

Update Q4 2025

All members

- ❖ SPREP, with the mandate as coordinator of Pacific climate change action, led the work on enhancing Pacific engagement at COP30 through the one CROP mechanism. This included:
 - Coordination of a pre-COP meeting in Apia that supported PSIDS in discussing and developing strategies for critical issues at COP30.
 - Preparation and distribution of comprehensive COP30 support materials including negotiations strategy, briefs for Pacific Champions, negotiators compass, statements and talking points.
 - Amplification of the One Pacific Voice through the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion, a partnership between SPREP and the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, and through the Pacific Delegation Office, a partnership between SPREP and the New Zealand Government.
- ❖ Celebration of achievements across the areas of Environmental Governance, Ocean Governance and MEAs support at the conclusion of the ACP MEAs Phase III project. Key achievements included the strengthening of the Noumea Convention and its Secretariat; development of national and regional environmental guidelines and legal frameworks for member countries; strengthened Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capacity resulting in the successful launch of the Emma Luke Earth Observation Centre at SPREP; growth of the Pacific Network for Environment Assessment (PNEA) Community of Practice; and support to member countries in their engagement to MEAs conference of parties and regional preparatory meetings.

Cook Islands

- ❖ Climate Change Resilience:
 - At COP30 SPREP provided technical and negotiations support for the Cook Islands who was the PSIDS Co-coordinator for the thematic priorities of Loss and Damage and Transparency.
- ❖ Climate Science Information:
 - Cook Islands representative graduated from the Basic Instructional Package for Meteorological Technicians (BIP-MT) programme, a WMO-accredited qualification for operational meteorologists. The programme was hosted by the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS), with regional support from SPREP through the European Union-funded Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application (ClimSA) Project and the Weather Ready Pacific (WRP) Programme. Newly trained technicians will strengthen national observation networks, enhance the accuracy of daily weather forecasts, and improve the quality of climate data used for long-term planning.

❖ Environmental Governance:

- SPREP in collaboration with the NES successfully conducted a four-day Geographic Information System (GIS) and Data Management Training in Rarotonga for 28 participants from government agencies, non-governmental organisations, conservation groups, academic institutions, and community organisations. The training was funded by the EU under the Pacific BioScapes Programme, ACP MEAs Phase III project, and the New Zealand NZMFAT Climate Change Policy, Operational and Advisory, and Enabling and Support initiatives. Participants learned to map habitats, track species, and manage biodiversity data to make informed decisions that strengthen biodiversity conservation and advance goals under the CBD and the SDGs.

❖ Waste Management and Pollution Control:

- Rotterdam Convention training workshop in Fiji attended by Cook Islands representatives. The Rotterdam Convention promotes shared responsibility and cooperative efforts amongst parties in the international trade and environmentally sound use of certain hazardous chemicals, to protect human health and the environment from potential harm.
- The Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP) worked with NES to encourage single-use plastic free choices throughout Vaka Eiva 2025.

Federated States of Micronesia

❖ Biodiversity Conservation

- The SPREP Invasives team delivered refresher training on the safe use of herbicides and engaged with the Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA) to plan upcoming rat management activities with Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) partner BirdLife. A field visit was conducted to the Lelu Ruins site where PRISMSS Resilient Ecosystems-Resilient Communities (RERC) and War on Weeds (WOW) programme activities will be implemented in 2026.
- The SPREP-led Pacific BioScapes Programme, funded by the EU, coordinated site and project visits in FSM for the Ambassador of the European Union to the Pacific, H.E. Barbara Plinkert, which included meetings with the Department of Resources and Development and presentations from the two technical advisors funded through Pacific BioScapes. The advisors are assisting implementation of the Protected Areas Network Policy Framework by supporting operations and providing capacity building at national, state and community levels.

❖ Strategic Planning

- The SPREP Deputy Director General and NPO Office Manager led a strategic planning and North Pacific Office mission to FSM. The FSM and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework was initiated through meetings with the Office of the President / Vice President and key government Departments, and through a stakeholder brainstorming session coordinated by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management. A draft of the Strategic Partnership Framework has been shared with FSM, with an aim of finalising and signing the partnership agreement by end of first quarter 2026.

Kiribati

❖ Biodiversity Conservation

- Kiribati Turtle Action Prioritisation Workshop delivered under the EU-funded Pacific BioScapes Programme. Up to 30 participants attended, representing a diverse cross-section of the community, including youth, local fishers, government officers, and representatives from various sectors and islands. Workshop outcomes included enhanced national capacity in marine turtle monitoring and use of the Turtle Research and Monitoring Database System (TREDs), and strengthened coordination between MELAD, SPREP, and local stakeholders on marine turtle conservation.

❖ Climate Change Resilience

- At COP30 SPREP provided technical and negotiations support for Kiribati who was the PSIDS Coordinator for the thematic priority of Research and Scientific Observation.
- Kiribati voice made loud at COP30: Kiribati called on the COP Presidency and all the delegates to deliver bold moves and urgent actions to keep 1.5°C alive, scale up loss and damage funding, establish a dedicated ocean–climate finance mechanism to protect the marine ecosystems and commit to a transition that is just, inclusive and protects workers, supports communities and leaves no one behind. Kiribati also cited the recent ICJ Advisory Opinion confirming that all States have a binding obligation to pursue deep, rapid, and sustained emission reductions consistent with 1.5°C, including delivering on climate finance obligations.

❖ Climate Science and Information

- Traditional Knowledge Database successfully installed by SPREP through COSPPac Phase 3, providing Kiribati Meteorology Service with a fully functional database system that is designed to archive and manage traditional knowledge related to weather, climate, and ocean conditions.

❖ Monitoring and Evaluation

- Capacity development provided to MELAD staff (25 staff) and other agencies on MEL fundamentals (Logframe, Theory of Change, SMART Indicators, Results Chain, M&E System, etc) associated with tracking effectiveness and efficiency of in-country project implementation, FRDP 2017-2030, advocating FRDP M&E Framework, assessing the operationalisation of FRDP 2027-2030, mainstreaming MEL Logframe into KIEP, KJIP, and MELAD; providing support for Kiribati in the development of Environment Fund, and Climate Change etc.
- Continued discussion and consultation in assisting with implementing MEL activities to outer islands. Note request has been sent for further technical support in 2026.

Marshall Islands

❖ Biodiversity Conservation

- The SPREP-led Pacific BioScapes Programme, funded by the EU, coordinated site and project visits in RMI for the Ambassador of the EU to the Pacific, H.E. Barbara Plinkert, which included meetings with the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority and The Nature Conservancy who are being supported through Pacific BioScapes to improve national fisheries data analysis and assessments and to develop robust evidence-based grouper harvest strategies.

- ❖ **Climate Change Resilience**
 - At COP30 SPREP provided technical and negotiations support for RMI.
 - RMI voice made loud at COP30: RMI's representative, Mr. Bremity Lakjohn, Minister in Assistance to the President and Minister of the Environment of the Marshall Islands, cited RMI's conditions to world leaders and delegates. RMI called for stopping the exploiting fossil fuels, providing adaptation support, and global cooperation to deal with the climate emergency.
- ❖ **Waste Management and Pollution Control**
 - Rotterdam Convention training workshop in Fiji attended by RMI representatives. The Rotterdam Convention promotes shared responsibility and cooperative efforts amongst parties in the international trade and environmentally sound use of certain hazardous chemicals, to protect human health and the environment from potential harm.
- ❖ **Monitoring and Evaluation**
 - Capacity development provided to EPA staff (8 staff) on MEL fundamentals associated with tracking effectiveness and efficiency of project implementation.
 - Strengthening North Pacific Office with MEL.
 - Provided MEL perspective for RMI and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework engagement.
- ❖ **Strategic Planning**
 - Draft RMI and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework finalised in consultation with government officials, specifying strategic priorities aligned with and supporting implementation of the RMI National Strategic Plan 2020–2030. The Strategic Partnership Framework is with Government for final review and approval.

Nauru

- ❖ **Environmental Governance**
 - Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) and environmental data management training jointly facilitated by SPREP and the Department of Environmental Management and Agriculture. The training brought together national technical officers and practitioners working across climate resilience, fisheries, disaster management, land, and environment conservation. Participants were introduced to mobile data capturing to creating mapping outputs as well as data harmonisation techniques, metadata standards and earth observations applications that support consistent environmental monitoring across agencies. Participants were also re-introduced to the Nauru Environment Data Portal, the country's national repository for environmental datasets, building practical skills in updating, validating, and maintaining the portal to ensure national data remains current, accessible, and decision ready. The training was made possible through funding support from the ACP MEAs Phase III project as well as NZ MFAT SPREP Climate Change (Policy, Operational and Advisory and Enabling and Support).

- ❖ Monitoring and Evaluation
 - Capacity development provided to DEMA staff (12 staff) and other agencies on MEL fundamentals, tracking effectiveness and efficiency of project implementation.
 - Reviewed the M&E Framework for the Climate Change Policy.
 - Provided MEL perspectives for the Nauru and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework engagement.
- ❖ Strategic Planning
 - Review of implementation progress for the Nauru and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework, including identification of next steps, and new / emerging Government priorities. An updated SPREP projects list provided to Nauru as part of the review.

Niue

- ❖ Climate Change Resilience
 - At COP30 SPREP provided technical and negotiations support for Niue.
- ❖ Biodiversity Conservation
 - SPREP supported a focused programme delivered by Koru Biosecurity Management in partnership with Niue Biosecurity and the Department of Environment, enabled by GEF 6 RIP, with a community led, technology driven approach for sustained pig management. It included supplying three specially bred and trained GPS collared dogs to Niue and handing over GPS collars and a handheld unit to the Niue Department of Environment. Field trials on Niue evaluated intensive hunting with GPS tracking, specialist finder dogs, and community acceptability, showing that combining local hunting knowledge with tracking technology can be effective and well received.
- ❖ Strategic Planning
 - Draft Niue and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework finalised in consultation with government officials, specifying strategic priorities aligned with and supporting implementation of Ko e Tohi Fakatokatoka Gahua ha Niue, Niue National Strategic Plan 2016–2026. The Strategic Partnership Framework is with Government for final review and approval.

Palau

- ❖ Biodiversity Conservation
 - The SPREP-led Pacific BioScapes Programme, funded by the EU, coordinated site and project visits in Palau for the Ambassador of the EU to the Pacific, H.E. Barbara Plinkert, which included meetings with rangers from the Protected Area Network Office Authority and The Nature Conservancy who are being supported through Pacific BioScapes to increase site level management capacity across the country. While in Palau the team also spoke with Birdlife International regarding the Pacific BioScapes supported initiative to identify and strengthen the management of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs).

❖ Climate Change Resilience

- At COP30 SPREP provided technical and negotiations support for Palau who was the PSIDS Coordinator for Article 6.
- Palau voice made loud at COP30: Hon. Steven Victor, Palau Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment, emphasised that the latest science is clear, we are dangerously off track to limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Our collective response has not yet matched the scale and urgency of the climate crisis, worsening impacts across the planet.

❖ Strategic Planning

- Review of implementation progress for the Palau and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework, including identification of next steps, and new / emerging Government priorities. An updated SPREP projects list provided to Palau as part of the review.

Tokelau

❖ Biodiversity Conservation

- The Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) War on Weeds (WOW) programme, funded by the Governments of New Zealand and United Kingdom, supported Tokelau in its battle against the invasive Singapore daisy. PRISMSS equipped Tokelau's three atolls (Nukunonu, Atafu, and Fakaofo) with motorised spraying units, effective herbicides, safety gear and training. These resources will assist in making Singapore daisy eradication faster, safer, and more effective.

❖ Climate Change Resilience

- Tokelau represented at the Pacific Loss and Damage Dialogue held in Samoa.

Tuvalu

❖ Climate Change Resilience

- At COP30 SPREP provided technical and negotiations support for Tuvalu who was the PSIDS Coordinator for the Climate Finance thematic priority area.
- Tuvalu voice made loud at COP30: Hon. Maina Talia, Tuvalu's Minister for Home Affairs, Climate Change, and Environment, amplified the voice of the region by explaining that the Pacific continues to come up with innovative solutions to protect our lands, Ocean and people, and that the recent ICJ Advisory Opinion shows us that the 1.5 target is not just a political aspiration, but a legal obligation, informed by the best available science from the IPCC.

❖ Waste Management and Pollution Control:

- Rotterdam Convention training workshop in Fiji attended by Tuvalu representatives. The Rotterdam Convention promotes shared responsibility and cooperative efforts amongst parties in the international trade and environmentally sound use of certain hazardous chemicals, to protect human health and the environment from potential harm.

❖ Monitoring and Evaluation

- Coaching session on M&E applied to tracking activities co-implemented with other agencies while engaging community partners and or village members. Provided MEL perspectives to Tuvalu and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework implementation.

❖ Strategic Planning

- Draft Tuvalu National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS) reviewed and updated in consultation with government and community stakeholders. NEMS aligned with current national environmental management and climate resilience priorities.
- Draft Tuvalu and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework finalised in consultation with government officials, specifying strategic priorities that will support NEMS implementation. The Strategic Partnership Framework is with Government for final review and approval.