



SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.5/10

Date: 6th October 2013

Original: English

Fifth Meeting of the Regional Project Steering Committee
for the SOPAC/UNDP/UNEP/GEF Project:
*"Implementing Sustainable Water Resources and Wastewater
Management in Pacific Island Countries"*

Nadi, Republic of Fiji Islands, 11th – 15th November 2013

***Project Identification Form for the GEF International Waters Ridge to Reef
Project Entitled:***

***Ridge to Reef: Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to
Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain
Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries***



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZE

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TF

I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	Ridge to Reef: Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries		
Country(ies):	Cook Islands, FS Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	GEF Project ID:	5404
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5221
Other Executing Partner(s):	SPC (SOPAC)	Submission Date:	5 April 2013
GEF Focal Area (s):	Multi-focal (International Waters , SCCF*)	Project Duration (Months)	60 (components 4, 5) 40 (components 1,2,3)
Name of parent program (if applicable): For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods	Agency Fee (\$):	911,353

*Application for SCCF will be made in late 2013. References to SCCF are made in this PIF. See also footnote on Table D. If the SCCF support will not materialize, the activities will be deleted from the project document and will not be subsumed under IW-funded activities.

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK:

Focal Area Objectives/Outcomes/Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-Financing (\$)
IW-1	GEFTF	4,000,000	77,359,721
IW-3	GEFTF	6,126,147	16,100,000
Total Project Cost		10,126,147	93,459,721

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: To test the mainstreaming of ‘ridge-to-reef’ (R2R), climate resilient approaches to integrated land, water, forest and coastal management in the PICs through strategic planning, capacity building and piloted local actions to sustain livelihoods and preserve ecosystem services						
Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount	Indicative Co-Financing
1. National Demonstrations to Support R2R ICM/IWRM Approaches for Island Resilience and Sustainability	INV	1.1: Successful pilot projects testing innovative solutions involving linking ICM and IWRM and CC adaptation	<p>1.1.1: 14 national pilot project area diagnostics based on R2R approach including: baseline environmental state and social data compiled incorporating CC vulnerabilities; and local governance of water, land, forests and coasts reviewed.</p> <p>1.1.2: 14 national pilot projects test methods for catalyzing local community action, utilizing and providing best practice examples, and building institutional linkages for integrated land, forest, water and coastal management, with a focus on adding value to IWRM-ICM integration with elements of CC adaptation. Measureable indicators for IWRM plan implementation will vary per country and will be determined during PPG.</p>	GEFTF	4,200,000	39,850,000

		<p>1.2: National diagnostic analyses for ICM conducted for prioritizing and scaling up key ICM / IWRM reforms and investments</p>	<p>1.2.1: Priority areas for replication in each of 14 participating PICs characterized in diagnostics for ICM/IWRM reforms, investments and CC adaptation in 14 PICs</p> <p>1.2.2: Methodology and procedures for characterizing and prioritizing island coastal areas for ICM investment developed</p>			
		<p>1.3: Multi-stakeholder leader roundtable networks established for strengthened 'community to cabinet' ICM/IWRM</p>	<p>1.3.1: Institutional relationships between national and community-based governance structures strengthened and formalized through national "Ridge to Reef" Inter-Ministry Committees in 14 Pacific SIDS</p> <p>1.3.2: 14 national private-sector and donor partnership forums for investment planning in priority community-based ICM/IWRM actions</p>			
<p>2. Island-based Investments in Human Capital and Knowledge to Strengthen National and Local Capacities for Ridge to Reef ICM/IWRM approaches, incorporating CC adaptation</p>	<p>TA</p>	<p>2.1: National and local capacity for ICM and IWRM implementation built to enable best practice in integrated land, water, forest and coastal management and CC adaptation</p>	<p>2.1.1: Innovative post-graduate training program in ICM/IWRM and related CC adaptation delivered for project managers and participating stakeholders through partnership of internationally recognized educational institutes and technical support and mentoring program with results documented through survey designed during PPG</p> <p>2.1.2: Capacity for civil society and community organization participation in ICM/IWRM and CC adaptation strengthened through direct involvement in implementation of demo activities with results documented through survey designed during PPG.</p>	<p>GEFTF</p>	<p>1,650,000</p>	<p>16,650,000</p>
		<p>2.2: Incentive structures for retention of local 'Ridge to Reef' expertise and inter-governmental dialogue on human resource needs for ICM/IWRM initiated</p>	<p>2.2.1: National human capacity needs for ICM/IWRM implementation identified and competencies of national government ministries and local government units benchmarked and capacity building support secured with results documented through survey designed during PPG <i>Indicator to be determined during the PPG</i></p> <p>2.2.2: Existing Public Service Commission salary scales and required functional competencies of key ICM/IWRM personnel analyzed; appropriate guidelines and incentives structures explored to encourage retention skilled and experienced staff</p>			
<p>3. Mainstreaming Ridge to Reef ICM/IWRM Approaches into National Development Frameworks</p>	<p>TA</p>	<p>3.1: National and regional strategic action framework for ICM/IWRM endorsed nationally and regionally</p>	<p>3.1.1: National recommendations for 14 PacSIDS for coastal policy, legal and budgetary reforms for ICM/IWRM for integration of land, water, forest, coastal management and CC adaptation compiled and documented with options for harmonization of governance frameworks</p> <p>3.1.2: Inter-ministerial agreements and strategic action frameworks for 14 PacSIDS on integration of land, water, forest and coastal management and capacity building in development of national ICM/IWRM reforms and investment plans endorsed by leaders</p> <p>3.1.3: National 'State of the Coasts' reports for 14 PacSIDS completed and launched to Pacific Leaders during National Coastal Summits (Yr 3) in coordination with national R2R projects and demonstrated as national development planning</p>	<p>GEFTF</p>	<p>1,125,000</p>	<p>11,250,000</p>

			<p>tool, including guidelines for diagnostic analyses of coastal areas</p>			
		<p>3.2: Coordinated approaches for R2R integrated land, water, forest and coastal management and for CC adaptation achieved in 14 PICs</p>	<p>3.2.1: 14 national networks of national ICM/IWRM pilot project inter-ministry committees formed by building on existing national IWRM committees and contributing to common results framework at the project and program levels</p> <p>3.2.2: Periodic inter-ministry committee meetings in 14 PICs conducted and results documented, participation data assembled, analyzed and reported to national decision makers and regional forums</p> <p>3.2.3: Community leaders and local government from pilot R2R projects networked via periodic national and regional round-table meetings complemented by community tech exchange visits</p> <p>3.2.4: Participatory techniques used to gauge learning and change in perception among inter-ministry committee members in 4 pilot PICs (sub-regional, mix of high island, atoll settings).</p>			
		<p>3.3: Physical, natural, human and social capital built to strengthen island resilience to current and emerging anthropogenic threats and climate extremes</p>	<p>3.3.1: 14 national land and climate impact and response planning exercises conducted with Inter-Ministry Committees and Project Managers. Outcomes documented, incorporated into STAR and IW projects</p> <p>3.3.2: National STAR projects reporting annually on incremental gains in physical, natural and social capital in response to assessed climate and land threats to Inter-Ministry Committee and at related sessions of sub-regional and regional inter-governmental forums</p> <p>3.3.3: Best practices in capital investment for strengthening land and coastal resilience to climate change and variability in PacSIDS shared regionally and globally</p> <p>3.3.4: Integrated contributions to components 1 and 4 TBD</p>	SCCF	(1,376,147)	(TBD)
<p>4. Regional and National 'Ridge to Reef' Indicators for Reporting, Monitoring, Adaptive Management and Knowledge Management</p>	TA	<p>4.1: National and regional formulation and adoption of integrated and simplified results for integrated multi-focal projects</p>	<p>4.1.1: National and regional reporting templates developed based on national indicator sets and regional framework to facilitate annual results reporting and monitoring from 14 PICs</p> <p>4.1.2: Unified/harmonized multi-focal area results tracking approach and analytical tool developed and proposed to the GEF, its agencies and participating countries</p> <p>4.1.3: National planning exercises in 14 PacSIDS conducted with relevant ministries on embedding R2R results frameworks into national systems for reporting, monitoring and budgeting</p>	GEFTF	1,000,000	8,900,000

		<p>4.2: National and regional platforms for managing information and sharing of best practices and lessons learned in R2R established</p>	<p>4.2.1: Regional ‘ridge to reef’ communications strategy developed and implemented and assistance provided to national R2R project including partnerships with national and regional media and educational organizations</p> <p>4.2.2: Participation in IW:LEARN activities: conferences; preparation of at least 10 experience notes and inter-linked websites with combined allocation of 1% of GEF grant</p> <p>4.2.3: Established Pacific R2R Network, online regional and national portals containing among others, databases, roster of national and regional experts and practitioners on R2R, register of national and regional projects, repository for best practice R2R technologies, lessons learned, etc.</p>				
5. Ridge-to-Reef Regional and National Coordination	TA	<p>5.1: Effective program coordination of national and regional R2R projects</p>	<p>5.1.1: Functioning overall program coordination unit with alignment of development worker positions contributing to coordinated effort among national R2R projects in year 1</p> <p>5.1.2: Technical, operational, reporting and monitoring support provided to national R2R projects, as may be requested by PICs, to facilitate timely delivery of overall program goals</p> <p>5.1.3: Assistance provided to participating countries in the Pacific R2R Network, harmonized reporting and monitoring and other regional and national capacity building modules, among others</p> <p>5.1.4: Support to PICs for the development and operation of the Pacific R2R Network and regional with national R2R web pages as repository of information, documentation and for sharing best practices</p> <p>5.1.5: Periodic planning and coordination workshops conducted for national project teams in the Pacific R2R Network</p>	GEFTF	1,400,000	7,200,000	
Sub-Total						9,375,000	83,850,000
Project management cost						751,147	9,609,721
Total project costs						10,126,147	93,459,721

Note: Activities under component 3.3 related to climate change adaptation that are envisaged to be funded from SCCF will be dropped from the project document if the SCCF funding does not materialize (see Table D).

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
National Governments	Cook Islands, FS Micronesia, Fiji, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	In-kind	61,199,721
Multilateral Agencies	SPC/SOPAC (Including EU and GIZ funded Regional Programs)	In-kind	23,960,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	8,300,000
Total Co-financing			93,459,721

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES (\$) REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal area	Country Name / Global	Grant amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNDP	GEF TF	International Waters	Global (14 PICs)	10,126,147	911,353	11,037,500
UNDP	SCCF ³	Climate Change Adaptation	Global (14 PICs)	0	0	0
Total Grant Resources				10,126,147	911,353	11,037,500

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table

² Please indicate fees related to this project as well as PPGs for which no Agency fee has been requested already.

³ SCCF resources were not yet available for the June 2013 work program. When SCCF resources become available, a follow-up proposal will be submitted for the amount of \$1,376,147 (plus fee of \$123,853) for Component 3.3.

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Please check on the appropriate box for PPG as needed for the project according to the GEF Project Grants:

	Amount Requested (\$)	Agency Fee for PPG (\$)
• No PPG required.		
• (up to) \$50k for projects up to & including \$1 million	_____	_____
• (up to) \$100k for projects up to & including \$3 million	_____	_____
• (up to) \$150k for projects up to & including \$6 million	_____	_____
• (up to) \$200k for projects up to & including \$10 million	_____	_____
• (up to) \$300k for projects up to & including \$10 million	300,000	27,000

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES) FOR MFA AND/OR MTF PROJECT ONLY

TRUST FUND	GEF AGENCY	FOCAL AREA	Country Name / Global	(in \$)		
				PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
GEFTF	UNDP	International Waters	Global (All 14 PICs)	300,000	27,000	327,000
Total PPG Amount				300,000	27,000	327,000

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

A.1. Project Description

A.1.1 Global environmental problems

1) The Pacific Small Island Developing States (PacSIDS) are distributed through an oceanic area covering 10 per cent of the Earth's surface. They vary considerably in their size and geomorphology with over 6,000 islands and islets ranging from high volcanic islands to tiny low coral atolls and have varied economies and systems of governance. Some PICs consist of a few sparsely inhabited islands while others are more densely populated island groups and some have no confirmed freshwater (dependent on rainwater and desalination). Many of the small islands can source limited water supplies from fragile shallow water lenses. Consequently, there is a need for a variety of different governance and resource management strategies and approaches focusing on different scales, and different levels of capacity.

2) Despite these differences, PacSIDS do share some common environmental features. Many are small, low-lying and isolated, with vulnerability to climatic influences such as storms, drought and sea-level rise. Yet many of these same islands are globally significant with regards to biodiversity. Flora and fauna of small isolated islands exhibit high endemism and global biodiversity significance. These fragile island ecosystems are increasingly exposed to external and internal anthropogenic impacts threatening endemic terrestrial and coastal biodiversity. Many PICs have high population growth rates with some islands such as Ebeye in the Marshall Islands and Tarawa in Kiribati having population densities greater than many large cities such as Kuala Lumpur and Paris. PICs are becoming increasingly urbanized and making increasingly rapacious demands of the environment. With the majority of people dwelling at the coast, serious degradation occurs there and in the estuarine environment and inshore marine areas.

3) The ability of SIDS to manage their resources and ecosystems in a sustainable manner while sustaining their livelihoods is crucial to their social and economic well-being, and is clearly directly related to GEF's mandate for protection and sustainable management of biodiversity and international waters¹. PacSIDS have specific needs and requirements when developing their economies. These are related to small population sizes and human resources, small GDPs, limited land area and limited natural resources. The small size of the catchments, shallow aquifers and lack of storage affects all water users from urban and rural water supplies, commercial forestry, subsistence agriculture, and fisheries/reefs and tourism.

Threats

4) PacSIDS currently face serious water resource and environmental stress issues - challenges that continental countries are likely to face in coming decades. Combined with limited human and financial resources SIDS are faced with finding innovative and locally appropriate and adaptive solutions to address these challenges. The Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the International Waters (IW) of the Pacific Islands (1997) developed a strategy for the integrated sustainable development and management of IW to address the priorities of PacSIDS. The SAP identified a variety of priorities:

- pollution of marine and freshwater supplies(including groundwater) from land-based activities;
- physical, ecological and hydrological modification of critical habitats; and
- excessive exploitation of living and non-living resources.

5) Key environmental threats to the Pacific Region as identified by the SAP Process are summarized below (Table 1). Water and climate related threats are the focus of the Pacific Regional Action Plan of Sustainable Water Management (Pacific RAP). The Pacific RAP focuses on turning key threats into sustainable solutions through a series of key actions, agreed to by 16 Heads of State in the Pacific Region. In the more populated areas, population densities (especially on capital atolls) can become so great that water demand exceeds water availability. In some volcanic islands competing water demand in urban catchments results in complete loss of flows and degradation of downstream users supplies. Water quality degradation in urban areas and especially in low-lying atoll islands is a serious concern.

Root Causes

6) PacSIDS recognize that they have limited water resources and that they are highly vulnerable to climate variability and change. Time lags between a climatic extreme and a water shortage can be as small as a week for countries entirely reliant on rainwater, or up to a month for those reliant on surface water, and even six months for some groundwater bodies. Flooding, especially that associated with cyclonic rainfall events, can be near instantaneous, and outside of Papua New Guinea, arrive less than 6 hours after the rain storms, as an example Nadi, Fiji has had three catastrophic floods in the past 4 years. Similarly storm surges have also been a source of sudden and destructive events on coastal communities. Coastal vegetation's natural buffering capacity has been lost through urbanization and resource demands.

7) Populations of PIC's are small in global terms but 11 of the 14 PacSIDs have birth rates that rank in the top 100 countries, have water-related health concerns, and many live in poverty. The comparatively small size of populations and the lack of natural resources is a severe constraint to economic growth and creates governance and management challenges. Geographical isolation limits trade between countries and within countries. Distance also imposes high costs and limits interchange in such fields as education, health and professional disciplines, all of which are important to ICM.

Table 1: Key Environmental Threats to the Pacific Region

Threats to:	Threat 1	Threat 2	Threat 3
-------------	----------	----------	----------

¹ The project is consistent with the GEF V Strategic Objective 1. to catalyze multi-state cooperation to balance conflicting water uses in transboundary surface and groundwater basins while considering climatic variability and change (and IWRM in SIDS) and Objective 3. Support foundational capacity building, portfolio learning and targeted research needs for joint, ecosystems-based management of transboundary waters.

1. Critical species and habitats exposed to several forms of land based pollution	Nutrients derived from sewage, soil erosion and fertilizers due to changing land-use practices and urbanization (contributing to the pollution); Nutrient overloads particularly affect coral reef ecosystems, weakening the reef carbonate skeleton and smothering it; Solid-waste disposal and sedimentation. Sedimentation is derived from soil erosion, dredging, coastal development, and upstream, inland activities including depletion of forest resources and related habitat destruction	Physical alterations of the sea-bed or coastline in particular through destruction of fringing reefs, beaches, wetlands and mangroves for coastal development and by sand extraction	Overexploitation from overfishing (esp. urban areas). Weakened natural marine ecosystem resilience in the face of overfishing, pollution, elevated nutrient levels and sedimentation. Mitigating these threats is vital for species and habitats and the overall health of fresh and marine systems ²
2. Living marine and coastal resources	Over-exploitation of inshore fisheries exacerbated by destructive fishing methods, including explosives and various types of toxic compounds	Chronic environmental degradation with gradual rather than sudden changes in the resources, making the relationship between cause and effect less obvious and transparent, reducing the likelihood of timely and appropriate action being taken	
3. Non-living resources, specifically the quality of both fresh and marine waters	Threat from land based sources of pollution. These derive in particular from sewage and poor sanitation practices, sediments (soil erosion, agriculture, forestry, poor land-use practices), urban run-off, agro-chemicals, and solid waste Dwindling supply and quality of freshwater; Groundwater is at particular risk because its loss or degradation is often irreversible	Beaches, reef-flat sand and coastal aggregates are threatened by overexploitation. Extraction rates far exceed natural replenishment rates Degradation of the coastal and marine resources that form the ecological and economic foundation of many Pacific communities	

8) On average, approximately 40% of the Pacific population now lives in urban areas, a trend that is increasing. National urban growth rates are 50 to 100% higher than overall national population growth rates (which are high at av. 2-3% p.a.). Education, employment, lifestyle choices, increasing centralization of government sector bureaucracy, moderate industrialization and private sector development have all fuelled the population movement to cities and towns. Squatter settlements are increasing and housing densities continue to rise, domestic household and industrial waste is increasingly visible. The rate of urbanization has overwhelmed the capacity of PICs to keep pace with basic services (water supply and sanitation), increasing urban and wastewater pollution, urban and peri-urban land degradation and water degradation from inadequately controlled development. Smaller island are often ecologically under considerable stress with 85%- 90% of the vegetation cleared for example on Majuro Atoll (Marshall Islands), Nauru and Fongafale (Tuvalu). The difficulties PacSIDs have in the delivery of water supplies and sanitation services are evidenced by the lack of progress towards achieving Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets. Almost half the PacSIDs have less than 50% coverage with improved sanitation and the Pacific has an overall 48% coverage with improved sanitation in comparison to the global average of 62%.

9) The economies of PICs cover a mixture of sectors including natural resources (for example, forest products, marine fisheries) and minerals, although some PICs have minimal resources. The exploitation of natural resources has not always been well governed, particularly in cases where external interests have dominated. Tourism is an extremely important and evolving contributor to many economies in the region, with the balance between tourism development and environmental sensitivity increasingly difficult to maintain. Tourism is a significant consumer of water, land and coastal resources in those locations where facilities have been developed, and also contributes to the pollution of freshwater and marine waters for example Fiji's annual visitor number is approaching 1 million.

10) The region is highly vulnerable to climatic factors such as the El Niño and La Nina cycles and climate variability. Climatic change will impact on water availability including the potential threat of sea level rise to low-lying islands and coastal zones. Groundwater is an extremely important water resource in the Pacific region, although volumes are limited in comparison to 'mainland' regions, and are highly vulnerable to overuse and

² Information taken from the *Strategic Action Programme for International Waters of the Pacific Islands Region* and the ADB *Pacific Region Environment Strategy*

contamination. This is a feature that reinforces the need for a targeted approach to water, land and coastal management from country to country within the Pacific region.

Barriers

11) The similarity of the water and environmental problems faced by PacSIDS, and their solidarity on the resolution of these is vital to maintaining the political will to seek remedies, to promote action based on the SAP for International Waters, and for the delivery of the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management (Pacific RAP). The Pacific RAP builds on the SAP with six key action areas ranging from reducing water pollution to coping with island vulnerability, strengthening institutional arrangements, and leveraging additional financial resources. Regional, national and local partnerships are essential to sustain activities that promote change over the long term and to foster support and resources for new ICM approaches. The Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management played a pivotal role in the development and implementation of the PacIWRM project and will continue to play a significant role with the proposed project.

12) The PacIWRM has made rapid, significant and demonstrable progress at both a national and regional level in overcoming these barriers save for financing. National IWRM Plans are under development and will be completed by the end of 2013. These will detail responses to barriers identified in the National Water, Sanitation and Climate Outlooks and provide costed and prioritized actions. PacIWRM was able to achieve such rapid implementation and uptake due in part to the national level project development planning which involved country led analysis and identification of issues, barriers and solutions.

13) National and Local Governance that is based on “ridge to reef” (R2R) principles will require developing an understanding from *community to cabinet* of the social, economic and public health importance of managing on this scale. The inter sectoral coordination established through PACIWRM within PacSIDS need to be expanded and strengthened to enable integrated planning and the implementation between departments, ministries and agencies across sectors when it comes to water resources allocation, usage, pollution prevention, monitoring and management (such as public health, fisheries, tourism, the environment, power generation and commercial enterprises). Engaging leaders throughout the *community to cabinet* continuum in this process is essential to breaking down the barrier of sector silos.

14) PacSIDS have consistently identified a lack of expertise and baseline knowledge relating basins to coastal areas as being a fundamental barrier to any informed decision-making on water, land and coastal resources management and protection. The PacIWRM project has resulted in a demonstrable development of National expertise at operational, management and strategic levels. This national capacity must be retained and nurtured now to build linked ICM capacity.

A.1.2 Baseline scenario and associated baseline projects

1) Most PacSIDS are increasingly dealing with threats to water, land and inshore coastal areas from population growth, increased urbanization and development exacerbated by the regions high climatic variability and predicted climate change impacts. PacSIDS have limited resources to address these issues through a reduction of these stressors on the environment. At the National Level PacSIDS agencies of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Environment and Water are primarily focused on developing and sustaining their burgeoning populations. PacSIDS are heavily reliant on regional organizations such as SPC/SOPAC and NGOs for specific programmes addressing stressors in each of these sectors. Many PacSIDS are struggling to effectively programme the significant climate change associated programme funding. Six PacSIDS have developed National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) which provide prioritization for immediate actions and the proposed project will link where possible to the coastal and water associated projects. The NAPAs do not address the R2R continuum but rather focus on currently assessed priority areas of risk.

2) SPC programmes are funded through a mix of annual core funding sourced from donors such as Australia, New Zealand and European Union (EC) and project funding from a wide variety of donors. SPC integrates and coordinates its efforts at a national level through agreed Joint Country Strategy Programmes (JCSP) periodically developed, revised and agreed with PacSIDS. The JCSPs establish the relationship between the various SPC programmes and the responsible agencies within the PacSIDS. The **Disaster Reduction Programme** provides PacSIDS with technical and policy support to strengthen disaster risk management (DRM) practices in collaboration with a range of regional and international development partners and donors. The **Ocean and Islands Programme** (OIP) works across a broad range of marine, coastal and island resource use, vulnerability and climate change adaptation issues. It provides a range of specialist technical capacities, skills and tools in support of PacSIDS importantly OIP’s technical role involves the collection and analysis of baseline data such as

bathymetric products, maritime boundary data, oceanographic and geophysical data, topographic data, geological and geomorphologic assessments, environmental baseline data and mapping.

3) The **Coastal Fisheries Programme (CFP)** supports PacSIDS in the management and sustainable development of coastal fisheries, near-shore fisheries and aquaculture and in the development of socially achievable coastal fisheries management policies. It provides technical support to PacSIDS governments, private enterprises and stakeholders in the development of sustainable near-shore fisheries to provide food security, livelihoods, economic growth and climate change adaptation. The **Land Resources Division (LRD)** seeks to improve the food and nutritional security of Pacific Island communities through development and sustainable management of land, agriculture and forestry resources. Specifically its **Integrated & Sustainable Resource Management and Development programme** assists SPC Member countries in integrated and sustainable agricultural and forestry resource management and development and its **Food and Nutritional Security programme** seeks to improve food and nutritional security in PacSIDS. The **Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP)** provides support to PacSIDS through capacity building, awareness and advocacy related to the management of water resources and the provision of water supply and sanitation services. The proposed project will enable the harnessing and coordination of these considerable existing inputs within the R2R approach.

4) There are several associated regional and national projects that support closely related initiatives. The **SPC/GIZ 'Coping with climate change in the Pacific Island Region (CCCPIR)' Programme** is strengthening the capacities of Pacific member countries and regional organizations to cope with the impacts of climate change with a focus on land (and coast) based natural resources such as agriculture, forestry and land use, fisheries, tourism, energy and education. Whilst the **EDF 10 Pacific Natural Disaster Facility** is strengthening institutional arrangements for disaster risk management to achieve integration of DRM and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) arrangements into central and key line ministries in PacSIDS. The programme has both national and regional components and works in 14 PacSIDS. The Annual Pacific Disaster Platform and Regional Climate and Water Consultations provides an ideal vehicle for high level integration of strategies and National level cooperation.

5) Other notable and related NGO programmes include IUCN's **Mangrove Ecosystems for Climate Change Adaptation and Livelihoods (MESCAL)** project which is addressing the key challenges of mangrove management in attempts to increase the resilience of Pacific Island people to climate change and improve livelihoods. Similarly IUCN's **Mangrove Rehabilitation for Sustainably-Managed Healthy Forests (MARSH)** is intended to support the PNG Government in achieving fostering community ownership of mangrove rehabilitation project sites, implement capacity-enhancement activities at the national and subnational levels, and support scientific and policy research by local higher education institutions.

6) ADB is providing technical assistance from 2011 to 2014 to PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Fiji through the project "Strengthening Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Coral Triangle of the Pacific (Phase II)" with the aim of improving the resilience of their coastal and marine ecosystems and climate change. Local lessons learned and materials will be useful to outreach to the PacSIDS.

7) UNDP will provide the equivalent of \$250,000 in Water Resources Management courses, training materials, and databases available via the UNDP Cap-Net program that can support project implementation including capacity building, strategic planning processes, legislative reform and mainstreaming of climate and gender into IWRM. Available relevant training materials include: Groundwater in IWRM; IWRM as a Tool for Adaptation to Climate Change; Conflict Resolution and Negotiation Skills for IWRM; Integrated Water Resources Management Plans; Why Gender Matters; Streams of Law; a training manual and facilitators' guide on water legislation and legal reform for integrated water resources management; Economics in Sustainable Water Management.

8) The project will also build on a UNDP regional project 'Pacific Resilience Program' which focuses on strengthening governance mechanisms for DRM and CCA at the sub-national and local levels in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands (together with Fiji and Tonga). The goal of the program is to strengthen the resilience of the Pacific Island communities to disaster and climate change related risks. The program centers on two components that will be implemented under one coordinated and integrated program: 1) risk governance; supporting mainstreaming of DRM and CCA into development planning and budgeting at all levels of government; and 2) community-level risk management; strengthening community resilience through targeted and inclusive community-based DRM and CCA (supported through a community small grants scheme) and integration of risk management into local governance mechanisms. The program will be run for an initial period of four years (up to 2016) with an overall budget of \$8 million. In addition, in-kind resources of \$50,000 will be provided by UNDP Fiji.

The proposed alternative scenario

- 7) Despite these individual projects, there is little coordination or complementarity among them. Additionally, there is normally little interaction among individual GEF projects in different focal areas as different ministries have their donor and GEF funded activities, including the more recent Pacific Alliance for Sustainability projects. Opportunities are lost when each project is executed individually and sustainability can only be reached when they work collaboratively and in similar areas with local officials on these small islands. There is just little capacity for counterparts to provide support for multiple efforts from multiple donors. This regional project will begin national IWRM plan implementation at the chosen demonstration pilot in each PIC and will also introduce ICM into the existing network of IWRM demonstrations in each PIC to test the willingness and feasibility of R2R approaches that seamlessly link IWRM with ICM. The project will also serve a coordination function with national STAR projects in the R2R programme in supporting the national projects with coordination and opportunities for collaborative approaches, experience sharing, and learning toward possible future scaling up through incentive approaches.
- 8) Despite some investments in climate change adaptation, disaster risk management, biodiversity conservation and freshwater and sanitation, there exists limited national and regional level coordination of project and programme planning and implementation across these sectors in PacSIDS. Similarly, while large volumes of data on land, water and coastal systems exist, this remains unconsolidated. Given the high level of interconnectedness of these systems in small islands, effective coordinated planning of investments is constrained by limited information and knowledge sharing needed to identify compromises of, and threats to, land and aquatic uses, associated hazards to human health, and traditional and customary uses of the biodiversity and aquatic environments. Efforts to build capacity of local institutions to integrate land, water and coastal management are further constrained by the lack of incentives required to build and retain island-based project management expertise. Accordingly, while most national government officials and resource managers recognize the need for more integrated approaches to fashioning sustainable futures for island communities, barriers to integration are often viewed as insurmountable in light of economic development pressures, crises in public health associated with non-communicable diseases, and constraints in improving public education in the PacSIDS. The PPG will undertake a gap analysis to see where and how best to link R2R to all these existing but fragmented efforts. The strength of this project is that it really is looking at a physical basis for integration providing a logical continuum of activities from R2R which can be integrated with the other sector activities. A fundamental difference with previous projects is that the proposed project will conduct original assessments rather than just assembling a synthesis of existing information. There is an issue with coverage with the NAPAs with country gaps and the proposed project proposes to address this.
- 9) The GEF PacIWRM project has made significant contributions to overcoming these barriers in the water and sanitation sector and these approaches will be extended to ICM. Specifically, the PacIWRM project has supported improvements in natural resource and environmental management, reflecting country priorities to address water and land development issues in the International Waters focal area in relation to SIDS, while also delivering significant global environmental benefits. The 13 National IWRM Demonstration projects have been a driver for water governance reform with all participating PICs having established and operating Inter-ministerial Water Committees and most having developed national water policy which have either been endorsed by Government or are in the process of being endorsed. Likewise national diagnostic reports for Water, Sanitation and Climate have been completed or are underway in the participating PICs. A summary of PacSIDS water governance status is presented below (Table 3).

Table 3: PacSIDS IWRM Planning Status

IWRM Planning Elements in Place					
	IWRM Demo Project	Diagnostic Reviews	Strategic Policy statement	Implementation Plans	Coordination
Niue	Protection of Alofi town groundwater supply and nearshore reef fishery	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	National IWRM Policy	Draft IWRM Plan (uncosted)	National Water Committee
	Integrated Sustainable Wastewater Management for Tuvalu	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	National Water and Sanitation Policy	Tuvalu's Climate Change Adaptation framework includes	National Water Coordinating Committee
Tuvalu	Integrated Freshwater and Coastal Management on Rarotonga	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	Draft National Water Policy	Commenced development of IWRM Plan	National Water Committee
Cook Is	Integrated Freshwater and Coastal Management of Apia Catchment	Diagnostic Report	Water Resources Policy Water Services Policy	Plan & Framework for Action, WS Investment plan	Water Sector Steering Committee (& working groups)
	Sustainable management of Vava'u's Groundwater Resource	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	Draft Water Policy	Draft Implementation Plan for Water Act in progress	National Water Coordinating Committee
Tonga	Integrated Water management Plan for Laura lens in Majuro	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	Draft National Water Policy Framework	Draft IWRM Investment Plan in progress	National Water Coordinating Committee
RMI	Protecting Water Quality in Pohnpei and Chuuk State	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	Draft National Water Policy Framework	Draft IWRM Investment Plan in progress	National Water Coordinating Committee
	Ngerikill watershed resoration for the improvement of water quality	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	National Water Policy	Draft IWRM Investment Plan in progress	National Water Coordinating Committee
Palau	Not a participant in GEF IWRM Demo Project	Diagnostic Report	National Water Resources & Sanitation Policies	WR & San Implementation Plan (uncosted)	National Watsan Coord' Committee (low activity)
Kiribati	Better water management & reduced contamination of groundwater	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	National Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Policy	Watsan Implementation Plan (with budget line by 2013)	Water Technical Committee
Nauru	Managing Honiara's water supply and reducing pollution	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	IWRM Plan under development	IWRM Implementation Plan under development	National Intersectoral Water Coordinating Committee
	Sustainable management of Sarakata Watershed	Diagnostic Report National Outlook	National Water Strategy	Costed NWS Implementation Strategy under development	National Water Resources Advisory Committee
Vanuatu	Integrated Flood Risk Management in the Nadi River Basin	Diagnostic Report	Draft National Watsan Policy, Rural Watsan Policy	Fiji has a strong Nadi Watershed coord framework	National Water committee (established, low activity)"
Fiji					

IWRM	Watershed Management
Demo	Water Resource Assessment & Protection
Project	Wastewater management & Sanitation
Theme	Water Use Efficiency & Water Safety

- 10) The PacIWRM project supported this process through the operation of consultative processes to harness inputs of national stakeholders and experts in the conduct of diagnostic analysis of water and sanitation issues which are reflected in 'National Water, Sanitation and Climate Outlook' reports. These outlook reports build on preliminary diagnostic analysis conducted in 2007/2008 and as of January 2013, 10 of 13 participating PICs had final outlook reports, with 2 additional countries planning to complete these by mid-2013. The key issues identified through this diagnostic process were used to identify needs for reforms in the coordination and administration of water and sanitation management. The national governments of participating PICs have responded to the identified needs through the development of supporting national policies in the form of strategic IWRM policy statements. Seven PICs have secured Cabinet endorsement of these policies with endorsement of the remainder due to occur during 2013. Policy implementation is supported by national cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms for IWRM in all countries via the operation of national IWRM committees. Ten PICs have been actively engaged in the preparation of costed IWRM investment plans, with 4 plans completed and endorsed by government as of January 2013. Remaining countries have formalised costed work plans to ensure completion of the IWRM implementation plans by final quarter 2013. It is intended that the participating countries will publically launch their IWRM plans on World Water Day 2014 (22 March).
- 11) The Mid-Term Review of the PacIWRM project was completed in June 2012. The report of that review concluded that all of its four project components had made significant progress and could be considered 'on-target' for successful project completion in 2014. Of particular note was the success of the national demonstration projects that have made considerable effort to foster high levels of stakeholder involvement in the implementation of IWRM within their demonstration areas. That review highlighted that PacIWRM's demonstration activities had made considerable impact on governance arrangements as well as national policy and planning for water and sanitation management. In considering the positive outcomes of the review, PacIWRM's Regional Steering Committee developed detailed 'result notes' on specific national achievements (<http://www.pacific-iwrm.org/results>) that were later showcased by the GEF Secretariat (<http://www.thegef.org/gef/IWRM/delivering-results-water-and-sanitation-pacific-island-countries>). Detailed reports of national project activities can be accessed on-line via the Pacific IWRM website (<http://www.pacific-iwrm.org/mid-term-reports/>).

12) This project builds on the abovementioned achievements of PacIWRM in the areas of national and regional coordination, information and data management, engagement of stakeholders and communities in national policy and planning, capacity building, results monitoring, and national and regional IWRM policy reform. Key project components include: national demonstrations to support and inform integrated land, water and coastal planning and the scaling-up of IWRM for island resilience and sustainability; island-based investments in human capital and knowledge consolidation to prepare local institutions for ICM; improved integrated governance for local pilot institutions and national policy development for scaling-up IWRM to integrate land, water and coastal management in an ICM framework; establishment of regional and national R2R indicators, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and knowledge management to support national inter-ministry communities and results tracking; and strengthened national and regional coordination of investment in R2R ICM.

13) Key outcomes include *inter alia*:

Component 1: 14 national pilot projects reflecting IWRM plan implementation catalyzing local community action, providing best practice examples, and building institutional linkages for integrated land, water, forest and coastal management; strengthened institutional relationships between national and community governance structures, and community leaders and local government officials networked via community-leader forum; planning methodologies for selection of priority island sites for scaling-up integrated land, water and coastal management within a PacSIDS ICM framework; national co-financing investments help to implement completed national IWRM plans

Component 2: strengthened national and local capacity for ICM and IWRM implementation to enable best practice in integrated land, water, forest and coastal management; consolidation and sharing of PIC knowledge on climate variability, coastal area planning in DRM, integrating ‘blue forest’ and coastal livelihoods; human resource needs for ICM benchmarked, planned, and incentives for human resource capacity retention prioritized by intergovernmental fora.

Component 3: strengthened capacity for integrated approaches to be institutionalized through 14 national Inter-Ministry Committees (IMCs); national diagnostic analyses for ICM conducted to prioritize key ICM investments in 14 PacSIDS and reflected in ‘State of the Coasts’ reports; national and regional strategic action frameworks for ICM endorsed by cabinets of 14 PICs.

Component 4: simplified project results framework for annual reporting to IMCs; national and regional adoption of integrated and simplified results tracking and communication tool; and national and regional platforms for the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in R2R approaches.

Component 5: effective national pilot project coordination, including national STAR projects where national integration is chosen; physical, natural, human and social capital built to strengthen island resilience to current and emerging anthropogenic threats and climate extremes.

14) **NOTE:** Planning for this project has been integrated with development of the larger R2R programme. Climate change adaptation funding was to be available from the SCCF to support the key elements of the programme related to reducing vulnerabilities of coastal communities to climatic events and sequestering carbon in coastal “blue forest” wetlands. Part of this adaptation funding is needed for this regional project with regard to linking the national STAR projects and addressing the adaptation aspects of the regional project. However, the status of SCCF funds is not certain in early 2013. In the event that climate change adaptation funding is not available for the Spring 2013 work program, the International Waters focal area is being asked to substitute for the climate funding for purposes of Council approval. If this is the case, a separate proposal related to the adaptation-related measures included in the PFD and this PIF will be submitted when the SCCF is replenished toward the objective of reducing the IW funding (\$1.376 m.) at time of CEO endorsement when climate change adaptation funding is finally available.

A.1.4 Incremental cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline,

15) The GEF supported PacIWRM project has been a valuable entry point for strengthening integrated approaches to natural resource management in PacSIDS. Existing national coordination mechanisms involving operation of inter-linked national APEX bodies for IWRM and local coordinating committees for IWRM demonstration projects have been effective in guiding stress reduction in the water and sanitation sector and driving reform of national IWRM policy and planning. PacIWRM has also been a valuable entry point for capacity development, helping to foster application of inter-disciplinary skills and local knowledge and integrating this into monitoring and evaluation to ensure that causes of environmental stresses and the results of interventions are understood by stakeholders. A need exists, however, to scale up the PacIWRM approach to strengthen integration of land, water and coastal management to better accommodate issues associated with biodiversity conservation, to build on synergies between investments in IWRM and sustainable forestry practices, and to

strengthen the conservation of coastal “blue forests” from the perspectives of hazard risk reduction, ICM application, and livelihoods. The sector approach currently in use represents the baseline while the GEF increment would reflect the commitment of PICs to integrate across those sectors nationally, and focus in introducing approaches for ICM to policy development and national budget planning.

- 16) The current baseline scenario for the region is not only due to poor working practices, but is also a result of the fragility, size, vulnerability and limited human and financial resources available to PacSIDS. PacSIDS suffer from: (i) deterioration in freshwater resources; (ii) reduction in coastal and watershed ecosystem functions; (iii) increased land based source pollution; (iv) deterioration of human health; and (v) deterioration in economic stability. PICs have already identified the priority needs for the region as part of the 1997 GEF-supported Strategic Action Programme and the Pacific Regional Action Plan (RAP). Through participation in the PacIWRM project, PICs have identified priority IWRM investment needs which are being incorporated into national IWRM Plans with supporting National Water and Sanitation policies. It has been recognized, however, that there is a need for IWRM plan implementation to occur within a broader integrated framework that includes the coast, reflecting climate variability and hazards management, coastal blue forests and livelihoods, and sustainable land management
- 17) Without any incremental intervention and assistance, the baseline as described above will hinder the progression to more integrated management approaches in PacSIDS and lead to continued natural resource degradation. The GEF increment will introduce this integrated approach to natural resources management which would otherwise continue with limited cross-sector coordination and communication within sectors. The project will build on nascent process and will aim to address thematic areas of concern that are critical to fostering island sustainability and resilience through: reforms in policy, institutions, and coordination; building capacity of local institutions to integrate land, water and coastal management; establishing evidence-based approaches to ICM planning; improved consolidation of information and data required to inform cross-sector R2R planning approaches. It is envisaged that this project will also focus much greater attention on harnessing support of traditional community leadership and governance structures to improve the relevance of investment in ICM from ‘community to cabinet’.
- 18) Linkages with the GEF SCCF, biodiversity and land degradation focal areas in the national STAR projects will facilitate dialogue and action planning through Inter-Ministry Committees on responses to emerging land and climate issues. Similarly it will facilitate coordinated exchanges of experience and results of the GEF portfolio of investments in a broader regional R2R programme for PacSIDS. Linkages with co-financed activities on water resource and wastewater management, coastal systems and climate adaptation and disaster risk management will ensure more targeted capital investment in coastal infrastructure within an ICM framework. This project will assist in routine capture of information and reporting on incremental gains in physical, natural, and social capital in response to assessed climate and land threats. Best practices in capital investment for strengthening land and coastal resilience to climate variability and change will be shared regionally and globally among Caribbean and Indian Ocean SIDS. Similarly this project will foster solidarity among the PacSIDS, particularly with respect to the political will required to support more integrated approaches to R2R in natural resource management.

A.1.5 Global environmental benefits (GEFTF, NPIF) and adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

- 19) Globally there exists an urgent requirement to develop more coordinated and integrated approaches to the sustainable development of SIDS consistent with many global political declarations. Global environmental benefits will accrue through this project via both the on-the-ground results and progress accelerated through the exchange of lessons learned and best practices in the development of integrated approaches to land, water and coastal management. By definition in the GEF IW Strategy, implementation of integrated measures on IWRM and ICM would provide global benefits in the IW focal area while the associated improvement in conservation of “blue forests” coastal habitat will provide global benefits for the fisheries that use the waters and wetlands as nursery areas as well as trapping carbon. Significantly, this project will test the ability of PacSIDS to mainstream ICM and IWRM approaches in national and local development planning, as part of national budget cycles, and as part of regional action plan development. Such approaches are necessary to ensure appropriate synergies among the work of various sector agencies, between national governments and communities, and the investments of development partners and donors in order to implement stress reduction measures at a scale required to build island sustainability and resilience. By building on the focus on integrated coastal area management in Agenda 21, WSSD, and Rio+20, this project provides a first opportunity for the Pacific region to test innovative and integrated water-related solutions involving both ICM and IWRM to sustain livelihoods, reduce climate related risks, secure access to water and sanitation, and safeguard ecosystem function.

- 20) Significantly, the project will build on commitments made during the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action, recent Pacific Leaders meetings to accelerate progress on aid effectiveness by better demonstrating the results of development efforts and openly accounting for them. In recent years, the Pacific's multilateral and bilateral development partners and donors, including *inter alia* the Global Environment Facility, the European Commission, and the aid agencies of Australia, New Zealand, and the United States of America, have each developed their own policies with respect to the development of results-oriented programmes and projects. The unique challenges PacSIDS governments face in meeting the myriad of reporting expectations to donors and the International Conventions to which they are party, creates a need for a simplified results framework with indicator sets that can be reported annually by national inter-ministry committees and shared with PacSIDS leaders.
- 21) This project will also reflect the results-based approach introduced by the PacIWRM project to develop a regional framework of process, stress reduction and environmental/socioeconomic indicators to monitor effectiveness of integrated land, water and coastal management in PICs. National sets of indicators will also be developed to monitor and evaluate results of GEF investments across its biodiversity, land degradation, climate change adaptation, sustainable forest management and international waters focal areas in island-based R2R. This approach would be a first for GEF of new, consolidated reporting across focal areas and should have globally significant benefits in guiding strengthened multi-focal area approaches in the Caribbean and Indian Ocean SIDS. This R2R monitoring and evaluation initiative will enable the capture and global sharing of best practices in capital investment, including biophysical and financial performance assessments, for strengthened resilience to climate variability and change.

A.1.6 Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

- 22) This project builds on experiences of GEF's past and present portfolio of international waters projects in the Asia-Pacific to develop island style approaches to integrated R2R management. The proposed pilot projects will build on achievements and lessons learned from the PacIWRM projects to expand the focus of national IWRM demonstration projects from freshwater and sanitation issues to broader land and coastal issues associated with climate and hazards management, coastal 'blue forests' and livelihoods. Successes of national IWRM approaches will be replicated in selected outer island communities, particularly atoll environments where water security and good governance of scarce groundwater resources are critically important. The active linkage of these pilot projects with national STAR projects within a R2R framework aims to facilitate inter-sector cooperation on: building and retaining capacity; coastal policy reform; and coordination of results monitoring and knowledge management. The networking of R2R project managers and community leaders associated with pilot and STAR projects will support inter-country and multi-lateral sharing of best practice in ICM and IWRM in PacSIDS.
- 23) The establishment and operation of community leaders' roundtable network will assist to strengthen and formalize relationships between national and community governance structures. Similarly, the network will provide a platform for engagement with donors and the private sector on planning investment in priority community-based ICM actions, and will provide an avenue for strengthened cooperation with the GEF Small Grants Programme on civil society and community organization. Best practice community level inputs to ICM will be identified, documented, and shared regionally and globally among SIDS and GEF IW:LEARN. Innovative planning methodologies and procedures will be developed to characterize and prioritize island coastal areas for ICM investment and demonstrated as national development planning tools. Information and data outputs will be used to build on the 'National Water, Sanitation and Climate Outlook' reports developed by PacIWRM to utilize as a capacity building and transparency tool the diagnostic analysis of coasts which will be reflected in national 'State of the Coasts' reports.
- 24) The innovative approaches to island-based investments in human capital developed by PacIWRM will be built upon by targeted knowledge consolidation and support activities aimed at further preparing local institutions of ICM. An expanded post-graduate training programme in Integrated Water and Coastal Management will be complemented by a technical support and mentoring program aimed at facilitating post-graduate research student and volunteer placements within national R2R units. An innovative initiative aimed at meeting ICM capacity retention needs will also be initiated. Supporting regional networks of national land, water and coastal experts will be established to support the development of knowledge tools to support evidence based planning ICM planning and IWRM implementation. These knowledge tools will be applied to conduct evidence-based ICM planning exercises with national planning and finance ministries, the findings of which will be documented and presented to national leaders and regional fora.
- 25) Innovative financing mechanisms and tools will be incorporated at National levels to build financial sustainability of demonstrated adaptations and livelihoods. These include new and emerging climate change

mechanisms, and how these could be used to enhance synergistic implementation of the Rio Conventions and increase the capacity of participating countries to identify and mobilize potential financial resources through climate change financing mechanisms. Tools to value coastal ecosystem conservation through blue carbon initiatives and to ensure long-term sustainability of coastal areas and green economic development whilst effectively mitigating climate change. Extending the PacIWRM's payment for ecosystem services approach to coastal and marine habitats is important for food security and tourism in PacSIDs

- 26) Regarding the sustainability of activities and components beyond the life of the project, it should be noted that a number of the proposed activities during the first three years of the project are aimed at testing the ability of PacSIDs to develop ICM approaches and link these to existing IWRM. The need for such actions reflects the inadequacy of the present institutional, human capacity, scientific and technical, and policy settings to realize integrated approaches to land, water and coastal management. It also reflects recognition of the need for implementation of the IWRM Plans developed through the PacIWRM to take place within a broader framework of R2R ICM. Each of the proposed actions has been developed with the view to their larger scaling-up as part of ICM and IWRM implementation post project. Consequently, several components will close within 36-40 months to allow proper evaluation and to provide incentives for those PICs that make excellent progress to fully scale up R2R within multiple focal areas with a larger GEF IW contribution in GEF 6. The full regional project will last 60 months in order to allow the coordination component with national STAR projects and the indicators work to link until closing.

A.2 Stakeholders.

- 27) This project will link directly into the very strong stakeholder relationships build by the PacIWRMs *Community to Cabinet* and back approach. Functional participation by community and its leaders at local project level and National Policy level have been established. These will be used to develop the Project Documents and National Demo Projects. The focus on extending the diagnostic analysis to the coast and its characterization relies implicitly on local stakeholder's knowledge.
- 28) The interPIC National Water Apex Committees have been established as an effective interministerial and primary stakeholder consultation vehicle which have overseen the development, political endorsement and implementation of National IWRM Policy and cross cutting water reforms. They have and will continue to be primarily responsible for the integration of national water resources management and will, through this project be expanded to oversee National R2R approaches. The degree of National Water Apex Committees functionality is summarised in Table 3.
- 29) The primary stakeholders for the project are the 14 governments of the PacSIDs (particularly institutions dealing with water, land and coastal management, environment, disaster Risk Management and Climate Change) and communities within the R2R pilot demonstration projects. The lessons learnt will however eventually benefit all SIDs. There will also be Global benefits as the project will seek through innovative approaches to coordinate multifocal area approaches within a R2R framework and to use demonstrated local benefits to progress national level policy reform and action. As an integrated project private and public sectors will also participate and benefit and this will include tourism, agriculture, fisheries, health, environmental and other locally selected industries. The private sector partnerships will be developed at local level demonstration projects to develop a high level of involvement and collaboration with the private sector at the earliest stages of project development and implementation, based on supporting countries to identify where private sector engagement and support can occur.
- 30) The NGO community will have a significant stakeholder role in promoting awareness of water, land and coastal management and use issues and concerns, especially in demonstration project areas and in presenting the linkages both to social development and to sustainable, ecosystem-based management. NGO's have already been actively involved in partnering with National PacIWRM demonstrations providing additional resources to local communities and facilitating the development of community leadership. IUCN is a partner of the PacIWRM project in several demonstration projects and will play a still larger role in the proposed project. The NGO and CBOs will participate in the development of local demonstration projects and in the governance of these at both local and national levels.
- 31) At the local/demonstration site level, the Project will focus on community involvement for watershed and coastal resource management, including ICM, and will also look at the capacity building requirements at this level. The communities and livelihoods will benefit from improvements in resource management and the sustainable maintenance of water quality, both with regard to their living environment as well as their health

and welfare. Capturing traditional knowledge and practices will be important as an entry vehicle to addressing land ownership and rights to water, land and inshore marine resources.

A.3 Risk.

Table 2: Project Primary Risks, Rating and Risk Mitigating Measures

Risk	Rating	Mitigating Measures
Capacity Limits of PacSIDS institutional and human resources	Low-Medium	Capacity determines implementation scope and pace. Project design recognizes this and there are several innovative approaches proposed to promote rapid learning whilst doing. This approach was successfully demonstrated in the PacIWRM project and the current proposal progresses the approach still further. A significant lesson learnt in the PacIWRM was the value of a technically strong and supportive regional PCU that is able to assist and mentor national counterparts this lesson has been recognized in the design of the complement of staff in the PCU.
Continued political will and capacity of the PacSIDs at different levels to remain committed / involved in the further integration of water, land and coastal management.	Low-Medium	The engagement of the regional and sub-regional organizations reduces the risk of a failure to engage at a national level. The PacIWRM has successfully established functional inter-ministerial committees, which can readily be expanded to include a higher level of representation from institutions responsible for Land and Coastal management. In many instances these agencies are already represented but their status needs to be increased. The Project design emphasizes leadership development and awareness to drive high-level support.
R2R is accepted at a National Level as a legitimate coordination framework for a multi focal area approach to demonstrate integrated water, land and coastal management	Medium	The R2R concept is not entirely new in many of the countries where PacIWRM has watershed based demonstration projects. But R2R is in general not well understood and the project design addresses this through investing significantly in public education and awareness approaches to rapidly develop a fundamental knowledge of the concept and to garner widespread support. This approach has proved successful in the PacIWRM project.
Successful adaptation demonstration not sustained or scaled up due to a lack of financial resources	Medium	There are many opportunities presented by climate change financing mechanisms to develop sustainable financing arrangement for PacSIDS, In addition appropriately valued coastal environmental service supporting food security, tourism and blue carbon have the potential to yield sustainable financing opportunities. National private sector and donor partnership forums intended to reduce risks that financial sustainability will not be achieved.
ICM is recognized as being multi-sector and involve the whole of community	Low-Medium	A community to cabinet and back approach will be fostered at all levels of project development and implementation so as to ensure multi-sector and full community participation. This combined with timely and targeted media awareness campaigns will minimize the risk of sector silos developing.
Communities and wider stakeholders are willing to participate in Policy development and Demonstration projects;	Low	The lesson learnt from PacIWRM is that early engagement with community in diagnostic analysis assists in building local level ownership that is readily maintained into project design and implementation provided effective and genuine collaboration is developed. This project design establishes the same proven approach and therefore the risk is viewed as low.
Civil society is concerned about water, land and coastal management;	Low	Civil Society attitudes are important drivers of leadership response. The project design has adopted a push pull approach to achieving change. By targeting leadership at National and Community levels plus the delivery of well-resourced public education and awareness campaigns sufficient energy should be created to ensure acceptance of the need to effectively manage water, land and coasts.

Effects of Climate Change on water, land and coast and the effectiveness of measures	Low	Climate change could substantially affect vulnerable water, land and coasts. The project has as a specific focus improving the management on a R2R basis to enable adaptive strategies that increase resilience to climate change. Attention is being given to promoting ecosystem services for resilience. Climate change will only demonstrate the need for appropriate adaptive responses that strengthen R2R resilience.
--	-----	--

A.4 Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF financed and other initiatives:

- 32) This proposed regional project is intended to be the program support project for the Ridge-to-Reef program “Pacific Islands Ridge to Reef National Priorities - Integrated Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods”. To date, the following countries are participating in the program through national projects funded through their respective STAR or LDCF allocation: Cook Islands; Fiji; FS Micronesia; Kiribati; Marshall Islands; Nauru; Niue; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Tonga; Tuvalu; and Vanuatu. The project is expected to coordinate the implementation of the national R2R projects in terms of capacity building, knowledge management and harmonization of technical methodologies in integrated management of forest, land and water management. The coordination arrangements are described in the Program Framework Document (PFD) within which this project is being submitted. The PFD also lists the national R2R projects.
- 33) National level inter-ministerial committees will be the major vehicles for coordination at a National level and also funnel nationally acquired knowledge through to sub-regional and regional meetings. They will have an important role in monitoring UNEP’s Regional project to promote forestry and protected area management in Fiji, Niue, Vanuatu and Samoa under GEF’s Pacific Alliance for Sustainability programme which will still be under implementation at the same time with this proposed project. Coordinating these along with the UNDP, UNEP and FAO National GEF System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (*STAR*) Pacific Projects will be a vital to the success of R2R as mentioned in the preceding paragraph.
- 34) The ongoing GEF/UNDP/UNEP PacIWRM project has established close linkages with the GEF/UNDP/UNEP Implementing Integrated Water Resource and Wastewater Management in Atlantic and Indian Ocean SIDS and the recently completed GEF/UNDP/UNEP Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management (*IWCAM*) in the Small Island Development States (SIDS) of the Caribbean to reflect more than 30 SIDS globally. The proposed project will maintain and grow these linkages. Coordination will occur during implementation with other related UNDP/GEF projects including Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC), Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS - SEA) and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) will done through UNDP’s Asia and Pacific Regional Office.
- 35) The ADB/GEF Strengthening Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Coral Triangle of the Pacific (Phase II) provides significant opportunities in piloting the integration of coastal and inshore management within the R2R approach and capturing those benefits will be important in the CTI Participating PacSIDS. The Melanesian Spearhead Group’s Annual Environment/Climate Change Ministers and Senior Officials Meeting enables high level coordination and integration of these.
- 36) The project will be implemented in close coordination with other regional projects that are also being executed by SOPAC/SPC, upon which this project builds on. These projects are listed in section A.1.2. IUCN’s MESCAL and MARSH projects are mentioned again in this section as are the UNDP projects in the Pacific that are listed in section B.3.
- 37) Execution of the regional project through the SOPAC Division of SPC ensures the closest possible coordination of project and co-financed activities with other regional SPC work programmes, in Disaster Risk Management, Oceans and Islands, Water and Sanitation, Sustainable Land Use, Coastal Fisheries, Climate change and Education. The integration and coordination of these at a national level is through an agreed Joint Country Strategy Programme which is a periodically developed and agreed as integrated strategic action plans between each Member PIC and SPC. The annual Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA) meeting provides regional coordination and review. This process includes close coordination of project activities with the activities of other donor funded projects.

B.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions:

- 38) The Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the International Waters (IW) of the Pacific Islands (1997) developed a strategy for the integrated sustainable development and management of IW to address the priority

concerns for PICs. The SAP proposed the need to address the root causes of degradation of IW through regionally consistent, country-driven targeted actions that integrate development and environment needs and promote good governance and improved knowledge approaches. Additionally, major regional investment and assistance programmes are guided by a small number of regional strategies agreed to under the Pacific Plan, which for the water sector include: (1) the Wastewater Policy and Wastewater Framework for Action (2001); (2) the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management (2002); and (3) the Pacific Framework for Action on Drinking Water and Health (2005). In response to growing pressures on PIC water resources, the then Governing Council of SOPAC called for a revision of the regional strategy and action plan to address urgent issues pertaining to the sustainable management of water resources and delivery of water and sanitation services. This process is ongoing with planned completion to align with revision of the Pacific Plan and the International SIDS conference in 2014.

B.2 GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities:

- 39) Fifteen countries³ in the Pacific are eligible for GEF funding as a result of being Parties to at least one, if not all, of the following five GEF supported Conventions and their related Protocols: UN CBD; UN FCCC; UN POPs; UN CCD; Montreal Protocol.
- 40) GEF 5 IW strategy is to catalyse scaling up of collective action for freshwater basins, aquifers, and marine systems (including SIDS) in support of multiple MDGs as well as protecting the capacity of “blue forests” to absorb carbon to reduce global warming. Through stakeholder participation and increased attention to gender issues and insight from indigenous communities, meaningful benefits will result from greater integration of measures for water, land and coasts.
- 41) This project specifically seeks to coordinate nationally-based multi-focal area R2R approach whilst also preparing PacSIDS for linking and scaling up IWRM to ICM. GEF has recognized that there is a need for reform and capacity building focusing on a more cross-cutting approach to water, land and coastal resource management that captures the complementarities among GEF focal areas. The PacSIDS are eligible for GEF support under the IW strategy, and with over 6000 islands and islets, a population of more than seven million and exclusive economic zones of over 5,000,000 km², the PICs clearly have priority eligibility under GEF IW.
- 42) The project is consistent with GEF 5 IW Objective 1: Catalyze multi-state cooperation to balance conflicting water uses in transboundary surface and groundwater basins (including SIDS) while considering climatic variability and change; and IW Objective 3: Support foundational capacity building and portfolio learning for joint, ecosystem-based management of trans-boundary water systems

B.3 The GEF agency’s comparative advantage to implement this project:

- 43) The proposed project will be implemented by UNDP by building on its on-the-ground presence as well as its expertise with capacity building and governance reform related to water and integrated coastal management; UNDP will also serve as the Lead Coordinating Agency for the overall Ridge to Reef Programme. UNDP’s poverty reduction mandate and commitment to preserving and enhancing food security and livelihoods ensure that it is well-placed in taking this lead.
- 44) The United Nations Development Assistance Framework for the Pacific Region for 2013-2017 is closely aligned with this project and the multi-focal area, multi-trust fund R2R programme it helps coordinate. The framework recognizes the challenge for the countries is to ensure the sustainable management of their terrestrial and marine and natural resources and heritage, from the regional to the local level, and the adaptation of individuals, communities and states to climate and environmental change and natural hazards, as well as to be well prepared to respond to natural disaster events and population related consequences. The UNDAF 2013-2017 will support PICs to ensure the sustainable development, management and conservation of their terrestrial and ocean environment, given the unique dependency of the PICs on these resources for their livelihood, food security and development along with strengthening adaptive and disaster risk management capacity.
- 45) UNDP’s Strategic Plan for 2008-2013 approved by the UNDP Executive Board includes Managing Energy and the Environment for Sustainable Development (Goal 4), and includes the outcome “Strengthened national capacities to mainstream environment and energy concerns into national development plans and implementation systems”. UNDP has taken further internal steps to operationalize the mainstreaming elements

³ Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

of the Strategic Plan at a subsidiary level through its Water Governance Strategy endorsed by the UNDP Management Group in 2007. The Water Governance Strategy includes as one of its three Strategic Priorities Reduce poverty and vulnerability, sustain and enhance livelihoods and protect environmental resources by helping countries to achieve equitable allocation and efficient water resources management through adaptive water governance and the associated Outcome, Assist countries to formulate and implement water governance reforms (legal, policy, institutional frameworks) to improve sectoral development and management processes and instruments, including IWRM plans (or national equivalent)

- 46) UNDP's work on improving governance of international waters incorporates both freshwater and marine waters and has for some time applied a R2R approach recognizing the freshwater-marine continuum and important linkages between upstream water and land management and the health and integrity of downstream coastal and marine ecosystems through IWRM and linked ICM. In terms of implementing GEF IW projects, UNDP has consistently delivered results through a broad range of GEF International Waters projects with two highly satisfactory interventions in the Pacific for IWRM as well as collective management of the Southern Pacific Warm Water Pool and its valuable tuna resources. The strategic alliance between UNDP and SOPAC has resulted in great success in the IWRM Pacific project and with the R2R experience contributes to the comparative advantage for UNDP.
- 47) Proposed project activities are consistent with UNDP's comparative advantage regarding extensive experience and networks of UNDP promoting improved water governance, including both IWRM (CapNet), and MDG GoAL-WASH (Governance, Advocacy and Leadership for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), UNDP is targeting capacity reinforcement and legislative reforms necessary to achieve MDGs, including MDG 1 and MDG7, including its water and sanitation targets, and to promote inter-sector management of natural resources. Notably, UNDP's work on improving governance of shared water and ocean resources and its highly acclaimed approaches to ICM in East Asia incorporates both freshwater and marine water-bodies and has for some time applied a "ridge-to-reef" approach recognizing the freshwater. Lastly, UNDP builds on both its field presence in the region and with its partner organizations in the participating countries as well as the successful partnership with SOPAC demonstrated in the GEF/UNDP/SOPAC IWRM project..


PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE
Mr. Vaitoti TUPA	Director, Cook Islands National Environment Service	Cook Is.	April 4, 2013
Mr. Andrew R. YATILMAN	Director, Office of Environment and Emergency Management	Fed. States of Micronesia	March 26, 2013
Mrs. Taina TAGICAKIBAU	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government, Urban Development, Housing and Environment	Fiji	April 4, 2013
Mrs. Nenenteiti Teariki RUATU	Deputy Director (Officer in Charge), Environment & Conservation Division, Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development	Kiribati	April 5, 2013
Mr. Warwick HARRIS	Acting Director, Office of Environmental Planning and Policy Coordination (OEPPC)	Marshall Is.	April 4, 2013
Mr. Russ J. KUN	Permanent Secretary, Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment	Nauru	March 25, 2013
Mr. Sauni TONGATULE	Director, Department of Environment	Niue	March 26, 2013
Mr. Sebastian R. MARINO	National Environment Planner, Office of the Environmental Response and Coordination, Office of the President	Palau	April 4, 2013
Mr Gunther JOKU	Acting Secretary, Department of Environment and Conservation	Papua New Guinea	April 2, 2013
Mr. Taulealeausumai Laavasa MALUA	Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Samoa	April 2, 2013
Mr. Joe HOROKOU	Director, Environment and Conservation Division, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology	Solomon Islands	April 4, 2013

Mr. Asipeli PALAKI	Secretary and CEO, Ministry of Lands, Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources	Tonga	April 5, 2013
Ms. Perpetua Election LATASI	Acting Director of Environment, Department of Environment	Tuvalu	April 5, 2013
Mr. Albert WILLIAMS	Director, Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	Vanuatu	April 4, 2013

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator	Signature	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Adriana Dinu UNDP		April 5, 2013	Jose Erez Padilla	+66 2 304 9100 ext 2730	jose.padilla@undp.org