



South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

# Annual Report 2001



## SPREP MEMBER COUNTRIES

AMERICAN SAMOA  
AUSTRALIA  
COOK ISLANDS  
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA  
FIJI  
FRANCE  
FRENCH POLYNESIA  
GUAM  
KIRIBATI  
REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
NAURU  
NEW CALEDONIA  
NEW ZEALAND  
NIUE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
PALAU  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
PITCAIRN  
SAMOA  
SOLOMON ISLANDS  
TOKELAU  
TONGA  
TUVALU  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
VANUATU  
WALLIS AND FUTUNA

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## SPREP ANNUAL REPORT 2001

### ▼ Logo for WSSD and Cover artwork



The person in the image depicts the central link between "Oceans, Islands and People". The graphic is abstract giving the artwork a generic appeal to all persons since the solution to our environmental problems here in the Pacific involves not just the Pacific but everyone--globally.

The blue colour and curvature of the image signify three areas:

- a) the link between the water from the earth which connects directly to the sky (a depiction of the water cycle and dynamism that exists between the weather and natural phenomena to a large extent gave birth to the myths, legends, cultures and traditions unique to the Pacific);
- b) the sail representing the journeys, trials and tribulations of the Pacific in trying to, for example, combat the issues affecting their environment and livelihoods such as climate change, depleting natural resources, energy etc from the past with a view to the future. The sail also takes the form of a scroll which documents what main initiatives/actions taken by the Pacific in implementing the initiatives from each world summit; and
- c) the heavens which signifies the inextricable relationship of Pacific islanders with religion.

*The logo was designed by Samoan artist and poet, Mrs Momoe Malietoa von Reiche. The logo has now been incorporated into artwork to identify the Pacific's preparations to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), in 2002.*

COVER GRAPHICS BY  
MICHAEL VON REICHE JNR OF EHKO IDEAS





**2001 saw significant developments both at the regional and global levels that bode well for the joint efforts of the people of our region and our development partners for the sustainable management and utilisation of our natural resources.**

The year 2001 marked the first year of implementation of the new 2001–2004 Action Plan for the Protection of the Environment of the Pacific Islands Region. The new Corporate Plan to guide the operations of the SPREP Secretariat for the period 2001–2005 was approved by the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting. The number of ratifications of the Waigani Convention finally reached ten, the number required to enable the SPREP Secretariat as the Secretariat for the Convention to bring it into force.

Further, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-funded International Waters Programme (IWP) Team almost completed their first visits to the 14 Pacific island countries participating in the programme. This will pave the way for the programme to begin its country implementation phase in the new year.

The United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) has allocated significant funds for coral reef related activities for the Pacific islands through SPREP's coastal management programme. These funds, provided by the UN Foundation, will greatly increase SPREP's capacity to provide support to Pacific communities in their coastal management activities.

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) has also committed

funds amounting to approximately US\$2 million over the next three to four years to enable the Secretariat to commence implementation of the disposal phase of the POPs-in-PICs (Persistent Organic Pollutants in Pacific Island Countries) project. UNEP Chemicals has also expressed its willingness to contribute towards this phase of the project.

However, the end of the year also signified the completion of the term of the GEF/UNDP/AusAID-funded South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) as well as the completion of the top-up phase of the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) another of the GEF/UNDP-funded projects.

At the national level, the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga established a new and separate Office for the Environment. There have also been encouraging trends toward strengthening the capacity of environment units, divisions or offices in other countries through their respective national budgetary processes. As an example, some of the countries already have or will have their own climate change officers paid out of their national budgets.

Bilateral support from international inter-governmental and non-government agencies are increasing for many of the Pacific island nations. There have also been an increasing number of locally grown non-government organisations

**While gradual progress is being made in building the capacity of our Pacific islands to more effectively deal with environment issues, such progress still falls way behind the rate of environmental degradation that is so much in evidence around our region.**



either being established with an environment or sustainable development focus. As well, several existing organisations are focusing more of their efforts toward sustainable development.

Preparations by the Secretariat for the region's active involvement in the international preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in concert with other regional agencies under the umbrella of the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP), began to bear fruit towards the end of the year. A regional submission, put together by regional countries with the assistance of the CROP members, was completed as the region's (including Australia and New Zealand) initial submission into the UN process leading up to the WSSD to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in August/September 2002. It is expected that the outcomes of the WSSD will guide the international calendar for sustainable development over the next ten years. Significant financial support for the region's efforts in the WSSD process has been provided by Australia and New Zealand. Support has also been forthcoming from UNDP and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Another significant development at the global level was the approval of the Kyoto Protocol of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Whilst a huge shadow has been cast over this achievement by the negative attitude of the United States towards the Protocol, it nevertheless provides the first legal framework for concerted global efforts for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

The Kyoto Protocol scenario is perhaps indicative of developments within the region generally in relation to the environment and our joint efforts towards the sustainable management of our natural resources. While gradual progress is being made in building the capacity of our Pacific islands to more effectively deal with

environment issues, such progress still falls way behind the rate of environmental degradation that is so much in evidence around our region.

We could achieve much more with existing resources through a more concerted drive to integrate environmental considerations into our national planning and budgetary processes as well as in the implementation of infrastructure and other projects. Environment units, divisions, offices and departments could be accorded greater recognition as an essential component of the national development framework.

We could even put more effort and divert more resources into community education and empowerment activities. Such efforts should be extended to cover civil society as a whole including our private sector and media personnel. I believe that the success and sustainability of our joint efforts in the environment sector will only be realised through community empowerment.

For SPREP to strengthen its performance towards this end, we have been building up our own infrastructure in recent years. October 2001 completed the first full year that the SPREP Secretariat has occupied its new offices at the SPREP Centre in Vailima, Apia. Earlier in the year, construction of our Japan-funded Training and Education Centre and European Union-funded Information Resource Centre commenced. With the completion of these two buildings in 2002, the SPREP Secretariat will then be able to focus all of its resources and that of its donor partner agencies on its efforts to assist Pacific island governments and administrations in their efforts toward empowering their respective communities.

Tamari'i Tutangata  
**Director**

**WHAT IS SPREP?**

**The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is the intergovernmental organisation charged with promoting cooperation and supporting protection and improvement of the Pacific islands environment and ensuring its sustainable development.**

SPREP's Members are the Governments and Administrations of 21 Pacific island countries and four developed countries with direct interests in the Pacific islands region.

programme (UNEP), and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), together with Pacific regional organisations: the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (then known

as the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (formerly the South Pacific Commission), helped the momentum to snowball.

In March 1982, the Ministerial-level Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific, held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, led to a formalised agreement from which SPREP officially came into being as a programme hosted by the SPC in Noumea, New Caledonia.



SPREP's activities are guided by its Action Plan, which is approved by its Members. Their vision is: *People of the Pacific islands better able to plan, protect, manage and use their environment for sustainable development.*

### A SHORT HISTORY

SPREP's evolution as the environmental vanguard for the region was the result of the vision and foresight by a number of Pacific island governments together with a number of environmental groups around the world.

The initial call for a Pacific island environmental organisation first came in 1969 at a World Conservation Union Conference in Noumea, New Caledonia.

Over the next decade, international support from the United Nations Environment Pro-

In January 1992 the organisation moved from New Caledonia to Apia, Samoa. In August 1995, SPREP legally became an independent intergovernmental organisation when the *Agreement Establishing SPREP(1993)* came into force when Niue became the tenth member to ratify the agreement. In August 2000, the Secretariat relocated to its new and permanent headquarters at Vailima just outside the Samoan capital of Apia.

### SPREP's MANDATE

To promote cooperation and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve the Pacific islands environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations.

## KEY RESULT AREAS

Following consultations with SPREP Members, the following Key Result Areas (KRAs) were identified as critical to achieving sustainable development in the region. Nature Conservation focuses on the fundamental species and special areas of the region. Preventing pollution and the management of wastes is seen as critical to maintaining the health of the region's people and ecosystems. Climate Change and Variability will focus on strengthening the region's capacity to understand and respond to the continuum of weather from daily forecasts through seasonal variability and to long-term change. Economic development, reform regimes and key sectors such as Tourism, Trade and Planning require special attention if efforts addressing other KRAs are to be successful.

- KRA 1: Nature Conservation  
KRA 2: Pollution Prevention  
KRA 3: Climate Change and Variability  
KRA 4: Economic Development

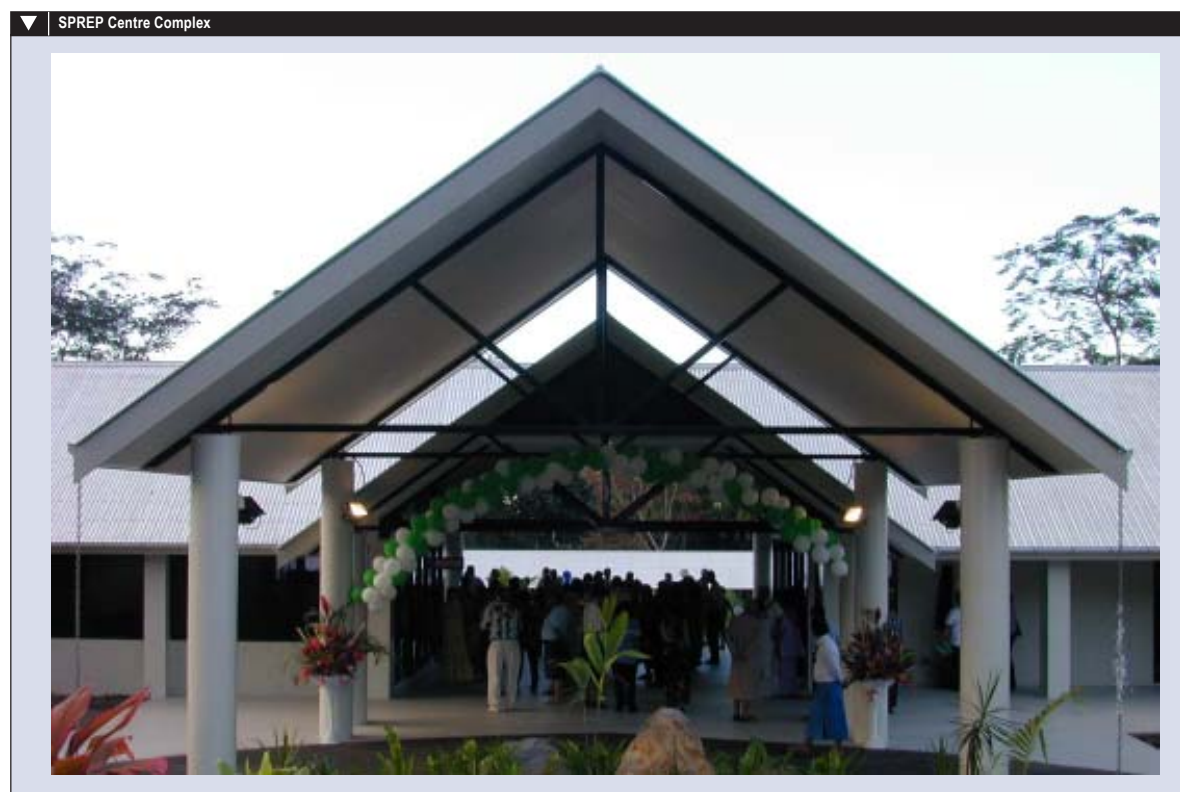
## SPREP'S APPROACH

SPREP recognises the interdependence of environmental issues both within the region and with other regions of the world.

- SPREP encourages cooperation with other organisations to assist Pacific island member countries and territories in developing

appropriate programmes, policies and information to solve common problems.

- SPREP actively participates in efforts to protect the global environment.
- SPREP works through governments, existing institutions and expertise in the region and in cooperation with appropriate regional and international bodies and mechanisms, to promote coordination and remove duplication of effort.
- SPREP aims to build national capacity in environmental management at all levels and in all sectors.
- SPREP promotes community involvement in cooperative natural resource management that strengthens local resource ownership rights and uses traditional practices that promote conservation and sustainable development.
- SPREP aims to improve the quality and flow of information, including the appropriate sharing of traditional knowledge, on which environmental decisions and policies are based.
- SPREP encourages the involvement of, and partnerships with, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the implementation of its activities.
- SPREP promotes the use of environmental education and training as primary capacity building tools across the range of its activities.







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KEY RESULT AREAS

**KRA1: Nature Conservation 8**

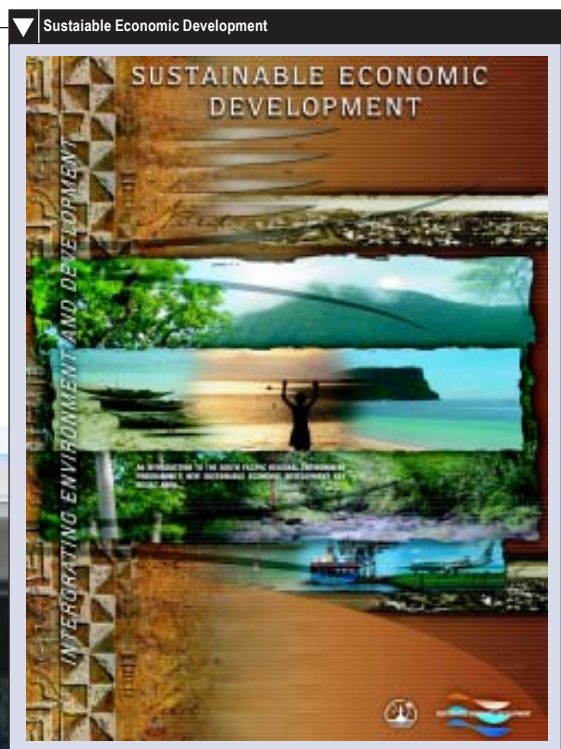
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**Within this Key Result Area, SPREP will focus in the 2001–2004 period on the following issues: Conservation Areas; Ecosystems Management; Species Protection; Biosafety, Access to Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights; and Traditional Resource Management.**

## INTRODUCTION

Threats to the region's biodiversity continue to increase. Rapid population growth, habitat destruction from logging, agriculture, over-harvesting of fish and wildlife resources, and invasive species have combined to put tremendous pressure on natural environments and species. New threats to the region's biodiversity are the destructive live reef-fish harvesting practices and illegal bio-prospecting.

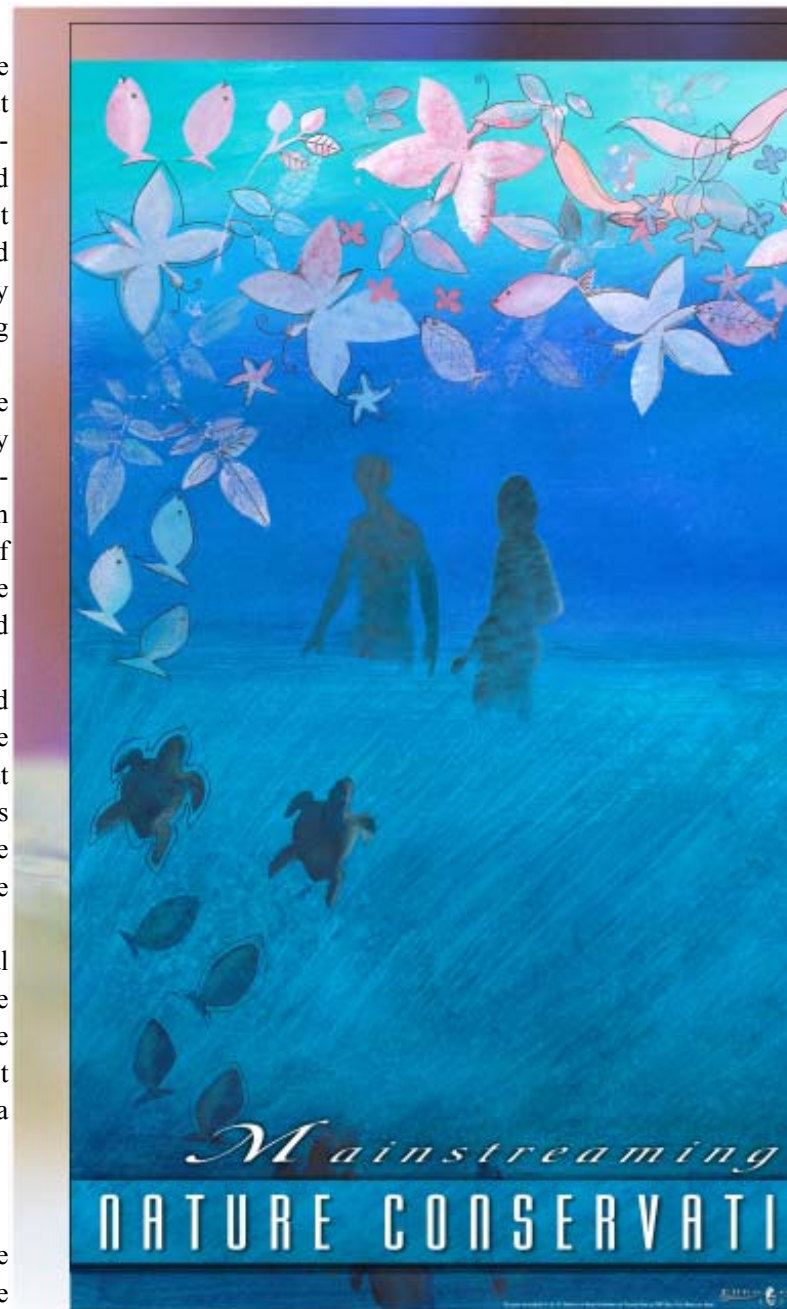
Trends in resource overexploitation are driven by a complex combination of many factors, including overpopulation, high development expectations, dependence on foreign exchange and export revenue, and a system of political and economic values that see the environment as external to social and development concerns.

Today, things are changing. Pacific island leaders recognise that implementing sustainable development is a task of immense proportion, but commitment is growing at all levels. There is some urgency to slow the rapid rate of resource extraction and reduce environmental damage occurring everywhere in the region.

There is still time to invest in environmental protection and sustainable development. The challenge of the next four years is to apply the successful approaches and lessons from the past to conservation and development decisions on a larger scale.

## OBJECTIVE

Effective protection of the natural heritage of the Pacific islands region through the conservation and sustainable management of their natural resources and biodiversity.



7th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Rarotonga, Cook Islands  
Your chance to register. For more information or a registration form contact the Conference Coordinator on  
phone 685 21928 Email: [sprep@sprep.org.ws](mailto:sprep@sprep.org.ws) Website: [www.pacificbiodiv.org/conference](http://www.pacificbiodiv.org/conference)





## ▼ IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

### ▼ COOK ISLANDS

South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) continued to provide technical, and financial support of US\$20,000 to the Takitumu Conservation Area.

In support of a Whale Sanctuary in the South Pacific, the Cook Islands government declared its two million square kilometre EEZ a legal sanctuary to all whales. The whale sanctuary within the Cook Islands EEZ not only offers protection to all whales, it also provides opportunities for non-lethal scientific research and collaboration, education and awareness initiatives. New Zealand and Australia have similar status for their EEZs through domestic initiatives.

### ▼ FIJI

Financial assistance of US\$25,000 and technical assistance was provided to the Koroyanitu Conservation Area (CA) project.

The Koroyanitu Conservation Area project was a co-winner with Utwa-Walung of the SPBCP Conservation Area Award for 2001.

Coordinated a workshop on *Whales and Whale Sanctuaries* with support from the World Wide Fund for Nature-South Pacific Program (WWF-SPP). The workshop advised stakeholders on the type of country support and commitment needed to have a whale sanctuary, the need for whale protection, and defined what this meant to government resources, in terms of setting up mechanisms to enable such an initiative.

### ▼ FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

The Utwa-Walung Conservation Area is the first under the SPBCP to become solar powered. One of 17 Conservation Areas in the region set-up by the SPBCP, the Utwa-Walung system consists of 18 solar panels and 32 non-maintenance batteries. Backing and technical support for the energy system was given by the Packard Foundation, Peace Corps, JICA volunteers, the US Army, and Kosrae's Utility Authority.

#### ▼ Solar Power for the Utwa-Walung Conservation Area



The Utwa-Walung Conservation Area is a section of rare and brilliant mangrove forests, swamps and channels on the southern part of the island of Kosrae.



Madison Nena

Although the Utwa-Walung Conservation Area's Visitors Center dedicated 18 solar panels, and 32 maintenance-free batteries, much of the credit goes to

Madison Nena, whose hard work, vision and diligence has brought a conservation-mindedness and environmental awareness to the communities of Kosrae.

The Utwa-Walung Conservation Area project was a co-winner for the SPBCP Conservation Area Award for 2001.

Technical, and financial support of US\$45,000 was made to the Pohnpei Watershed CA (Pohnpei) and the Utwa-Walung CA (Kosrae) this year.





## NATURE CONSERVATION

## ▼ IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

The Programme also funded a feasibility study for sustainable aquaculture in Utwa-Walung in April 2001.

Financial assistance was provided to the Kosrae Coastal Advisory Committee to develop waste awareness material and cover meeting expenses. Funding was provided by the Canada South Pacific Oceans Development (C-SPOD II) program.

SPREP's Action Strategy Coordinator participated as a resource person in FSM's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) workshop. He made presentations on regional issues in: biodiversity conservation; SPREP projects in nature conservation; and the Cartagena Biosafety Protocol. He also provided technical advice to the Terrestrial Biodiversity Working Group with the aim of providing support to Pacific island countries in developing their Action Plans. This group is co-coordinated by the WWF-SPP and SPREP.

## ▼ FRENCH POLYNESIA

Advice was provided on predator control at the *flycatcher* recovery sites.

## ▼ Flycatcher or Kakerori

Bird recovery plans have been developed for the Polynesian, Micronesian and Melanesian sub-regions with the assistance of experts in the field.

While understanding of the status of some threatened and endangered species have increased, knowledge of the status of the most severely endangered species is still patchy and it is feared that some of these species could well disappear before the extent of their predicament is fully realised.



photo by Greg Stenley (SPREP)

## ▼ KIRIBATI

SPBCP continued to provide technical, and financial support of US\$22,000 to the North Tarawa CA.

SPREP's Avifauna Programme provided funding of US\$75,000 over three years for the bird-monitoring programme in Kiritimati (Christmas) Island.

Staff of Kiritimati's (Christmas Island) Wildlife Conservation Unit were provided training to help control and monitor feral cats and rats preying on the 18 species of seabirds inhabiting the island. The project was made possible through funding from SPBCP and New Zealand Official Development Assistance (NZODA).

## ▼ MARSHALL ISLANDS

Financial support of US\$35,000 was provided to the Jaluit Marine Conservation Area project, together with technical support. A further US\$5,000 was given for a marine resource survey, while US\$6,000 was used for an ecotourism feasibility study.

▼ NIUE

Financial assistance of US\$20,000 was allocated for the Huvalu CA's Conservation Area Support Officer's (CASO) salary.

A transition strategy for the Huvalu CA was completed and submitted for consideration by the Niue communities and government.

On a request from Niue, SPREP assessed the bird and invasive species issues; and discussed Niue's participation in testing the new invasive species training module.

▼ PALAU

Financial assistance of US\$28,000 was made in support of the CASO for the Ngaremeduu CA, and US\$22,000 for the Rock Islands CA.

An Ecotourism Management Plan for Ngaremeduu CA was developed.

▼ Palau's Rock Islands

The Rock Islands, also known as the *Southern Lagoon Area*, is one of the best diving spots in the world. However, with increasing tourist numbers the State of Peleliu has established its very own Marine Law Enforcement Division, which will increase protection in the busy *Southern Lagoon Area*.

The presence of marine law enforcement will help Peleliu State implement further conservation efforts in order to minimise the strains on its natural resources.



photos by Jim King



▼ PAPUA NEW GUINEA

SPREP's Marine Species Officer joined US scientists in Lae, to carry out turtle research. The team participated in a research project with local communities on nesting leatherback turtles. The aim was to collect blood samples and attach satellite transmitters to turtles to track their migration routes via satellite. The blood samples were used to identify the stock origin of the leatherbacks, whether they were from PNG waters or other places including the Solomon Islands. SPREP assisted in organising and coordinating the research while the US provided the scientists, research material and technical expertise.

Leatherback turtles in the Pacific are critically endangered and may be on the brink of extinction. Throughout the SPREP region, Leatherback turtles are known to nest only in the beaches in PNG and the Solomon Islands. With the threat of disease, assessing the health status of the Pacific leatherbacks is

critical. SPREP's Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme (RMTCP) provided assistance in running a Turtle Health Assessment Workshop for PNG and the Solomon Islands in Port Moresby, providing technical training to 20 officers from NGOs and government. Funding was provided through SPREP by the US National Fisheries and Marine Resources.

▼ Leatherback Turtle Conservation: Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea



Training for local field assistants from Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea covered basic leatherback turtle biology, proper methods of applying titanium tags to turtle flippers, and turtle data recording that met SPREP's turtle database requirements.

**NATURE CONSERVATION****▼ IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES****▼ SAMOA**

Financial assistance of US\$6,000 and US\$7,000 was provided in support of the CASOs for the Saanapu/Sataoa Conservation Area and the Uafato Conservation Area.

Funding assistance of US\$5,000 was provided for the Uafato Conservation Area bee-keeping project, while US\$7,500 was allocated for ecotourism development in Saanapu/Sataoa. The Saanapu-Sataoa project also benefited from funding of US\$20,000 provided by the Keidanren NGO in Japan for the construction of its ecotourism boardwalks.

Training for Conservation Area Support Officers from the SPBCP in wildlife management techniques – especially bird monitoring, area planning and technical reporting – was provided throughout the year by SPREP's Avifauna Conservation and Invasive Species Officer.

The first phase of a demonstration eradication project (field testing methods and monitoring of species to be protected or eradicated) started on the Aleipata group of islands. The work was undertaken by the local community under the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Marine Area programme with technical assistance from New Zealand's Department of Conservation (DOC). Financial support was provided by AusAID and the SPBCP.

**▼ SOLOMON ISLANDS**

Although SPBCP support to the Komarindi CA were suspended in 1999, some assistance was provided to enable the former CASO for this project to attend the Pacific Islands Community Conservation Course (PICCC) in Fiji and the Inspiring Stories Workshop in Samoa.

Financial assistance of US\$28,000 was made in support of the CASO for the Arnavon CA, and for other key activities of the project.

SPREP's Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme provided funding assistance for the participation of Solomon Island delegates to the Turtle Health Assessment Workshop held in Port Moresby.

**▼ TONGA**

The SPBCP continued to fund the US\$20,000 salary of the CASO for the Haapai Conservation Area project.

Funded the development and installation of interpretation signs for the Haapai CA project.

**▼ TUVALU**

Funding of US\$18,000 was allocated for the salary of the CASO.

Approximately US\$35,000 was also provided from NZODA for the purchase of a new motorboat for the use of CA staff.

**▼ VANUATU**

The SPBCP continued to provide US\$20,000 funding in support of the CASO salary and to meet other CA management costs. The CASO benefited from attending a number of workshops organised by the Programme including the Biodiversity Terrestrial Indicators workshop, the Inspiring Stories workshop and the Multipartite Review of the SPBCP.



### BIRD CONSERVATION PRIORITIES AND STRATEGY

The Bird Conservation Priorities and Regional Avifauna Conservation Strategy were developed following technical reviews involving three regional workshops of technical experts and country representatives. The Strategy was endorsed for implementation by SPREP members at the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting in Samoa, 2001. The Avifauna Conservation Strategy complements the Regional Invasive Species Strategy, which was endorsed by the 11<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting in Guam, 2000.

### INVASIVE SPECIES TRAINING MODULE

In development is an in-country invasive species training module for border control officers. The module is aimed at increasing the capacity of countries to prevent the establishment of new invasive species. The module will be tested in three Pacific countries beginning with Niue. Funding for this training phase was provided jointly by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the New Zealand Pacific Initiative for the Environment (NZPIE). The USFWS has also granted an additional US\$100,000 dollars for the implementation phase of the training project.

### COMMUNITY-BASED MARINE ECOTOURISM WORKSHOP FOR MELANESIA

Held in Yap State, FSM, the workshop focused on identifying the skills and knowledge needed by communities to plan and develop their own marine ecotourism projects. Focus was concentrated on community development and conservation principles. Participants from the Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Yap), Palau, Guam, Marshall Islands, and Nauru took part.

### STATUS OF THE MARINE ORNAMENTALS INDUSTRY

A regional workshop on the status of the Marine Ornamentals industry was held in Fiji. A multi-million dollar Pacific industry with export markets to the US and Europe, the workshop focused on resource management, collection, shipment and sale of marine aquarium species. It also looked at ways to: sustainably manage these resources; protect marine ornamentals from exploitation; and comply with obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

### CARTAGENA BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL IN THE PACIFIC

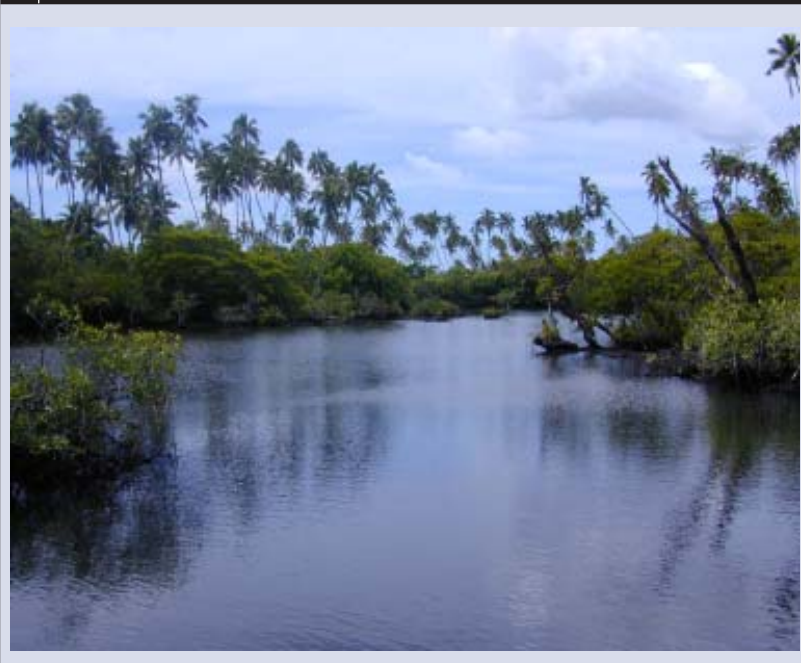
A regional workshop focusing primarily on the Cartagena Biosafety Protocol and its significance for the region, was held in Samoa and attended by representatives of 12 Pacific island countries and territories. The Protocol regulates the transboundary movement of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) between countries, and sets minimum standards regarding their movement. With national and regional regulations almost non-existent, the Protocol is viewed as a reference point in proposing national frameworks for biosafety regulations in the future. The workshop was a collaborative effort by SPREP, SPC, Commonwealth Secretariat, and Foundation of International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD).

Women of Yap State—Weaving Skills





Mangroves in the Saanapu/Sataoa Conservation Area



## 7<sup>TH</sup> PACIFIC ISLANDS CONFERENCE ON NATURE CONSERVATION

The Government of the Cook Islands announced that it will host this conference in July 2002. Held every four years this series of Conferences is the pre-eminent event region-wide in nature conservation. The theme for the 2002 event is “Mainstreaming Nature Conservation” in which the Conference hopes to attract not only the converted, but the unconverted as well. Nature conservation, whilst essential to the achievement of sustainable development in the region, is still perceived as peripheral to economic development planning and decision-making.

The importance of bringing together trade specialists, economists, development planners, tourism operators and others in the more mainstreamed sectors of economic development is crucial to define and bring nature conservation priorities and agenda over the next four years into the mainstream.

### MANGROVE CONSERVATION

The consensus reached by delegates during a workshop in Fiji on the conservation of mangrove wetlands is that balance is needed to avoid needless destruction of wetlands in the face of growing market driven economies. The impact on traditional communities is now being felt, particularly in the Western Pacific where there is high cultural and economic dependence on mangroves. More needs to be done to encourage communities to manage their resources, and find a balance between economic development and environmental protection.

### MARINE MAMMAL CONSERVATION

Prior to the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting in London, 15 SPREP members endorsed the Apia Statement, to establish a South Pacific Whale Sanctuary. Although the proposal for a South Pacific Whale sanctuary was again unsuccessful at the IWC meeting, there was renewed support for the

## SIXTH PACIFIC ISLANDS ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON NATURE CONSERVATION

Launched in 1998 by SPREP with the assistance of The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the Roundtable mandate is to: increase effective conservation action in the Pacific islands.

One of the primary goals of the Sixth Roundtable was to prepare for the Seventh Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. A four-yearly event, the Pacific Islands Conference brings together the widest representation of stakeholders in Pacific island nature conservation, in and outside of the region.

Participants at the roundtable emphasised the importance of inviting national stakeholders from all sectors of Pacific island countries to strengthen the conference’s mainstreaming objectives, and recommended the involvement of national representatives in the remaining planning stages.

Another important point discussed for action by the roundtable is the overriding consensus that mainstreaming nature conservation is the next biggest hurdle to overcome for nature conservation.

Sanctuary at the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting. Not long after the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting, the Cook Islands declared its two million square kilometre EEZ a legal whale sanctuary to all whales (also see Cook Islands national activity for more details).

## SOUTH PACIFIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME (SPBCP)

As 2001 was the final year of the SPBCP programme, support for its activities during this period focused primarily on providing technical and financial assistance considered necessary to achieve a smooth transition from SPREP funding for the 17 Conservation Area projects. Support for Conservation Area Support Officers (CASOs) and Conservation Area Coordinating Committees (CACCs) were considered key priorities in this final period.

## PACIFIC ISLANDS COMMUNITY CONSERVATION COURSE

This course, a joint initiative between SPREP, USP and the International Centre for Protected Landscapes (ICPL) aimed to enhance the skills and knowledge of participants (mainly protected area practitioners) in order to build their confidence and expertise in supporting and managing community-based conservation areas. The course was run in three phases. Phase one involved four weeks of studies and practical

training at USP; phase two was a field project at participants' home countries; and phase three was the return to USP for two weeks of lecturing and final assessment.


## BIODIVERSITY TERRESTRIAL INDICATORS WORKSHOP

Conservation Area Support Officers were trained in Apia on the use of terrestrial indicators. Indicators are the things to be measured over a period of time to detect change, whether they be positive or negative. A reduction in the area of forest is an indication that efforts to protect the area have not been very successful. On the other hand, an increase in bird population and species composition is an indication of the success of measures being taken to protect these animals.

The Apia training covered basic concepts related to monitoring design and rationale, organising and training community volunteers, and collection of monitoring data. Data entry into computer databases for analysis and use by local communities and managers was also covered.

Successful test trials were carried out at the Uafato Conservation Area, noting that indicators will vary from area to area depending on the objective(s) of the conservation area. In the case of Uafato, indicators are grouped into Biodiversity; Natural Resources; and Social, Economic and Cultural. The indicators under

**South Pacific Whale Sanctuary**

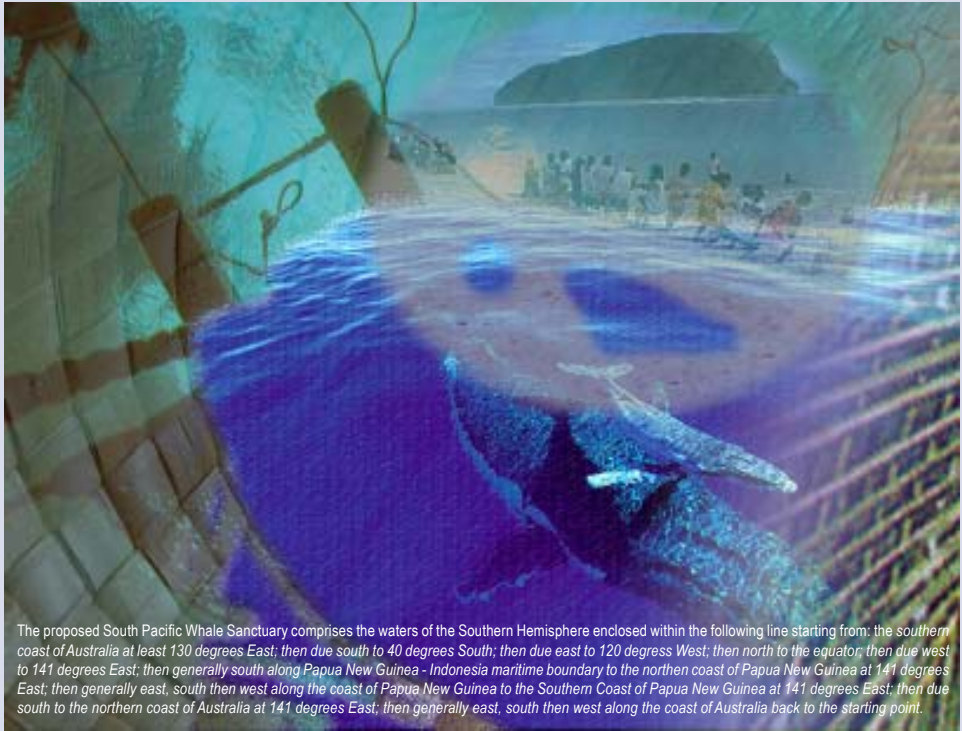


The Hon. Patrick Mackenzie of the Federated States of Micronesia applauded the decision by the Cook Islands to declare their two million square kilometres Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) a legal sanctuary to all whales.

The Cook Islands decision coming straight after the call from the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting in Apia to renew the Pacific's support to the South Pacific Whale Sanctuary is certainly one "...that I hope will act as a catalyst that will see other Pacific island countries and territories do the same.

"In a world that is increasingly degraded, polluted and where economic development usually takes precedence over the environment, the Cook Islands decision is not only a significant and courageous one, it is a reaffirmation of our sacred responsibility as custodians to all living things in creation," says Mackenzie.

As Chair for SPREP's 25 members, Mr Mackenzie also sees this action as one that will further marine conservation work in the Pacific. He is hopeful that such positive commitment and action will see increased financial support from donor agencies and developed countries to advance not only the conservation activities but also conservation activities with income-generating opportunities.



The proposed South Pacific Whale Sanctuary comprises the waters of the Southern Hemisphere enclosed within the following line starting from: the southern coast of Australia at least 130 degrees East; then due south to 40 degrees South; then due east to 120 degrees West; then north to the equator; then due west to 141 degrees East; then generally south along Papua New Guinea - Indonesia maritime boundary to the northern coast of Papua New Guinea at 141 degrees East; then generally east, south then west along the coast of Papua New Guinea to the Southern Coast of Papua New Guinea at 141 degrees East; then due south to the northern coast of Australia at 141 degrees East; then generally east, south then west along the coast of Australia back to the starting point.





REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

each grouping include, *Biodiversity Indicators*: area of forest ecosystem types, bird populations and species composition, extent of weed invasion; *Natural Resource Indicators*: number of carvers resident in the village; number of *ifilele* trees cut in various DBH (diameter at breast height) classes; catch of fish and shellfish by species; and *Social, Economic, Cultural Indicators*: population size and structure; number of village cooperatives established as a result of the project, number of people trained for business and resource management. CASOs from the Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Niue, Palau, Samoa and Vanuatu attended.

INSPIRING STORIES WORKSHOP

This workshop was held on Savaii island, in Samoa, as part of the process to document lessons learned from the SPBCP and CA projects during the entire life of the Programme. CASOs from all 17 CAs supported by the SPBCP participated and shared their “stories from the field” with each other. This workshop also contributed to the final evaluation of the SPBCP carried out by a team of consultants from July to November 2001.



LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE SPBCP

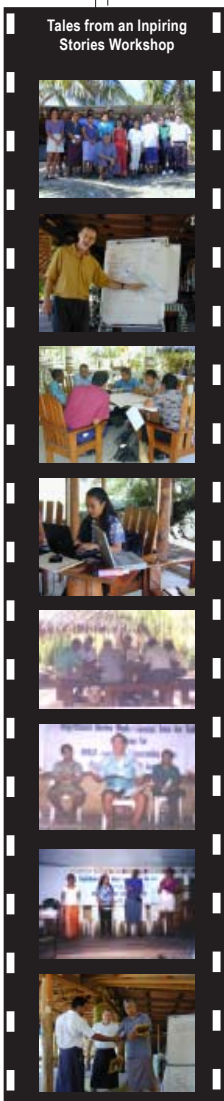
Efforts have been underway to document and publicise the “lessons learned” from the SPBCP and CAs in the last 10 years. The first part of this two-part publication is expected to be complete by mid-2002. Part two of the publication is expected to start in mid-2002. The publication is intended to capture the key lessons learned from the experience of the SPBCP so that others can learn from the successes and failures of the Programme.

SPBCP CONSERVATION AWARD

At the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting, three countries were recognised for their conservation efforts over the past years. The SPBCP conservation awards for 2001 were presented to the Koroyanitu CA in Fiji; and the Utwa-Walung CA in FSM. The award is an incentive to encourage progress, excellence and commitment in nature conservation work for the CAs of the SPBCP.

FINAL MULTIPARTITE REVIEW (MPR) OF THE SPBCP

The final MPR was held in Samoa. Participants from the 14 participating countries of the SPBCP took part together with representatives from UNDP, Global Environment Facility, AusAID, and SPREP. In addition to the Terminal Report of the Programme Manager, the MPR also focused on the draft report of the Evaluation team. Recommendations from the MPR are contained in the report of the meeting now available from UNDP.



## THE INTERNATIONAL WATERS PROGRAMME (IWP)

The IWP gradually built momentum throughout the year. In early 2001 the implementing agency, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) accepted the Inception Report for the IWP and the Regional Task Force convened for the first time in Samoa. The Task Force includes officials from participating governments, Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) agencies, NGOs and international agencies actively engaged in community-based sustainable resource use and conservation initiatives in the Pacific islands region.

Staff of the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) completed their first lot of country visits, to 13 of the 14 participating countries, to initiate discussions for the establishment of national activities. To assist with this, the first version of guidelines for the implementation of pilot projects supported under the IWP was circulated. The PCU also produced a Communications Strategy

that focuses on education and awareness raising tools.

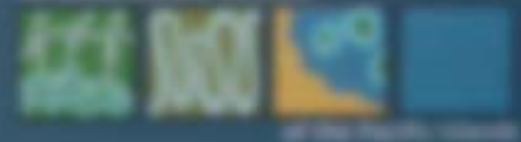
Comprehensive reviews of available information for each of the four principal areas of interest to the IWP (waste, coastal fisheries, marine protected areas, and freshwater) were completed. These reviews were supplemented by two additional synopses of information concerning economic considerations in community-based sustainable resource use and conservation projects. Also compiled were information on best practice, and lessons learned from similar projects implemented by other agencies and programmes in the region.

At year's end, eight of the 14 participating countries in the IWP had formally signed MOUs with SPREP (Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Niue, Palau, Samoa, and Tonga). Of these, four have appointed National Coordinators (Marshall Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tonga).

### International Waters Activities



CALENDAR 2002







**Within this KRA, SPREP will focus in the 2001–2004 period on the following issues: Marine Pollution; Hazardous Waste Pollution; and Solid Waste, Sewage and other Land-based Sources of Pollution**

### INTRODUCTION

Pollution is one of the major threats to sustainable development in the Pacific islands region. The transboundary nature of much marine pollution requires a coordinated and comprehensive approach to both assessment and control. Without adequate measures to combat the growing sources and extent of pollution, the Pacific islands' efforts to maintain healthy societies, to stimulate development and new investment and a sustainable future for their people may be permanently undermined.

Increasing quantities of solid waste, the lack of controls on chemicals imported into the region and the lack of capacity to manage the range of pollutants are of immediate concern for Pacific

island members. In addition to land based activities, the region's coastal and marine resources are threatened by introduced marine species, ship wrecks, marine accidents and spills (e.g. oil, chemicals and other hazardous and nuclear materials), ships' waste (e.g. oil, sewage, chemicals and garbage), and antifouling paints on vessels.

### OBJECTIVE

To increase the capability of SPREP members to manage and respond to marine pollution, hazardous waste, solid waste, sewage and other land-based sources of pollution and to meet the requirements of relevant international and regional legal instruments.

#### ▼ Tokelau and Waste Management

Solid waste management issues in Tokelau are similar to its other Pacific island neighbours but with some differences as well. The major disposal items in Tokelau are imported packaging, building material, old machinery and domestic appliances. Land dumping is the most common method for disposal but is limited by the nature of the atoll environment. The only recycling currently practiced is the returning of empty beer bottles back to Apia, where the manufacturer is located.

The major differences compared to other Pacific island countries are the very low level of organics in the waste stream (all food scraps are fed to the pigs), and a lower proportion of packaging wastes (local supplies are still the major source of food).

Inspection of the public areas of all the villages revealed they were kept clean and tidy. Also in place is an organised rubbish collection system. However, there is still quite a lot of backyard dumping, which often means the beach, and disposal at the dump sites is erratic and poorly controlled.





## ▼ IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

### ▼ COOK ISLANDS

SPREP also assisted with the development of the Cook Islands National Marine Spill Contingency Plan (NATPLAN) which provides a framework for the Cook Islands to develop its national capabilities and capacity to respond to marine oil spills.

### ▼ FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

On a request from the President of FSM, SPREP conducted an environmental impact study of an oil leak from the submerged wreck of a World War II US oil tanker. Carried out by SPREP's Marine Pollution Adviser, the study focused on the conservation of the marine environment of Uliithi lagoon, and the impact the leak is having on the surrounding natural resources. The emergency highlighted the emerging issue in these cases as to who is responsible and who should underwrite the costs of other similar pollution incidents in the future. A paper on the issue is being prepared by SPREP for discussion at the 13<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting in the Marshall Islands, in 2002.

### ▼ MARSHALL ISLANDS

A workshop on the management of solid and hazardous wastes was held in Majuro. This workshop aims to assist the Marshall Islands Environment Protection Authority work towards a national strategy for future waste management.



### ▼ SAMOA

A Letter of Agreement exchanged between Samoa's Department of Environment and Conservation, JICA and SPREP, signalled the commencement of work on the first phase of rehabilitation of the Tafaigata Landfill. This includes site investigation and plans to upgrade the existing landfill to a sanitary landfill. Exploratory borings and a site topography survey were also conducted.

### ▼ TOKELAU

A waste management strategy for Tokelau was developed. Preliminary discussions with local elders and Tokelau officials on possible future activities in the area of waste management were also discussed.

### ▼ TONGA

Through SPREP's PACPOL programme, Tonga received technical assistance to implement marine pollution legislation, and advice on how to adopt and regulate International Marine Conventions.

### ▼ VANUATU

The JICA/SPREP solid waste expert made initial technical reviews of the landfills in Port Vila and Luganville during a country visit. Proposals for improvement to the landfills will be developed during the regional municipal solid waste workshop to be held in March 2002 at SPREP's Training and Education Centre.



## NATIONAL MARINE POLLUTION PLANS

SPREP provided technical assistance to its membership in the development of draft National Marine Pollution Plans and legislation. The aim is to have a uniform approach towards marine spill emergencies in the region. Workshops were held in Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

## SHIPS' WASTE RECEPTION FACILITIES

A review of waste reception facilities for ships in Pacific ports was completed by SPREP's PACPOL programme. The review is a response to Pacific island countries' concern on the practical difficulties in meeting their obligations under the *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (1973) as amended by the protocol of 1978 (MARPOL 73/78)*. The findings will be compiled into a CD manual together with recommended strategies for improvements.

## CHEMICAL CONVENTIONS MADE SIMPLE

A workshop organised by SPREP to brief its Pacific island members on the advantages of

signing onto the four major chemical conventions: Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs); Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC); Basel; and Waigani Conventions was held in Australia with funding assistance from Environment Australia, UNEP and NZODA. The key outcome came six months later when Tuvalu became the 10<sup>th</sup> SPREP member to ratify the Waigani Convention thus bringing the convention into force. The momentum has not ended there, three more SPREP members are on the verge of ratifying, and there is an expectation that all Pacific island countries will ratify by the end of 2002.

Much the same is happening with the Stockholm Convention with six PICs signed to date and indications from all of the other PICs that they are going to do so.

## WAIGANI CONVENTION—NOW IN FORCE

The Waigani Convention on Chemicals and Hazardous Wastes was ratified when Tuvalu became the tenth country to ratify the convention in October 2001, thereby bringing the Convention into force. The Convention targets the movement

**Waigani Convention**

**Full Title:** *Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Waste and to Control the Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Waste within the South Pacific Region.*

Under the umbrella of the Basel Convention, in particular within the framework of its Article 11, the Waigani Convention was adopted on **16 September 1995** in Waigani, Papua New Guinea, in response to the need to cover specific issues of relevance to Pacific Islands Countries.

**Overall Goal**

The Waigani Convention provides an **effective mechanism for controlling the transboundary movement** of hazardous wastes to protect human health and the environment against the potential adverse effects from the generation, storage, treatment, recycling and reuse, transport, recovery, and disposal of these wastes. *(Therefore, it also addresses the need to strengthen the capacity of the Pacific Island Developing Countries to adequately manage the hazardous waste that they themselves generate.)*

**Specific Objectives**

- To prohibit the importation of hazardous wastes and radioactive wastes into Pacific Island Developing Parties;
- To reduce the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes to a minimum consistent with their environmentally sound management;
- To treat and dispose hazardous wastes as close as possible to their source of generation in an environmentally sound way; and
- To minimize the generation of hazardous wastes (quantity-potential hazard).



of transboundary wastes and hazardous materials within the region and prohibits their importation. Tuvalu joins Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands. SPREP is the Secretariat for the Convention.

### **STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON POPs**

Government representatives from 14 Pacific island countries met in Apia, to discuss National Implementation Plans (NIPs) for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). A detailed briefing and analysis of the Convention and its impacts was provided. Fiji, FSM, Papua New Guinea and Samoa became signatories to the Convention in 2001, and all have successfully accessed Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding for developing their National Implementation Plans under the Convention. The workshop was sponsored by the Canadian government and organised jointly by SPREP and UNEP.

### **MANAGING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND CONTAMINATED SITES**

Training courses on the management of hazardous materials, wastes and contaminated sites were completed in 14 Pacific island countries. The workshops are part of the training component of the POPs in PICs project. Starting in late 2001, the final phase of the project will involve the clean-up and safe disposal of all hazardous chemical stockpiles from the 13 Pacific

island countries over a three to four year period. The project is funded by AusAID.

### **SPREP AND JICA JOIN FORCES ON WASTE LANDFILLS**

A JICA expert on managing solid waste landfills was appointed to SPREP in December 2000. He leads a JICA regional programme on solid waste management. The programme includes an annual training course, development of regional guidelines for landfill management, and demonstration projects on landfill improvement and waste management initiatives. The first regional workshop was held in Okinawa, Japan and was attended by representatives from the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

### **ASSESSING PERSISTENT TOXIC SUBSTANCES (PTS)**

SPREP's Waste Management and Pollution Prevention Coordinator was appointed the Pacific coordinator of a GEF project aimed at providing a regionally-based assessment of Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS). The project began mid-year and involves the collection and analysis of PTS data from around the region. The data will be summarised into a Regional Report which will be discussed and finalised at a regional priority meeting in 2002. The Regional Report will then be submitted to UNEP as part of a broader Global Review, intended to identify future priorities for international action in the management of PTS chemicals.







**Within this KRA SPREP will focus in the 2001–2004 period on the following issues: Strengthened Meteorological Services; Understanding Climate Change and Variability; Sea Level Rise; Impacts and Vulnerability; Adaptation and Mitigation; and Policy Development on Climate Change.**

## INTRODUCTION

Pacific island members have long been concerned about the serious impacts of weather patterns and events and short-term climate variability (e.g. El Niño phenomenon). Since 1988, there has been further concern about long-term climate change and sea level rise. It is clear that they are extremely vulnerable to climate variability, climate change and sea-level rise and will be among the first to suffer the impacts of climate change and among the first to be forced to adapt or abandon or relocate from their environment. Given their vulnerability, the

Pacific islands need to improve their understanding of, and strengthen their capacity to respond to climate change, climate variability and sea level rise. Pacific island members have a substantial interest in global efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS).

## OBJECTIVE

To improve the Pacific island members' understanding of, and strengthen their capacity to respond to climate change, climate variability and sea-level rise.

▼ Pacific Islands and Climate Change—CD-ROM

It has always been clear that small island states would be among the first to suffer the impacts of climate change, and the first to be forced to adapt.

In 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit, held under the auspices of the United Nations, 165 independent states gathered to consider global actions that would lead to the sustainable development of the global environment. Two legally binding treaties were signed by many states, each reflecting a major global concern: the world's atmosphere and climate system and the world's biological diversity. Both, if depleted and degraded, would threaten the future of human life on Earth.

During the past decade of the old millennium, while the scientific debate about global warming remained inconclusive, the Pacific took action on a range of fronts. In international fora, Pacific island countries were prominent in calling for substantial greenhouse gas emission reductions, and for practical and urgent measures to assist the most vulnerable countries in coping with the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise. Therefore, the positive global framework agreed to in Bonn in mid-2001; and the detailed rulebook governing the complex treaty in Marrakech 2001 to enable ratification of the Kyoto Protocol is a positive result to the Pacific call for action which we all hope will take us from climate change to climate stability.

With the imminent adoption of the Kyoto Protocol, it is timely for Pacific island countries to present a CD-ROM containing products and their activities on the issue of climate change. The CD outlines their knowledge, the reality of their concerns, their needs and linkages to other environmental issues and concerns.

Apart from the physical products and efforts, the CD also represents the

Pacific's determination to do what it can to help itself, even before the international community reaches agreement on how it should help the most vulnerable countries to adapt to climate and sea-level changes.

SPREP, with the assistance of a wide range of development partners including the Global Environment

Facility, the United Nations Development Programme, Australia, New Zealand and Denmark, supported Pacific island countries in this initiative, helping them to gain skills and expertise so that they could do the necessary research into specifically how climate change and sea-level rise might affect each country, and what adaptations might need to be considered in future.





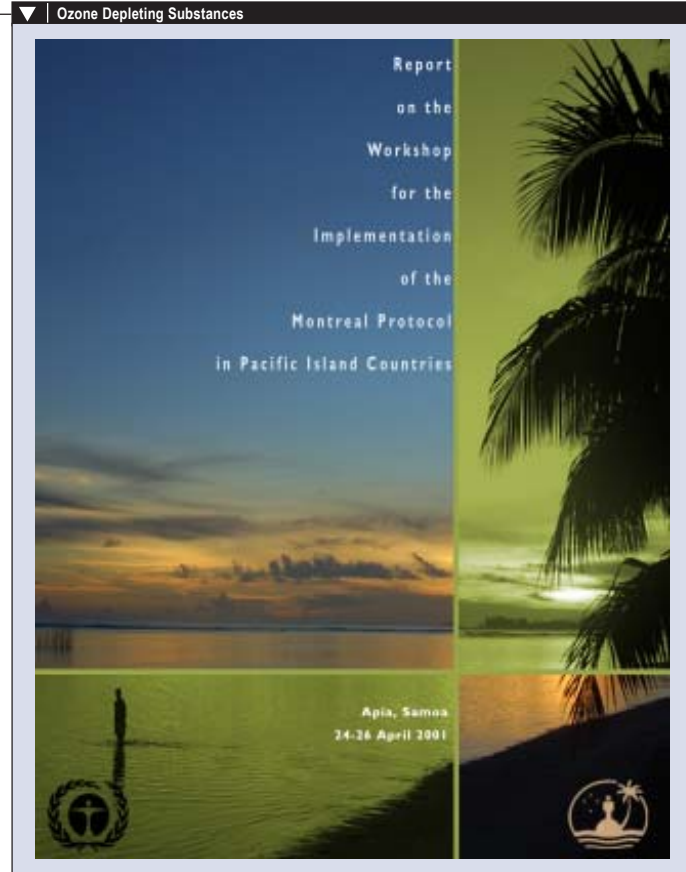
## PHASING-OUT OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES

Aiming to control and phase-out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs) such as Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), nine Pacific island countries met in Apia to review their compliance with the Montreal Protocol; and to develop National Compliance Action Plans to ensure the ODS phase-out goes to plan quickly with minimal economic impact. The Montreal Protocol calls for CFCs to be eventually phased out by 2010 and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) by 2040 for developing countries. In return, financial and technical assistance from UNEP, the Ozone Secretariat and SPREP is being made available, along with project backing from Australia and New Zealand. The Montreal Protocol has been signed by the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Ministerial level talks, were held in Fiji to discuss a Pacific position on Climate Change prior to the Conference of the Parties (COP 6) regarding the Kyoto Protocol. Twelve Environment Ministers endorsed a Ministerial Declaration supporting the Protocol as well as a long-term programmatic approach to building capacity for climate change and climate variability across the region.

An international consensus over the Kyoto Protocol was reached in Bonn, Germany during the Conference of the Parties (resumed COP 6), reviving hope that an agreement on solutions to global warming could be made. In a key outcome, the Pacific region was given representation through the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) on adaptation and funding committees. A legally binding compliance system was set-up for countries that cannot meet their own emission limits. For the Pacific region the outcome of COP 6 means access to further funding to address adaptation activities from the negative impacts of climate change, such as sea-level rise and assistance with technology transfer and an



assurance that nuclear energy would not be used for carbon crediting.

## PEACE BOAT'S 35<sup>TH</sup> AROUND THE WORLD GLOBAL VOYAGE

Arriving in Apia for the first time, the Peace Boat brought 600 passengers of 18 nationalities to Samoa in a search for peace. During its 106-day voyage, in every port of call, the passengers were actively engaged in cultural exchange programmes. While at sea, educational programmes on peace, human rights and sustainability were carried out. High on the agenda was the issue of climate change and the vulnerability of Pacific small island states. SPREP coordinated presentations on the Pacific's actions, concerns and its approach to the international negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Ms Violet Wulf of Samoa's Department of Environment and Conservation provided specific examples of climate change impacts to the 30+ members from the Peace Boat that attended the session.



**Within this KRA SPREP will focus in the 2001-2004 period on the following issues: Trade, Investment and Environment; Tourism; Integrating Environment and Development; Population, Settlement and Urbanisation; and Public and Private Sector Partnerships.**

## INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development is the ultimate long-term objective for all Key Result Areas within the Action Plan. Primarily, this KRA will focus on integrating environmental protection, management and planning parameters with fiscal and physical development economics. This will be achieved by ensuring the objectives, activities and outcomes from the other KRAs are consistent and that there is wide acceptance of contemporary tools such as natural resource economics, strategic environmental assessment, environmental planning and reporting.

The promotion of sustainable development will involve integration of environmental considerations in specific and broader physical

and economic development sectors and will be addressed with relevance to economic and governance reform agendas in the region. Particular attention will be paid to identifying opportunities as well as constraints stemming from trade liberalisation, globalisation, tourism development, rapid population growth, urbanisation and settlement patterns.

## OBJECTIVE

To strengthen regional and national capacity to integrate environmental research, information, planning and management with development processes in a manner that identifies opportunities as well as constraints.

▼ Sustainable Economic Development—brochure

**SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

**SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is the intergovernmental organisation charged with promoting cooperation and supporting protection and improvement of the Pacific islands environment and ensuring its sustainable development.

**The Vision**  
People of the Pacific islands better able to plan, protect, manage and use their environment for sustainable development.

**Key Result Areas**  
SPREP's 2001-2004 Action Plan recognises the following four key result areas and associated objectives:

**KRA 1 - Nature Conservation**  
Effective protection of the natural heritage of the Pacific islands region through the conservation and sustainable management of their natural resources and biodiversity.

**KRA 2 - Pollution Prevention**  
To increase the capability of SPREP members to manage and respond to marine pollution, hazardous waste, sewerage and other land-based source of pollution and to meet the requirements of relevant international and regional legal instruments.

**KRA 3 - Climate Change and Variability**  
To improve the Pacific island members' understanding of and strengthen their capacity to respond to climate change, climate variability and sea level rise.

**KRA 4 - Sustainable Economic Development**  
To strengthen regional and national capacity to integrate environmental research, information, planning and management with development processes in a manner which identifies opportunities as well as constraints.

**The Members**  
The following countries are Members of SPREP: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Marianas, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME'S NEW SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT KEY RESULT AREA.

INTERGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



## IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

### FIJI

Advice was provided on the proposed mini-hydroelectric weir near the village of Abaca. Information on TORs, administrative processes, nature of potential impacts and review of existing reporting and recommendations for an alternative approach were relayed to the Department of Environment.

Provided, to the Department of Environment, guides for drilling channels through reefs. This was in response to numerous applications for the channels from various remote islands and villages.

### SAMOA

With financial assistance from the Government of the People's Republic of China, SPREP sponsored an environment award for the 2001 Samoa Exporter of the Year. The success of SPREP's involvement at the awards has provided a prototype means to approach and engage industry in good environmental management and the pursuit of sustainable development. This is a big step in developing partnerships with the business community and civil society. In 2002 it is intended to further develop the criteria for assessing good examples of sustainable development practices that could be used in the wider Pacific region. The inaugural winner of the SPREP-sponsored award was Samoa Ecotours, a company owned by the husband and wife team of Steve and Liumaava Brown.

Advice was provided on the augmentation of the Afulilo Dam. Information on EIA procedural matters, past development implications and monitoring requirements were made available.

### Urban Planning



### Samoa Exporter of the Year Winner

Samoa Ecotours wins the 2001 SPREP Environmental Friendly Award.

The inaugural Environmental Award sponsored by SPREP with funding provided by the Chinese government was won by *Samoa Ecotours*. The husband and wife company (Steve and Liumaava Brown) was also successful in picking up the Tourism Award as well as the big one on the night—The Samoa Exporter of the Year Award.

Presenting the prize to Steve is SPREP's Officer-in-Charge, Ms Neva Wendt.



Advice was provided on the prospective development of a new sewage treatment facility for Apia.

Also, advice was provided to the Government of Samoa, Apia Urban Planning Team, on contemporary environmental planning concepts – including a package on integrated environmental law, guidelines, administrative processes, land and resource use strategies and environmental plans.



REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WSSD)

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in South Africa, 2002, has been identified as a key opportunity for the Pacific region to voice its concerns and aspirations about sustainable development, regionally and internationally. Pacific participation at the World Summit aims to: ensure Pacific island priorities are well reflected in the global debate; reinvigorate political support for existing agreements and programmes that are essential to the sustainable development of this region's people, their environment and natural resources; promote new and existing partnerships beneficial to sustainable development in the region; and secure new and additional resources to build capacity for sustainable development in the region.

To provide a regional perspective and response, a number of preparatory events occurred. In September in Samoa, Pacific island governments and other stakeholders agreed to prepare a Pacific Regional Submission to take to the WSSD. The submission canvassed the following issues for the Pacific: Climate Change; Variability and Sea Rise; Island Vulnerability; Energy; Oceans; Natural Resources; the People; Finance and Capacity Building. Following agreement from governing bodies of CROP agencies, the Submission was presented at the Asia Pacific Preparatory Meeting in Cambodia in November.

Technical backstopping assistance has been provided by SPREP to countries to assist in the completion of their National Assessments for the WSSD. Guidelines for document compilation, stakeholder meetings, and timing of draft reports

Pacific Preparations for World Summit on Sustainable Development



were produced. SPREP, on behalf of the CROP Working Group, has worked closely with the Pacific Concerns Resource Centre (PCRC) in Fiji to assist with multi-stakeholder meetings in-country with funds provided by the EarthCouncil.

To ensure maximum exposure for the Summit a Communications Strategy has been developed and is currently being implemented in collaboration with the Forum Secretariat and other CROP agencies. It catalyses the Pacific's aims: (1) to ensure Pacific island priorities are well reflected in the global debate; (2) to reinvigorate political support for existing agreements and programmes that are essential to the sustainable development of this region's peoples and their ambition to protect their environment and natural resources; (3) to promote new and existing partnerships beneficial to sustainable development in the region; and (4) to secure new and additional resources to build capacity for sustainable development in the region.

## **INTEGRATING ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES**

Senior environment officials, planners and policy makers from a dozen Pacific island countries met in Apia in June, to look at how best to integrate economic and environmental policies and practices. Aimed at increasing people's understanding of the use of natural resource valuation tools and principles to contribute to sustainable development, the group was exposed to the various tools available. They cited good examples of existing use in the Pacific, identified critical issues and sectors where application would be helpful and forwarded recommendations for further capacity building in the region. The consensus reached is for closer integration of policy development, environmental management and practice, and the need for national level capacity building.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (EA)**

Requests from Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa and Tonga for assistance, has led to Environmental Assessment (EA) networks being established. Model guidelines and tools for carrying out EAs are being formulated, aimed at strengthening national capacity to undertake assessments themselves. A Guideline Kit for the Cook Islands is near completion.

The Secretariat received an increased number of calls for assistance in EIA for regionally

significant events, activities and developments. Examples include the monitoring of the MIR Space Station re-entry progress; continued advice on Space Station developments by multi-nationals in the oceans off Kiribati; and fielding requests for advice from small and major consulting firms vying for bids to undertake EIA for donor agencies. Such involvement highlights the need to communicate with National agencies as far away as Washington, DC, USA. This has resource implications that are planned to be addressed in 2002.

## **TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT**

With the assistance of an Australian Youth Ambassador (AYA) placement, SPREP facilitated calls from Ministers to provide better information on the nexus between trade negotiations, investment and environmental implications. Information papers were produced for the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) and Forum Trade Ministers Meeting (FTMM) as well as a paper on Globalisation for the 12th SPREP Meeting.

A Trade, Investment and Environment Programme has been designed and presented to various international fora for recognition and raising awareness of the critical issues for the Pacific. The initial aim is to produce topical fact-sheets on outcomes of the Doha Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations, the renewed significance of GATT provisions and implications for environmental protection and sustainable development for the Pacific. The longer-term aim is to produce a Framework for the Assessment of the Environmental Implications of Trade, Investment and Development in Pacific Island Countries called for by Pacific Leaders during the Pacific Islands Forum in 1999.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING**

This work area includes international, regional and national product development. Increasing capacity for State of Environment (SOE) reporting at the regional and national level, is the primary goal.

The intention is to develop effective reporting systems at the national level to foster regional capacity development for macro-monitoring and performance appraisal of regional environmental governance. The development of SOE at the national level needs to commence with





a review of environment and sustainable development issues, pressures and driving forces, as well as reflection on emerging threats and future needs. This component of the SOE capacity development process has therefore been tied directly to the National Assessment process for the WSSD.

Use of a small number of indicators is envisaged in the first instance, tailored both to national issues and the internationally accepted set of sustainable development indicators (66) produced by the CSD (2001). Generating of templates and guides for reporting for the WSSD and technical backstopping has been accomplished to assist longer term reporting requirements. It is essential that better information on the status of our environment and the socio-economic pressures faced in the Pacific, are relayed to international agencies used by the UN system to decide on funding priorities. This should negate the disparate global reporting of environment and sustainability issues in the Pacific, and will suit the call for national profile development by the UN and GEF.

With a regional and international focus SPREP also concluded inputs to the Global Environment Outlook No. 3, to be released on World Environment Day in June, 2002. SPREP has had a lot of involvement in GEO III since June 2000, which has seen the Secretariat upgrade its collaborative status with UNEP from a Collaborating Associate to a full Collaborating Centre. Future prospects of continued good working relations with the Division of Early Warning and Assessment – Nairobi could see a further upgrade to a GRID unit (UNEP's Global Resources Information Database network). This would bring financial benefits for the Secretariat and PICs.

SPREP was part of a eight-person international drafting team assembled to produce

the forward looking Scenarios chapter, and was responsible for the final drafting of the Socio-Economic section for Asia – Pacific. Exposure to international players enabled the Secretariat to convey the critical lack of baseline environmental data and systems for reporting in the Pacific.

### SPATIAL DATA DEVELOPMENT

Good use of environmental and resource data is essential for environmental assessment, reporting and planning. Reviews in 2000 of past EIA and SOE programmes, initiatives and progress, re-enforced the argument for concerted efforts to address basic data layer gaps for most of the Pacific island countries. The New Zealand seed funding for the Spatial Baselines Project, has enabled the Secretariat to commence activities in supplying PICs with satellite land cover images to be used in GIS and Remote Sensing during in-country training.

The Spatial Baselines Project is the link between the components of the Environmental Assessment and Reporting Programme. The project has seen collaboration with SOPAC to ensure that in the short- to mid-term, PICs are equipped with better baseline data sets for SOE, Environmental Assessment, Vulnerability Assessment and in-country planning. A metadata Cataloguing and Recording system has been produced under the project, as well as an Overview of the status of GIS and Remote Sensing in PICs. An initial regional GIS thematic structure has been developed and will be conveyed to PICs in 2002 for augmentation to suit SOE and Environmental Assessment capacity building. Capture of imagery over islands will commence in early to mid-2002.

## PROCESSES AND INTERVENTIONS: CAPACITY BUILDING IN SPREP MEMBERS

Capacity building provides SPREP members with appropriate skills to enable them to improve the management and sustainability of their environment. The requirements for capacity building in SPREP members vary from country to country ranging from the appointment of qualified and experienced staff, transfer of knowledge and relevant skills from training in the field, ready access to information and technical advice, adequate funding support to the provision of essential equipment and infrastructure to support the implementation of projects at country level.

Capacity constraints should be identified and taken into consideration when programmes, projects and interventions are designed.

A range of processes and interventions will be used to assist in the implementation of activities in the Key Result Areas.

### PROCESSES

The processes identified below are the mechanisms by which capacity building in the Pacific islands will be strengthened. Being change processes, these mechanisms will be long-term in nature in member countries where the capacity to manage and implement environment programmes is presently lacking or inadequate.

These are grouped into four broad categories:

- Policy, Planning and Institutional Strengthening
- Human Resource Development
- Communications and Information
- Technical Advice and Backstopping
- Pilot projects

### INTERVENTIONS

SPREP members are directly responsible for the implementation of the SPREP Action Plan. The main interventions by SPREP and others is to support the processes identified above for capacity building. The choice or selection of interventions will depend on the particular circumstances of the members or the group(s) of members. This will be in terms of their specific needs, the complexity of the issues involved, the national capacity to manage and implement activities and the assistance to be provided by other regional organisations and donor agencies.

Many interventions reflect activities outlined in the range of Action Strategies/Plans, including the Action Plan for Environmental Education and Training in the Pacific Region 1999-2003, the Regional Information Strategy and SPREP's Environmental Management Training Needs Assessment (TNA).



## IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

### AMERICAN SAMOA

American Samoa was linked to SPREP's Information Resource Centre Network, as part of the EU PEIN Plan to provide technical assistance in establishing national environment centres and libraries. The network gives access to over 30,000 environmental publications from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands and Samoa.

Bibliographic databases were set up in American Samoa's Environment Department.

### COOK ISLANDS

SPREP provided advice and technical assistance to an environmental education workshop in the Cook Islands. The workshop aimed to develop a strategy that will integrate environmental issues on all aspects of the school curriculum. An officer from the Cook Islands Curriculum Development Unit is working closely with the Environment Education Officer at the Environment Service to ensure that coordination of activities is ongoing.

Bibliographic databases were set up in Cook Islands' Environment Department.

### FIJI

Bibliographic databases were set up in Fiji's Environment Department.

### NAURU

A primary school teacher from Nauru was selected to receive training through an attachment programme organised with the Cook Islands Curriculum Development Unit. This country-to-country attachment scheme aims to encourage capacity building within the region and to add a multiplier effect to training programmes conducted through SPREP.

### NIUE

Desktop publishing advice was provided to Niue's efforts in compiling and preparing two books: *Guide to the Trees of Niue*; and *Guide to Niue's Marine Life*.

### PEIN: Environmental Media Training

A series of six national training workshops in the Pacific for media and environment officials concluded in 2001 with the PNG workshop. The series, coordinated by SPREP with funding from UNESCO, aimed to improve journalists' skills in reporting environment issues, and the skills of environmental officials in communicating about such issues to the media and the public.

The broad areas of training covered one or more specific environmental issues, and aimed to improve skills in writing, subediting, interviewing, investigative reporting, radio, television and film-making.

For the PNG workshop, modules on radio, print and video production were run. The success of the approach had Papua New Guinea's environment officials say they are keen for SPREP to run similar types of workshops in the future.

One of the major achievements of the series was an all Pacific team of trainers at the PNG workshop. This is the first time this has happened since the project began in 1999. The trainers Joe Kanekane, print (Papua New Guinea), Johnson Honimae, radio (Solomon Islands), and Rico Tupai, television/video

(Samoa), were a credit to their professions and SPREP's capacity building objective.

Started in Samoa with four NZ trainers, the PNG workshop has realised the vision of Pacific trainers taking over the role usually occupied by developed country experts.

Other workshops in the series were held in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Samoa and Tonga.





## ▼ IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

### ▼ PAPUA NEW GUINEA

A five-day national training workshop on media and the environment was coordinated by SPREP as part of an ongoing series of workshops funded by UNESCO. The workshop was also notable as being the first in the series in which all three trainers were Pacific island nationals. The areas covered in the workshop were video production, print and radio broadcasting. Further financial support was provided by the EU's Waste Awareness and Education Project, "waste" being the dominant environmental theme of the media training.

SPREP nominated the participation of an educator from Papua New Guinea to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Conference held in Guam. The Environmental Education and Awareness Officer provided a mentoring role in supporting the participation of this PNG participant at the Conference.

### ▼ SAMOA

SPREP's Education Officer assisted as facilitator at the Women in Management Workshop organised by Avanoa Tutusa. She presented a session on integrating positive environmental practices into the workplace.

School teachers took part in a story writing competition with an environmental theme, as part of a drive to raise awareness of environmental issues. Winners in three divisions were given cash prizes with funding from the UK's Department for International Development (DFID). The winning entries, in English and Samoan, have been adapted for publication aimed at primary school readers.

▼ Teachers and Storywriting



### ▼ SOLOMON ISLANDS

SPREP's Publication Unit together with PICCAP Coordinator, Mr Chanel Iroi coordinated the design and publishing of the Solomon Islands National Communication to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Coordination Children's stories adapted from the Samoa "school teachers' story writing competition" will also be produced in English for use in the Solomon Islands and distributed early in 2002.

### ▼ TONGA

In collaboration with SPC, SPREP contributed to capacity-building in the area of Information Communications Technology by hosting a Tongan attachment in ICT complementing an earlier SPC/ICT attachment in Noumea, New Caledonia.

### ▼ TUVALU

A number of artists and writers were commissioned to produce story books with an environment theme for use in primary schools. This initiative is aimed at increasing awareness of environmental issues. The Tuvalu books will be printed by SPREP with DFID assistance once the drafts have been submitted to SPREP.

### ▼ VANUATU

Provided assistance with elements of legislation required for access to genetic resources and benefit sharing as required under the Convention to Biological Diversity.

### ▼ WALLIS AND FUTUNA

SPREP's legal officer visited Wallis and Futuna to assess their situation as French territories toward the development of specific collaboration.

**REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES****LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK**

SPREP's legal section assisted with development of genetic resource legislation, which is still in the early development phase throughout the region.

The Legal Officers were active in promoting the Secretariat role of SPREP to the Apia and SPREP Conventions and their related protocols. The need to revitalise the Apia Convention led to a meeting with Pacific island representatives within the regional biosafety meeting. Further reviews on how to proceed were again explored during the 12th SPREP Meeting.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

An interactive CD-ROM was produced by the Publications Section focusing on the activities of PICCAP and also other programme areas of SPREP and will be released in early 2002.

The SPREP Newswire service containing information on current environmental issues in the world and the Pacific received favourable endorsement from members. Compiled specifically for SPREP's Members and partners by SPREP's media unit, it draws information from national, regional and global news sources. Therefore, the views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of SPREP as it attempts to provide an objective view of the environmental issues in question.

Hosted and worked closely with the Media Officer for the Canada-South Pacific Ocean Development program (C-SPOD-II)

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

A new centralised People and Organisations Database (POD) was established. The system is geared towards providing staff with the equivalent of a customised shared electronic directory of all SPREP contacts that is easily accessible. This system aims to improve organisational efficiency, effectiveness, and communications with all our stakeholders.

UNEP and SPREP conducted a joint feasibility study for a possible US\$3 million satellite communications network in the region. UNEP has a global network of 16 satellite stations proposed over both the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. The study focused on the feasibility of extending this network to the Pacific region and its SPREP members. In relation to the assessment of this communication network, SPREP attended the Pacific Islands Telecom Association meeting/ Intelsat Communication Forum and conducted consultations with various national and regional stakeholders in Fiji and Samoa.

SPREP participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Regional Information Technology Strategies meeting (ITPacNet 2001) in Suva.

SPREP also contributed to the preparation of the regional ICT workshop in Noumea along with other CROP agencies. This workshop produced the first draft Pacific Islands Information and Communication Technologies Policy and Strategic Plan.

**FORMAL EDUCATION**

SPREP continues to strengthen links with the Community Education and Training Centre (CETC) of the SPC and provided a week-long training course on the environment to 30 women at the Centre during the year. The environment module has been developed and trialled at the CETC by SPREP's Education and Awareness Officer.

Support was provided by SPREP for the involvement of a delegate from Kiribati to the UNEP-sponsored Pacific Youth Caucus held in Wollongong, Australia in April. Two SPREP officers were also present at the Caucus to provide a regional perspective on environmental issues.

**PUBLIC AWARENESS AND CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING**

The Asian Development Bank regional technical assistance on Promoting Traditional Environmental Management Practices through Education is well underway in the three

participating countries. The Cook Islands, Marshall Islands and Vanuatu have prepared educational and awareness material for use in community and school education programmes to promote traditional environmental management practices.

The Pacific Freshwater Education Kit has now been approved for publication and will be printed and distributed on a trial basis to schools in the Pacific islands in early 2002. This project is a joint initiative between SPREP and SOPAC with funding from UNEP and the British High Commission in Fiji.

A Waste Awareness comic book, "What a Waste!" was published and distributed to schools and focal points throughout the Pacific with funding from the European Union. SPREP is awaiting country feedback from countries on the utility of this book.

### **POLICY AND PLANNING SUPPORT**

SPREP Management participated in more than 20 international and regional meetings requiring SPREP input and technical advisory services. These included attending the Pacific Islands Forum; Forum Economic Ministers Meeting; PIC Partners Meeting; Governing Council Meetings of other CROP agencies; Meeting of ACP-National and Regional Authorising Officers (NAO/ RAO) on the Cotonou Agreement; and a number of CROP Working Groups including the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD); Marine

Sector and Land Resources; Human Resources Development; and Private Sector, Trade and Tourism. The CROP Marine Sector started work on a Regional Oceans Policy, and the WSSD Working Group was established to put together a regional mechanism and approach to prepare for the upcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa in August 2002.

SPREP was represented at the Pacific island leaders conference in Hawaii that focused on globalisation and its social and cultural impacts on the region. SPREP provided a briefing note on the latest science and progress at the international level.

### **SPREP AND FAO COLLABORATION**

Steps toward closer cooperation were initiated with the Sub-regional Office for the Pacific of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), following the first official meeting between the two organisations at the SPREP Secretariat. Discussions focused on collaborative measures regarding future project development and integration of their respective work programmes for the benefit of the Pacific islands region.

### **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE PACIFIC (CROP)**

SPREP hosted the annual meeting of CROP. During the meeting a Memorandum of

▼ Delegates at the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting







Understanding between SPREP and the South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) was signed, to encourage better working relations in areas of mutual interest to both, including the streamlining of common activities, and to discuss and develop new projects.

### **SPREP GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**

The 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting convened in Apia, Samoa was attended by over 60 delegates from 23 SPREP member countries and territories along with representatives from regional and international organisations and relevant stakeholders.

There were encouraging signs of support to regional environmental issues such as the establishment of separate environmental units by SPREP member governments during the past year. This indicated support and commitment to the serious environmental challenges facing the region.

Nevertheless, the fact remains that even greater efforts are required by all Members working together at the national, regional and international levels, if the trend towards environmental degradation is to be reversed.

### **MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS**

To meet increasing demand on Secretariat technical advisory services by Members and to raise the current fiscal core budget resource levels, Members agreed to a further increase of 10 per cent in Members annual contributions effective from 2002. This brings the annual contributions by SPREP Members to the Core Budget (Primary functions) from US\$ 646,951 in 2001 to US\$708,445 in 2002.

Although not a SPREP Member, the Government of the People's Republic of China donated US\$154,000 to the organisation. The grant was used by the Secretariat to supplement funding from SPREP Members to finance a number of primary and project management function outputs and activities. Since 1998 assistance from China to SPREP now totals US\$372,000 dollars.

### **CORPORATE PLAN AND ORGANISATION STRUCTURE**

The 2001–2005 SPREP Corporate Plan that was approved in principle at the 11<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting was reviewed and approved by the 12<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting. It incorporates a matrix showing outcomes, outputs and performance indicators. The Plan will be published for wider distribution in 2002.

A new organisational structure targeting SPREP Members' needs for increased technical advisory services; integration of the work programme; and increases in staff levels was approved as part of the Corporate Plan. The new structure will be implemented in early 2002 subject to the availability of secured funding. This will include the recruitment and appointment of a Deputy Director, Programme Delivery Manager, Business Support Manager and the upgrading of the Accountant position to Finance Manager. It also includes Coordinators for the Key Result Areas (KRAs).

### **COUNTRY EVALUATIONS**

Members were asked to provide feedback based on their evaluation of how the Secretariat has performed in the delivery of regional and country-specific activities in its annual work programme. The evaluation and feedback is important in identifying successes that could be duplicated elsewhere to assess relevance, efficiency and impact of SPREP activities on its Pacific island members. This evaluation enables the Secretariat to sharpen the focus of its interventions, respond to Members' needs, and ensure that past mistakes are not repeated.

Visits for consultation were made to Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and Guam by the Director to discuss programmatic issues in the monitoring and evaluation of SPREP's implementation of its 2000 and 2001 Annual Work Programmes. The consultations with government, NGOs and private sector promoted objectivity, integration, transparency and effectiveness in the delivery of the Secretariat's work programmes that serve the needs of SPREP Members. Due to financial constraints some Members were not visited, but were requested to

The Corporate Plan defines the business functions and vision of the Secretariat.

The overall vision of SPREP's Corporate and Action Plans is to further strengthen national capacities to address sustainable development issues.



provide their responses through circulated questionnaires.

## SECRETARIAT PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Secretariat performance in the implementation and delivery of the Annual Work Programme and Budget is monitored and evaluated quarterly against the approved Annual Work Programme and Budget. The audit of achievement of performance measures in the approved work programmes continues to be carried out in conjunction with the financial audit in the following year. The 2001 performance audit report (which also incorporates the audited financial reports matching the actual expenditures against the approved budget estimates for the respective outputs) will be tabled as part of the Annual Accounts Audit for consideration at the 13<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting in Marshall Islands, in 2002.

## EXPANSION OF SPREP COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION CENTRE

Construction of SPREP's Training and Education Centre (TEC) began in February 2001, following the signing of a contract worth over US\$2.85m between the Government of Samoa and the Fujita Corporation of Japan, the successful contractor. This assistance formed part of Japan's Grant Aid to Samoa.

The Centre aims to enhance and expand environmental training capabilities to increase skills and services of SPREP's Pacific island membership. The Centre will also help expand SPREP's capability to disseminate environmental information and promote awareness of environmental issues of concern to the region more effectively within the Pacific and the international community.

Upon completion early in 2002, the TEC will be equipped with state of the art technology, enabling capacity-building programmes, environmental education and training workshops, conferences, and hosting of country attachments and intern-

ships. The Centre contains: multimedia facilities for audio-visual production and publishing of environmental material and resources for a broad range of environmental work and promotion; technical tools for mapping and related environmental assessment training; a fully networked computer laboratory room; a large training room and Pacific wide virtual training and discussion rooms; and SPREP's IT network and unit.

## INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE

An Information Resource Centre (IRC) is also due for completion in February 2002. The IRC will provide an array of information resources: train member country personnel and further develop an electronically linked network of National Environment Libraries in 11 Pacific countries; with timely information exchange at all levels (national, regional and international); encourage in-country repackaging of information in local languages to enable dissemination to a wider audience, and house the SPREP Archives and image collection. Funded by the European Union from its Regional Indicative Programme for more than EURO 350,000.

Remaining funds of EURO 60,000 has been set aside for contingencies and evaluations such as the independent survey of all in-country activities implemented in the seven Pacific ACP States since the start of the three-year country activities.



## SPREP STAFF

▼	NAME	DESIGNATION	NATIONALITY	◀	✕
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## ▼ MANAGEMENT

TUTANGATA, Tamari'i	Director	Cook Islander
MILES, Gerald	Head of Division, Environmental Management and Planning	Australian
WENDT, Neva	Head of Division, Environmental Education, Information and Capacity-building	Australian
WRIGHT, Ray	Head of Division, Finance and Administration	Australian

## ▼ DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

LEILUA-LEI SAM, Pisaina	Executive Officer Management	Samoa
ETI, Apiseta	Personal Assistant to Deputy Director	Samoa
NICKEL, Alisa	Personal Assistant to Director	Samoa

## ▼ KEY RESULT AREA 1

RETI, Iosefatu	Project Manager, SPBCP	Samoa
SESEGA, Samuelu	Action Strategy Coordinator (Nature Conservation)	Samoa
WRIGHT, Drew	Project Manager, International Waters	Australian
DOVEY, Liz	Project Officer, Avifauna Conservation	Australian
LAM, Michelle	Community Communications Specialist, International Waters	Solomon Islander
MARTEL, Francois	Programme Officer, Socioeconomics	French
OPU, Job	Project Officer, Marine Species	Papua New Guinean
POWER, Mary	Coastal Management Adviser	Australian/Irish
PULE'AGA, Selesitina	Executive Officer, SPBCP	Samoa
STACEY, Natasha	Community Assessment/Participation Specialist, International Waters	Australian
AXFORD, Joanna	Australia Youth Ambassador Volunteer/Attachment	Australian
BROWN, Kate	Conference Coordinator, Nature Conservation	Australian
COUPER, Ruta	Secretary to Project Manager, SPBCP	Samoa
GALUVAO, Rosanna	Divisional Assistant, International Waters	Samoa
NG LAM, Helen	Divisional Assistant	Samoa



## ▼ KEY RESULT AREA 2

AMANO, Shiro	Project Officer, Solid Waste/Landfill Management	Japanese
GILBERT, Trevor	Marine Pollution Adviser	Australian
GRAHAM, Bruce	Coordinator, Waste Management and Pollution Prevention	New Zealander
NAWADRA, Sefanaia	Marine Pollution Adviser	Fijian
O'GRADY, John	Project Coordinator, POPs Disposal	New Zealander
RAJ, Suresh	Project Coordinator, Pacific Regional Waste Awareness and Education Programme	Fijian
TO'A, Sina	Divisional Assistant, EMP	Samoa

## ▼ KEY RESULT AREA 3

KING, Wayne	Project Manager, PICCAP	Cook Islander
NITSCHKE, Kim	Project Coordinator, ARM/TWP	Australian
TAITUAVE, T. Sakaria	Assistant Project Officer, Ozone Depleting Substances	Samoa
VALASI, Fono	Divisional Assistant, Climate Change Group	Samoa

## ▼ KEY RESULT AREA 4

McINTYRE, Matt	Environmental Assessment/Reporting, Adviser	Australian
AUSTIN, Elvira (Ellie)	Australia Youth Ambassador Volunteer/Attachment	Australian
SIEBERT, Elizabeth	Australia Youth Ambassador Volunteer/Attachment	Australian
ONESEMO, Nifo	Secretary, EMP Division	Samoa

## ▼ PROCESSES

BENTIN, Satui	Information Resource Centre Manager	Samoa
DEO, Seema	Environmental Education and Awareness Officer	Fijian
DROPSY, Audrey	Training/Human Resource Development Officer	Fijian
DROPSY, Herve	Information Technology Manager	French
MOUGEOT, Jacques	Environmental Law Officer	French
PETERU, Chris	Editorial and Publications Officer	Samoa
TAPUSOA-MEREDITH, Matilda	Information Technology Officer	Samoa
TAUAFIAFI, Fatu	Information and Publications Officer	Samoa
PETAIA-JESELE, Aliitasi	Information Technology/Network Officer	Samoa
VOLENTRAS, Andrea	Environmental Legal Officer	Samoa
WICKHAM, Frank	Training/Human Resource Development Officer	Solomon Islander
WILSON, Craig	Project Manager, CBEMP	Australian
SALESA, Serapina	Environmental Education Assistant	Samoa
WILLIAMS, Miraneta	Assistant Librarian	Samoa
ALAMA, Winona	Divisional Assistant, EEIC Division	Samoa
TUALA-REID, Quandovita	Acting Secretary, EEIC Division	Samoa



**▼ FINANCE**

DEVOE, Daniel	Accountant	New Zealander
LEFAU, Luapene	Assistant Accountant	Samoan
MAIAVA-LOSIVALE, Oketi	Senior Accounts Officer	Samoan
FONOTAGA, Togisala	Accounts Clerk	Samoan
LUI, Tania	Accounts Clerk	Samoan
CHONG WONG, Puni	Accounts Clerk	Samoan

**▼ ADMINISTRATION**

HADLEY-MASINA Malama	Administration Officer	Samoan
PUREA, Theresia	Administration Assistant	Samoan
MATA'U, Saunoa	Conference/Travel Officer	Samoan
SILULU, Lupe	Registry Supervisor	Samoan
FOAGA, Gafatasi (Tino)	Maintenance Tradesman	Samoan
FONOTI, Faamanu	Customs Clerk	Samoan
LEAULA, Tologauvale	Cleaner/Teaperson/Clerical Assistant	Samoan
SIOMIA, Shirley	Registry Assistant	Samoan
SMITH, Montini	Driver/Clerk	Samoan
TUILAGI, Helen	Registry Assistant	Samoan
TUPAI, Monica	Receptionist	Samoan
TOOTOO, Aмоса	Cleaner/Teaperson	Samoan
GAFА, Silupe	Gardener/Groundskeeper	Samoan
HUNT, Elia	Night Watchman/Security	Samoan



South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP)





