



SOPAC



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Second Meeting of the Regional Project Steering Committee
and Inception Workshop for the SOPAC/UNDP/UNEP/GEF Project:
*“Implementing Sustainable Water Resource and Wastewater
Management in Pacific Island Countries”*

Republic of Palau, 19th – 23rd July 2010

**STATUS REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION FUNDED
INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROGRAMME**

Pacific Integrated Water Resources Management Planning Programme 2nd Progress Report

for

The period July –December 2009

Executive Summary

This 2nd Progress Report for the Pacific SIDS Integrated Water Resources Management Planning Programme (Pacific IWRM Planning Programme) covers the period July to December 2009 of project implementation. The report illustrates the programme's achievements, its progress against the logframe and demonstrates the harmony with which the EU and GEF IWRM programmes co-exist.

The EU IWRM Planning Programme

Over the last six months progress has been balanced between regional activities supportive of national initiatives as well as support to country IWRM initiatives themselves.

Of the six result areas of the IWRM Planning Programme, to date the most progress has been made with the development of a functioning IWRM resource centre. This has been made available for countries to use to improve their understanding of IWRM and Planning with a view to developing their own country programmes when seeking support. The Resource Centre also established more defined links with Global networks such as the Asia Pacific Knowledge Hubs over the last six months a pivotal role to capture lessons learnt and best practices from other Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The recruitment of the Mainstreaming and Indicators Advisor (MAIN) in December 2009, a key achievement in the last six months is an essential element to develop a robust Regional Indicator Framework (RIF).

Similarly, raising awareness on IWRM through the work of the Communications Advisor and production of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Materials has been given considerable attention as well. The IEC materials developed as a result of these efforts (see Table 4 and 6) have been circulated widely to partners, stakeholders and other interests groups. The Resource Centre and communications work have jointly contributed to partnership promotion activities as well.

Alongside these activities, work has also been carried out on supporting national IWRM initiatives (see Table 8 and 9) which includes the following:

- Finalising the Samoa- Water Sector Investment Plan,
- Finalising Niue- Least Cost Analysis for water supply options to present to cabinet,
- On-going support to the Kiribati- National Sanitation Policy and Implementation Plan,

The programme has also picked up on further country requests and is in the process of providing concrete assistance to them

- Niue – request to review to develop an IWRM Plan for Niue,
- Nauru- request to support the development of a National Water and Sanitation Policy Framework.

The IWRM Planning Programme to date continues to support staff in country to help them coordinate their in-country including the Marshall Islands, Tonga and Niue; however the Marshall Islands have decided to re-organise this support in other ways (see 4.1.2). As always, support to National Water Committee operations and consultations are ongoing.

Furthermore, capacity building efforts are on-going as well through facilitation of regional and inter-regional meetings and trainings which are mentioned below:

- Facilitating GEF Inception and Regional Steering Committee Meeting (RSC)
- Developing special training programme for the Niue Water Committee Policy Officer in issues pertaining to IWRM along with other selected participants.

While a summary of key EU IWRM Planning Achievements can be found in Table 1 below a more comprehensive overview of the programme's work can be found in Section 4.2 (Table 9).

Table 1: IWRM Planning Programme Major Achievements

No	Component	Major Achievements
1.	Regional IWRM Resource Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 national web based IWRM resource centres launched – a) FSM (http://www.fsmpio.fm/FSMIWRM/index.html) and b) Niue (http://vainiue.gov.nu) • Staff recruited to update and revamp the water services section of the water website • News stories produced and uploaded (2 November, 1 December) • 1 Inception meeting for the GEF IWRM Project with 13 focal points, 13 Programme managers and or assistants and 12 Partner Organisations • 1 Planning and Management training for Niue NWAB officer -Suva, December 2009 with 4 participants (1 NWAB officer, 1 resource economist, 2 students on attachment from the region-Niue and the Solomon Islands) • 1 new IWRM Planning brochure and 4 IWRM Posters added to existing database. More will be added as developed. • 1 restructured internal photo database to use in the production of publications and awareness material • 1 internal pacific media contact listing database to be used to raise the profile of news story produced by EU IWRM Planning programme. • MAIN Advisor recruited in December 2009 and begins work from January 2010
2.	National and Catchment IWRM Partnership Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Pacific Partnership Newsletter submitted with IWRM focussed stories/case studies in the December edition • 3 Pacific Case Studies developed for the IWRM Planning brochure (completed and disseminated)
3.	Political and Public Awareness raising of IWRM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Regional Communications Strategy reviewed • 1 Media training programme being developed • 1 Island Business Article- Cost of Disasters Affecting PIC Economies • 1 television story (yet to Air) • Further development of IEC material (4 awareness raising posters for IWRM) • Technical assistance was provided to the Niue Water Steering Committee in developing their Logo, t-shirts and banner designs.
4.	Support to IWRM National Initiatives to develop IWRM Policies and Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted technical support provided to Niue through one on one training of their NWAB officer (December 2009) • 2 Consultations held in Marshall Islands (September and October 2009), 4 Consultations of the Steering Committee held in Niue (August, September and

			December) and 1 Consultation of the Steering Committee held in Tonga (July 2009)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 informal meeting with partners and Permanent Secretaries to engage in reviving the National Water Committee in Fiji
5.	Promoting Governance Strategies	IWRM policies	Good and
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisting Nauru in developing a 20 year Water and Sanitation Policy Framework. (Draft ToR) • Assisting Niue to review their Draft Water Resources Bill 2008 and look at related legislative measures. (Draft ToR)
6.	Capacity Building		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Planning and Management training for Niue NWAB officer (December 2009)

The GEF IWRM Project

Regarding the complementary project funded by the GEF entitled "Sustainable Integrated Water Resources and Wastewater Management Project" (Pacific IWRM Project) further detailed in Section 2 Project Brief and Section 4.1.1, the key outcomes achieved over the period July - December 2009 follow:

Table 2: GEF Pacific IWRM Programme Actions and Achievements

No	Component	Major Achievements
1	Demonstration, Capture and Transfer of Best Practices in IWRM and Water Use Efficiency (WUE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to countries for drafting of Demonstration Project Staff Contracts • Support to countries for drafting of Demonstration Steering Committee ToRs • Inception meeting for the GEF IWRM Project with 13 focal points, 13 Programme managers and or assistants, 2 Implementing Agencies and 12 Partner Organisations. • All participating country Demonstration projects have commenced with funds being dispersed and reported • Supported countries developing logframes, including significant review of logframes, budgets and workplans • Support for reviews of technical components of thirteen country demonstration projects, including practicality, technology fit for purpose, capacity to deliver project objectives, and budgets. • Development of Stakeholder engagement framework; Community Participation Progress Report; Community Participation Overview documents (including gender mainstreaming); support and feedback to the countries on use of these. • Development and distribution of compiled summary of Pacific Community Participation Best Practice steps • Support through in-country visits Samoa; 27/6 – 5/7/09 Tuvalu; 3/9 – 8/9/09 Vanuatu; 20/10 – 24/10/09

		<p>Samoa; 24/11 – 28/11/09</p> <p>RMI; 30/11 – 7/12/09</p> <p>Nauru; 23/11 – 28/11/09</p>
2.	IWRM and environmental stress indicators developed and monitored through national and regional M&E systems to improve IWRM and WUE planning and programming and provide national and global environmental benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of draft regional monitoring and evaluation framework for IWRM in the Pacific, including indicator development, data analysis and consultation with country representatives • Presentation of monitoring and evaluation framework options at SOPAC STAR Session in Vanuatu and consultation with country representatives on the framework • Participated in UNEP Nairobi workshop with consultation of indicator and M&E framework with Caribbean and African regional representatives and discussion of training options for catchment to coast water management • Explored options for cross-regional linkages between Pacific, Caribbean and African regions, particularly in areas of sanitation and ecosan training and capacity development • Adapted UNEP water vulnerability assessment methodology to Pacific region for atolls and island river systems, with a draft to be presented at the SPREP Nadi workshop on environmental impact assessment (15th – 19th February 2010) • Supported 13 countries developing logframes, including significant review of logframes and ME activities.
3.	Supporting countries to develop national IWRM policies and water efficiency strategies, endorsed by both government and civil society stakeholders, and integrated into national sustainable development strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of Mainstreaming and Indicators Adviser December 2009 • Effective partnering with EU IWRM Planning Programme at both In-country and Regional Levels
4.	Sustainable IWRM and WUE capacity development, and global SIDS learning and knowledge exchange approaches in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Project Manager participated in Inception Meeting - Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) Samoa June 27th – July 5th 2009 and is on the PACC Project Executive Group (PEG). • GEF Pacific IWRM Web page established www.pacific-iwrn.org Won award as most outstanding International Waters Project Website GEF/IWC5, Australia, 2009 • Participated at the GEF International Waters Conference Australia, 2009. Pacific IWRM booth manned and Pacific IWRM promotions video developed and copies provided to participants. • Development of project reporting formats for lessons learnt, community participation and stakeholder engagement documentation • On-going networking with potential resource organisations for community based IWRM [ADRA

		<p>(Adventist Development Relief Agency), FSPI (Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific), LLEE (Live and Learn Environmental Education), PIFS (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat)-Gender, SPC-Land Resources, USP Institute of Applied Sciences, Gender and Development Network (participation in annual meeting), WASH (Water and Sanitation and Hygiene) Pacific Coalition],</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation Program, Leadership Training Seminar on Improving Water Planning and Management 13 - 24 July 2009, Honolulu, Hawaii. Resulted in skill building for IWRM Planning, country roadmaps for implementation and Demonstration Project Inception
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Although progress made in moving forward the Planning programme, challenges still remain which are highlighted in Section 6 and 6.1 of the report.

Moreover the initial setbacks faced with staffing losses and responsibility of jointly coordinating the GEF IWRM Project has had an inverse impact on the original Planning Programme timelines. In light of this and in accordance of the recommendation made in the ROM review, with the submission of this 2nd Progress Report for the period July-December 2009, the following request is being put forward for consideration for which a formal request will follow this submission.

- A no-cost one year (12 month) extension to the Planning Programme original timeline in order to fully meet Programme objectives.