



Framework for

Nature Conservation and Protected Areas

in the Pacific Islands Region

2014–2020



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



for nature conservation
in the Pacific Islands



Purpose of the Regional Framework

This Framework provides guidance to Pacific island countries and territories, regional organisations, non-governmental organisations, the international donor community and partners working together to achieve the global 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) through the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans. It provides conservation practitioners with guidance on recognised best practices for conservation in the region and acts as a bridge between global and national conservation action by showing how the conservation priorities in the region align with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Its goals and objectives are based on the fundamental roles that biodiversity and healthy, resilient ecosystems play in providing food security for Pacific islanders, supporting their sustainable development aspirations and addressing the negative environmental impacts of anthropogenic and climate changes and extreme events to which the Pacific is particularly vulnerable. It also recognises the need for greater coordination and cooperation between the region's conservation partners and provides a framework for assessing synergies between the many international and regional conservation frameworks being implemented in the Pacific.

About the Framework

The Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Islands Region 2014–2020 will assist all Pacific island governments, communities, regional agencies and institutions, donors, NGO's and partners to achieve coordinated conservation in the Pacific. It is based on best conservation practices drawn from the experiences of the many conservation practitioners including those who attended the 9th Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas and previous conferences and the Action Strategies which have been developed since 1985 at these five yearly events. It encourages coordination and cooperation between the many Pacific conservation stakeholders in order to achieve strong outcomes at local, national and regional level which reflect the priorities of Pacific island nations.

The Framework identifies all the components of conservation action needed to achieve the 30 year goals first developed in 2002 at the 7th Pacific Conference for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. The Framework's goals articulate the interdependence between healthy environments, sustainable economies and the social and cultural well-being of Pacific people and communities, and are as valid today as they were when conceived. Its objectives, developed during the 9th Conference, align with the global 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity which are now the overarching targets for the NBSAPs of Pacific islands. This alignment with both global targets and the NBSAPs, uniquely positions the Framework as a regional bridge between the global and national levels of biodiversity action.

The Framework is in two Parts. **Part 1** embraces the Code of Conduct and Guiding Principles, which have been updated and revised to reflect the messages from the 9th Conference. A new principle, Principle 9 Resilience and Sustainability, has been added to reflect the need for Pacific island conservation practitioners to support, maintain and enhance resilient human and ecological communities. This principle should be applied alongside the Guidelines for Community Conservation. Other messages which have been reflected in the updated Guiding Principles include the need to support community access to, and sharing of, the benefits of biodiversity based products, and the need for improved rights to participate in research and access available information on resources, natural and cultural heritage and society, in appropriate forms and language. The important role of the private sector as partners in biodiversity conservation and building sustainable communities is emphasised.

Adoption and commitment to the Code of Conduct by all parties and individuals involved in Pacific conservation will improve the quality of project and programme implementation. It will lead to

strengthened partnerships, improved cross sectoral coordination and cooperation and stronger governance and accountability. Overall, the widespread application of the Code of Conduct and Principles will significantly improve regional capacity and the collective impact of the regional conservation effort.

Part 2 illustrates how the Framework serves as a bridge between the global targets for biodiversity and the implementation of the NBSAPs. This function is achieved by the alignment of the Framework's six-year objectives, which reflect the environmental priorities of the Pacific islands, with the 2020 Aichi Targets. The alignment also provides a way to assess progress against the objectives and 30 year goals. This will be accomplished through the analysis of the reports of Pacific Island Countries and Territories to the Convention on Biological Diversity and progress on the implementation of the NBSAPs and 2020 Aichi Targets. Part 2 also illustrates the links between the Framework and other regional initiatives which support conservation in order to promote coordination, communication and overall effective implementation by the governments, donors, communities, individuals, private sector, NGO's and research and tertiary education institutions which represent the stakeholders of Pacific conservation.

Timeframe

The timeframe of the Framework is the six year period 2014 - 2020.

Vision, Mission and 30 year Goals

VISION

Healthy Oceans - Healthy Islands - Healthy People

Our people proudly honour, value and protect our natural and cultural heritage and cultural identity for the well being of present and future generations; the waters of our streams, lagoons and oceans are bountiful and unpolluted; our mountains are wild, our forests intact and our beaches unspoiled; our towns, gardens are healthy and productive; our societies are vibrant, resilient and diverse; we have equitable relationships with our global partners and our economies thrive; our cultures and traditions are widely appreciated; and the products of our creativity and labour are especially prized.

MISSION

To protect and preserve the rich natural and cultural heritage of the Pacific islands forever for the benefit of the people of the Pacific and the world.

GOALS

Environment

The biodiversity and natural environment of the Pacific are conserved in perpetuity

Economy

Nature conservation and sustainable resource use are the foundation of all island economies

Society

Pacific peoples are leading activities for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and the preservation of cultural heritage for the benefit of present and future generations

2014 –2020 OBJECTIVES

Objective 1

People are aware of the value of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably

(Aichi Biodiversity Target 1)

Objective 2

Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage, knowledge and expressions, and community resilience and development aspirations

(Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2,3,4,6,7,8)

Objective 3

Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites

(Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5,6,7,11,14,15)

Objective 4

Protect and recover threatened species and preserve biodiversity, focusing on species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance

(Aichi Biodiversity Targets 12,7,9,13,16,18,19)

Objective 5

Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over-exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation

(Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4,5,6,7,8,9,10,14)

Objective 6

Build capacity and partnerships that strengthen synergies between science, policy, local knowledge systems and indigenous sciences and enhance local and international agreements, to effectively mobilise resources to achieve Objectives 1 - 5

(Aichi Biodiversity Targets 17,18,19,20)

Principles for Nature Conservation in the Pacific - Code of Conduct for Framework Implementation.

These Principles define the critical components for the effective delivery of nature conservation in the Pacific island region. They are derived from lessons learned from past Action Strategies and a Code of Conduct for all conservation practitioners working the Pacific.

Application of the Principles and Code of Conduct to all projects, programmes and initiatives related to the implementation of Pacific island NBSAPs will significantly improve conservation outcomes. They must be respected, recognised, supported and applied by all agencies, partners and organisations working and supporting nature conservation in the region. Collectively, the widespread application of the Principles will result in stronger projects and programmes, more effective strategies, improved financial sustainability and a significant and exponential improvement in the Pacific's overall conservation capacity.

Principles of Nature Conservation in the Pacific - a Code of Conduct.

Principle 1: Community Rights

Most natural resources in the Pacific are owned and used by indigenous and local communities.

International and national partners will actively recognise, respect and support:

- Community property rights including traditional rights over natural resources, indigenous intellectual property relating to natural resources and cultural knowledge.
- Community decision making practices.
- Community rights to design, prioritise, conduct and publish research.
- Community rights to access information available on their resources, natural and cultural heritage and society in appropriate forms and language.
- Community rights to develop opportunities that support and sustain local livelihoods and well-being.

Principle 2: Conservation from a Pacific Perspective

Natural resources are often the most important source of wealth and development opportunities for Pacific communities. Therefore the practice of conservation principles in Pacific communities will influence the economic, social and cultural affairs of those communities.

International and national partners will actively recognise, respect and support:

- Community aspirations for development and well being.
- A Pacific approach to conservation based on sustainable resource use, cultural heritage, traditional and cultural knowledge and expressions, and addressing food security and poverty alleviation.

Principle 3: Ownership of Conservation Programmes

Lasting conservation in the Pacific can only be achieved if national partners (including communities) take responsibility for leadership of the design, implementation and evaluation of conservation programmes in their respective areas.

National and community partners will commit to:

- Exercising and building their capacity for leadership of conservation programmes.

- Greater engagement and ownership of conservation within sectors such as faith based groups, business, industry and urban organisations.

International partners will commit to:

- Respecting and encouraging national and community partner leadership for all conservation programmes.
- Helping strengthen partner capacity to exercise their leadership for all programmes.
- Aligning all conservation programmes with those of the national partners.
- Strengthening national and local partners as an alternative to establishing their own institutions and infrastructure.
- Connecting regional and international initiatives with national priorities and aspirations.
- Ensuring all key programme decision-making takes place in-country with participation by national and community partners and led by their conservation priorities.

Principle 4: Financial Sustainability

Conservation initiatives must be adequately resourced over time.

International and national partners will commit to:

- Ensuring their conservation programmes are of scale and budget appropriate to the local context.
- Long-term strategic planning and resource mobilisation that sustains conservation over time.
- Developing best practices for improving livelihoods and well-being, reducing poverty and enhancing community financial sustainability based on the utilisation of biocultural resources.
- Developing with appropriate new and improving existing methods to sustain financial investment and resources for conservation, particularly through use of economic and financial tools, legislation, private sector partnerships and market based mechanisms.

Principle 5: Good Governance

Effective conservation programmes are inclusive, participatory, accountable and transparent.

National and international partners will commit to:

- Reinforcing inclusive and participatory approaches by involving all stakeholders, particularly community representatives, when designing, implementing and assessing conservation programmes.
- Promoting and supporting cost effective scaling up and adoption of good practice conservation models through government policies.
- Developing and implementing policies which are strong and integrated across government agencies and governance levels.
- Ensuring systems are in place to enable full accountability to the people affected by conservation programme implementation.
- Ensuring their programmes and systems are well communicated, fully transparent and open to stakeholder scrutiny.
- Working with religious, traditional and spiritual leaders to strengthen community engagement in conservation programmes.

Principle 6: Coordination and Collaboration

Conservation is more effective when partners coordinate, collaborate and work within a strategic framework.

National Partners will commit to:

- Ensuring NBSAPs and the locally devised conservation programmes are strategic, focused and set clear local priorities for action.
- Taking a leadership role in coordinating all partners.
- Providing national and local focal points for coordinating NBSAP and other programme implementation.

International Partners will commit to:

- Working within the legislation, policies, strategies, agreed priorities and coordination of political engagement to avoid duplication.
- Working with each other to ensure collaborative analysis, strategies, agreed priorities and coordination of political engagement to avoid duplication.
- Avoiding programming that directly competes with national partners for projects and funding.

Principle 7: Capacity Development

Community, national and sub national capacity to design, prioritise, direct, manage, implement, monitor and evaluate conservation programmes so that lasting conservation objectives can be achieved.

National partners and communities will commit to:

- Building effective and sustainable conservation capability and organisations through on-going capacity development including raising the awareness of people about the importance of biodiversity.
- Ensuring conservation is continuously improved by recording, disseminating and incorporating lessons learned and best practices and the use of tools such as the Open Standards for Conservation Action.
- Building capacity with and within local and faith based organisations.
- Enhancing capacity of conservation practitioners to use concepts and tools of the private sector.

International partners will commit to:

- Supporting national partners in their efforts to build effective and sustainable national institutions.
- Supporting national partners and communities in their efforts to develop leadership, competencies and project management skills.
- Ensuring their presence in-country does not undermine national and local institution-building or capacity development.
- Contributing to national partner's best practice by recording, disseminating and implementing lessons learned.

Principle 8: Accountability

International and national partners to be accountable to the countries, agencies and communities they work with for their investment and engagement in conservation programmes.

National partners will commit to:

- Reinforcing participatory approaches by involving all national conservation partners and other stakeholders, including community representatives, when designing, implementing and assessing conservation programmes.
- Recognising and applying inter-generational equity and gender equality principles in all activities.
- Setting clear and standard processes for the establishment, operation and accountability of international partners through formal agreements. These agreements should include a Code of Conduct with defined consequences for breaches, and mechanisms to ensure transparency of operations.
- Establishing systems to register conservation activities of all partners against national and local priorities (for example NBSAP's).
- Setting easily measured benchmarks to ensure progress against defined conservation problems with each partner held accountable for its commitments and progress.

International partners will commit to:

- Adopting systems that ensure transparency and accountability of their programmes at a national level.
- Providing timely transparent and comprehensive reporting on conservation programmes to national partners, including reporting on implementation of NBSAP priorities.

Principle 9: Reinforcing Resilience and Sustainability

Implementing conservation and natural resource management that supports the resilience and well being of Pacific communities.

National and International partners will commit to:

- Programmes and projects which focus on building resilience in Pacific communities, cultures and environments.
- Using innovative community based and culturally grounded natural solutions.
- Implementing conservation activities using the approaches and principles of ecosystem based management and adaptation and employing the knowledge of local communities and people.
- Ensuring activities build adaptive capacity of communities and ecosystems.
- Ensuring activities develop and use learning networks, best available information, traditional ecological knowledge and other appropriate tools.
- Retaining, safeguarding and using traditional and cultural knowledge in support of community resilience.

Part 2: Targets

Without agreed targets, measurement of progress against the objectives has been difficult in the past and mainly anecdotal. To help overcome this and improve the accountability of the Framework, the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biodiversity have been adopted as the basis for indicators for the Framework. As the agreed global targets for biodiversity conservation and protected areas by all Parties to the CBD, the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets are also the overarching conservation targets for Pacific islands. The Aichi targets are already being included in the revisions of Pacific island NBSAP's, which will guide the conservation priorities of Pacific islands in the six years to 2020.

All 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets are applicable to the goals and objectives of the Framework. Table 1 below seeks to correlate the Aichi Biodiversity Targets to the goals and objectives of the Framework as a basis for identifying appropriate Framework Targets. Appendix 1 presents the Framework Objectives against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Table 1. Correlation of Framework Objectives with Aichi 2020 Targets and Proposed Indicators.

Framework Objective	Aichi Targets Addressed	Examples of Performance Indicators	Regional Programme Links
Objective 1 People are aware of the value of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably	Target 1 By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National awareness raising activities ➤ Regional campaigns such as the year of the Dugong. ➤ Examples of national and regional events linking biodiversity, culture and heritage 	SPREP SPC. National environment departments International NGO's USP UPNG Churches Pacific Heritage Hub Youth Groups
Objective 2 Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage, knowledge and expressions, and community resilience and development aspirations	Target 2 By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems. Target 3 By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of PICTs which can demonstrate integration and examples of incorporation of biodiversity values into national accounting/budgets ➤ Number of examples where sustainable production and consumption has been linked to ecosystem based management plans e.g. in fisheries management. 	Private sector and business organisations especially in the Fisheries and Agriculture sectors Forum Secretariat

	<p>applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.</p> <p>Target 4 By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.</p> <p>Target 6 By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.</p> <p>Target 7 By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p> <p>Target 8 By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of PICTs introducing sustainable resource utilisation policies ➤ Number of PICTs with EBAFM legislation and policies in place ➤ Number of examples of successful EBAF projects established and being implemented ➤ Number of examples where PICTs have actively managed ecosystems to provide or improve the provision of essential development services, most likely watersheds, but also coastal systems (mangroves/reefs) used for gleaning, fishing etc. 	<p>Forum Fisheries Agency Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission - Parties to the Nauru Agreement</p> <p>Pacific Islands Development Programme World Trade Organization</p> <p>SPC Coastal Fisheries Management Programme Forum Fisheries Agency Coral Triangle Initiative - Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF)</p> <p>UNDP/GEF Sustainable Land Management USAID PNG Marsh</p>
<p>Objective 3 Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites</p>	<p>Target 5 By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.</p> <p>Target 7 By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p> <p>Target 10 By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.</p> <p>Target 11 By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of PICTs which have ceased logging intact forest. ➤ Number of PICTs which have management plans/policies in place limiting use of mangroves. ➤ Number, area and percentage of EEZ in resilient Marine Protected Areas and MPA networks ➤ Number of sites or examples of non tangible cultural significance identified and protected under local custom, national or international agreements such as World Heritage Convention 	<p>PICTs (Forest Agencies)</p> <p>USAID /Marsh</p> <p>PICTs Roundtable Members</p> <p>USP UPNG</p> <p>PICTS</p>

	<p>representative and well</p> <p>Target 14 By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.</p> <p>Target 15 By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number and area of terrestrial and marine protected areas and protected area networks established or under implementation ➤ Number of landscape / seascape/ oceanscape integrated management policies and plans endorsed or under implementation. ➤ Number and area and percentage land cover of terrestrial protected areas established and effectively managed ➤ Number and scale of ecosystem restoration projects and area restored from degraded state. 	<p>Roundtable Members Micronesia Challenge CTI-CFF Pacific Forum Oceans Commissioner Oceanscapes Policy</p> <p>CSPC/SOPAC</p> <p>PICTs Roundtable Members Micronesia Challenge CTI-CFF</p>
<p>Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance</p>	<p>Target 12 By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.</p> <p>Target 7 By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity</p> <p>Target 9 By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment</p> <p>Target 13 By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.</p> <p>Target 16 By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.</p> <p>Target 18 By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessment of changed trends in extinction, abundance and distribution of selected keystone Pacific Island species based on IUCN Red List ➤ Number of recovery plans developed and implemented across the region ➤ Effectiveness of implementation of regional Marine Species Action Plan evaluated ➤ Regional or national policy incorporating the protection of genetic diversity ➤ Examples of national legislation incorporating Nagoya Protocol principles 	<p>SPREP Roundtable Members Pacific Invasives Initiative</p> <p>SPREP - Regional Species Action Plans and Programmes (Marine Species, Marine Turtles etc.)</p> <p>SPC (Land Resources Programme) USP UPNG</p>

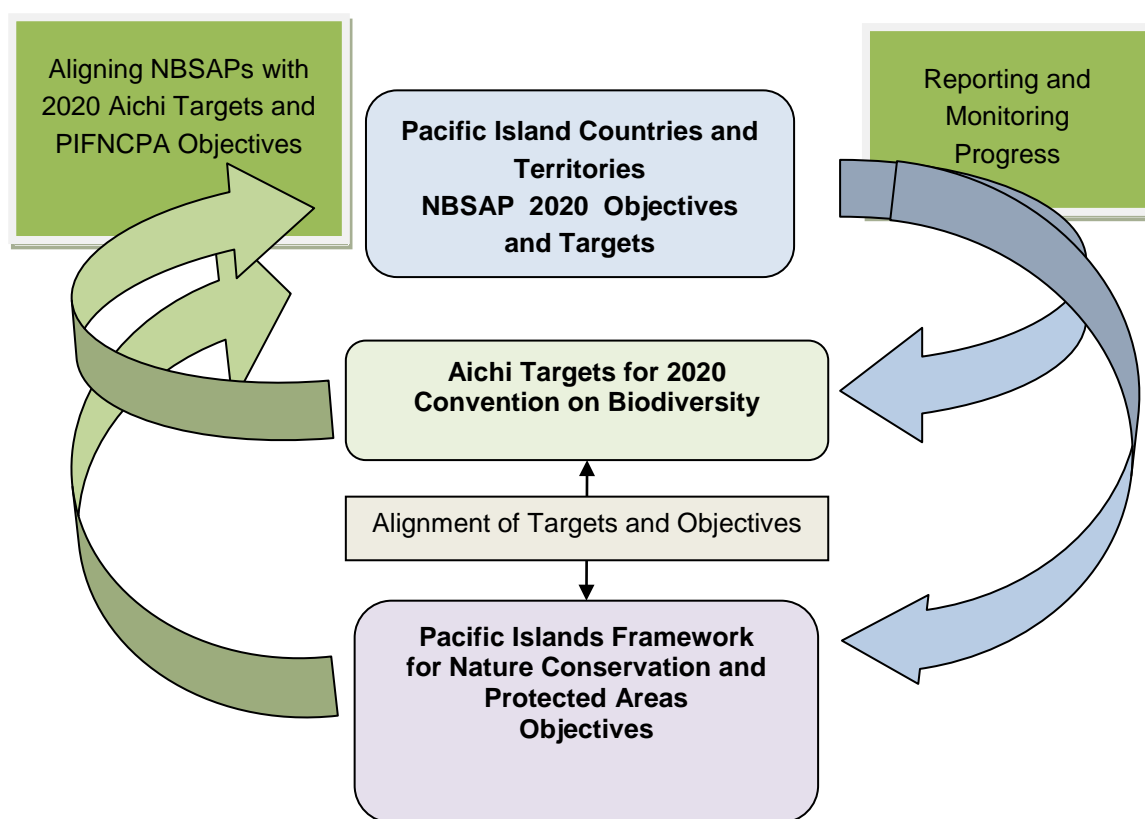
	<p>subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.</p> <p>Target 19 By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of PICT national environmental and natural resource management legislation and policy instruments integrating and supporting traditional knowledge and customary management principles ➤ Number of new science, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms established and function to improve biodiversity knowledge base and management 	<p>Roundtable Members</p> <p>SPREP SPC Pacific Heritage Hub UNESCO- Pacific Regional Office</p> <p>SPREP USP UPNG</p> <p>IUCN BIOPAMA Observatory</p>
<p>Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation</p>	<p>Target 7 By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p> <p>Target 9 By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.</p> <p>Target 4 By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.</p> <p>Target 5 By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.</p> <p>Target 6 By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.</p> <p>Target 8 By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessment of change in species status under the IUCN Threat Classification ➤ Number of PICTs with National Invasive Species Action Plans - linked to NBSAPs and other relevant national plans and are being implemented ➤ Number of islands where invasive species have been removed and prevented from re-establishing ➤ Number of control projects initiated and control targets being met ➤ Number of PICTs that have biosecurity legislation and plans which incorporate invasive species threats to biodiversity and are implemented ➤ Number of PICTs implementing EBFM approaches 	<p>Roundtable Members Pacific Invasives Initiative SPREP IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management - Ecosystems and Invasive Species 4 Year Action Plan</p> <p>SPC Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Resources Div. SPREP</p> <p>Roundtable Members Forum Fisheries Agency WCPFC</p>

	<p>Target 9 By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.</p> <p>Target 10 By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.</p> <p>Target 14 By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of PICTs or regional programmes/projects measuring pollution levels, especially nutrient levels and trends in those measurements ➤ Cumulative assessment of outcomes of programmes and projects designed and implemented to mitigate anthropogenic impacts on vulnerable ecosystems 	<p>SPREP SPC USP UPNG</p>
<p>Objective 6 Build capacity and partnerships that strengthen synergies between science, policy and local and indigenous knowledge systems and between local and international agreements, and effectively mobilise resources to achieve Objectives 1 - 5 (AT 17, 18,19,20)</p>	<p>Target 17 By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.</p> <p>Target 18 By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels</p> <p>Target 19 By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.</p> <p>Target 20 By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of completed updated NBSAPs ➤ Number of PICT national environmental and natural resource management legislation and policy instruments integrating and supporting traditional knowledge and customary management principles ➤ Overall trend of growth trend in PICTs budget allocations for NBSAP implementation ➤ Growth of funding for regional programmes and projects for biodiversity conservation 	<p>Roundtable Members SPREP SPC</p> <p>PICTs Pacific bilateral/multilateral donor partners Roundtable members</p>

Measuring Progress - Monitoring and Reporting

The alignment between the Framework and the global 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets provides a broad framework for monitoring its implementation. Pacific island countries and territories will be the primary sources of information for the assessment of progress for each target, but so too are a number of organisations and prominent regional programmes. They have been added to the Framework for this purpose and to identify potential synergies and opportunities for coordination and cooperation.

The Framework links to the monitoring and evaluation processes of the CBD and other biodiversity MEA's. More importantly, it links to those of Pacific island countries and territories and other regional organisations and institutions such as SPREP, SPC, USP and international NGO's. This simplifies the reporting of Framework implementation. Partnering with these organisations for this purpose and linking to the State Of Conservation in Oceania report and State of Environment reports will also be valuable. Responsibility for leadership of this process will rest with SPREP and the Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation in the Pacific, which have a long history of association with previous Action Strategies. They may call on others to assist with the task. For example, SPC and the Pacific Heritage Hub which is hosted by USP may be well placed to monitor the Framework's heritage and cultural objectives.



Mainstreaming the Framework

The Framework represents "best practice" relevant to the implementation of conservation programmes and projects at all levels in the region. As such the Framework has strong relevance to the effective implementation of NBSAPs and other national and regional conservation orientated frameworks and programmes. To ensure its use and "ownership" across the region, commitments to embed and mainstream the Framework in national conservation and environmental plans and strategies will be important. This can be achieved through its formal adoption by Pacific island countries and territories as the framework for implementation of the NBSAPs. The Framework should also be used by governments to inform donor prioritisation and coordination discussions at national level.

Similarly the Framework should be formally adopted by other regional organisations and particularly donors to strengthen their projects and programmes especially in the design and monitoring phases. This could be achieved through the inclusion of adherence to the Principles and Code of Conduct in calls for expressions of interest for project tenders and in the development of monitoring frameworks. Furthermore, regional organisations such as SPREP could make the Principles and Code of Conduct a mandatory part of project scoping and of the terms of reference for project tenders and include these as a component of the tender evaluation process.

This formal adoption and inclusion in national, regional and donor conservation planning processes will provide the Framework with the level of institutional recognition it has lacked in the past. Rigorous application of the Framework Principles will provide a strong platform for integration into national, local, sectoral and regional policies.

Communication and Endorsement

The onus for communicating and articulating the purpose, goal, objectives and targets of the Framework rests with all Pacific conservation organisations and practitioners who have adopted and committed to its implementation in line with the Code of Conduct.. In particular, the members of the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (PIRT) and SPREP as key partners of the Framework, have a responsibility to take advantage of regional events such as the SPREP Meeting, to raise the profile of the Framework and seek where possible, high level endorsement and commitments.. Visibility of the Framework can be improved by providing prominent links to the document on PIRT, SPREP and national websites and social networks. The distribution of hard and electronic copies through partner and national networks will also help ensure its widespread recognition.

Mobilising Partnerships and Resources

This Regional Framework is designed to assist Pacific island nations to effectively implement NBSAPs. Its robust application will help ensure stronger coordinated efforts across all sectors and levels. Improved coordination should also extend to the mobilisation of supporting partnerships, programmes and resources. These should also aspire to include innovative funding partnerships with the private sector as well as with existing and new donors. Partnerships can help leverage conservation outcomes to larger scales, strengthen capacity and improve and sustain financial capacity for conservation.

The already extensive community of donors and development agencies which have engaged with organisations delivering nature conservation and protected area solutions in the region has grown over the past five years. So too has the development of new partnerships, particularly those with government agencies and educational institutions from outside the region which bring technical knowledge and research skills in areas such as climate change, information management, biodiversity assessment and cultural and heritage resource management.

Having access prior knowledge of the funding and partnership opportunities being developed or available to the region would greatly assist Pacific organisations and institutions in their efforts to source new funding and technical assistance. Making this information more readily available in one place would strengthen Pacific conservation community awareness of emerging options and allow early dialogue on potential engagement with donors.

Several suggestions have been made on how access to funding and technical support might be improved and facilitated. One is to develop a “one stop shop” on the SPREP website which identifies existing and emerging grant and partnership opportunities, describes the purpose and conditions of access and is linked to the donor or partner website. Donor and other partner organisations could be encouraged to provide the

information and provide updates as required. Another suggestion has been to revive the concept of an annual Donor Roundtable in conjunction with a regional meeting such as the SPREP Meeting at which donors would provide information on programmes and policies.

Appendix 1

Assessment of Correlation of the 2020 Global Aichi Biodiversity Targets and 2014–2020 Framework Objectives	
Aichi Targets	Relevance to Framework Objectives.
Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	
Target 1 By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.	Objective 1 People are aware of the value of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably
Target 2 By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.	Objective 2 Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage and knowledge, and community resilience and development aspirations
Target 3 By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.	Objective 2 Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage and knowledge, and community resilience and development aspirations (AT 2,3,4,6,7,8)
Target 4 By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.	Objective 2 Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage and knowledge, and community resilience and development aspirations Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation
Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	
Target 5 By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.	Objective 3 Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation
Target 6 By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	Objective 2 Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage and knowledge, and community resilience and development aspirations

	<p>Objective 3 Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites</p> <p>Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation</p>
<p>Target 7 By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Objective 2 Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage and knowledge, and community resilience and development aspirations (AT 2,3,4,6,7,8)</p> <p>Objective 3 Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites</p> <p>Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance</p> <p>Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation</p>
<p>Target 8 By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Objective 2 Both economic development and biodiversity conservation recognise and support sustainable livelihoods, cultural heritage and knowledge, and community resilience and development aspirations</p> <p>Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation</p>
<p>Target 9 By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.</p>	<p>Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance</p> <p>Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation</p>

Target 10 By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.	Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation Objective 6 Identify, conserve and sustainably manage priority sites, habitats and ecosystems
Target 11 By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	Objective 3 Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites
Target 12 By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	Objective 3 Protect and recover threatened species and species of ecological, cultural and economic significance Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance
Target 13 By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.	Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance. Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance
Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity	
Target 14 By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.	Objective 2 Ensure conservation has a development context that recognises, respects and supports sustainable livelihoods and community development aspirations Objective 3 Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites Objective 5 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change, invasive species, over exploitation, and habitat loss and degradation
Target 15 By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate	Objective 3 Identify, conserve, sustainably manage and restore priority sites, habitats and ecosystems, including cultural sites

change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.	Objective 4 Manage threats to biodiversity, especially climate change impacts and invasive species
Target 16 By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.	Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance
Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building	
Target 17 By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	Objective 6 Build capacity and partnerships that strengthen synergies between science, policy and local and indigenous knowledge systems and between local and international agreements, and effectively mobilise resources to achieve Objectives 1 - 5
Target 18 By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.	Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance Objective 6 Build capacity and partnerships that strengthen synergies between science, policy and local and indigenous knowledge systems and between local and international agreements, and effectively mobilise resources to achieve Objectives 1 - 5
Target 19 By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.	Objective 4 Protect and recover threatened species and species and genetic diversity of ecological, cultural and economic significance Objective 6 Build capacity and partnerships that strengthen synergies between science, policy and local and indigenous knowledge systems and between local and international agreements, and effectively mobilise resources to achieve Objectives 1 - 5
Target 20 By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.	Objective 6 Build capacity and partnerships that strengthen synergies between science, policy and local and indigenous knowledge systems and between local and international agreements, and effectively mobilise resources to achieve Objectives 1– 5

Appendix 2: Process in developing the Framework

The Framework is the product of a four step consultation and development process which commenced in June 2013 with the initial

- Annual Meeting of the Pacific Island Roundtable, Suva, August 2013 - introduced the review process, reviewed the questionnaires and undertook individual interviews
- SPREP Annual Meeting, Apia, September 2013 - introduced the review process to PICT representatives, sought assistance with the PICT questionnaire and completed individual interviews
- Questionnaires were circulated to SPREP members, PIRT, and key stakeholders and partners
- 9th Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Pacific Islands Roundtable planning meeting, Suva, November 2013.
- Convention on Biodiversity - Pacific Regional meeting to review the Strategy for the Convention on Biodiversity and application of Aichi Targets Suva, November 2013 - presented Action Strategy review findings and draft Framework to PICT, NGO and regional organisation representatives.
- Action Strategy Review Committee meetings during the 9th Pacific Islands Conference, 2-6 December, 2013
- Presentation and adoption as one of the key outcomes of the 9th Pacific Islands Conference
- Final round of comments January - February 2014
- Final document produced, March, 2014

