

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 1/1 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
from Pacific Island Countries
Climate change focal points
CROP Organisations

DATE: 17 August 2018

CIRCULAR: 18/42

SUBJECT: **One CROP Plus engagement plan for COP 24 and beyond**

Dear Colleagues,

SPREP has been conducting internal discussions and preparations for the upcoming UNFCCC COP24. In doing so SPREP has reflected carefully on the experience to date with the One CROP Plus team approach. We have found that the approach has served the region well, building on the participating agencies' respective strengths and capabilities. In the run up to COP24 a document was produced which was circulated to CROP CEOs then to CROP Plus for comments. These were well received and have now been incorporated in the attached draft.

It should also be noted that during this same time period, the Fiji COP23 Presidency convened a series of Senior Officials discussions to go over negotiating priorities for COP24. While this is a separate exercise, SPREP felt that for Pacific Island Focal points a combined document would be more convenient. However, this version will not be shared with other Members. Participants in those meetings generally welcomed the approach as outlined by SPREP to the meeting.

Furthermore, during the Forum Officials Committee meeting, a broader political engagement strategy was circulated by PIFS. This covered a wide area of issues, including climate change. SPREP was able to present to the committee on the different nuances attached to the climate change engagement, and the close interlinkages between technical and political issues. As a result we have re-named the strategy an engagement plan for COP24 so as to avoid any confusion with the Strategy for PIF International Engagement and Advocacy.

I would welcome your further comments on the strategy, noting that we will treat it as a largely living document.

Kind regards,



Kosi Latu
Director General

One CROP-Plus Engagement Plan leading up to and beyond

UNFCCC COP 24: 3 – 14 December 2018, Katowice, Poland

Introduction

The 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 24) will be held in Katowice, Poland from 3 to 14 December, 2018. Thus, COP 24 will be held at the International Conference Centre (MCK) and the adjacent Spodek Arena.

Fiji as current COP 23 President will pass on this responsibility to Poland. Also to take place over this period is the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 14), and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1.3) There will also be the 49th sessions of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 49) and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA 49).

As per usual practice there will also be numerous opportunities for side events, special events and in-session workshops. Information on these will be shared as it becomes available, but One CROP-Plus must be prepared for requests for support from Pacific island Members.

This Plan was introduced to the Senior Officials Meeting in July 2018, and is open for their comments and eventual endorsement.

Background

SPREP, as the lead regional coordinating agency for climate change negotiations, has been involved with the UNFCCC process for over two decades, having provided a wide range of advice and guidance for SPREP Pacific island Members over the years in both UNFCCC COP preparations and the event itself. This has resulted in SPREP gaining a strong institutional and historical knowledge of the UNFCCC process as well as the support required by our Member countries.

This is the 24th COP, and in the decades long history of UNFCCC, support to Pacific Island Members has evolved beyond initially just SPREP to include other agencies to form what is now known as the One CROP-Plus support team. This includes the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, Pacific Community (SPC), the University of the South Pacific (USP), as well as other partners such as the United Nations Development Program and the Pacific Islands Development Forum

This provides strategic benefits to Pacific Island Members in terms of the expertise they can draw from. It also emphasises the critical role of coordination to ensure that the technical advice and policy and advocacy support given is consistent and maximises the impact of Pacific Island Members, as a collective as well as individually.

As such, SPREP will continue to lead coordination for One CROP-Plus support for Pacific island member parties of the UNFCCC in the lead up to COP 24 and beyond in close collaboration with the other One CROP-Plus agencies. To enable early preparation, the following plan has been developed to seek input from fellow One CROP Plus agencies, and has been shared with Members for their comments and endorsement.

List of One CROP Plus Agencies

The tentative list of CROP Agencies that have been involved in the UNFCCC Process include the following. It must be noted that at this stage, their role and attendance to COP24 this year is yet to be confirmed. It must also be noted that each agency has different competencies, and different mandates with respect to their membership and that some are not official members of the CROP, so this must be respected.

CROP

- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
- Pacific Community (SPC)
- Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)
- The University of the South Pacific (USP)

CROP Plus

- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF)

Outcomes expected of the One CROP-Plus Plan

Through successful implementation of this plan the following will be achieved keeping in mind the possible resource constraints of all partners:

1. One CROP-Plus island Members will receive the best possible technical advice and support to help them achieve their national and regional goals as much as possible at COP24, through the One CROP-Plus working as one united team.
2. The limited resources, in terms of both financial and human capacity, of the One CROP-Plus team will be strategically used to ensure efficiency and no duplication of efforts.
3. The COP expertise of the island Members will be acknowledged, with all support from the united One CROP-Plus team being strategically provided to meet the needs of the Pacific islands as far as practicable.
4. The profile of the One CROP-Plus team as an effective, supportive, united team working for the betterment of the Pacific islands, will be enhanced.
5. To provide a platform for Pacific Leaders to raise issues at COP24.

A matrix of Pacific priorities was developed at the recent Senior Officials Meeting held in conjunction with the Climate Action Pacific Partnership event, and was endorsed by Leaders present. This document will be added as an annex to this plan, but will be an evolving document.

The principles of the One CROP-Plus Plan

1. Coordinated by SPREP, the One CROP-Plus will work as one team as part of preparations for the COP and at the COP24 itself, ensuring that their commitment is adequately resourced.
2. This is underpinned by a high level commitment to cooperation and willingness to meet and coordinate actions from the respective One CROP-Plus agencies.
3. While working as a united One CROP-Plus team, it must be recognised and respected that each organisation also works to their own mandate, and when required, must be allowed the space to do so.
4. Each One CROP-Plus team member will be responsible for key parts of this plan, inclusive of fundraising, and must report on a regular basis against the plan to the full team.
5. All actions undertaken by the One CROP-Plus team must take into account the already busy schedule leading up to the COP24, as well as the demands placed upon Pacific island Parties at the COP itself.
6. One CROP-Plus will be facilitating a Member-led process to jointly agree to, and deliver on, negotiating priorities for COP 24. By working as one united team, the One CROP-Plus are also in a position to provide valuable support for each other, so that when fully supported the team is best equipped to help the island Members we work with.
7. Coordinate and collaborate with the Fiji COP23 Secretariat

How the One CROP-Plus will achieve their objectives

COP 24 Preparations

The following timetable of actions will result in the following:

1. Through a number of key targeted activities such as the IMPACT/ High Level Support Mechanism and the Climate Action Pacific Partnership - an understanding of and support to issues that will be negotiated by Pacific islands. This also includes opportunities presented by other regional and international meetings such as the Forum Leaders Meeting.
2. An understanding of the needs of Pacific islands for COP24 to enable One CROP-Plus team to respond strategically based on available resources and capacity, for example support with Pacific Islands Parties submission inputs to the Talanoa Dialogue.
3. Assistance is provided to PICs in the development of negotiating priorities for COP, based on those identified by Members, as a basis for advocacy and engagement in the lead up to and at COP.
4. An email list of Pacific island Parties to which climate change updates can be sent.
5. A joint calendar of activities and the input, support and role of each One CROP-Plus in the lead up to the COP24.
6. A finalised table of roles at the COP24, inclusive of who will be the responsible One CROP-Plus focus point for the different negotiation threads of importance to the Pacific islands
7. Regular contact and communication between the One CROP-Plus team

8. Updated briefs from each One CROP-Plus team member based upon the negotiation thread they will be following, in coordination with respective Pacific Island Parties that will be leading the negotiation thread.
9. A shared table (google docs) highlighting the role of each One CROP-Plus partnership and Island Member countries for input and updates.
10. A table outlining the support, both financial and in terms of human resourcing, that will be provided from each One CROP- Plus member.
11. A joint communications strategy based upon the consultation with Pacific island Members, to be implemented by the One CROP-Plus team noting this will not infringe upon the communication plans and strategies of all Pacific island Parties and the One CROP-Plus Team.
12. Visibility/Booth/Pavilion at COP24: Fiji COP23 Secretariat has reached out to SPC and SPREP for partnering on the manning/organisation of events at a Pacific Pavilion, which will have an 'agriculture' and an 'ocean' focus, which was responded to positively. This should be a joint effort of the One CROP+ team to support the organisation of events at the Pavilion. This could be a strong element of the communication support of the One CROP+ Team.

Table 1- Activities in Preparation of COP24

Action	Details	Who	Timeline
Identify operational contact per agency	Name of internal operational focal point.	SPREP – Nanette Woonton PIFS SPC USP – Morgan Wairiu	25th July 2018
Finalise team members attending COP24.	To finalise who will be attending. CROP Delegations	SPREP – confirmed Kosi Latu Tagaloa Cooper Espen Ronneberg Nanette Woonton Filomena Nelson	31 August 2018
Develop mailing and distribution list through which regular updates are to be provided.	This is to consist of SPREP, FCCC and IPCC focal points of the SPREP Island Members as well as delegates who attend regularly. It will be updated upon request of Heads of Delegation with additional delegates to COP24.	SPREP - Espen	First draft developed. Ongoing until end of COP24
A calendar of key meetings leading up to COP 24, developed and disseminated to One CROP-Plus partners	All are invited to input regular updates to this, note this will be made available on google docs, it is advised that all have a gmail account to make this process easier.	SPREP- Nanette Woonton	Disseminated by 9 July 2018
Hold Regular One CROP-Plus meetings.	Each One CROP-Plus is to take a turn to initiate the meeting noting these are to track progress in the lead up to COP 24.	SPREP PIFS SPC USP	SPREP –20 July 2018 PIFS SPC USP – 20 Sept 2018
Develop table of roles at COP 24.	This is to be inclusive of negotiation threads, noting each focus point is responsible for developing updates and briefs for their topic area.	All One CROP Plus are to contribute and provide names.	1October 2018
Develop chart of One CROP-Plus support inclusive of both financial and human resource commitment.	Identify resources each agency plans to provide in support of achieving the One CROP-Plus COP 24 Objectives. This spreadsheet will be available via google docs.	Developed by SPREP for input by agencies. Circulation Feedback to the first One CROP-Plus Meeting	9t July 2018 11 July 2018 20 July 2018
Develop Communications Strategy	First Draft to be circulated to One CROP-Plus team for input	SPREP	27 July 2018
Compass guide developed and circulated for input (pocket size	This will incorporate feedback from all One CROP-Plus partners in their particular negotiation focus. Timelines and templates will	SPREP with input from CROP Plus.	1 November 2018

navigation tool for COP24 for Pacific Islands only.	be provided to the relevant focal and contact points in each One CROP-Plus		
Develop briefs of negotiation threads to be formed by each One CROP-Plus partner in their relevant area.	A template and timeline is to be provided. Each contact point from within the One CROP-Plus will be responsible for their input. (Refer to table of roles).	All	12 October 2018.
A shared google docs side event sheet.	This is to highlight all the events that the One CROP-Plus and Island Members are a part of	SPREP – Nan All to input	5 November 2018
Key logistical information to be prepared and shared to the mailing list.		SPREP – Nan/Mena	TBC based on information released by UNFCCC
Pacific meeting room to be booked in advance.	To minimise last minute arrangements at venue	SPREP – Espen to find out when room bookings becomes open	TBC based on information to be released by UNFCCC

At UNFCCC COP24

The following timetable of actions will result in the following:

- A transparent email list of Pacific Island Parties and Members that make up the national Pacific island delegations to which climate change updates can be sent
- A calendar of side event activities featuring Pacific Island Parties at the COP and the One CROP-Plus in a google docs sheet available for Pacific island Parties to access
- A range of communication materials spanning briefing notes, a Compass guide, logistical information and other necessary resources as identified by the communications strategy
- Sharing of information regarding board nominations for Pacific island Parties to act upon as sovereign nations
- United strategic support from One CROP-Plus within their resources and abilities, to Pacific island Parties at the COP to help them achieve their goals inclusive of the student team attending from USP.
- Regular communications amongst the One CROP-Plus to ensure the plan is implemented and achieving its goals
- Implementation of the COP24 Communications Strategy by all One CROP-Plus, noting this will not infringe upon the communication plans and strategies of Pacific island Parties and the One CROP-Plus Team.
- SPREP will ensure the booking of a regular and consistent room for Pacific island meetings, if and when required. If not, the room will be made available for different Pacific island Parties to use for team meetings, bilateral meetings or otherwise.

Table 2 – Activities during COP 24

Action	Details	Who	Timeline
The development of a Pacific island mailing list	To consist of Pacific island delegations at the UNFCCC COP, with names provided from the heads of delegation. The list of names are to be shared often with the party and a guide for engagement is also to be shared with all that are on the mailing list.	SPREP	
The booking of a regular space for Pacific island Parties to use as they wish (team meetings, bilateral meetings etc.)	Meetings with agendas are to be coordinated upon request of Pacific island Parties, this person will also be responsible for facilitating these meetings when requested. If a meeting is not necessary this must also be shared with the mailing list and they are able to use the room as they wish	SPREP Minutes to be taken by One CROP Plus as available on rotational basis.	
Regular communications and updates amongst the CROP-Plus Team	Identification of a mechanism for regular updates amongst all to provide updates of the One CROP-Plus plan implementation.	SPREP	

Sharing of the google docs sheet showing all of the list of the Pacific island side events for their information and reference	This will be a cumbersome list and can only be populated by the countries themselves. It is to the prerogative of the Pacific island Parties to update themselves and use, if they wish.	SPREP with One CROP Plus	
Information compiled of all types of different boards and the nomination deadlines and requirements.	This information is to be shared across the Pacific island mailing list, noting the role of the One CROP-Plus is to provide the information only. How Pacific island Parties act based upon the information is to their discretion as a sovereign nation.	SPC	
Implementation of the Communications Strategy by all One CROP-Plus	This strategy is formed based upon the input of Pacific island Parties. Information on the communications strategy will be shared amongst all Pacific island Parties with regular updates shared through the Pacific island mailing list. Support is to be provided to all Pacific island Parties based upon available resources and human capacity.	One CROP Plus	
A One CROP-Plus list of contact points, arrival and departure dates	To be shared amongst all members of One CROP-Plus for their reference.	PIFS	

Post COP24

The following timetable of actions will result in the following:

1. Accountability to our Pacific island Members of our role at the UNFCCC COP24 through a post COP24 report, inclusive of the USP student team, should there be one attending.
2. A stocktake of the COP24 negotiation thread outcomes to share with One CROP-Plus which will lead to a circular to be shared with the Pacific island Members
3. The stocktake to be translated into a feature and information paper to be shared and distributed.
4. Lessons learned from the process will be utilized to further enhance the One CROP-Plus approach for COP25 and beyond.

Table 3 – Activities Post COP24.

Action	Details	Who	Timeline
The formation of a Post COP24 report	A detailed report to be developed by all CROP-Plus team. A deadline to be assigned for completion of this.	Draft by SPREP (Espen), for inputs from One CROP Plus	January 21 2019
The development of a range of briefs providing updates of the COP24 negotiation threads	These can be brief, but should provide an overall stocktake for the One CROP-Plus team.	One CROP Plus from their theme	
One page reports to be shared from each the USP student team attending the COP24	To be shared with the full team to be part of the overall One CROP-Plus report.	USP to coordinate and share, noting that student participation in COP24 is subject to funding	
An information paper to be attached to a circular to be shared to all Pacific island Members	All briefs are to be compiled into a basic stocktake that can be attached and shared to all island Members to be shared through a circular.	One CROP Plus to send to SPREP (Tagaloa)	
A final media release of the COP24	To be developed jointly and distributed within one week of completion of the COP24	Draft by SPREP (Nan), for inputs from One CROP Plus	
Final stocktake meeting of all One CROP-Plus team members	A meeting to discuss the performance of the One CROP-Plus team and measure actions against the strategy	Time and place to be confirmed, coordination TBC depending on venue.	

For further information please contact sprep@sprep.org

Annex 1: Matrix of Pacific priorities for the negotiations (to be added) including timeline of key events