity; and to assess progress in meeting the goal set for parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2002: “achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth.” Unfortunately, these targets were not met and the loss of biodiversity has, in fact, accelerated. This was cause for considerable reflection and debate at the 10th Conference of the Parties (COP10), leading to agreement on the new CBD Strategic Plan 2011–2020 and its goals and targets.

Following usual procedures in celebrating international thematic years, the IYOB was adopted and modified to suit Pacific regional needs, with the logo: “Value Island Biodiversity – It's Our Life”. Specific events and activities were implemented at regional and national levels (see p.35), while SPREP's ongoing programmatic work continued to support Pacific biodiversity objectives.

## Pacific voyage to Nagoya

The 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD was held from 18 to 19 October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan. About 15,000 delegates representing State parties, United Nations agencies, non-government organisations (NGOs), inter-governmental organisations, indigenous and local communities, private sector, and academia attended the meeting.

The Pacific was represented by 13 State Parties: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. The Pacific was represented by 49 participants including Ministers of state, Ambassadors, senior government officials, and representatives from the various Pacific regional agencies.

COP10 was considered to be one of the most successful meetings in the history of the CBD. Notable was the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization. This “ABS Protocol” had been under negotiation for some years.

## Other key outcomes adopted at COP10 were:

- Strategic Plan 2011–2020:  
Living in Harmony with Nature, including adoption of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- Strategy for Resource Mobilization.

## AICHI BIODIVERSITY GOALS

### STRATEGIC GOAL A:

address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

### STRATEGIC GOAL B:

reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

### STRATEGIC GOAL C:

improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity

### STRATEGIC GOAL D:

enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

### STRATEGIC GOAL E:

enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management, and capacity building.

Futu flowers, Matapa chasm Niue. PHOTO – S. CHAPE



RIGHT Faleafaga Toni Tipama'a – Assistant CEO for the Division of Environment and Conservation at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Government of Samoa. PHOTO – N. WOONTON

The Pacific successes and achievements at COP10 owed much to the commitment and dedication of all those involved. Funding to implement the Pacific Voyage was provided by the European Union Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA) for African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries' Capacity Building Project, by Fonds Pacifique, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the CBD Secretariat. Technical advice and support was provided by the SPREP Secretariat and our collaborating partners.

The next major challenge for the Pacific is to implement the key outcomes of COP10 and achieve the Strategic Plan targets by 2020. Our Secretariat will continue to play a key coordinating role in close collaboration with Pacific island country parties and partners.



Delegates from all nations at the CBD COP 10. PHOTO – N. WOONTON

## Pacific highlights from COP10

### • One Pacific Voice

Speaking in One Pacific Voice at COP10 gave our region tremendous publicity, visibility, and recognition. Country delegates took turns to highlight several Pacific key topics such as climate change and biodiversity. The Pacific held firm its position for the application of precautionary measures on the issue of "geo-engineering". Best practices

and successes from the Pacific were also highlighted during interventions by Pacific delegates; these demonstrated the commitment and achievements by Pacific island countries in biodiversity conservation.





“ Speaking in One Pacific Voice at COP10 gave our region tremendous publicity, visibility, and recognition. ”



Crew of Hine Moana. PHOTO – S. CHAPE



Panelists of the Pacific Voyage side event at the CBD COP 10. PHOTO – N. WOONTON

#### • Pacific Voyage

All the Pacific COP10 activities were implemented as part of the “Pacific Voyage” concept: coming out of the COP10 preparatory meeting, this concept portrays the vision and commitment of the Pacific to maintain, conserve, and sustainably manage its natural environment—while at the same time developing and implementing appropriate and effective solutions to address key conservation challenges and threats. Activities included:

- daily meetings
- Pacific-focused side events
- an information booth displaying Pacific biodiversity and conservation information
- coordination of Pacific statements and media
- web-based outreach activities.

#### • Media and outreach campaign

The Secretariat in partnership with UNESCO provided funds for one female journalist (Ms Bernadette Carreon of the Palau Horizon, from Palau) to join the Pacific Voyage media team and help with the media coverage. A second journalist (Mata’afa Keni Lesa of the Samoa Observer, from Samoa) was funded by the CBD Secretariat to work with their media team; he also provided assistance with the Pacific Voyage media outreach. A highlight of the media outreach campaign was the Bionesian blogspot: created by the Secretariat, it posted daily updates from COP10 including interviews with Pacific delegates, news items, and releases from the different side events and meetings where the Pacific participated. The blogspot was a popular Pacific media activity at COP10 and can still be accessed on <http://www.bionesian.blogspot.com>.

#### • Effective coordination

The Secretariat took the lead role in coordinating the Pacific Voyage in close consultation with the various Pacific island country parties; it also collaborated with key partners including agencies of the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP), NGOs, individual experts, and the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA). The support and commitment of all involved was incredible and provided valuable lessons for the future.









# ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT



“ Biodiversity conservation and sustainability play a critical role in helping Pacific island countries adapt to, and mitigate, the negative impacts of climate change. ”

Huvalu forest Niue. PHOTO – S. CHAPE

## Natural solutions to climate change in the Pacific

### Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation

The Secretariat hosted the 13th Pacific Islands Roundtable (PIRT) for Nature Conservation meeting in July 2010 in Apia. Over 70 participants from conservation NGOs, CROP agencies, government representatives, and development partners attended. The theme of this Meeting was “Natural Solutions to Environmental and Climate Change in the Pacific”; to highlight the critical role of biodiversity conservation and sustainability in helping Pacific island countries adapt to, and mitigate, the negative impacts of climate change. The theme also reiterated the need to strengthen commitment and investment in practices and initiatives that will help to conserve and manage the different ecosystems and biodiversity that are critically under threat. In this context, the Roundtable called on the need to find creative and practical solutions through innovative programmes, funding, and technical assistance for protecting the Pacific’s threatened natural environment.

The meeting reactivated the Protected Area Working Group (PAWG) to meet the high demand for policy advice and technical support from the Roundtable, to assist with activities under the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA); and started planning for the Nature Conservation Conference in 2012.







“ A mixture of conservation and rebuilding natural ecosystems: protect, manage, and restore. ”

PHOTO – S. CHAPE

Plaines des lacs, New Caledonia. PHOTO – S. CHAPE



## Pacific biodiversity and climate change needs assessment

The Secretariat began a project to assess if the Pacific islands could become a model for demonstrating ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) as a response to climate change. This was funded through the International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (ICCAI) of the Australian Government. EbA is defined as the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of adaptation strategies, to help us cope with the adverse effects of climate change. According to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 60 percent of ecosystem services are already under stress: both from long-term and short-term factors. That means the potential for EbA is already declining at the same time as the need for EbA is being increasingly recognised.



In practice, EbA in the Pacific requires a mixture of conservation and, where necessary, rebuilding natural ecosystems: “protect, manage, and restore”. Protection can include many different approaches, from government protected areas to community reserves.

Protecting, managing, and restoring natural systems through the conservation of biodiversity can contribute to EbA responses in many ways:

- **Water:** Natural vegetation almost always increases water purity and in some situations (such as in tropical cloud forests) also quantity.
- **Fisheries:** Research shows that protecting fish stocks helps to build numbers that result in spill-over outside the reserved areas, and thus increase fish catch – often within two or three years.
- **Health:** Intact habitat can often directly help protect against the spread of diseases: natural biodiversity can also provide medicines for traditional use and become a basis of modern pharmaceuticals.
- **Food:** Biodiversity provides agricultural genetic material from wild relatives and traditional races of crop plants, necessary pollination services, and sources of subsistence food.
- **Natural disasters:** Natural ecosystems can absorb many of the impacts of floods, land slips, and storm surges; they can help protect against droughts and desertification.

The current project, being implemented during 2010–2011, was designed through a consultative process with Pacific island countries and territories and partners at a workshop held in Apia in 2010. The major outcome will be the design of a comprehensive full-size EbA project for donor funding.

PHOTO – S. CHAPE



## Marine species highlights

### Marine turtles

#### Community monitoring network in Fiji

The Secretariat partnered with the South Pacific Programme Office (SPP0, Fiji) of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to establish a Marine Turtle Community Monitoring Network involving several communities on Vanua Levu, Fiji. The project was modelled on the Wan SmolBag Turtle Monitors approach that has been successfully implemented in Vanuatu for several years.

The project targeted communities along the Great Sea Reef, in the two major provinces of Bua and Macuata in Vanua Levu. The initial awareness and training workshop was conducted in Nakalou village, Macuata, Vanua Levu. It was attended by 30 participants representing 10 villages. The network was established at the workshop, with 25 community representatives from six communities volunteering to be turtle monitors.

A major activity of the project involved a study tour by representatives from three communities in Fiji: they visited the community turtle monitoring project in Tasiriki Village on Moso Island in Vanuatu, which has successfully developed economic benefits for the village.

Green turtle. PHOTO – D. SARMAN



The Secretariat's involvement with marine turtle satellite tagging started in 2006 as one of the main activities of the Year of the Sea Turtle (YoST) campaign. Satellite tagging provided useful turtle migration information, which led to the recommendation in the Regional Marine Turtle Action Plan 2008–2012 that this activity be continued. The in-country skill to attach satellite tags on turtles was virtually non-existent; having an expert travel to each country to do so is not cost-effective nor does it build national capacity. So a project was initiated to improve turtle migration information, build in-country capacity in this area, and to ensure this activity continues.

The marine turtle satellite tagging project included a sub-regional training workshop conducted in Nadi, Fiji, with representatives from Fiji, Tonga, Kiribati, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. This was a collaborative effort between SPREP, the Marine Turtle Research Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA-Honolulu), WWF-SPPD, and the Fiji Department of Fisheries. Funding assistance came from the Marine Conservation Action Fund (MCAF) of the New England Aquarium.

Turtle satellite tagging conducted during the year included:

- In Fiji three loggerhead turtles (foraging) and three green turtles (one foraging and two nesting) were satellite-tagged, a first for loggerhead turtles and green turtles in Fiji.
- In Tuvalu one nesting green turtle was satellite-tagged, the first time for any marine turtle in Tuvalu.



A green turtle, one of the species satellite-tagged, during the year's nesting survey. PHOTO – L.BELL

### Green turtle nesting survey on Ringgold Isles

In collaboration with the Fiji Department of Fisheries, a project was initiated to establish a more accurate and data-based estimate of the green turtle nesting population in the Ringgold Isles, the most important and possibly last remaining green turtle nesting sites reported in Fiji. These small isolated islands and sand isles lie north of Taveuni, within the Heemskercq and the Ringgold Reef Systems. Results from marine turtle tagging has established that Fiji is a favourite feeding area for marine turtles that nest in other Pacific states. Hawksbill and green turtles that had been nesting and flipper-tagged in Australia have been recovered in Fiji. From genetic analyses of green turtles collected from the Suva market in 1996 and early 1997, the most common origins turned out to be French Polynesia (37%) and Fiji (26%). We know from satellite tagging, that a green female turtle that nested in Palmerston Island, Cook Islands, migrated to Fiji later. Six green turtles satellite-tagged on Rose Island, American Samoa, and nesting there, also migrated to Fiji. One hawksbill turtle given a satellite tag in Samoa migrated to Fiji after nesting on the Aleipata Islands, Samoa.

All this makes clear that Fiji is an important area for Pacific island marine turtles.

The preliminary four-day green turtle survey was conducted in early December 2010 and covered the following Ringgold Isles: Nukusemanu, Nukupureti, Nukubasaga, and Veitau'ua. The results confirmed green turtle nesting on all four isles with good numbers on Veitau'ua Isle.

### Marine turtle country profile

The Marine Turtle Profile for Kiribati was also finalised during the year. This was done in collaboration with the Environment and Conservation Division of the Ministry for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development. The Marine Turtle Profile attempts to document all known information on marine turtles in each island state, including their management and protection.

A satellite-tagged green turtle nesting during the survey in the Ringgold Islands, Fiji. PHOTO – L.BELL







Dugong. PHOTO – D. SARMAN

### Marine turtle management

Funding from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and its Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), assisted in implementing a project to review marine turtle legislation in each SPREP island country, identifying gaps and conflicts. This is a high-priority action identified in the regional Marine Turtle Action Plan 2008–2012. The project documented existing legislation and policies as well as each country's participation in international and regional agreements and conventions relevant to marine turtles. It identified gaps and made recommendations for relevant legislation that could improve and/or clarify existing laws, and so improve protection and management of marine turtles.

Marine turtle legislation reviews were completed for Fiji, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. Reviews for other island countries were to be completed in 2011. The project involved national officials from relevant agencies. Additional support was provided for developing a national marine turtle action plan in Samoa.

## “ Skills were identified for improving capacity for dugong management. ”

### Dugongs

#### National dugong surveys

The Secretariat coordinated a Pacific islands dugong range States meeting, with funding assistance from UNEP/CMS. It was attended by all six SPREP Member states that lie within the habitat range of dugongs.

The meeting:

- built capacity in standardised methodologies that are used in dugong surveys (questionnaire-based)
- refined survey methodology to suit conditions and circumstances existing in the Pacific islands
- gave an update on the status of dugong conservation work in range states and updated the implementation status of the regional Dugong Action Plan 2008–2012

- identified priority issues concerning dugong work and conservation in the region. These included the identification of skills required by relevant government authorities and local communities, for improving capacity for dugong management
- promoted the value and significance of the Memorandum of Understanding on dugongs with UNEP/CMS.

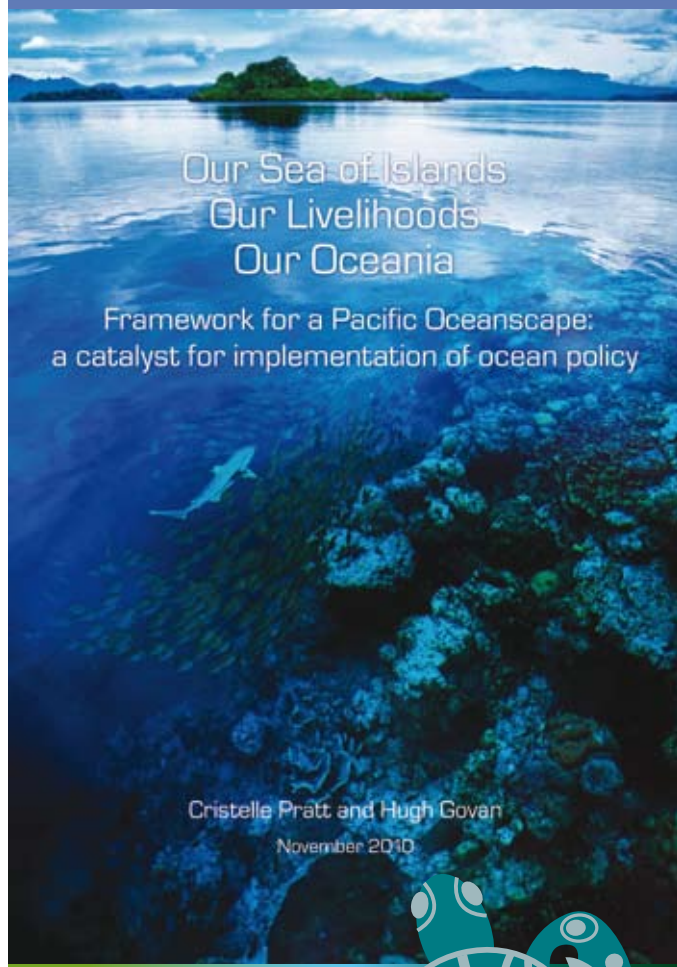
After the meeting, each dugong range State gained access to funds for carrying out the questionnaire-based in-country dugong survey. The survey protocol can be implemented rapidly and at low cost, has the required scientific rigor to be quantifiable, is easy to report, and is flexible in its approach.

Four of the five island states started the surveys during the year, with results to be analysed in 2011.



## Pacific Oceanscape concept

The 40th Pacific Islands Forum had convened in Cairns, Australia, in August 2009. At the meeting the Republic of Kiribati made a proposal to secure the future of Pacific island nations, based on ocean conservation and management—under a Pacific Oceanscape concept and a related Pacific Ocean Arc initiative.



Kiribati suggested that the success of a Pacific Oceanscape would depend strongly on Forum leadership and regional cooperation, focusing urgent and timely attention on critical issues such as climate change impacts on Pacific peoples, their islands, and their ocean.

The Pacific Oceanscape's companion is the Pacific Ocean Arc initiative; this is aimed at increasing marine protected area investment, learning, and networking.

In the Forum communiqué, leaders welcomed the Oceanscape concept and Pacific Ocean Arc initiative. They tasked the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), together with other relevant CROP agencies and key partners, to develop a framework for the Pacific Oceanscape.

### Development of the Oceanscape Framework

The Marine Sector Working Group (MSWG) met subsequently in February 2010, and the Secretariat was tasked with overseeing the development of the Oceanscape Framework.

Three key components under the Pacific Oceanscape are:

- **Pacific Ocean Arcs:** Fostering development of terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), based on the natural archipelagic nature of some PICTs. Included for consideration are territorial domains associated with Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), and opportunities for protected areas beyond these EEZs, in the surrounding high seas.
- **Climate Change and Ocean Security:** This component recognises the emerging issues of impact on our ocean, such as acidification and increasing water temperatures. Governance issues for our ocean will be investigated, such as the security of EEZs and associated management, and monitoring of high seas.
- **Leadership and Learning:** This addresses the first two components, as it supports issues such as protected areas. It also supports targeted research, learning, and leadership initiatives.

### Outcomes

The Marine Sector Working Group has been revitalised by the Oceanscapes concept development. In addition, the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy now has a tangible framework to achieve its objectives. In collaboration with the MSWG, SPREP published the framework report: *Our Sea of Islands, Our Livelihoods, Our Oceania – Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape*, as well as an awareness raising brochure.

The MSWG is developing a proposal under the fifth round of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for implementing the Oceanscape Framework. At this meeting it was agreed that SPREP, in collaboration with Conservation International (CI) and UNEP, would develop a draft Project Identification Form (PIF) for review by the MSWG and then submission to the GEF in late 2011. This could provide resources and determine a timeline for the implementation of the three components of the Oceanscape Framework.



## Toolkit for marine resources

Focusing on sustainable use of marine resources, a *Building on what we have for a better life* toolkit was developed by the Secretariat collaborating with the Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI), under the Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific (CRISP) programme. The toolkit aims to help people look at different livelihood options and assist in assessing these options. Improving sustainable livelihoods approaches in the Pacific requires capacity building for local communities, NGOs, and government staff. This will enable the potential livelihood options to be assessed and their performance optimised.

The toolkit comprises a folder containing an introduction with a short user guide and seven guidance pages. Intended to be used in a three- to four-hour exercise, it can be implemented by any community facilitator and literate community members. The toolkit serves to “make sure you ask the right questions” and to ensure communities have considered common pitfalls or issues. Its application can be a first response when community members seek advice such as “Should we do ecotourism?” or “Can we do a seaweed farm?”

## Fishing practices in Kiribati

The fishing methods and practices used by the people of North and South Tarawa, Kiribati, have been reviewed, highlighting those considered to be destructive. The project was funded by Taiwan, SPREP, and the University of the South Pacific (USP). The study provides an economic evaluation of the current scenario and analyses the social consequences for coastal communities of Tarawa. The findings identify the need for a more effective fisheries management regime for Kiribati. This in turn requires regulatory and policy change to reduce the level of fishing, so that the fishery will be sustainable. Effectively engaging the communities is necessary to ensure they adopt greater responsibility and governance over their fishing practices and livelihoods.

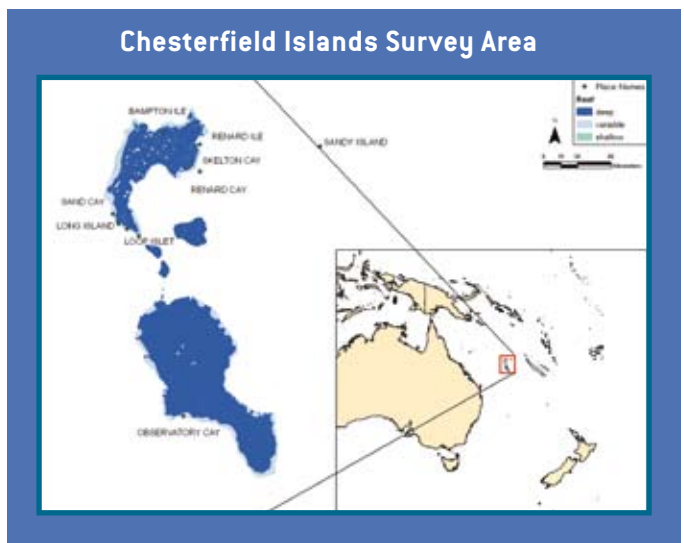
Key findings of the study were as follows:

- The use of multiple gillnets is becoming more widespread by commercial fishers using the “splash” method commonly known as *te ororo*. In *te ororo*, the net is set around reef patches and coral heads instead of blocking the migrating path of a school of fish; fishers then disturb the fish that are hiding in crevices by breaking the corals using metal bars, thereby scaring and driving the fish into the net.
- The coastal fishery generally has no set limits for capacity or catch and is considered an open access fishery.
- Because *te ororo* is so destructive, the cost is huge. Over 26 years, 75% of the reefs would be damaged at the current rate of exploitation; the cost of this is estimated to be A\$76.34 million or about A\$3 million annually (about US\$82 and US\$3.2 million respectively, at June 2011 exchange rates).

Findings of this study highlight the need for a comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan that prevents any further damage to the already very fragile coral reef environment of Tarawa.

## Ecological assessment in the Chesterfield Islands

During two weeks in August, a group of 15 scientists and a film crew sailed to the remote islands of the Chesterfield Group. Situated halfway between New Caledonia and Australia, in the middle of the Coral Sea, these uninhabited islands are currently the home for thousands of seabirds. A whaling station was operating there in the early 20th century. The islands are now visited only by yachts in search of shelter and by New Caledonian fishermen who harvest mostly sea cucumbers and crayfish.



Several scientific campaigns have studied the marine biodiversity of these islands, but none has looked at the health of the marine resource stocks—yet many fishermen seem to be exploiting the area. The current lack of data, potential overexploitation, and political interest in this area as a potential large Marine Protected Area prompted SPREP to fund the survey through the CRISP programme. Four teams of scientists spent 10 days counting birds, bony fishes, sharks, and invertebrates; they trapped rodents, searched for whales and dolphins, recorded coral health and coral species, tagged tiger sharks, and baited for great white sharks. These activities were filmed also.

During 10 days of intensive work, no whale was observed. However, the bird population was considered very healthy despite the presence of rats. Six tiger sharks were satellite-tagged but no great white. The commercial fish and invertebrate populations, including reef sharks, did not have the density one would expect to find in such a remote place. This confirms the high pressure on the resources at present. Corals were vibrant and very diverse, except around islets affected significantly by seabird guano (its phosphates causing algal blooms). The survey outcomes will be disseminated through an official report as well as a TV documentary in 2011.





Mangrove ecosystem, La Foa Estuary Lagoons of New Caledonia Reef Diversity and Associated Ecosystems World Heritage Site. PHOTO – S. CHAPE

## Wetlands conservation

### Regional Wetlands Action Plan

A workshop to review the implementation of the Regional Wetlands Action Plan for the Pacific Islands 2011–2013 was convened in New Caledonia in August 2010. Thirteen PICTs participated. The workshop preceded a series of training sessions on the Ramsar Convention. These sessions led to a better understanding of implementation issues, processes and procedures for contracting parties, including national reporting requirements. Non-parties gained a better understanding of the benefits and the steps required for joining the Convention.

The Regional Wetlands Action Plan for 2011–2013 was developed at this workshop. It outlines activities, responsibilities, and targets to promote and strengthen the wise use and conservation of wetlands in the region. The plan also seeks to strengthen the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the region; it will be implemented through partnership and coordination between national governments, SPREP, and its regional and international partners.

### Mangrove monitoring training

Regional mangrove monitoring training for the Pacific islands was carried out in Nadi, Fiji, in November 2010. It was organised through a partnership of SPREP, University of Tasmania, and WWF-SPPO. Fifteen participants from eight Pacific Island Countries participated, including community representatives. The main purpose of the training was to build capacity of PICs in the practical field application of mangrove monitoring techniques. The training was an important step in developing the first regional mangrove monitoring network for Pacific islands, through which regional trends in mangrove health could be identified.

Mangrove monitoring workshop. PHOTO – V. JUNGBLUT





## Niue to join the Ramsar Convention

In May 2010, the Ramsar Oceania Officer assisted Niue with its preparations to join the Ramsar Convention. A country visit raised awareness, and clarified the benefits and costs, of joining Ramsar. Potential sites were identified and assistance given with the preparation of a Cabinet briefing paper on Ramsar accession, for consideration by the Niue Government.

## Dealing with invasive species

During 2010, final preparations were made for a US\$3 million Global Environment Facility project on invasive species management. Ten SPREP Member countries participated: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, and Vanuatu. A workshop was held in February at which participating countries determined the activities that each will carry out using the GEF funds. A resulting project document covers 80 separate activities in the 10 countries. These include awareness campaigns; strategic planning and staff training; improvement of quarantine services; biological control of weeds; and the eradication of fire ants, weeds, and mynah birds. The project document was then refined to meet GEF-UNEP requirements, and the proposal was approved by GEF at the beginning of 2011. This project is expected to boost invasive species management capacity in the region, and improve support from the public and decision-makers for more effective management of invasive species.

Two other significant events during the year provided a clear message that invasive species are a major challenge for islands worldwide and their management requires greater investment. The first was the global Helping Islands Adapt meeting, also in February. It was attended by representatives from all major oceanic regions including from six Pacific island countries and territories. The meeting reaffirmed this message and sent it to COP10 of the CBD in Nagoya, Japan.

PHOTO – V. JUNGBLUT



Secondly, New Caledonia presented a paper to the 22nd SPREP meeting in Madang in September. It emphasised that New Caledonia and the wider region required increased assistance to deal with invasives; this was backed up by a personal letter from the President of New Caledonia. The paper received overwhelming support from the other SPREP Members at the meeting. Aside from environmental concerns, recent studies from outside the region have demonstrated the enormous economic damage caused by invasives, and the economic value of investing in their management. To reinforce this message to Pacific leaders, SPREP helped its partner organisations develop projects that assess the local costs of invasives and the economic benefits of managing them in the region.

Other Secretariat initiatives included managing invasives projects in Kiribati (invasives management and conservation work mainly on Kiritimati Island) and Samoa (rat eradication and ant research on the Aleipata Islands). Both were supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF).

### Emergency rapid response

SPREP provided an emergency response to the first confirmed sighting in Samoa, on Upolu Island in December 2009, of a mongoose (*Herpestes javanicus auropunctatus*), a small predatory carnivore introduced to the Pacific in the 19th century. Within six weeks, the Secretariat designed a project along with colleagues from the Samoan Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, and obtained funding from CEPF, and acquired traps from New Zealand. Within 24 hours of deploying traps around the area of the sighting, one mongoose had been caught. Trapping was maintained throughout the year in areas where mongoose sightings had been reported, but no more were captured, and no new sightings have been reported since. It is likely that only one animal was involved, which probably arrived from Fiji in a shipment of construction materials. This event provides an excellent example of the kind of response needed (but not often implemented) when new invasives are spotted on an island. This is especially important for species that can wreak havoc on island native fauna.

### Invasives networks strengthened

The Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) received a boost during the year with the appointment of a full-time coordinator. PILN is a professional, information and skill-sharing network for invasives workers in Pacific countries and territories. PILN links to the Pacific Invasives Partnership (PIP), which comprises agencies working on invasives issues in multiple countries of the region. PIP member agencies are thereby informed of country priorities and needs, and the PIP member agencies are enabled to provide services to countries more effectively, and with better cooperation. The Secretariat hosts PILN and coordinates PIP, thereby ensuring continuity and coordination among all concerned.





# CLIMATE CHANGE

PHOTO – S. CHAPE

“ The legal ambiguities of an Accord that was noted and not adopted caused much debate in the region. ”

The year 2010 was intense for the climate change team, with challenges to increase work plan delivery at all levels: national, regional, and international (notably processes for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNFCCC). The SPREP Climate Team implemented a number of national and regional activities during the year. The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) and Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy (PIGGAREP) projects are the two main regional projects that directly support PICTs' national priorities on climate change.

SPREP also continued to lead in mainstreaming climate change into development planning processes, and integrating climate change adaptation and disaster risk management. This was done with the Applied Geoscience and Technology Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) on behalf of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) and Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network (DRMPN).





- development of a second edition of the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) following its mid-term review and recommendations from the Chair of the 21st SPREP Meeting.

The strong partnership with the Australian Government's International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (ICCAI) continued to grow, especially in implementing recommendations arising from the 2009 Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR). PICTs and the Secretariat participated in two capacity building workshops on climate change modelling under the Pacific Climate Change Science Project (PCCSP).

The 2009 PCCR recommended that SPREP commission a feasibility study on opportunities for a regional climate change financing facility. That study was completed in 2010 and presented during the 2010 SPREP Meeting, and the Finance and Economics Ministers Meeting (FEMM) in Niue in October 2010. Comments and contributions were invited so that the Secretariat could produce a comprehensive analysis for submission to the 2011 PCCR.

The 2009 Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in Copenhagen had not resulted in the comprehensive agreement that PICs had been seeking. The COP did not "adopt" the Copenhagen Accord, instead it "noted" the Accord. The COP made provisions for Parties that had not formally notified their acceptance of, or willingness to be associated with, the Accord to do so in writing later. The legal ambiguities of an Accord that was noted and not adopted caused much debate in the region. Eight Pacific island countries associated with the Copenhagen Accord, whereas others decided not to. But even many of those associating with the Accord expressed reservations about its contents given its ambiguities surrounding the eligibility for financing.

Highlights for 2010 in policy, mainstreaming, and action planning include:

- development of a National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) for the Marshall Islands
- endorsement by the Government of Tonga of a Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Joint National Action Plan (JNAP). Tonga's JNAP is the first in the region where national climate change and disaster risk management priorities were brought together; both climate change risks and geological risks were considered.

The Secretariat took advantage of an ICCAI workshop in Cairns in March 2010 to consult with PICs. There was an opportunity to present detailed questions to Australia on the Accord and its implications for the negotiations in 2010; this led to a better understanding of different positions and views on the Accord.

The Secretariat provided technical support to PICs during the many UNFCCC negotiation meetings and workshops throughout the year; it also assisted with networking and provision of information for the Development Partners for Climate Change (DPCC) meeting. A pre-COP preparatory meeting was organised in Cancún, Mexico. This meeting included a session on negotiation skills, and afforded participants with a valuable opportunity to recap on outstanding agenda items and to prepare themselves for the difficult negotiations. PICs found the pre-COP meeting extremely useful and requested the Secretariat to continue with that support. While more work needs to be done in 2011 to prepare for the next conference in Durban, South Africa, the Cancún Agreement was a step forward in the negotiations; breakthroughs were achieved in the areas of adaptation, technology, mitigation actions by developing countries, an international mechanism to address insurance on loss and damages, and the establishment of the Cancún Green Fund.

National preparations for Cancún included the Government of the Republic of Kiribati convening the Tarawa Climate Change Conference. The conference was attended by development partners, donors, developed countries, and PICs. The outcome was the Ambo Declaration, highlighting the extreme vulnerability of Kiribati and other atolls to climate change, and calling for immediate actions to secure a legally binding instrument. The Secretariat supported the Kiribati national effort, which drew the attention of developed countries and the global media to the impact of climate change and sea level rise on atolls.



## Global climate observation



The Pacific Islands Global Climate Observing System (PI-GCOS) in 2010 continued cooperation with key partners such as:

- the New Zealand Met Service
- the New Zealand National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)
- the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)
- the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Meteorological Services (NMS) of individual Pacific island countries.

The focus was on the implementation of technical support to systems such as upper air observation; climate prediction and climate monthly newsletters; and weather forecasting training and attachments.

Relevant regional activities also carried out in 2010 included the completion and endorsement of the regional Review of Regional Meteorological Services, and the development of the Pacific Desk concept. A project initiative by the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) and SPREP, on strengthening the capacity of Pacific NMS in the areas of public weather services, was managed and supported. So were quality management systems, with a second regional training hosted by the Tonga meteorological office.

PI-GCOS aims to ensure that its activities are linked to relevant regional initiatives that maximise the support to National Meteorological Services. PI-GCOS collaborated with the AusAID Pacific Climate Change Science Project and attended the PCCSP's Climate Data, Variability, and Change Workshop in Darwin; it also coordinated and supported the PCCSP International Scientific Research Workshop on the South Pacific Convergence Zone that was co-hosted with Samoa at SPREP Headquarters. PI-GCOS also continued to liaise, and commit to its role, with the Pacific Climate Information System (PaCIS) programme. Representatives attended a co-chairs meeting on Working Group activities and plans under the PaCIS Action Plan: PI-GCOS is currently the co-chair for the Working Group on Operational Observations, Products, and Services.

## Greenhouse gas abatement



For the Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP), 2010 was an important year. Several national and regional activities were implemented within the theme of climate change mitigation through renewable energy. There was a sense of partnership and collaboration through a whole-of-sector approach, based on the premise of “many partners, one team”. The Framework for Action of Energy Security was endorsed by the Regional Energy Ministers’ meeting to lead and guide energy work in the region; SPREP’s climate change programme provided input to the process through SPC.

The PIGGAREP manager resigned in 2010 and a new project manager is being recruited. In the interim a newly recruited Climate Change Mitigation Officer with the support of SPREP management and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have continued project implementation.

The 2010 Multipartite Review Meeting (MPR) discussed the 2009 Mid-Term Evaluation Report (MTER). The possibility of extending the project life of PIGGAREP was discussed by the Board.

- It was agreed that there be a request to the UNDP office in Bangkok to clarify whether official consideration and approval was needed from the GEF Secretariat for the extension of PIGGAREP, or whether that could be decided jointly by participating countries, SPREP, and UNDP.
- It was agreed in principle that PIGGAREP should move away from equal funding allocation to a “competitive approach”. PICs that are implementing their projects well and using up their allocated funds could be given more funds to implement additional activities; this will assist the project in meeting its outcome and objective.

Highlights for 2010 included the survey of the Port Olry community-based biofuel production and power generation plant in Vanuatu. The study was undertaken to assess technical, economic, market, institutional, social, and environmental opportunities with a view to replicating successful experiences. The study reported very positive responses on the impact of electricity to the Port Olry community. Power was generated using B100, which is 100 percent coconut oil.



The Port Olry assessment was undertaken through collaboration between SPREP, UNDP, SPC, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. Several national ongoing and new activities were implemented in 2010.

In the Solomon Islands, a Hydro Tasmania consulting expert completed the feasibility study of the proposed Huro and Rualae hydropower schemes. Reports were submitted to the Special Interest Group's (SIG) Energy office and SPREP. The Report states, for example, that the Huro scheme can produce up to 200 kilowatts (kW) in the next 20 years.

In Samoa, installation of hydro monitoring stations on run-off from rivers and other

water catchment sites in Upolu continued; reports are expected in early 2011 from the Electric Power Corporation.

In Fiji, the Buca Hydropower scheme was completed in December 2010. Implemented on the island of Vanua Levu, it has a rating of 30kW.

Two capacity building workshops were held in Fiji during the year: a Wind Data Analysis Workshop in Nadi, and an Energy Project Coordination and Management Workshop in Suva. These workshops strengthened the capacity of PICs in dealing with their overall goal in abating greenhouse gases. PIGGAREP and the SPC Energy Programme collaborated in these workshops.

“ There was a sense of partnership and collaboration through a whole-of-sector approach, based on the premise of “many partners, one team”. ”

Huro mini-hydro power scheme re-feasibility study, Solomon Islands. PHOTO – Energy division, Solomon Islands.









Various wind monitoring activities were carried out in the region.

In the Cook Islands (Mitiaro), wind monitoring was completed and the equipment was installed at Mauke for another wind monitoring exercise. Wind monitoring at Atiu is in progress, to be completed by mid 2011.

In Tonga, the 50-metre wind monitoring tower has now been installed in the Lapaha area. Data downloaded from the first two months indicates a promising level of wind speed. The Electric Power Utility (EPU) of Tonga expects to have the wind data analysed and a feasibility study carried out after 9–12 months.

The Tuvalu Electric Corporation (TEC) conducted a training on Solar PV system Basic Operation and Maintenance. This is a PIGGAREP-funded component of the 46kW Tuvalu Photovoltaic Electricity Network Integration Project (TPVENIP) installed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The study was successfully carried out and the installation commissioned on 15 April 2010.

In Fiji a series of rural communities, stretching from the highlands of Viti Levu to Taveuni and as far north as Rotuma, were provided with Solar Home Systems (SHS) that add up to about 51 kilowatt-peak (kWp) of power.

In Nauru, wind monitoring was completed and an average wind speed of 4 metres per second recorded. This indicated that the power generation in Nauru would be marginal.

In Tonga, Solar PV training comprised the Technical Training and Awareness on Photovoltaic Technology (TAPTA). Its success is illustrated by the fact that 13 islands in the Tongatapu and Vava'u groups took part in the training.

Further solar photovoltaic training was carried out in the western region of the Solomon Islands for the users of Solar PV systems (installed with support from the Italian Government). PIGGAREP will be assisting in funding the freight and installation of 50 solar home systems on Santa Ana Island in the Solomon Islands, as an incremental activity, after the Government procured the systems in November. These 50 systems have a total capacity of 2.5kWp.



## Adapting to climate change

Moving into the third year since its inception, the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change project has markedly increased financial and administrative support to its 13 participating PICs. The SPREP/PACC

office upscaled its operational and administration training support with the assistance of UNDP in response to capacity constraints in country PACC teams. In parallel, the regional PACC team conducted and/or developed the following capacity building activities and reporting guidelines:

- Funding Advance and Certificate of Expenditure (FACE) training. Participants included finance representatives from government involved in PACC financial issues at the national level, accompanied by the country coordinators. This resulted in significantly improved understanding by national institutions of their roles and responsibilities in terms of financial reporting to the UNDP and GEF, and how they can assist the project at national level.
- Quarterly work plans and the itemised costs estimates list (ICLs) and expenditures lists required by UNDP and GEF were developed to meet the new reporting requirements.
- A regional Multi-Year Work Plan (MYWP) was presented at the first Multipartite Review Meeting in May, 2010 forming an important basis for country MYWP and budgeting.

Reaching its fourth quarter, the PACC project carried out sub-regional training on Socio-Economic Assessment (SEA) for the three different PACC development sectors: Food Production and Food Security Sector training was held in Palau; Water Resource Management Sector in RMI; and Coastal Zone Management Sector in FSM.

The SEA-PACC training enabled the Technical Implementation Group (TIG) to carry out an assessment for all its pilot demonstration sites. The objective of the training was to:

- introduce the SEA-PACC and its linkages to the Vulnerability and Adaptation (V&A) process
- provide the climate context for the SEA-PACC
- introduce the SEA-PACC indicators
- engage the participants in group discussions about the process, indicators and analysis, and how to carry out the surveys.

This boosted the TIG's confidence to not only conduct the SEAs at the pilot sites, but also to apply them through different environment and climate indicators. The support resulted in increased technical capacity of the TIG to carry out SEAs in a climate change context at the community level.





PHOTO – S. CHAPE

# ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

## Replenishing the Global Environment Facility

In terms of GEF developments, 2010 was a critical year for the Pacific. The GEF-4 Replenishment period came to an end on 30 June, and the current replenishment cycle for GEF-5 started on 1 July.

A concerted drive during the year ensured the necessary documentation and approvals for projects under the umbrella programme GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (GEF-PAS) were in place by the end of GEF-4. By the end of the cycle, about US\$102,225,800 of GEF funding had been confirmed for the GEF-PAS.

The GEF-PAS originally had 28 projects under its umbrella. The number increased to 31 when one multi-country project was split into national projects. The original estimated amount of US\$98,837,920 also increased as some project approvals exceeded initial estimates.

By the end of 2010, 16 GEF-PAS projects had started implementation, with several in the process of finalising project document preparation. Most will have started implementation during 2011.

For GEF-5, revisions have been made to the system for resource allocation. The programmatic approach and project cycle have also been revised, and some corporate programmes such as the Country Support Programme (CSP) are now directly implemented by the GEF Secretariat itself.

Under the new resource allocation arrangement, the System for the Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) that has replaced the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF), Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have been allocated a total of US\$28

million for climate change (mainly for mitigation, national communications, and enabling activities), US\$43.81 million for biodiversity, and US\$10.08 million for land degradation: a total of \$81.89 million.

In addition, Pacific SIDS will be able to access GEF resource set-asides, plus funding allocated to focal areas outside the STAR, such as International Waters, Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) & Chemicals, Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF).

GEF set-asides include country allocations for the preparation of National Priority Formulation Exercises, and for meeting reporting obligations under the Conventions. The Secretariat began providing support to countries during 2010 in planning the use of, and in accessing, these resources.



## Mainstreaming and strengthening

The Secretariat continues to assist Pacific island countries in developing, strengthening, and implementing their National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS). This means mainstreaming environment concerns into the national development planning and decision-making processes. At the regional level, the governance programme was responsible for co-chairing the CROP Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG). The Mauritius+5 review, coordinated by the Pacific NSDS Regional Support Partnership, was a major collaborative effort through the SDWG and the NSDS. Reporting to the Pacific Plan is an annual event: this highlights initiatives implemented under SPREP's programmes (biodiversity, waste, sustainable environmental financing, and climate change) that are contributing towards the implementation of the Pacific Plan.

The focus of session 18 of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18) was on climate change and energy; Pacific information and priorities were taken to the CSD through the participation of the SPREP Director. Other relevant work that continues in 2010 are the inputs from the Secretariat as the focal point for the Inter-Agency Consultative Group (established by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDESA) in ensuring that SIDS issues are mainstreamed into United Nations work programmes and activities.

## Environmental assessment and planning

An Environmental Assessment and Planning (EAP) regional training workshop was held in 2010. It focused on the Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA) process and its associated analytical and communication tools; and dealt with the review and communication of the State of the Environment (SOE) at all levels. The IEA process aims to help PICTs with reviewing and identifying the key trends of changes in their biophysical, geological, and socio-economic environments; this will assist in projecting outlook implications for development impacts under various scenarios. As a result of the workshop, collaboration by regional partners started the preparation of the Pacific Environment and Climate Change Outlook report, scheduled to be completed in 2011. Twenty-two representatives of PICTs and CROP agencies took part in the IEA training.

Collaboration with regional partners also started for introducing the IEA process to guide national SOE reviews, with training 17 representatives of line ministries and NGOs in Kiribati.

## A new monitoring and assessment system

The Secretariat as the regional hub for Multilateral Environmental Agreements was appointed as the region's reference centre for a new monitoring system under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). This new Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS) helps track the implementation of the UNCCD: indirectly, under the guidance of its 10-year strategy (2008–2018); and directly, through country's individual national action plans. It is a results-based management indicator monitoring system. Not only does it assess the quantity and quality of actions implemented to address desertification, land degradation, and droughts; it also assists with evaluating the impacts made on the ground. By the end of 2010, half of the 14 PIC State parties had completed their reports in PRAIS. The remainder are progressing to completion before COP10 of the UNCCD in October 2011. These reports form country baselines for monitoring and assessing progress of the convention implementation. With the two-yearly reporting cycle, four reports remain to be completed in the ongoing 10-year strategy. Regional training attracted 35 country representatives and 70 delegates attended in-country training on the purpose, structure, and operations of the UNCCD monitoring system PRAIS.

## Mainstreaming frameworks and agreements

Most Member countries are adopting environmental impact assessment regulations and policies with related institutional arrangements to implement them. A key step in strengthening these crucial environmental planning and management tools is expanding their scope of application: so that they consider priorities for conservation, preservation, and sustainable development. These priorities are written into the provisions of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and related national environmental action frameworks such as National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans, National Adaptation Programmes of Action, and National Action Plans. Through the EU-ACP MEA Capacity Building Project, the Secretariat has taken steps to mainstream priorities and considerations in these frameworks into country Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) systems. This was undertaken in national practical EIA training workshops held in FSM, RMI, and Nauru in 2010. Further country assistance to continue this mainstreaming exercise with other Members is planned for 2011 and 2012 under the MEA project. To date, 66 country administrators of line departments and NGOs in five countries have participated in EIA training.





# POLLUTION CONTROL AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Solid waste management

In many ways, 2010 was a year of transition and renewal for solid waste management.

“ In many ways, 2010 was a year of transition and renewal for solid waste management. ”

It marked the end of a four-year fruitful collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under the Solid Waste Management Project in Oceania Region (SWMPOR). But it also began a new five-year project, the Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiatives on Solid Waste Management (J-PRISM). The framework for J-PRISM was signed by PIC representatives at the 21st SPREP Meeting, in Madang, Papua New Guinea. Its initial focus will be on providing assistance to PICs in implementing many of the National Solid Waste Management Strategies (NSWMS) developed under SWMPOR. These are particularly the areas of 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), waste collection, waste disposal, awareness, and capacity building.

Training participants undertake a waste audit, Niue. PHOTO – E. RICHARDS



Waste collection and segregation in Fale Atoll, Tokelau. PHOTO – E. RICHARDS





It was also a year of renewal, because in April 2010, the Secretariat signed a 1 million Euro financing agreement with the Agence française de développement (AFD). The project focuses on building technical capacity for solid waste management, improving the management of waste oil, and providing support for in-country projects.



Waste collection and segregation in Fale Atoll, Tokelau.  
PHOTO – E. RICHARDS

## Shipping-related marine pollution

The Secretariat's marine pollution advisory work focuses on provision of training to assist Pacific island countries in addressing shipping-related marine pollution. The work is conducted through the framework of the Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Program (PACPOL) Strategy 2010–2014, in partnership with the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The importance of this type of preparedness training was highlighted to the world when the oil rig Deep Water Horizon blew out in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010, killing 11 workers and causing the biggest oil spill the world has seen.

### SPILLCON 2010 & Bunker Convention

The International Oil Spill Prevention & Preparedness Conference (SPILLCON 2010) was held in Melbourne in April 2010. In conjunction with this, SPREP and IMO held a joint seminar with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSC). This increased the capacity of the countries in the region to deal with pollution incidents under the Pacific Islands Marine Spill Contingency PLAN. PACPLAN, and PACPOL, are the regional framework and mechanism for a Tier III (large spill) response in the Pacific. An essential part of the seminar was looking at the international financial mechanisms that are available for compensation after a pollution event. Presenters for the one-day seminar came from IMO, AMSA, AMOSC, the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Fund, Maritime New Zealand, and Samoa's Ministry of Transport Works and Infrastructure (MTWI).

Participants from Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, PNG, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, and Vanuatu, at SPILLCON 2010. PHOTO – SPILLCON







Fiji participants on board the container vessel *MV Florence* in Suva. PHOTO – A. CASTON, AMSA

“ Better relationships and networks between agencies will improve cooperation and coordination of marine pollution investigations. ”



#### Enforcement training

The Secretariat, with assistance from AMSA's Marine Environment Division, conducted workshops in Kiribati and Fiji in 2010 on Investigating Shipping Pollution Violations in partnership with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL). Fiji and Kiribati have large exclusive economic zones under their control; and they have experienced increases in oil pollution incidents from foreign fishing vessels and other vessels. This prompted the training requests for vessel waste generation issues and specific techniques related to investigating marine pollution incidents. Better relationships and networks between agencies within both Kiribati and Fiji will improve cooperation and coordination of marine pollution investigations. AMSA presented state-of-the-art oil sample kits to the Officer in Charge of the Ministry of Communication, Transport and Tourism Development in Kiribati; as well as to the Permanent Secretary for Works and Transport in Fiji.

#### Oil-spill exercises

Funding from IMO enabled the Secretariat to conduct regional training for responses to oil spills. Further assistance came from Papua New Guinea's National Maritime Safety Authority (NMSA) and InterOil Napa Refinery. The training covered hazardous and noxious substances with a focus on preparedness, response, and cooperation. Facilitators and presenters were from Maritime NZ, ORCA-AMSA and included a consultant for the NMSA (PNG). Participants' knowledge on oil spills was increased, with emphasis on awareness of available management tools, promotion, and enhancement of regional co-operation under the PACPLAN framework. International and regional conventions include the Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation (OPRC), the OPRC-HNS Protocol (for Hazardous and Noxious Substances), and the regional Noumea Convention Oil/HNS Protocols.



“ Participants’ knowledge on oil spills was increased, with emphasis on awareness of available management tools. ”



Ms Annaliese Caston presents an oil sample kit to the Acting Director of Fiji Maritime Safety Authority, Mr Josateki Tagi.  
PHOTO – A. TALOULI

## Hazardous waste

### Ozone-depleting substances

The Secretariat assisted customs officers from FSM, Nauru, and Tuvalu to complete training in the management and control of the importation of refrigerants used in air conditioners. This training helps ensure that banned refrigerant gases that have a damaging effect on the earth's ozone layer, will not be brought illegally into these countries. The Secretariat also assisted UNEP in the completion of a regional HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP). This will result in 35 percent reduction in hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) consumption by 2020 in PICs, and will assist in mitigation of climate change impacts.

### Persistent organic pollutants

During 2010, the Secretariat and FAO jointly investigated options to reduce the quantities of pesticides released into the environment from used pesticide containers. Pilot studies have begun in Fiji and Samoa, to be completed in the subsequent six months. Work has also started with UNEP to develop a regional programme that minimises the unintentional release of Persistent Organic Pollutants in the region. The programme will introduce whole-of-system approaches at the national level to environmentally sound management of solid and hazardous wastes in the region.

## Chemical management

The fifth Conference of the Parties to the Waigani Convention was held in Madang, PNG, in September 2010. This convention helps control the movement of hazardous wastes in the region by ensuring that any trans-boundary movement of designated hazardous wastes are documented and have a legitimate destination. The meeting endorsed a two-year work programme that concentrates on providing further training of country officers and developing national strategies to manage hazardous wastes.

Earlier in the year the Secretariat hosted meetings in Apia of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Waigani Convention and of the Steering Committee to the Waigani-Basel Pacific Regional Centre.





# COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT



“ Global targets to reduce biodiversity loss have not been met and we continue to lose animal and plant species at an unprecedented rate. ”

**Education and social communication activities for the year focused on the International Year of Biodiversity.** To ensure the international year had a Pacific flavour, a Pacific biodiversity logo was created, shaped like a flower with the slogan “Value Island Biodiversity – It’s Our Life” and depicting various aspects of biodiversity and Pacific people’s interactions with nature. The logo was well received by Members and partners, with many organisations choosing to include the Pacific logo in their correspondence and promotional materials.

As during the Pacific Year of Climate Change (PYCC) in 2009, the Secretariat focused its education and outreach messages on adapting to climate change through biodiversity conservation. This message was highlighted in several factsheets and through T-shirts, postcards, and banners. These were produced for use at COP10 of CMS, held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010.





SPREP Environment Ministers met at the 21st SPREP Meeting in Madang. PHOTO—S. CHAPE

The International Year of Biodiversity was observed in different ways by Pacific island countries and territories. A strategic framework for implementing the IYOB in the Pacific was developed and endorsed by the 19th SPREP Meeting; this served as a guide for the Secretariat, Members and partners.

The IYOB was officially launched in the Pacific at SPREP headquarters in Apia on 4 March 2010 and was marked by the unveiling of the logo. Several countries held national launches; Cook Islands and Fiji also developed national campaign plans for the year. Members' national activities were supported by the partners of the Pacific Roundtable for Nature Conservation.

Activities during the year included tree planting, and clean-up initiatives. There were school awareness programmes on mangroves, coral reefs, and the value of biodiversity in climate change adaptation. The popular television series, the Amazing Race, was adapted by the Cook Islands as a Biodiversity Challenge. This enabled a discovery learning approach to biodiversity conservation.

## Input into many projects

The Secretariat also provided financial and technical support for in-country activities during 2010, such as the design and development of a reusable bag in Samoa. The "My Bag" initiative was jointly funded by SPREP, JICA, and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), and carried out in partnership with schools and three supermarkets in the country. Digicel co-funded the printing of a batch of the bags. A schools art competition was held to develop a suitable design for the bags; two different designs were chosen. The supermarkets

provided small incentives to encourage shoppers using them. The overall success of the initiative is yet to be determined, but there are indications that interest in the use of reusable bags is growing: one of the supermarkets has since launched its own branded reusable bag.

Support was also provided to Kiribati and Fiji to develop an environment communication strategy. Streamlining the education and outreach activities of various projects required significant input from Secretariat staff. The communications strategies are currently being trialled.



The Hon. Fonotoe Pierre Meredith, former Associate Environment Minister of Samoa and currently Deputy Prime Minister, assists with planting a tree at SPREP's Vailima compound. PHOTO – N. WOONTON



A happy 'Bio Bag' owner. PHOTO – N. WOONTON



## Pasifika media

Pacific media played an important role in raising awareness on the International Year of Biodiversity as well as other environmental issues that impact on our region.

Tuvalu hosted the first King Tide Festival for which SPREP provided support for Pacific media to attend. Islands Business International Magazine, PACNEWS Agency, and Tagata Pasifika were the successful applicants of grants to attend the King Tide Festival and provide media coverage. Tagata Pasifika produced a three-part Tuvalu Special on the King Tides Festival; this was broadcast on Television New Zealand and throughout the Pacific.

A Climate Pasifika Media Team attended the UNFCCC 16th Conference of the Parties in Cancún, Mexico, to provide media coverage and support; Ms Makareta Komai the Editor of PACNEWS agency and Mr Stanley Simpson the News Director of Fiji Broadcasting Corporation. All releases were posted on the Climate Pasifika Blogsite [www.climatepasifika.blogspot.com](http://www.climatepasifika.blogspot.com)

The Vision Pasifika Media Award was launched in 2010 with the Pacific IYOB theme. This award went to the Wansolwara student publication at the University of the South Pacific. A special mention, for their contribution towards helping to develop environmental journalism in the region, was made of:

- Ms Rachna Nath, a television journalist with Fiji TV
- Ms Maggie Boyle, a journalism student of the University of the South Pacific
- Mr Rajan Sami, who wrote a piece on “Making Conservation Fun” for the Air Pacific in-flight magazine.

## Information technology

Effective information technology and systems are critical in the delivery of efficient services for any organisation. In 2010, the SPREP Information Technology (IT) unit received funding from the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) to improve its Local Area Network (LAN) infrastructure and to upgrade the capacity of SPREP communication systems. The electronic email system was upgraded to increase the size of user mailboxes.

Virtual Private Networking (VPN) was introduced to staff, allowing access to the LAN while on travel.

There was further improvement to the Annual Work Programme Implementation Database (AWPID), an additional feature being the calendar of events.

A review of the Information Technology and Communications Unit in 2010 resulted in a refocus of functions. Key positions were identified, which resulted in the recruitment of the Web Application Developer Specialist (WADS) and the Information Technology Network Support Specialist Engineer (ITNSSE).

The annual SPREP staff IT training was carried out in June 2010 in collaboration with the Secretariat's Human Resource (HR) unit, strengthening IT skills of staff.

“ A new Strategic Plan for the period 2011–2015 was prepared following the largest consultative exercise in SPREP's history.”

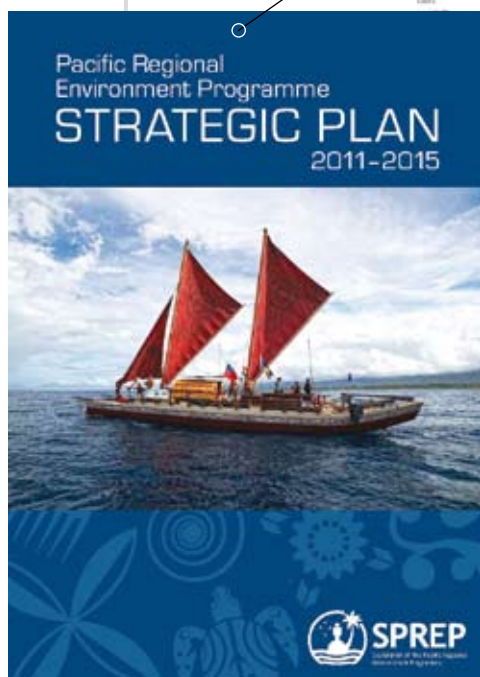
Netatua Pelesikoti Pacific Futures Programme Manager facilitating a working group at the 2011 – 2015 Strategic Plan consultative meeting in Fiji. PHOTO – S. CHAPE



The SPREP Director, David Sheppard wrapping up at the end of 2011 – 2015 Strategic Plan consultative meeting in Fiji. PHOTO – S. CHAPE







## Information network

The development and coordination of the Pacific Environment Information Network (PEIN) was again a core knowledge management priority of the SPREP Information Resource Centre (IRC) in 2010. Software installation, database development, and in-country assistance was provided to Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, and Vanuatu. Resources available via the PEIN virtual environment libraries were further developed. A new clearinghouse mechanism and database were piloted for Multilateral Environmental Agreements. The newly launched PEIN Facebook page has proven to be an excellent complement to the PEIN website.



## Information resources

The IRC and Library staff continued to identify, acquire, catalogue, and integrate critical Pacific environment information in its PEIN online library suite – expanding and strengthening its links with national and tertiary libraries across the region.

New resources:

- Multilateral Environmental Agreements: Pacific regional clearinghouse mechanism  
[www.sprep.org/publication/MEA/MEA.asp](http://www.sprep.org/publication/MEA/MEA.asp)
- PEIN Facebook page [www.facebook.com/pages/Pacific-Environment-Information-Network-PEIN/101762106535767](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pacific-Environment-Information-Network-PEIN/101762106535767)

## CLAIM working group

A significant achievement in 2010 was the formal establishment of a working group to strengthen knowledge management across CROP agencies. Enhanced communication, greater collaboration, and the alignment of information access and capacity building initiatives have been identified as critical areas. The newly established CROP Library, Archives and Information Management (CLAIM) working group will seek to address these.





## Human resources

One of the year's highlights for HR is the completion of the new Performance Development System (PDS) for staff of the Secretariat. This was approved by the executive management to take effect on 1 January 2011. The new PDS involves a shift from the traditional personal evaluation assessment on anniversary dates to a performance-focused, results-oriented process.

Another key achievement was the implementation of the new salary banding model: this is now adopted by all CROP agencies and was approved by the SPREP Meeting to take effect also on 1 January 2011. Workshops and consultation with staff ensured a smooth transition into the new model.

Ongoing work on HR policies and procedures for staff issues ensures they are up to date and reflect best practices internationally.

Team Tafola linking work outputs during a team building activity team at the 2010 SPREP Retreat. – PHOTO N.WOONTON



Top: SPREP staff celebrate the 10 year anniversary of SPREP in 2010.  
Above: SPREP staff at the Vailima compound in 2001. PHOTO – N.WOONTON

The staff satisfaction survey was conducted for the second time. In 2009, the first staff survey had found that only 21 percent of staff assessed their morale as high or very high. In the 2010 survey, that had risen to 74 percent, indicating a significant increase in overall staff satisfaction.

The Secretariat continued to play an active role in the CROP Harmonisation Working Group. The major project completed was





SPREP's Director, David Sheppard, cuts the 10th Anniversary cake. PHOTO – N. WOONTON

the assessment of needs for a Human Resources Information Systems (HRIS). The Secretariat was invited to join the re-established CROP Gender Working Group: its main objective is to ensure gender issues are recognised and implemented within the Secretariat's mandate. An internal Gender Mainstreaming Committee was set up to progress CROP gender commitments and initiatives across the Secretariat's workplans.

## Registry and administration

Registry continued to provide record keeping and archival services to the Secretariat. The Administration section continued to provide management and maintenance of the Secretariat's compounds and assets, including the reallocation of workspace to cater for the growing number of staff and associates.

## Staff establishment

The Secretariat's staff remained steady at 64 positions: 66 percent at the professional level and 34 percent at the support services level. At the end of the year, 83 percent of the positions were filled and 13 percent were under recruitment. The remaining 5 percent (all within Corporate Services) were put

on hold, either due to funding issues or for further reassessment of the need to continue, reclassify, or disestablish. Nine new staff joined SPREP: eight were for programme positions and one was at support staff level. Two short-term intern opportunities for development purposes were made available to young Pacific islanders: one was for the coordination of the Pacific Year of Biodiversity campaign and the other for the coordination of communications for the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change project. Eight staff left the organisation during 2010, one of which was support staff. Two of the professional staff completed their contracts, the others left for other career opportunities, further studies, or personal reasons.

Of the total occupied professional staff positions, 73 percent were Pacific islanders, 18 percent were from the metropolitan Member countries and 9 percent from non-member countries; 36 percent were female and 64 percent male. The total work force (professional and support staff combined) has an equal distribution of male and female employees.



One of SPREP's longest-serving staff members, Miss Lupe Silulu, celebrates SPREP's 10 years at the Vailima compound by planting a tree. PHOTO – N. WOONTON

## Institutional reform

The development of institutional strengthening initiatives in 2010 continued to build on the implementation of key corporate reforms which started in the latter part of 2009. Key financial procedures were revised, a vigorous procurement system was put in place, and a risk management framework was developed.

The year 2010 was also a year of transition with the development of the new strategic plan for 2011–15. This was adopted in September by the SPREP meeting in Madang, Papua New Guinea. The adoption of the new strategic plan was followed up by Management with discussions on an alternative structure for the Secretariat that would reflect strategic priorities of Members.



# Finances

## Donor funds and Member contributions (US\$)

Source	Balance 1-Jan-10	Actual Funds Received	Total Funds Available	Program Support Charge	Programme Expenditure	Other	Balance 31-Dec-10
AusAID Extra Budget	97,944	1,143,788	1,241,732	(110,109)	937,005]	48,844	243,462
AusAID Extra Extra Budget	704,820	192,767	897,587	(51,717]	(641,867]	12,739	216,742
British High Commission	22,860		22,860				22,860
Bishop Museum	4,526		4,526	(735]	(4,025]		(234]
Commonwealth Secretariat	14,045		14,045				14,045
Conservation International	116,838	138,785	255,623	(22,901]	(120,966]		111,756
European Union	30,521		30,521		21,320		51,841
Finnish Institute of Meteorology	6,403	59,419	65,822	(6,052]	(60,517]		(747]
Food and Agriculture Organization	1,060	35,250	36,310		(2]		36,308
Government of Canada	(5,027]	4,839	(188]		2,368		2,180
Government of France	(2,616]	179,953	177,337	(26,366]	(263,973]		(113,002]
Government of Japan	8,877		8,877	(44]	(436]		8,397
Government of Switzerland	(18,794]	18,769	(25]				(25]
International Maritime Organization	28,164	143,264	171,428	(14,345]	(140,635]		16,449
John D & Catherine T MacArthur Foundation	6,721		6,721	(418]	-		6,303
NZAID PIE	(11,584]		(11,584]		(343]	16,739	4,812
NZAID Extra Budget	28,990	880,949	909,939		(929,931]	(1,814]	(21,806]
NZAID Extra Extra Budget	56,180	70,000	126,180	(7,413]	(109,565]	14,787	23,989
Pacific Development & Conservation Trust	1,975		1,975	(96]	(960]		919
Packard Foundation	(209]		(209]				(209]
People's Republic of China	120,000		120,000	(8,562]	(81,140]	(20,000]	10,298
Other Funds	374,874	492,168	867,042	(38,453]	(247,330]	(6,094]	575,165
Ramsar Secretariat	23,572	84,985	108,557	(8,777]	(87,766]		12,014
The Nature Conservancy	(13,948]	26,229	12,281	(3,987]	(39,833]		(31,539]
The Christensen Foundation	11,568		11,568				11,568
United Nations Development Programme	135,430	1,886,958	2,022,388	(190,154]	(1,603,356]	(35,653]	193,226
United Nations Environment Programme	378,840	874,209	1,253,049	(138,767]	(851,268]	(29,548]	233,466
UN Institute of Training & Research	107,979	102,880	210,859	(8,455]	(74,548]		127,856
UN Economics & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific	8,786		8,786				8,786
UN Office of Project Services	7,055		7,055				7,055
US Department of Energy/Los Alamos University	4,471		4,471				4,471
US Fish & Wildlife	14,625		14,625				14,625
US Department of Land & Natural Resources	2,843		2,843	(128]	(1,276]		1,439
US Department of State	71,274	60,000	131,274		(10,000]		121,274
US National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration	(80,424]		(80,424]	(154]	(1,014]		(81,592]
US Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council	11,579	81,585	93,164	(8,482]	(84,816]		(134]
World Health Organization	2,456		2,456				2,456
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,272,673</b>	<b>6,476,797</b>	<b>\$8,749,471</b>	<b>(\$646,112]</b>	<b>(\$6,268,886]</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,834,473</b>

Note: The last digit of each total may differ slightly from the vertical sum, due to rounding.



Member contributions	(US\$)
American Samoa	10,184
Australia	185,106
Cook Islands	12,492
Federated States of Micronesia	10,184
Fiji	32,868
France	134,202
French Polynesia	20,360
Guam	-
Kiribati	10,184
Marshall Islands	10,184
Nauru	10,184
New Caledonia	33,007
New Zealand	134,202
Niue	15,719
Northern Mariana Islands	-
Palau	-
Papua New Guinea	65,345
Samoa	24,974
Solomon Islands	20,360
Tokelau	10,184
Tonga	-
Tuvalu	-
United States of America	200,000
Vanuatu	-
Wallis and Futuna	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>939,739</b>

PHOTO — S. CHAPE



Parties to the Noumea Convention	(US\$)
Australia	3,376
Federated States of Micronesia	1,093
Fiji	422
France	21,736
Samoa	422
Solomon Islands	422
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,471</b>

Parties to the Waigani Convention	(US\$)
Australia	21,595
Federated States of Micronesia	1,135
Fiji	1,097
New Zealand	22,525
Samoa	1,080
Solomon Islands	1,080
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,512</b>

Note: The income received shown above can be located in the Donor Funds schedule in the rows titled 'Other Funds'.

Income and expenditure	(US\$)
<b>Income</b>	
Member contributions	939,739
Programme management charge	646,112
Programme/donor funds income	6,268,886
Other Donor Funds income	296,126
Amortisation of deferred income	112,986
Other income	161,768
<b>Total income</b>	<b>8,425,617</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Executive Management & Corporate Support	2,361,473
Island Ecosystem Programme	2,158,750
Pacific Futures Programme	4,110,136
Depreciation expense	174,114
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>8,804,473</b>

### Independent Audit Report To the Members of Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme ("SPREP") which comprises the statement of income, statement of movement in reserves and statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December, 2010, the statement of financial position as of that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The financial statements for 31 December 2009 were audited by other auditors and accordingly we do not express an opinion on the prior year comparatives.

#### Managements' responsibility for the Financial Report

Management are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and with the requirements of the SPREP Financial Regulations. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion to the Members of SPREP, as a body, in accordance with SPREP Financial Regulation 32. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than SPREP and the SPREP Members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

We confirm that we have no other relationship with SPREP other than the audit of the financial statements.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the SPREP's Directors and Management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by SPREP, so far as it appears from our examination of those books and the financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards:

- (i) are in agreement with the books of account;
- (ii) to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us:
  - a. give a true and fair view of SPREP's state of affairs as at 31 December, 2010 and of its statements of financial performance, changes in reserves, and its cash flows for the year ended on that date;
  - b. give the information required by the SPREP Financial Regulations in the manner so required.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

### Audit Report Cont'd

#### Specific Reporting Requirements

In accordance with SPREP's Financial Regulation 32 we report on the specific matters per the financial regulation as follows:

- a) The extent and character of our examination has been explained in the section on Auditor's Responsibility above and is based on the International Standards on Auditing. The financial statements for the 31 December 2010 have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. The changes in accounting policy as a result of adopting International Financial Reporting Standards are explained in detail in the financial statements in Note 2.
- b) Matters affecting the completeness and accuracy of the accounts are primarily related to the change to International Financial Reporting Standards and these are explained in Note 2 to the financial statements.
- c) We confirm the accuracy of the equipment records as determined by physical inspection of additions to assets and verification of disposals during the reporting period.
- d) The financial procedures of SPREP are adequate based on our examination of the financial procedures necessary for the purposes of formulating the auditor's opinion expressed above.
- e) Based on our examination of the insurance documentation the insurance cover for SPREP's assets is adequate.
- f) Others matters which do not affect our audit opinion have been brought to the attention of management in our report to management.

*Betham & Co.*  
BETHAM & CO.  
Certified Public Accountants  
Apia, Samoa  
25<sup>th</sup> May, 2011



## Publications

Publication	ISBN/ISSN
Kiribati marine turtles profile / Lui Bell [et al.]	978-982-04-0408-3 (print) 978-982-04-0409-0 (online)
A practical guide to landfill management in Pacific island countries and territories: Volume 1 – inland-based waste disposal (69 p.)	978-982-04-0398-7
Pacific waste education handbook: a guide for educators and communities / Tamara Logan [et al.] (96 p.)	978-982-04-0396-3
Directives relatives à la gestion des espèces envahissantes dans le Pacifique: stratégie océanienne de gestion des ravageurs, adventices et autres espèces envahissantes / Alan Tye (22 p.)	978-982-04-0399-4
Outlook report on the state of the marine biodiversity in the Pacific region / Jeff Kinch [et al.] (44 p.)	978-982-04-0406-9 (print) 978-982-04-0407-6 (online)
Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy 2010–2015	978-982-04-0395-6
Turtle Research and Monitoring Database System: user manual / Anne Trevor	978-982-04-0397-0
Regional Wetlands Action Plan for the Pacific Islands 2011–2013 (18 p.)	978-982-04-0415-1 (print) 978-982-04-0416-8 (online)
Series	
SPREP Annual Report 2009 – Pacific Year of Climate Change (48 p.)	1562-675X
2009 PROE Rapport annuel – Année océanienne du changement climatique (48 p.)	1990-3561
Turtle Research and Monitoring Database System (TREDs): annual report 2009 / Anne Trevor (73 p.)	2078-7197
Other (non-ISBN/ISSN)	
2010 International Year of Biodiversity: a Strategic Framework for the Pacific	
Brief for Pacific Island Countries: Convention on Biological Diversity Tenth Conference of the Parties, 18–29 October, 2010 Nagoya, Japan	
Climate change conference: outcomes and next steps	
Conférence sur le changement climatique : Resultats et prochaines étapes : note d'information	
Mobilising climate change funding in the Pacific islands region	
Ocean voices: lessons from the whales for the CBD: humpback whales in Oceania (brochure)	
Our Sea of Islands, Our Livelihoods, Our Oceania: framework for a Pacific Oceanscape: a catalyst for implementation of ocean policy	
Implementation of the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project: process, status and assessment: technical report	
2nd Quarter PACC progress report	
PACC mainstreaming guide	
PACC mainstreaming climate change into national developing planning: a training manual	
Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP): final report, mid term evaluation	
Pacific lessons to learn from Deep-water Horizon event	
Pacific Ocean: pollution prevention programme 2010–2014: strategy and work plans	
Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy 2010–2015: implementation update	
Priorities sites for conservation in Samoa:	
key biodiversity areas = Vaega fa'atauaina mo le fa'asao i Samoa: vaega oa fa'apitoa i le ola fa'anatura	
Review of marine turtles legislation in Samoa, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Fiji	
Reviewing weather and climate services in the Pacific	
Pacific Oceanscape brochure	
SEA-PACC guide	
Tonga Joint National Action Plan Disaster Risk Management	

## Meeting reports

Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Waigani Convention, 3 September 2010, Madang, Papua New Guinea

Report of a meeting of the marine sector working group (MSWG) in association with the Pacific Islands Roundtable

Meeting of 5th – 7th July 2010, Apia, Samoa

SPREP's report of the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Nagoya, Japan 18–29 October, 2010

Report of the tenth ordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Noumea Convention, 2 September 2010, Madang, Papua New Guinea

Technical meeting of the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC)

PACC Multipartite Review Report

Report of the twenty-first SPREP Meeting, 6–10 September 2010, Madang, Papua New Guinea

21e Conférence des représentants officiels du PROE, Madang (Papouasie-Nouvelle Guinée) (2010)

## Online resources

### Links

Bionesian blog

<http://bionesian.blogspot.com>

Multilateral Environmental Agreements: Pacific regional clearinghouse mechanism

<http://www.sprep.org/publication/MEA/MEA.asp>

PACC on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Pacific-Adaptation-to-Climate-Change-Project/138318312894166>

PEIN on YouTube: Videos about the Pacific environment directory

[http://www.sprep.org/publication/PEIN\\_You\\_Tube.asp](http://www.sprep.org/publication/PEIN_You_Tube.asp)

PEIN Regional Frameworks and Strategies directory

[http://www.sprep.org/publication/PEIN\\_Regional\\_Frameworks.asp](http://www.sprep.org/publication/PEIN_Regional_Frameworks.asp)

PEIN Virtual Library of Lessons Learned and Best Practices in Environment Management directory

<http://www.sprep.org/publication/Lessons.asp>

PEIN on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pacific-Environment-Information-PEIN-on-Twitter-Network-PEIN/101762106535767>

SPREP corporate documents online archive

<http://www.sprep.org/publication/serials.asp>

## Posters

Do you want a healthy sea?

Community-based turtle monitoring in Fiji

Return tag data:

support turtle conservation by reporting tag numbers

Turtle moratorium 2009–2018:

turtle harvesting & trade is illegal

Pacific Islands marine portal

## CD/DVDs

Aerobic system

How to make the semi-aerobic system work:

improvement of your landfill with the semi-aerobic system

How to make the semi-aerobic system work: training materials

Important bird areas in the Pacific: a compendium

Pacific biodiversity and climate change: Ecosystem-Based Adaptation – analysis and needs assessment Variety of life

## Articles and newsletters

Human resources newsletter

Monthly director's column in Island Business magazine

PACC snapshots

PEIN monthly digest

What's New @ SPREP Library





## Staff list

Staff member	Designation	Country	Contract expiry date	
Executive				
David Sheppard	Director	Australia	5 October	2012
Kosi Latu	Deputy Director	Samoa	20 July	2011
Rosanna Galuvao	Executive Assistant to Director	Samoa	30 May	2013
Ruta Tupua-Couper	Executive Assistant to Director	Samoa	Resigned March	2010
Apiseta Eti	Executive Assistant to Deputy Director	Samoa	31 December	2012
Island Ecosystems				
Stuart Chape	Programme Manager	Australia	4 August	2011
Makerita Atiga	Secretary to Programme Manager	Samoa	2 August	2011
Jeffrey Kinch	Coastal Management Adviser	Australia	Resigned December	2010
Lui Bell	Marine Species Officer	Samoa	2 October	2011
Paul Anderson	Marine Conservation Analyst	USA	17 March	2011
Vainuupo Jungblut	Ramsar Officer Oceania	Samoa	22 February	2012
Caroline Vieux	Coral Reef Management Officer	France	2 January	2013
Seema Deo	Education & Social Communications Adviser	Fiji	12 March	2012
Easter Galuvao	Biodiversity Adviser	Samoa	11 April	2013
Alan Tye	Invasive Species Adviser	United Kingdom	29 June	2013
Posa Skelton	Pacific Invasives Learning Network Coordinator	Samoa	29 June	2013
Gillian Key	Capacity Development Adviser	United Kingdom	27 September	2013
Frank Wickham	Capacity Development Adviser	Solomon Islands	Resigned February	2010
Catherine Siota	Associate Turtle Database Officer	Solomon Islands	12 May	2013
Anne Trevor	Associate Turtle Database Officer	Samoa	March	2010
Theresa Fruean	Programme Assistant	Samoa	13 April	2012
Vacant	Terrestrial Ecosystems Management Officer			
Pacific Futures				
Netatua Pelesikoti	Programme Manager	Tonga	29 November	2012
Joyce Tulua	Secretary to Programme Manager	Samoa	29 July	2013
David Haynes	Pollution Prevention & Waste Management Adviser	Australia	3 June	2013
Anthony Talouli	Marine Pollution Adviser	Fiji	20 April	2013
Esther Richards	Solid Waste Officer	St Vincent and the Grenadines	11 August	2011
Espen Ronneberg	Climate Change Adviser	Marshall Islands	28 October	2012
Taito Nakalevu	Project Manager—Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change	Fiji	5 April	2012
Solomone Fifita	Project Manager—Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project	Tonga	Resigned July	2010
Seve Paeniu	Sustainable Development Adviser	Tuvalu	Resigned July	2010
Dean Solofa	Pacific Islands—Global Climate Observing System Officer	Samoa	16 October	2011
Diane McFadzien	Climate Change Adaptation Officer	Cook Islands	12 November	2013
Fine Lao	Climate Change Adaptation Officer	Tonga	Resigned May	2010
Tepa Suaesi	Environmental Officer	Samoa	27 June	2013
Joseph Stanley	GEF Support Adviser	Samoa	18 March	2011
Clark Peteru	Legal Adviser	Samoa	12 February	2013
Peniamina Leavai	Project Officer—Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change	Samoa	30 June	2013

## Staff list

Staff member	Designation	Country	Contract expiry date	
Pacific Futures continued				
Nixon Kua	Climate Change Mitigation Officer	Solomon Islands	29 June	2013
Pulemalie Habiri	Programme Assistant	Samoa	3 October	2013
Vacant	Knowledge Management Officer			
Vacant	Pacific Islands–Global Ocean Observing Systems Coordinator			
Corporate Services				
Information, Communication & Publication				
Kapeni Matatia	IT Manager	Samoa	11 September	2011
Christian Slaven	Database Developer & Administrator	Samoa	9 April	2012
Peter Murgatroyd	Information Resource Centre Manager	New Zealand	3 January	2013
Miraneta Williams	Assistant Librarian	Samoa	31 March	2011
Nanette Woonton	Media & Public Relations Officer	Cook Islands	15 September	2013
Vacant	Communications Officer			
Vacant	Web Applications Developer Specialist			
Vacant	IT Network & Systems Support Engineer			
Aliitasi Uesele - Petaia	IT Network Officer	Samoa	April	2010
Finance				
Alofa Tu'uau	Finance Manager	Samoa	23 July	2011
Makereta Kaurasi-Manueli	Project Accountant	Fiji	14 April	2012
Maraea Slade-Pogi	Assistant Accountant	Samoa	13 September	2012
Ioane Iosefo	Finance Officer	Samoa	2 March	2011
Leilani Chan Tung	Finance Officer	Samoa	27 October	2011
Pauline Fruean	Conference & Travel Officer	Samoa	7 September	2013
Vacant	Finance Officer			
Human Resources & Administration				
Simeamativa Leota-Vaai	HR & Administration Manager	Samoa	7 January	2013
Luana Chan-Jamieson	Personnel Officer	Samoa	11 August	2011
Lupe Silulu	Registry Supervisor	Samoa	31 December	2012
Helen Tuilagi Ah-Kuoi	Records Management Assistant	Samoa	27 April	2012
Monica Tupai	Receptionist/Fax Operator	Samoa	30 December	2012
Petaia I'amafana	Property Services Officer	Samoa	11 January	2012
Faamanatu Sititi	Driver/Clerk	Samoa	5 December	2011
Silupe Gafa	Groundsman	Samoa	31 March	2011
Amosa To'oto'o	Cleaner/Teaperson	Samoa	31 December	2012
Tologauvale Leaula	Cleaner/Teaperson	Samoa	31 December	2012
Vacant	Cleaner/Teaperson			



# Acronyms and abbreviations

<b>ABS</b>	Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization	<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>ACP</b>	African, Caribbean and Pacific (countries of the Lome Convention)	<b>IYOB</b>	International Year of Biodiversity
<b>AFD</b>	Agence française de développement (French Development Agency)	<b>J-PRISM</b>	Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management
<b>AMOSC</b>	Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre	<b>JICA</b>	Japan International Cooperation Agency
<b>AMSA</b>	Australian Maritime Safety Authority	<b>JNAP</b>	Joint National Action Plan
<b>AusAID</b>	Australian Agency for International Development	<b>kW</b>	kilowatt
<b>AWPID</b>	Annual Work Programme Implementation Database	<b>kWp</b>	kilowatt peak
<b>BOM</b>	Bureau of Meteorology (Australia)	<b>LAN</b>	Local Area Network
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity	<b>LULUCF</b>	Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry
<b>CCA</b>	Climate Change Adaptation	<b>MCAF</b>	Marine Conservation Action Fund
<b>CEPF</b>	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CI-CEPF)	<b>MEA</b>	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
<b>CI</b>	Conservation International	<b>MNRE</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Samoa)
<b>CLAIM</b>	CROP Library, Archives and Information Management	<b>MPA</b>	Marine Protected Area
<b>CMS</b>	Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals	<b>MPR</b>	Multipartite Review Meeting
<b>COP</b>	Conference of the Parties	<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>CRISP</b>	Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific	<b>MSWG</b>	Marine Sector Working Group
<b>CROP</b>	Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific	<b>MTER</b>	Mid-Term Evaluation Report
<b>CSD-18</b>	Commission on Sustainable Development, session 18	<b>MTWI</b>	Ministry of Transport Works and Infrastructure (Samoa)
<b>CSP</b>	Country Support Programme	<b>MYWP</b>	Multi Year Work Plan
<b>DRM</b>	Disaster Risk Management	<b>NCCP</b>	National Climate Change Policy
<b>DRMPN</b>	Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network	<b>NGO</b>	Non-Government Organisation
<b>DPCC</b>	Development Partners for Climate Change	<b>NMSA</b>	National Maritime Safety Authority (PNG)
<b>EAP</b>	Environment Assessment and Planning	<b>NIWA</b>	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (New Zealand)
<b>EbA</b>	Ecosystem-based Adaptation	<b>NMS</b>	National Meteorological Service
<b>EEZ</b>	Exclusive Economic Zone	<b>NOOA</b>	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (USA)
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment	<b>NSDS</b>	National Sustainable Development Strategies
<b>EPU</b>	Electric Power Utility	<b>NSWMS</b>	National Solid Waste Management Strategy
<b>EU</b>	European Union	<b>OPRC</b>	Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation
<b>FACE</b>	Funding Advance and Certificate of Expenditure	<b>PACC</b>	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	<b>PaCIS</b>	Pacific Climate Information System
<b>FEMM</b>	Finance and Economics Ministers Meeting	<b>PACPLAN</b>	Pacific Islands Regional Marine Spill Contingency Plan
<b>FMI</b>	Finnish Meteorological Institute	<b>PACPOL</b>	Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Program
<b>FSM</b>	Federated States of Micronesia	<b>PAS</b>	Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (under GEF)
<b>FSPI</b>	Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International	<b>PAWG</b>	Protected Area Working Group
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility	<b>PCCR</b>	Pacific Climate Change Roundtable
<b>GEF-4</b>	Global Environment Facility, 4th Replenishment	<b>PCCSP</b>	Pacific Climate Change Science Project
<b>GLISPA</b>	Global Island Partnership	<b>PDS</b>	Performance Development System
<b>HCFC</b>	Hydrochlorofluorocarbon	<b>PEIN</b>	Pacific Environment Information Network
<b>HNS</b>	Hazardous and Noxious Substances	<b>PICs</b>	Pacific Island Countries
<b>HNS Convention</b>	International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea	<b>PICTs</b>	Pacific Island Countries and Territories
<b>HPMP</b>	HCFC Phase-out Management Plan	<b>PIF</b>	Project Identification Form
<b>HRIS</b>	Human Resources Information System	<b>PIFS</b>	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
<b>HR</b>	Human Resources	<b>PIFACC</b>	Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change
<b>ICCAI</b>	Australian Government International Climate Change Adaptation	<b>PI-GCOS</b>	Pacific Islands – Global Climate Observing System
<b>ICL</b>	Itemised Costs Estimates list	<b>PIGGAREP</b>	Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project
<b>ICR</b>	Independent Corporate Review	<b>PILN</b>	Pacific Invasives Learning Network
<b>IEA</b>	Integrated Environmental Assessment	<b>PIP</b>	Pacific Invasives Partnership
<b>IMO</b>	International Maritime Organization	<b>PIRT</b>	Pacific Islands Roundtable (for Nature Conservation)
<b>INTERPOL</b>	International Criminal Police Organization	<b>PISEIA</b>	Pacific Islands Sustainable Energy Industries Association
<b>IOPC</b>	International Oil Pollution Compensation (Fund)	<b>PNG</b>	Papua New Guinea
<b>IRC</b>	Information Resource Centre		
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology		
<b>ITNSSE</b>	Information Technology Network Support Specialist Engineer		

## Acronyms and abbreviations

POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PRAIS	Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System
PV	Photovoltaic
PoWPA	Programme of Work on Protected Areas
PYCC	Pacific Year of Climate Change
RAF	Resource Allocation Framework
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
RIF	Regional Institutional Framework
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
SDWG	Sustainable Development Working Group
SEA	Socio-Economic Assessment
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SHS	Solar Home System
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SIG	Special Interest Group
SOE	State of the Environment
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPILLCON	International Oil Spill Prevention & Preparedness Conference
SPP0	South Pacific Programme Office (of WWF)
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
STAC	Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
STAR	System for the Transparent Allocation of Resources
SWMPOR	Solid Waste Management Project in Oceania Region
TAPTA	Technical Training and Awareness on Photovoltaic Technology
TEC	Teacher Education Consortium
TIG	Technical Implementation Group
TPVENIP	Tuvalu Photovoltaic Electricity Network Integration Project
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USP	University of the South Pacific
V&A	Vulnerability & Adaptation
VPN	Virtual Private Network
WADS	Web Application Developer Specialist
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
YoST	Year of the Sea Turtle



# THE PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

SPREP Members comprise 21 Pacific island countries and territories, and four developed countries\* with direct interests in the region:

AMERICAN SAMOA AUSTRALIA\* COOK ISLANDS FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA  
FIJI FRANCE\* FRENCH POLYNESIA GUAM KIRIBATI MARSHALL ISLANDS NAURU  
NEW CALEDONIA NEW ZEALAND\* NIUE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS PALAU  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA SAMOA SOLOMON ISLANDS TOKELAU TONGA TUVALU  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA\* VANUATU WALLIS AND FUTUNA



## *Value Island Biodiversity – It's Our Life*

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is the intergovernmental agency charged with the protection and sustainable management of the Pacific island region's environment.

SPREP's vision is for a Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

SPREP works at the forefront of regional efforts to address environmental concerns by providing national-level technical advice, programme support, human and institutional capacity building and coordinated regional responses to global issues and international agreements.

The work of SPREP is guided by a 5-year Strategic Plan (2011-2015) which was formally adopted at the 21st SPREP Meeting in Papua New Guinea in September 2010.

For more information regarding SPREP and SPREP's contributions to conservation, resource management and sustainable development, please visit: [www.sprep.org](http://www.sprep.org).

